

Zonal Level Inter-School Girls Competitions witness enthusiastic participation in Chenani

STATE TIMES NEWS
CHENANI: On the second day of the ongoing Zonal Level Inter-School Competitions organized by the Department of Youth Services & Sports, Zone Chenani, a vibrant display of athleticism and team spirit was witnessed as girls under the age groups of U-14 and U-17 competed in various sports disciplines.



A kabaddi match between girl teams in progress.

The events were conducted under the patronage of Director Youth Services & Sports, Subash Chander Chibber, with guidance from District Youth Services & Sports Officer Udhampur, Romesh Chander Mishra, and overall supervision of Zonal Physical Education Officer, Chenani, Jyoti Rani. The competitions in Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Chess, Badminton, and Cricket trials were held at multiple venues with the participation of girls from 27 institutions,

amounting to a total of 601 participants. The event not only fostered competitive spirit but also highlighted the commitment of the department towards youth development through sports. Principal of Govt. HSS Chenani, Anchal Singh, interacted with participants and extended his best wishes to all athletes and officials. He commended the field staff for their dedication and

including PEMS, PETs, and REKs of Zone Chenani. Sh. Anil Verma (PEM) was appointed as the overall in-charge for coordinating the competitions. Among others present were Bikram Singh, Raman Kumar, Yogeshwar, Rakesh Kumar, Mohan Dass, Meena Kotwal, Anita Katal, and several other committed officials who contributed significantly to the event's success.

Results:
Kabaddi U-17 Girls Final - GHS Chenani defeated Govt. HS Bupp Sarar by 13 points. Kabaddi U-14 Girls Final - GHS Chenani triumphed over Govt. MS Sangote by 10 points. Kho-Kho U-17 Girls Final - Govt. HSS Sewna outplayed Govt. Girls HS Chenani by 17 points. Kho-Kho U-14 Girls Final - Govt. HSS Sewna again defeated Govt. Girls HS Chenani by 7 points. Chess U-14 Girls Final -

Bharti Devi of Govt. HSS Sewna defeated Diksha Sharma of Govt. MS Koyee. Chess U-17 Girls Final - Divya Anthal of Govt. HSS Sewna won against Soni Bhagat of Govt. HS Marothii. Badminton U-17 Girls Final - Govt. GHS Chenani defeated Govt. MS Kulakh. Badminton U-14 Girls Final - Govt. GHS Chenani beat Govt. MS Lower Manta.

Following the successful conduct of cricket trials, a U-17 Girls Cricket Team was also formed for participation in the upcoming District Level Competitions. All matches were officiated by technical experts from the Department of Youth Services & Sports, Zone Chenani. The department reaffirmed its commitment to fostering sports culture among students and providing platforms for young talents to shine.

Randhawa honours CBSE Class 10th & 12th toppers



MLA Ch. Vikram Randhawa felicitating meritorious students.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a thoughtful and encouraging gesture, Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Ch. Vikram Randhawa personally visited the residences of the CBSE Class 10th and 12th toppers to honour their academic achievements.

Among those felicitated were Ishan Gupta and Laksh Gupta from Class 12th, and Amay Gupta and Aatharav Gupta from Class 10th, who secured top positions in the recently

announced CBSE board results. MLA Randhawa was accompanied by Mandal Presidents Nitish Mahajan and Rahul Kumar, along with senior leaders Narinder Gupta, Bharat Bhushan, and other prominent members of the community.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Randhawa congratulated the students and praised their hard work and determination. "It gives me immense pride to personally meet these young achievers

and extend my heartfelt congratulations. They are an inspiration to many," he said. The leaders presented certificates and mementos to the students as a token of appreciation. The visit was warmly received by the families, who expressed gratitude for the recognition and encouragement. This gesture underscores the commitment of local leadership to promote education and acknowledge the accomplishments of young minds within the community.

Rehan of Shaheed Manjit Club finds berth in India camp

STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: Yet another young volleyball player of Shaheed Manjit Club, Rehan Parvaiz has been called for the India camp being organised for the CAVA Volleyball Championship to be held in Uzbekistan.

Rehan has been shortlisted for a specialised coaching camp at the National level proposed by the Adhoc Committee of Volleyball Federation of India (VFI) for the under-16 boys.

Rehan's name figured among top young spikers of the country after J&K won gold in the just held 7th Khelo India Youth Games in Bihar. Rehan has just passed his class 10th examinations.

Son of Physical Education Lecturer from district Poonch, Rehan, if selected, will be part of the team heading for CAVA Volleyball meet in Uzbekistan.

Meanwhile, Chairman of the Shaheed DySP Manjit Singh Memorial Volleyball Club, Mohd Tariq said that young players are following the footprints of International player, Saqlain Tariq, who plays professional volleyball as member of the Delhi Toofans. He thanked the



J&K Sports Council for encouraging talented youngsters from J&K.

Volleyball Association of J&K (VAJK), president, Siddharth Daluja and CEO, Kuldeep Magotra also appreciated Rehan for securing berth in the India Camp.

