

India beat Singapore 3-0 in third AVC Women’s Challenge Cup



Indian players in action against Singapore during the opening match of third AVC Women's Challenge Cup.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
THAILAND: The Indian senior volleyball team beat Singapore 3-0 to start their winning campaign in the opening match of the

'Princess Cup' third AVC Women's Challenge Cup at Nakhon Pathom, Thailand. India emerged 25-16, 25-19 25-08 winners in their

opening league match. From the Indian aspect, captain Nirmal, Soorya and Anushree impressed essentially the most. Six international teams-

India, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Hong Kong and China- are taking part in the championship that can conclude on June 30.

The Indian team's subsequent match is towards Uzbekistan on Saturday. Achyuta Samanta, President of Volleyball Federation of India (VFI) and all office bearers congratulated the workforce for its profitable begin in the championship. Chief Patron Volleyball Association of Jammu and Kashmir, Raj Daluja, President, Sidharth Daluja, Chief Executive Officer Kuldeep Magotra besides other office bearers also congratulated the team for their excellent performance in the opening match of Championship and wished them best of luck for future matches.

44th Chess Olympiad J&K selection tournament begins



KAS Sunaina Sharma enjoying chess game with Principal IDPS Randeep Wazir.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: 44th Chess Olympiad J&K selection tournament commenced at IDPS School Sunjwan, here on Friday. Special Secretary to J&K Government Sunaina Sharma was Chief Guest on the occasion, who disclosed that she herself was a good chess player but at that time there was no platform in J&K.

She was all praise for All Jammu and Kashmir Chess

Association President Atul Kumar Gupta for providing world class platform to young generation. She also praised IDPS School Management for providing beautiful chess hall for players. She wished good luck to all the players and hoped that selected players will utilise the opportunity to see chess Olympiad with participation of record 188 countries and get the lifetime exposure. She also assured all support

to All J and K Chess Association. Earlier in his speech Atul Kumar Gupta President All J and K chess association informed that top 3 players from Jammu and Top 3 players from Kashmir event will be sponsored by federation for chess Olympiad. Trophies will be presented to total 50 players at Jammu and Srinagar. Among 3 boys and 3 girls one boys and one girl will be from government schools. Aarav Gupta was leading after 4 rounds by scoring 4/4 points Final rounds will be played tomorrow. Randeep Wazir principal IDPS, M.P. singh GM at hydro project H.P. and also senior player, Madhu Abrol school manager, Ravi Sharma President Kathua District Chess Association, Arvind Sharma chief Arbiter, Himani kohli were among others present on the occasion. Program is supported by Tamil Nadu government and AICEF.

Mayor reviews Amarnath Yatra arrangements at base camp Bhagwati Nagar

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: With a view to provide best possible facilities in all aspects to the pilgrims of upcoming Shree Amarnath Yatra starting from 30th of June 2022, Chander Mohan Gupta Mayor Jammu along-with Advocate Purnima Sharma Deputy Mayor JMC conducted an extensive tour of base camp Bhagwati Nagar & its adjoining areas and took stock of the preparations being undertaken by Jammu Municipal Corporation, Tourism Deptt. and other allied agencies for the Holy Yatra. Raj Kumar Chairman of Public Health & Sanitation Committee JMC, Ajay Gupta Chairman of Social Justice Committee JMC, Parmod Kapahi Councillor of Ward No. 14, S. Sucha Singh Councillor of Ward No. 31 JMC as well as Sh. Rahul Yadav Commissioner JMC, Talat Mehmood Chief Transport Officer JMC, Hira Lal Khajuria concerned Sanitary Inspector and other supervisory staff of Health & Transport Section of JMC were accompanied the Mayor during the tour. Besides this, promi-



Mayor, Chander Mohan Gupta along with JMC Commissioner Rahul Yadav visiting base camp Bhagwati Nagar.

nent inhabitants of Bhagwati Nagar, Puran Nagar & its adjoining localities were also remained present there. While addressing the media persons, Mayor told that every possible efforts in collaboration with Distt. Administrations are being made by the JMC to make this year's Shree Amarnath really a "Swastham Yatra" in all aspects. He further told that additional men & machinery has already been deployed by the JMC by way of Safai sathies, garbage lifting vehicles, prefabricated toilets as well as other allied amenities at Bhagwati Nagar base camp along with other places where

the pilgrims/ sadhus are going to stay during the holy yatra. He also told that special IEC teams have been constituted by the JMC who will work with full dedication during the entire period of Shree Amarnath Yatra and will ensure full implementation of solid waste Management rules, no use of single used plastics as well as other guidelines of SWM (Urban). He also told that maximum number of welcome Hoardings/ Banners for Amarnath Yatries will also be installed at the entry points as well as all the prominent Chowks & other sites of Jammu city.

