

Foundation of secularism in children-earnest need of hour: Principal JKPS Kunjwani



Principal JK Public School Kunjwani, Rajesh Rathore and students addressing morning assembly in school of Monday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: During the morning Assembly Prabhakaran Singh of Grade XII Humanities presented the thought of the day, which made everyone spellbound with its perspective and expression. "I am Secular", said humanity. "So am I", replied God. And with that, Religion lost its self-confidence.

Students of Grade 12 Humanities conducted the morning assembly on the topic "Secularism & Human Right of India". "I Believe That My Country is Truly Secular", stated Japanjyot Singh. "India has been a secular state. The secular values were enshrined in the constitution of India by none other than people of Independent India. Secularism in India

means accepting every shade of culture of every religion", he added.

"Not only that India has been developing at a rapid speed in the last few years, it has also developed its secular fabric as discrimination against religious basis is at all time low. The Indian Constitution provides for the culture and educational rights to the minorities and

every religious group has the right to establish and maintain religious and charitable institutions and to manage its own affairs in matters of religion. Thus, India emerged as one of the best secular countries of the world. "Saare Jahaan Se Achhaa Hindostaan Hamaara", concluded another student from the class Momin Gafoor. He also quoted Atal Bihari

Vajpayee "If India is not a Secular Nation, then India is not India at all"

Principal JKPS Kunjwani Rajesh Rathore appreciated students for sharing their views on the topic. He appealed students to have faith in the tenets of secularism. He applauded teaching faculty of JKPS and the culture of the institution brilliantly evolved over the period

of time, which helped tremendously in fostering the spirit of love & fondness for all the religions.

He appreciated the secular fabric of JKPS grooming, which ensures equal weightage to be accorded to every festival within the school premises: whether it be Eid-e-milad, Gurpurab, Christmas or Diwali/ Dussehra. "If students learn to live happily,

peacefully and lovingly, learning the culture, cuisine, festivity, characteristics of their fellow beings, only then country may call itself truly secular", he added.

"It's the moral responsibility of every futuristic institution that children hailing from different communities must be well versed with the religious scriptures of the fellow beings", he added. He appre-

ciated the members of Music faculty to include students from other communities while presenting special Assembly programmes on the occasion of Gurpurab, Eid, Christmas & Jannashatami. "It is the earnest need of the hour that progressive Institutions must lay the foundation stone of secularism in every student on its rolls", summed up the Principal.

J&K Body Builders shine in Federation Cup



Medal winner body builders posing with BBAJK officials in Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Body Building Association of Jammu and Kashmir (BBAJK), affiliated Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council and Indian Body Building Federation, excelled in Federation Cup 2023 which was organized at Haldwani, Nanital District, Uttarakhand from April 14 to 15, 2023.

Vikas Khajuria won gold medal and winning the title of Men's Physique Body Building Championship

whereas Javid Bhatti clinched fifth place in Federation cup.

All of them were trained by Coach and Trainers, associated with the association under the guidance of Rajesh Dutta, President BBAJK.

Rajesh Dutta said BBAJK have won many medals in national and international championships in the past also. He added that the BBAJK wished all the best for all

body builders who are working hard to compete in the future event.

Vinay Sharma Vice President BBAJK congratulated the players for bringing laurels to Jammu and Kashmir in National Championship.

Others present were Rajesh Dutta, Vinay Sharma, Naresh Gupta, Nand Kishore, Sanjay Bali, Kamani Talwar, Vimal Jit and Anand Sharma.

Volleyball trials from May 4

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Volleyball Association of J&K (VAJK) shall hold selection trials to pick up probables for the 45th Sub Junior National (boys and girls) Volleyball Championship slated to be held at Chandernagore in Hooghly (West Bengal) from May 27 to June 1, 2023.

The selection trials shall take place at MA Stadium, here from May 4 to 6 from 2:00 PM onwards daily, a handout issued by the Association here on Saturday informed.

Players born on or after January 1, 2007 will only be eligible to participate in the selection process.

The selection shall be followed by the coaching camp beginning from May 8 at MA Stadium. For more details, players can contact Kuldip Magotra (Chief Executive Officer of VAJK) on Mobile Nos. 9419114051, 9419191367, 9419142292, 9419146848.

Veterans Cricket Association J&K beats Civil Secretariat XI by 3-wkt

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Veterans Cricket Association XI J&K defeated Civil Secretariat (Assembly) XI by three wickets in a keenly contested match played at MA Stadium Jammu.