BLSKS celebrates 12th Anniversary of Art of Giving with cultural extravaganza

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan (BLSKS), in collaboration with the Volleyball Association of J&K, celebrated the 12th anniversary of "Art of Giving" (AOG) with a vibrant cultural program focused on peace and harmony. The event, part of the 496th regular musical play series titled "NeighbourGood", was held at Durga Bhawan, Janipur.

The program was inaugurated by V.K. Magotra, former Regional Director of the Directorate of Field Publicity, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India. Dr. Anju Dogra from the Health Department and J.K. Raina, freelance producer-director, graced the occasion as Guests of Honor.



V.K. Magotra, former Regional Director of Directorate of Field Publicity speaking at a programme.

The theme for this year's celebration- "Neighbour Good: Bringing Good to the Neighbourhood"-aims to inspire individuals to spread kindness and generosity in their local communities. Artists from BLSKS presented a compelling performance showcasing the values of AOG-peace, happi-

ness, harmony, and selfless giving, as envisioned by its founder Prof. Achyuta Samanta, who also founded KHT, KISS, and KIMS University, Bhubaneswar. Dr. M.L. Dogra, Chairman of BLSKS, read Prof. Samanta's message and highlighted his far-reaching contributions in education, sports, and social service.

He emphasized that peace is not merely the absence of conflict but a product of compassion and selfless love, advocating a harmonious existence with oneself and the universe. Vijay Kumar Magotra, General Secretary of the Volleyball Association of J&K, praised Prof. Samanta's role in the devel-

opment of tribal welfare and sports in India. He announced that the J&K chapter of AOG has lined up a series of events-including cultural programs, yoga sessions, and lectures-culminating on May 17, 2025, to mark the 12th anniversary of the movement. The event featured enthralling performances by Usha Raina, K.K. Joshi, M.C. Kotwal, Bindia Okheda, Raju Bajjal, Kuldeep Raj, Sanjeev Kumar, Janvi Bali, Palak Gupta, and Naiya Digra. Their musical and dramatic presentations effectively conveyed the spirit of AOG and India's rich cultural heritage. Deepak Kumar concluded the event with a heartfelt vote of thanks, acknowledging the participants and audience for making the celebration a grand success.

Zonal sports meet for U-17 boys held at Tikri



STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) organised inter-school zonal level meet for under-17 boys at Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS) Tikri under the supervision of Zonal Physical Education Officer (ZPEO) Tikri, Pushpinder Kour.

Principal of the host school, Monika Kartupia was the special guest, who interacted with the participating teams. In total, around 260 players turned up for the competition in the disciplines of Kho-Kho, Kabaddi, Volleyball, Wrestling, Chess, Badminton and Yoga.

Poonch Gunners of Indian army provide relief to civilians in shelling-affected areas

STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: In a heartwarming display of humanity and compassion, the Poonch Gunners of the Indian Army conducted a ration distribution drive in the shelling-affected areas of Poonch. The initiative aimed to provide essential supplies to civilians in need, ensuring their basic needs are met during this challenging time.

The Poonch Gunners distributed ration kits comprising food grains, pulses, and other essential items to affected families. This humanitarian gesture reflects the Indian Army's commitment to the well-being and safety of the people in the region.

The local population has expressed gratitude for the Indian Army's support and care, appreciating the efforts of the Poonch Gunners in providing relief and assistance during these difficult times.

The Poonch Gunners' initiative is a testament to the Indian Army's unwavering dedication to serving humanity and upholding the spirit of humanity in the face of adversity.

JKRLM organises health camps across J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a significant initiative aimed at enhancing community well-being and healthcare accessibility, the Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission (JKRLM), in collaboration with the J&K Health Department, organised a series of free health check-up camps for Self-Help Groups (SHGs) across UT of J&K.

Under the leadership of Mission Director JKRLM, Dr. Shubhra Sharma, these health check-up camps were designed to provide comprehensive health assessments and screenings for members of Self-Help Groups associated with JKRLM, addressing the critical need for improved healthcare access within the community.

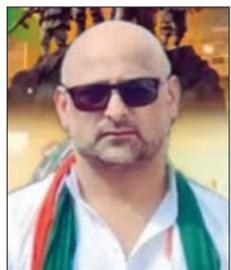
The initiative spans various districts across Jammu and Kashmir, uniting healthcare professionals and JKRLM staff to deliver essential services directly to SHG members. The camps emphasized preventive care, including general health assessments, screenings for common ailments, and educational sessions on nutrition and hygiene.

VAJK condoles demise of Judo Coach

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Volleyball Association of Jammu and Kashmir (VAJK) has expressed deep sorrow over the untimely demise of Varinder Sharma, a renowned Judo coach, Physical Education Master (PEM), and Warden of the Youth Hostel, Nagrota.

Sharma passed away recently after a brief illness, leaving a significant void in the sports fraternity of the Union Territory.

Widely respected for his dedication, Sharma was remembered not only as an accomplished judo medalist but also for his strong mana-



gerial acumen and professional commitment.