Vacating PoK, Modi Govt's next mission: Kavinder



Former Dy CM, Kavinder Gupta and other at plantation drive.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta on Friday asserted that the next mission of BJP government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is to vacate Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK). The BJP stalwart was speaking during a plantation drive held as part of fortnight-long commemoration on the death anniversary of Dr SP Mukherjee. The plantation drive was conducted at GB Pant Hospital

Satwari in memory of Dr Shyamna Prasad Mukherjee. On the occasion, Kavinder Gupta along with Vinay Gupta BJP District President planted more than 100 saplings. While, the plantation drives were conducted at all the party booths in Gandhi Nagar Constituency. The senior BJP functionary said that BJP government is committed to bring back the entire area of J&K state which was acceded to India in October 1947. He said that today India is in physical occupation of part of the original state of J&K as

Pakistan occupied Kashmir (POK) and China Occupied Kashmir (COK) including Aksai Chin and other parts have been illegally occupied by the two rogue nations-Pakistan and China. Kavinder said that after abrogation of Article 370, which was the dream of Dr SP Mukherjee, the government is now focused on liberating PoK from the clutches of Pakistan and soon the dream of crores of Indians will be fulfilled as getting back PoK is morally, ethically and politically is the right thing for the country and the government will accomplish this come what may. Among those who were present include Narinder Koki Secretary, Bharat Bhushan Mandal President, Hardev Singh, Dr Gurvinder Singh, Dr Savata Sharma, Dr Jyoti, Vinecta Saveeta, Ajay Sharma, Ch Bhagwan Dass, Meetu Sharma and Poonam.

SSP Benam Tosh encourages wrestlers at Dangal



Commandant IRP-19th Bn, SSP Benam Tosh declaring wrestler as winner.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

KATHUA: Commandant IRP-19th Battalion Kathua, SSP Benam Tosh on Friday visited border areas in Hiranagar sector of Kathua district and interacted with prominent citizens and general public. He also encouraged the wrestlers of J&K, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Haryana at a grand Dangal organized by the local Dangal Committee at Chhabba Chak located in the border area in Kathua district. DDC Councillor Karan Kumar Attri, SSP (ret'd) Sardar Khan, Kathua's brand ambassador Inspector Gulzar Ahmad, Sarpanch Sat Paul Bhagat , Ex Sarpanch Baldev Raj , Hussain Choudhary, Ali Pahalwan alias Sonu, Teg Ali , Tara Chand, Romi Andotra, Hajji Yaseen and Rafi player were among the prominent figures present at the Dangal. Over 100 bouts were played at the grand annual Dangal. Top wrestlers namely Sunil of Chandigarh and Muneer of Jammu took on each other in the big bout which ended in a tie and equally shared. The second big bout was played between JKP Pahalwan Nadeem and Gora Pahalwan of Punjab, which too ended in a tie.

J&K Sainik Welfare Dept celebrates Raising Day

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Sainik Welfare Department J&K celebrated its 70th Raising Day here on Friday. This year it was decided to deviate from the tradition and to celebrate the Raising Day in the border areas and far flung locations amongst the Veterans, Veer Naaris, War Widows and their dependents.

