

Youth Services & Sports Conclave 2023

JK unique with 94 Khelo India Centres, indoor stadia in every district: Sarmad Hafeez

UT home to best gymnasts, fencers: Secretary JK Sports Council

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS) ON Tuesday organised a one day Youth Services and Sports Conclave 2023 at Convention Centre in Jammu and Kashmir, with Secretary YSS, Sarmad Hafeez as the Chief Guest.

Speaking on the occasion, Sarmad Hafeez praised J&K for being the Union Territory regularly producing international standard players in fencing, gymnastics, roller skating, cricket and other sports. He also called for facilitating the interaction of such achievers with young children to encourage enhanced participation in sports, recommending that they be made mentors of school children.

Sarmad Hafeez exhorted upon the District Youth Services & Sports Officers to conduct interaction sessions in all schools including private institutions to develop a thriving sports culture and promote regular collaboration between institutions. He suggested instating steps like holding annual sports events in schools to achieve this.

Hafeez also called for a monthly progress report regarding activities conducted in districts to promote and conduct sports. He said that the department is well equipped with infrastructure including 94 Khelo India centres in J&K, at least one indoor stadium in each district besides a playfield in every panchayat.

He emphasized the need for spreading awareness about SO-12 of the



Secretary YSS, Sarmad Hafeez presiding over Youth Services and Sports Conclave 2023.

government under which 5 gazetted jobs besides numerous non-gazetted jobs have been earmarked for exceptional sportspersons of J&K.

Hafeez impressed upon the department to promote participation of women and older persons in sports activities, in line with the Chief Secretary's vision and to identify and promote native sports.

He emphasized the need to impart moral education among the students besides focusing on physical education. He asked the departmental staff to take innovative steps to encourage school children's participation in sports activities. He also congratulated all stakeholders for the increased participation in recent years.

Secretary assured stakeholders that there is no dearth of funds for promoting sports activities, noting that

sports can invigorate creativity and enthusiasm in youth, help avoid drug additions, impart confidence and improve mental health. He also suggested the department to impart life skills such as life saving and emergency response skills.

On the occasion, a presentation was also given by DG YSS, Subhash C Chibber through which he revealed the department's achievements, its planned activities and target of increased participation in sports activities.

Speaking on the occasion, Secretary JK Sports Council, Nuzhat Gul, said that Jammu & Kashmir has made remarkable strides in sports. Over the years, the UT has hosted 22 national level events including the Khelo India Winter Games and the International Pencak Silat champi-

onship.

Pertinently, about 25,000 children have represented the UT in 56 disciplines at the national level, winning 687 national level medals and 38 international level medals. Besides, J&K has produced some of the best fencers, gymnasts, Olympians and paralympians.

In the past two and a half years, the department has delivered 700 projects including 60 light stadiums across the UT, and is currently working on nine Astro Turf projects.

Nuzhat Gul stressed on the need to create awareness regarding the broad contours of Jammu & Kashmir Sports Policy.

She called upon the DYSSO field staff to identify local talents, ensure fair selection of young sportspersons and identify niche talents of particular areas of the UT. She urged upon them to celebrate every local achiever and encourage them to hone their talents further.

Those present at the event included Special Secretary, Naresh Kumar and Rakesh Mangotra; Director Economics & Statistics, Ashu Gupta; Additional Secretary YSS, Neelam Khajuria, Joint Director YSS Jammu, Suram Chand Sharma and Dy Director Central YSS, Jatinder Mishra besides other officers.

The event saw participation from various stakeholders including District Youth Services and Sports Officers, Zonal Physical Education Officers and Physical Education academic staff.

Kyra of DPS Jammu excels in 2nd Indo-Nepal Int'l Taekwondo C'ship 2023

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Kyra Thakyal (Prep-C) of Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu brought laurels to the school and her parents by winning 2nd position and a silver medal in 2nd Indo-Nepal International T a e k w o n d o Championship 2023 organized by NEGI Taekwondo held at Chandigarh from April 29-30, 2023. She participated in Below 18 kg and Under-8 age category.

DPS Jammu faculty felicitating winner Kyra Thakyal.

JAMMU, Ruchi Chhabra congratulated Kyra and her parents for the achievement. She also lauded the teacher incharge, Suresh Kumar. President-RCT, Ajatshatru Singh, Pro VC, Dr. Ritu Singh and Director, S.S Sodhi congratulated Kyra and extended their best wishes for her future endeavours.

Jammu's Vanshika earned 47th rank in NDA

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) has announced the final result of the entrance exam for the National Defence Academy (NDA) and Naval Academy - UPSC NDA & NA Examination (1), 2023.

Vanshika Chaudhary, a resident of Udhampur district of Jammu and Kashmir, has earned 47th rank in NDA, bringing honour to the region. She is the first person from her

region to join the armed forces by earning AIR 47.

Describing Defense Wala as the catalyst for her success, Vanshika Chowdhary says, "It was my childhood dream to join the Indian Armed Forces and serve the nation. My father's service in the Border Security Force (BSF) inspired me to step into this field. After taking boxing training at a young age, I aspired to join the National Defense Academy (NDA). However, till then I did not know how to pre-

Arjun Puri qualifies Ph.D

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: Arjun Puri, son of Shakuntla Puri and Vijay Kumar Puri, resident of Trikuta Nagar Ext. Jammu, has been declared qualified for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) in the school of computer science and Engineering (CSE) at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU).