Nazir Ahmed, Captain of Civil Secretariat XI won the toss and elected to bat first and opening batsmen of CS XI Wasim Baba & Mushtaq were aggressive from the word go. But Vicky Raina got rid of dangerous looking Wasim Baba in 3rd over when team score was 22 runs. Vivek Suri, Captain of Veterans Cricket Association XI J&K gave a double blow by taking 2 wickets in successive deliveries in 4th over of the Match. Suhail Khan kept his nerves amongst tumbling of wickets and crafted important partnership with Abbas & Shaheen Pathan. Civil Secretariat XI was eventually all out on the last ball scoring 126 runs in stipulated 18 overs.



Participating teams posing for a photograph after the match.

Suhail, Shaheen and Mushtaq contributed 34, 19 and 16 runs respectively for the team.

For VCAJK Sunil took 3 wickets, Vivek Suri and Vicky Raina claimed 2 wickets and Faheem Tak took 1 wicket.

Chasing a low score of 117 runs, VCAJK openers Ashish and Amit gave a perfect start to the team and were cruising nicely before Ashish was out on 16 runs. Captain Nazir Ahmed used his bowlers nicely and Abbas created a minor collapse by taking 2 quick wickets and kept a lid on runs. But Lalit

Rathore and Vicky Raina crafted an all important partnership of 45 runs in 34 balls before Vicky was out on 19 runs followed by Lalit on 34 runs. With match hung on both sides as Veterans Cricket Association XI J&K needed 18 runs in 18 balls with 4 wickets in hand, Vivek Suri played a captain's knock

with a quickfire unbeaten 12 runs in just 5 balls and took his team to victory in 16.5 overs. For CS XI Abbas took 3 wickets, Samish took 2 wickets whereas Nazir Ahmed and Wasim Baba claimed one wicket each.

Sunil Dutt of VCAJK was declared Man of the Match for his all round performance.

Fire Service Week-2023 Kashmir FES team lifts Volleyball title



Winner team posing with dignitaries.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Getting the better of Jammu FES Province team in an easy contest by 3-0 in the Volleyball summit clash, Kashmir FES Province team lifted the title trophy of Fire Service Cup at MA Stadium, here on Monday. The scores were 15-05; 15-10 and 15-11 in favour of Kashmir Province team. Mohd Qaiser was the skipper of Kashmir Province team, who led from the front, displaying extraordinary spiking as well as captaincy skills, while Rajinder Chib was the captain of the Jammu province team. Meanwhile, the Directorate of Fire and Emergency Services Jammu also conducted a Free Health Checkup Camp at Fire Station Roop Nagar Jammu and Batamalo Headquarters, Srinagar. In Jammu, the event was organized in collaboration with People's Hut Foundation and Free testing was done by Sure Diagnostic Specialised Lab. Free medicines were served by the Directorate of Ayush which had sent a team of doctors as well. Dr Anita Salgotra, Medical Officer Jammu led the command at Roop Nagar, while at Batamalo Srinagar, Dr Abrar Medical Officer FES Srinagar was leading the Camp, while Drvikrant Sharma, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon was also among the fifteen doctors who attended the Camp. Both the events were virtually inaugurated by Alok Kumar (IPS) Director Fire and Emergency Services, J&K. RK Raina, Deputy Director Command Jammu accompanied by DFO City, Foreman Workshop and Incharge Headquarters distributed the trophies among the winners and runners-up teams.

The Teams: Jammu Province: Rajinder Singh, Wasim Hussain Shah, Hari Singh, Rajesh Lal, Chander Bhan, Mohd Rafiq Naik, Sunil Dutt. Kashmir Province: Mohd Ashraf Wani, Qaiser Ahmad Bhat, Mohd Iqbal Rathan, Rajan Kumar Raina, Mohd Rafiq Baba, Irfan Ahmad, Bilal Ahmed, Wasim Ahmad, Shameem Ahmad.

Punjab's Gani wins title bout in Jhajjar Kotli Dangal



Senior BJP leader Nand Kishore Sharma with winner wrestler and other dignitaries.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Wrestler Chouta Gani of Hoshiarpur district in Punjab lifted the 95th Jhajjarkotli Kesari Dangal title defeating Sandeep, again from Punjab, at Jhajjarkotli in district Jammu.

Winner of title bout, Chouta Gani awarded with a cash prize of Rs. 71,000 while Sandeep given away Rs. 50,000 as cash prize for being runners-up.

In the second main bout won by J&K wrestler, Benia Meen (J&K Police), who outplayed Nassinder of Haryana to fetch the handsome cash prize of Rs 60,000. Runners-up, Nassinder got Rs. 40,000.