Accordingly a series of functions were held in Jammu (Bishnah), RS Pura (Satrayan), Udhampur (Pacheri), Rajouri (Thanamandi), Kathua (Billawar), Doda (Bhaderwah), Poonch (Mendhar), Akhnoor (Nud), Samba (Dhora), Baramulla (Madar), Srinagar (Kulgam) and Kupwara (Haihama) . During these interactions



Director Sainik Welfare Department J&K, Brig Gurmeet Singh Shan and others after the meeting.

information about various Welfare Schemes, importance of documentation and training on JeevanPraman App etc were disseminated to the veterans. It was a special feeling to receive blessings from two Veer Naaris who are above 100 years of age but still decided to attend the function at Pacheri (Udhampur). On this occa-

sion, a new office was dedicated to veterans in the Office Complex of DC Kulgam. This office will be of immense help to Veterans of Kulgam district. Brig Gurmeet Singh Shan, Director Sainik Welfare Department , J&K informed that the department, raised on Jun 23, 1953, has been at the forefront to look after the

BJP to observe Emergency Day as Black Day



BJP Senior leader Ramesh Arora talking to reporters.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: 25th June 2022 will be observed as Black day in the history of Democracy as former PM Indira Gandhi imposed emergency after her election was declared illegal on 12th June, 1975 by Allahabad High Court, said BJP Senior leader & former MLC Advocate Ramesh Arora. BJP will felicitate all "Loktantra Senani (sufferers of MISA)" by presenting them with mementoes in a programme to be organized on 25th June, Saturday in J&K BJP headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, he added. Ramesh Arora accompanied by Adv. Chander Mohan Sharma and Sat Paul Singh Rathore in presence of J&K BJP Media Incharge Dr. Pardeep Mahotra briefed the media about the oppressive policies of former PM Indira Gandhi during period of Emergency. While addressing, Ramesh Arora said "J.P. moment in Bihar and Murarji Desai movement in Gujarat were against Congress government. Press censorship was imposed, fundamental rights were snatched. Courts were not having powers to challenge the same. " He said, "RSS leaders were arrested including leaders arrested in Jammu and Kashmir: Numerous were tortured. People were kept under MISA (Maintenance of Internal Security Act) and DIR Nasbandi was done by force." He further said that former PM Indira Gandhi was defeated and a new era started. 12 states recognized sacrifices of Loktantra Senani, announced different schemes for them, and disclosed that L.G. Manoj Sinha is also asked to declare and recognize the Loktantra Senani. He added that Satish Sharma (All India Loktantra Senani) from Delhi will also address on the occasion.

VFI President Dr Samanta discusses popularising volleyball at Manila Meet



VFI President Dr Achyuta Samanta and other dignitaries at Manila meet.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

BHUBANESWAR: The President of the Volleyball Federation of India (VFI) Dr Achyuta Samanta on Thursday met top officials of the International Volleyball Federation in Manila, Philippines and discussed measures to popularise the game in India in a big way. Dr Samanta represented India as the president of the VFI for the first time at the invitation of the Philippine National Volleyball Federation (PNVF).

Dr Samanta, who took over as the President of VFI in 2020, met the President of the Federation of International Volleyball Ary Graça during the annual national meeting of the worldwide volleyball governing body there and discussed at length initiatives to develop a country-wide passion for the game and its appeal. Dr Samanta, during his day-long visit, also met the General Director of FIVB Fabio Azevedo at the gathering that is being attended by federation heads from 222

countries. Dr Samanta was assured by both Graca and Azevedo of all support to popularizing and developing volleyball in India. The Manila meeting is coinciding with the 2022 FIVB Volleyball Nations League (Men-Week 2), being held from June 21-26, 2022 at the Smart Araneta Coliseum in Quezon City. He is being accompanied by the Joint Secretary of VFI and Secretary of Odisha Volleyball Association Dr Gaganendu Dash.

PoJK DPs Front holds protest, highlights demands

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: A large number of displaced persons under the banner of Pak occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) and Non camp Refugees of 1965 and 1971 on Friday held a protest, here against the non serious attitude of State Government towards their demands.

Carrying banners and placards, a large number of DPs led by Front president Capt. (Retd) Yudhvir Singh Chib gathered at Press Club Jammu and shouted slogans in favour of their demands, which already have been projected to the J&K and Central Governments since a long time. Speaking on the occasion, Chib said that DPs are waiting that the State Government will take expeditious measures to redress their grievances forever. He called upon all the organizations to get united and launch a joint struggle in near future.



PoJK DPs raising slogans during a protest.