The candidate has worked on title, "Improved Techniques for Handling class imbalance and missing values in datasets" under the supervision of Dr. Manoj Kumar Gupta, Associate Professor School of Computer Science and Engineering, SMVDU.



PSPS College Gandhi Nagar organises awareness programme on self employment



Principal of the College, Prof. Minu Mahajan speaking at an awareness programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Department of Chemistry of Padma Shri Padma Sachdev Govt. College for Women Gandhi Nagar, in collaboration with Department of Lifelong Learning, University of Jammu, on Tuesday organised a one Day Awareness Program on Self Employment.

Principal of the College, Prof. Minu Mahajan was the chief guest on the occasion.

Dr. Reva Khajuria, Counsellor, Employment Information Cum Advisory Bureau, Department of Lifelong Learning, University of Jammu was the guest of Honour. Prof Irvinder Kour, Head Department of Home Science was the special guest. Dr. Anjana Gupta, Head Department of Chemistry, formally welcomed the guests. Dr. Reva Khajuria talked

about the importance of lifelong learning and its relevance in the life of students in particular.

Dr. Harleen, Assistant Professor of Department of Commerce, University of Jammu was the resource person. She apprised the students about self-employment and innovative ideas on starting business like freelancing, vlogging, beauty salon, candle making etc. She further talked at length about the modalities for registering start ups, various government schemes and flagship programs for setting up different levels of business.

Prof Minu Mahajan, in her address, appreciated the team for organising a wonderful session to highlight different avenues for self employment. She stressed on the relevance of such programs in today's fast changing world where it

becomes more important to make the children self-reliant and self-sufficient.

Dr. Irvinder Kour, in her address, motivated the stakeholders to participate in such awareness programs as this will surely help them to achieve their goals in the later course of their lives.

The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Deepika Gupta, Associate Professor Department of Chemistry.

Other staff members from the Department of Chemistry present on the occasion were Dr. Indu Khajuria, Dr. Shally Chadha, Prof. Anju Bala, Prof. Sweety Verma, Prof. Aran Kumar, Prof. Malti Rajput, Sama Bashir and Shally Sharma.

The proceedings were conducted by Naceyia Gupta and Shreya both students of UG Sem II.

DIS Jammu holds capacity-building programme for teachers

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Doon International School (DIS) Jammu catalogued a Capacity-Building Seminar for the faculty members under the patronage of their parent branch, DIS Dehradun.

The seminar was aided by the eminent and illustrious guest speaker from Mahattattva, Usha Pathania. The program focused on building the capacity, enhancing the life-skills, and empowering their workforce with inno-



DIS Jammu faculty members posing for a photograph during a programme.

vative pedagogical practices. 102 facilitators of the organization took part

in the convention.

Principal of DIS Jammu, Dr. Vikesh Kaur welcomed

the guests and acquainted them with various accomplishments of the school

India overtake Australia to become No. 1 Test side

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DUBAI: India have overtaken Australia to regain the number one position in the ICC men's Test team rankings following the annual update that drops results from the 2019-20 season and reflects all series completed since May 2020.

India's rating points have moved up from 119 to 121 as their 2-0 defeat to New Zealand in March 2020 no longer figures in the rankings, which assesses series completed prior to May 2022 at 50 per cent and subsequent series at 100 per cent.

India were last at the top for a month in December 2021.

Australia have slipped from 122 to 116 rating points as their home series wins over Pakistan (2-0) and New Zealand (3-0) in 2019-20 no longer figure in the rankings, while their 4-0 win over England in 2021-22 has its weighting halved to 50 per cent.

Australia, who take on India in the final of the ICC World Test Championship 2023 at The Oval from June 7, were the top-ranked Test side since

January 2022. They grabbed the position with the 4-0 series win over England that helped them overtake New Zealand.

England remain in third position but the gap between them and the second placed side is reduced from 13 to two rating points owing to some consistent performances in recent months as well as reduced weightage of their 4-0 Ashes defeat and a 1-0 defeat in the West Indies.

The other rankings too remain unchanged though 10th-placed Zimbabwe have gained five rating points. Afghanistan and Ireland have yet to play enough Tests to earn a place in the rankings table.

In the men's T20I team rankings, India have consolidated their position at the top, increasing their lead over second-placed England from six to eight points. New Zealand have overtaken Pakistan and South Africa to third position.

The annual update to the ODI team rankings will be carried out on May 10 after the ongoing Pakistan-New Zealand series.

SP College organises intramural tournament in various sports activities

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Physical Education Department of Sri Pratap (SP) College on Tuesday organized intramural tournament in various Sports activities at college campus here.

The tournament was inaugurated by Principal, SP College, Prof. Gulam Jeelani Qurashi.

These sports activities will run throughout the year as per the college Sports calendar.

Addressing the gathering after inaugurating the tournament, the Principal urged upon the students to actively participate in sports activities as it helps individual much more than in the physical aspects alone. He added that it also