Another local wrestler,

Nissar (J&K Police) of Doda won the third main bout beating Sahil of Punjab. The fourth bout went to Rashid of Domana Akhara in Jammu after he downed Nadeem of Doda. In fifth main bout, Muneer of Nagrota in Jammu defeated Manjit of Delhi. Dangal was organized by Jhajjarkotli Kesari Dangal Committee in association with J&K Indian Style Wrestling Association (JKISWA) under the overall supervision of Durga Dass Thappa and Om Parkash Dubey.

In total, 37 bouts decided in this Dangal with organisers spending around Rs 5 lakh on the day-long event. Kishan Morcha BJP J&K U.T

SMVD Sports Complex organises J&K-UT Open Chess Championship

Soham Kamotra emerges as overall winner of tournament



Medal winners posing with dignitaries.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Sports Complex, Katra in collaboration with All J&K Chess Association on Monday organised one day UT Level Chess Championship which culminated with a participation of around 45 players across the UT from all the categories.

The overall winner of tournament was Soham Kamotra who secured 1st position whereas Sumit Grover secured 2nd position and Atul Kumar Gupta secured 3rd position with cash reward of Rs 10000, Rs 5000 and Rs 3000 respectively.

In the Sub-Junior category, Amandeep Singh secured 1st position, Aarav Gupta

secured 2nd position and Aanand Swaroop secured 3rd position with cash reward of Rs 5000, Rs 3000 and Rs 2000 respectively.

Alankrita Sharma was declared as best woman of the championship who was awarded with cash award of Rs 5000.

Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board has congratulated all the winners for their excellent performance.

He said that the championship was organized to get the attention of the youngster towards the game of Chess and make more and more youngsters to take part in such events. He further added that Shrine Board under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor, JK-UT is committed to encourage the youth and provide them a platform to showcase their talents, as Sports Complex is being developed as a centre of excellence and impressed upon the sportspersons to take optimum benefit from the state-of-the-art equipment and other facilities made available at the Sports Complex.

On the closing ceremony, Navneet Singh, Addl. Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB distributed cash prizes among the winners. Also present on the occasion were Vipin Bhagat, Asstt. Chief Executive Officer, Atul Gupta president JK Chess Association and other field officers and staff from Shrine Board for smooth conduct of championship.

GDC Khour organises intramural Volleyball competition



Winner and runner-up teams posing with Principal GDC Khour, Dr. T.K Sharma and faculty member.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KHOUR: Department of Sports & Physical Education of GDC Khour organized an intramural volleyball competition in men section.

A total of 4 teams had participated in the event. In semifinals, semester 4th (Arts) defeated semester 4th (Science) team by 3-1 and semester 2nd defeated semester 6th by 3-2. Final match was played between semester 4th (Arts) and Semester 2nd wherein

Semester 4th (Arts) outplayed semester 2nd and won the competition by 3-1. Jasbir singh of semester 4th (Arts) remains the player of the tournament. Principal GDC Khour, Dr. T.K Sharma awarded participants with certificates and sports-kit/dress. Prof. Tarsem Lal, HoD Department of Chemistry was also present on the occasion. The event was organized by Prof. Goutam Sharma, HoD Department of Sports and Physical Education.



Senior BJP leader Devender Rana with wrestlers of main bout.

demies, not only for their physical growth but also brightening their career prospectus. The talented ones have a lot many opportunities and therefore they should concentrate on their chosen sports with the avowed objective of achieving excellence.

"No doubt popular sports like cricket, soccer and hockey have overtaken other traditional games but wrestling is making a comeback at the national and international levels", he said adding that the Commonwealth Games have time and again acknowledged

the relevance of wrestling as a premier sport and due impetus is given to its promotion. He urged the youth to come forward and show their talent on a bigger canvas. Rana exuded confidence that various tournaments, especially in the segment of wrestling, will provide an opportunity to the budding wrestlers to benefit from veterans and emulate various techniques, which will sharpen their talent. He lauded the participating wrestlers from Punjab, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan besides Jammu, Kathua and Samba and congratulated the winners for their excellent performance, hoping they will be a source of inspira-

tion for scores of budding wrestlers of Jammu and its peripheries. He also complimented the organizers, Salora Dangal Committee, especially Rajinder Kumar alias Pithi and the other members for holding these annual events on a regular basis to promote rural sports in the area. In all 56 bouts were held during the event. Thousands of Dangal lovers from the peripheral areas and various parts of Jammu witnessed the Jhajjar Kotli Wrestling Competition and applauded the wrestlers for their performance.

Kalu Pahalwan of Punjab emerged as the champion in the event. He defeated Gani of Muneer Kotla.