Capt Chib requested to Lieutenant Governor of J&K to make considerable policy for non Camp DP's which have given state land on Roshni Act. Now Roshni Act has been terminated and that land became surplus, still DP's are very surprise and anxious that which would be the future of their families and their children and how they will look after their children without any source, he said. "We pray to Lieutenant

Governor please give concession to all Non-Camp DP's for allotment of that land in favour of Non-Camp DP's of POJK which are waiting for your justice," he said. The others who spoke on Rally are: JP Sharma (Gen Secretary), Kulbir Singh Chib, Kuldip Singh Chib (Secretary), Sakndya Devi (President Women Wing), Kehar Singh and Master Kamal Kumar, Gittan Ram, Capt Sudesh Singhi, Ashwani Kumar.

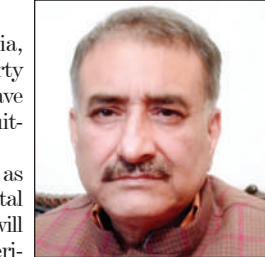
welfare of ESM, Veer Naris and their dependents in J&K. The Director stated that an action plan has been drawn up for future course of action and various welfare measures are being pursued for approval of the govt. He stated that sustained efforts over the past one year had lead to achievement of the milestones like Enhanced relief of Rs 5000 per month for Veterans of World War II and Ex J&K Militia, Approval for establishment of 100 bedded children Hostels, at Jammu and at Srinagar; Opening of an adhoc ZSWO at Bandipora for veterans of that remote area; Operationalization of ZSWO at Akhnoor for benefit of residents of this border area. He further stated that the launching of web-site of the Sainik Welfare Deptt(sainikwelfarejk.nic.in), Effective utilization of technology viz social media and internet for faster outreach to veterans, release of loans to Ex-servicemen for self-employment through PMEGP and J&K REGP, Relaxation of age for Ex-servicemen for various government jobs, relaxation in physical endurance tests for recruitment in belt forces in J&K , Filling of vacant posts of ZSWOs in J&K and Registration of Rajya Sainik Board as a Charitable Trust under sec 12 A of IT Act 1961 are some other notable achievements of the Sainik Welfare Department.

Agnipath-a retrograde step towards war waging capabilities: SSP

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Col SS Pathania, President Sainik Samaj Party (SSP) JKUT expressed his grave concerns on newly launched recruitment policy named as Agnipath. Policy envisages calling recruits as Agniveers who will be having a total tenure of four years, which will include six months of training period.

After four years only 25 percent will be absorbed and balance of 75 percent will be falling back to their homes. Age limit specified is from 17.5 years to 21 years, which has been enhanced now to 23 years as one time measure, to offset the effects of no recruitment not carried out in last 2 years. Youth did not received policy well and violent reactions erupted across the country in which public and private properties was destroyed. Anti national elements and political parties also exploited the situation, considering their vested interests and used youth as a shield. Government gave two main reasons for affecting the changes, ie to increase the youth profile and make soldiers technical savvy. However, main reasons appears to be cut on the pension bill, which is rapidly ballooning and affecting the defence budget. Six months of training period is not adequate more so for the recruits in specialised and technical arms like armoured corps, Artillery, Engineers, EME and Aviation corps. 4 years of stay, will not be sufficient to prepare a battle ready soldiers, who can delivered his best, while facing adversaries like China and Pakistan.



Lateral placement of agniveers in CAPF, defence PSUs and corporate world may not succeed as there will be resistance for obvious reasons and intake will be miniscule. Armed Forces were considered best option by the youth, new scheme due to its inherent drawbacks and insecurity will force youth to choose CAPF and police forces thus adversely affecting the quality of youth joining Armed Forces. National security is of utmost importance and must not be influenced by the economical factors. Reforms should only be carried out if absolutely essential and bring positive changes. Indian armed forces are one of the best in world and proved their mettle in numerous wars and dissatar management, hence nothing experiments or reforms are called for. Moreover combined threat of China and Pakistan, needs to be factored, while carrying out such reforms. Few recommendations are made to the government, for their consideration. Firstly, cut down standing army strength by 2 lacs and bring it to 11 lacs, secondly, introduce, new pension scheme in armed forces too, thirdly, enhance your of duty period to seven years. Our defence budget as compared to USA and China is woefully less and must be increased to maintain the status of an emerging super power. Pathania urged the government to roll back or revise the policy and start it as pilot project with a feedback mechanism. He also urged the government to start the fresh recruitment on old pattern for affected youth who missed their selection due to no recruitment not done for last two years.