In a solemn gathering, the office bearers of the VAJK observed a two-minute silence in memory of Sharma, paying tribute to his exceptional contributions

and his qualities of both "head and heart."

His demise has deeply affected colleagues, friends, and well-wishers across the sporting community, they said.

The condolence message was conveyed by members of the Volleyball Association of J&K including H.S. Gill - Executive Vice President, Kulpid Magotra-CEO, V.K. Magotra-General Secretary, and R.C. Sharma-Treasurer.

The association conveyed heartfelt condolences to Sharma's bereaved family and prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul.

Poonch Admn launches 'Report to Support' facility for shelling-affected residents



STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: In a committed move to ensure no loss goes unreported and no affected family is left behind, the District Administration Poonch has launched a proactive initiative "Report to Support" to help shelling affected people.

This campaign enables residents impacted by the recent cross border shelling to report damages to their property or livestock directly via WhatsApp for swift assessment and assistance.

Tehsil-wise WhatsApp Contact Numbers for Submissions are o Tehsil Haveli: 9906198432 o Tehsil Mandi: 9622249091 o Tehsil Balakote: 7006458657 o Tehsil Mankote: 7006385343 o Tehsil Surankote: 7889810611 o Tehsil Mendhar: 9622347276.

It's important to note that reporting through this medi-

um does not replace the already on ground verification. Instead, this proactive approach empowers residents to inform the administration of their losses directly, ensuring no one goes unattended or overlooked.

However, Officials from the District Administration shall visit the affected areas to carry out formal damage assessments. Minimum Details Required for Reporting include (a) Name of the Owner; (b) Muhallah / Ward No (Urban Area);(c) Village / Panchayat (Rural Area); (e) Bloek and Tehsil;(d) Type of Damage: (Property / Livestock);(e) Contact Number; (f) Photograph of the Damaged Property; (Clear and recent)

The people have been advised to ensure the accuracy of the information and photographs; Only report damages that pertain to your own property or livestock; An official will reach out for spot verification based on the submitted details.

This initiative underscores the administration's pledge to fairness, transparency, and timely relief. Your active participation will help the administration deliver support effectively and without delay.

Neete to lead India's Women's Handball team at World Masters Games

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Neete Kaur, a seasoned athlete from Jammu and Kashmir, will captain the Indian Women's Handball Team at the upcoming World Masters Games in New Taipei City, Taiwan.

The event, held every four years, is one of the largest international sporting gatherings for veteran athletes from 110 countries competing in 35 sports and 9 para-sports.

This marks a historic moment as Neete becomes the first woman from Jammu and Kashmir to take part in the World Masters Games.

A fitness enthusiast, Neete Kaur follows a strict regi-



men involving strength training, aerobics, and yoga, and she champions a vegetarian lifestyle aligned with the Fit India Movement.

Beyond the field, she leads "Queens Aerobics World," a fitness club offering both in-person and online classes, and serves as General

Secretary of the Jammu and Kashmir Master Games Association.

India's contingent of 130 athletes, aged between 30 and 70+, will compete across various sports including judo, swimming, football, karate, and table tennis.

The team is being led by Chef de Mission Vinod Kumar, with George Varghese from Kerala acting as the handball coach and mission coordinator.

President of the J&K Master Games Association, Ranjit Singh Chib, praised Neete's achievement and expressed hope that her journey will inspire more people in the region to engage in sports, proving that age is no barrier to athletic excellence.

ESL takes out Tiranga Yatra in Bharderwah to honour armed forces, success of Op Sindoor



Ex-servicemen taking out Tiranga Yatra in Bharderwah.

STATE TIMES NEWS
BHADARWAH: To honour Armed forces and success of Operation Sindoor, Ex-servicemen of District Doda organised a Tiranga Yatra at Bharderwah on Thursday to showcase its solidarity with the armed forces and patriotism.

The rally, which saw participation of over 100 people including Ex-Servicemen, locals, Business community and youth was held to honour the Indian Army, Navy, Air Force, and paramilitary forces, while also commemorating the success of Operation Sindoor and paying tributes to the martyrs.

The rally began from Jai Road and after passing through Seri Bazaar, Lakshmi Narayan Chowk, Ganpat Bazaar, Vasak Dhera, Takiya Chowk and culminated at Seri Bazaar Park Bharderwah, where tribute paying function was organized.

The event was organised by District President Ex-Servicemen League Doda Raj

Singh Charak. District President Ex-Servicemen League Doda Raj Singh Charak said, "Whenever there is a war, the people of Bharderwah and Doda stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the Indian Army. This time too, our league wanted to express that we are with the nation. Secondly, it was also a celebration of the success of Operation Sindoor. We have lost soldiers, civilians and 26 innocent lives. We wanted to express our solidarity with them." He added, "Through this rally, we wanted to send a clear message, we stand with our Mother India and the Indian Army." "It is also a way to express our unwavering commitment to stand with the nation in any situation. The Pahalgam terror attack was a tragic incident that saddened all of us. It was condemned not only across the nation but also globally. We hope that Pakistan has received a strong message from the success of this operation."