

Indian mountaineers create history, successfully scale Mt Brammah-I in Kishtwar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: A group of Indian mountaineers created history by scaling Mt Brammah-I, standing at a formidable 6,416 metres, in Kishtwar district, an official said on Thursday. The challenging peak, known for its technical difficulty, has been a long-standing aspiration in the community since it was first scaled by British mountaineer Chris Bonington about five decades ago. Brammah-I is a mountain massif in the Himalayas, east of Kishtwar town and near the border with Himachal Pradesh. It comprises four peaks – Brammah-I, Flat Top, Brammah-II and Arjuna – from west to east. The official said the nine-member team from West Bengal-based Sonarpur Aarohi Club, including skilled and eminent mountaineers, successfully scaled Mt. Brammah-I on Tuesday. "This remarkable achievement marks the first



West Bengal-based Sonarpur Aarohi Club members scaling Mt Brammah-I in Kishtwar.

Indian team to conquer the summit, making history in the world of mountaineering," the official said. After meticulous planning and cooperation from the Kishtwar district administration, various government bodies and the Army, the expedition commenced on July 16. However, adverse weather conditions, including whitout and heavy snowfall, forced the team to abandon their initial summit attempt, the official said.

During this, a Sherpa member of the group fell approximately 70 metres. However, he survived with bruises, cuts, shock and snow blindness while searching for the summit route, the official added. The team made the courageous decision to wait for his recovery and launch another attempt to scale the summit within 30 hours. The team set out once again on July 17 midnight and, at approximately 10.30 am on

July 18, it achieved the goal – successfully summiting Mt Brammah-I. The official said the team recorded the summit height at 6,426 metres, which differed slightly from the topo map's mentioned elevation of 6416 metres, based on four device readings. Nine climbing members and five Sherpas accomplished the summit, while three members coordinated the activities from the base camp, the official said. Deputy

Commissioner (Kishtwar) Devanshi Yadav congratulated the team for the accomplishment and expressed enthusiasm about the development boosting tourist potential and tourism in the hilly district.

"This achievement will open up new avenues for future adventure tourism in the Kishtwar Himalayas," Yadav said, encouraging adventure seekers and mountaineers to explore the uncharted heights of the region. He also assured a conducive environment and necessary support for their endeavours. After returning to their base camp at 8.30 pm on July 19, the team – led by renowned mountaineers Rudra Prasad Halder and Satyarup Siddhanta – expressed gratitude to the district administration for its support, both direct and indirect, throughout the expedition. They also thanked the Army's 17 Rashtriya Rifles, police, the forest department, the KDA and the local team.

JKiian Jasleen Kour earned Black Belt in Karate from Japan



JK Public School Kunjwani faculty felicitating winner Jasleen Kour.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jasleen Kour, a student of Grade XI participated in Advanced Karate Training and Black Belt Exam at Tokoyo, Japan from June 7 to 13, 2023. Only 12 students from India were selected for this Championship. Japan is considered as the World Headquarter of Karate.

She got training from the World Karate Master 'Kaneho' there.

She also participated in the All Japan Meet, wherein she competed with participants from various states of Japan and won Bronze Medal. Her coach Gopal Das is all praises for her achievement.

Director JK Educational Society Shashi Choudhary

and Principal of the School Rajesh Rathore applauded her achievements and felicitated her during the assembly of the school.

On this occasion, the Director appreciated the incredible endeavours of the School Coach for bringing laurels to the Institution. She wished Jasleen many milestones and accolades ahead.

VAJK delegation calls on Secretary JKSC



VAJK office bearers calling on Secretary J&K Sports Council, Nuzhat Gull.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A delegation of the Volleyball Association of J&K (VAJK) today called on Secretary J&K Sports Council (JKSC), Nuzhat Gull and discussed with her sports scenario with focus on the game of Volleyball. The Secretary was informed about the ongoing

election process of the VAJK at the district level and formation of new teams giving representations to present and past spikers of repute.

The CEO of the VAJK, Kuldeep Magotra also discussed in length proposed activities of the Association at the district and UT level with focus on the talented

rural youth. The CEO was accompanied by treasure of VAJK, RC Sharma and Joint Secretary, Mohd Tariq.

Meanwhile, it has learned reliably that the Secretary expressed her satisfaction with the working of the VAJK and assured them all possible help with regard to infrastructure and activities.

Heritageans experience Scouts and Guides Dwitiya Sopan Camp

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A four-day Scouts and Guides Dwitiya Sopan Training Camp was organised in Heritage School Jammu from July 17 to 20, 2023, a total of 45 Scouts and 35 Guides participated in the camp.

The Principal Heritage School, Akash Pradhan inaugurated the camp.

In his address to the young scouts and guides, he exhorted them to try and adhere to the lessons they received during the camp days to make their lives sublime.

He opined that these lessons would go a long way to show them the art of living. He also advised them to always be prepared to face challenges in life, because all trials and tribulations give us valuable life lessons and play a crucial role in an individual's growth in life.

The camp was organised under the overall supervision of R.P Kotwal STC (Scout), Manjeet Kour J.STC (Guide) and trainers from the Headquarters Scouts & Guides, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. Scouts and Guides pledged to be duty-bound to help other people and above all to their motherland.



Women bike expedition to commemorate Kargil Vijay Diwas arrives at Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A motorbike expedition to Ladakh by an all-women team of tri-services commemorating the 24th Kargil Vijay Diwas arrived at here on Thursday to a red carpet welcome.

The 25-member team travelling to Drass in the Ladakh Union Territory were flagged off from Delhi on Tuesday to mark 24 years of India's victory in the Kargil War.

The 'Nari Sashaktikaran Women Motorcycle Rally' was flagged off by Army Chief General Manoj Pande from the National War Memorial (NWM) here.

The expedition, which will end at the Kargil War Memorial in Drass on July 25, is aimed at commemorating 24 years of India's victory over Pakistan in the 1999 Kargil War and highlighting the indomitable spirit of women, officials said.

During the rally, the team will stop at several schools and interact with students.

When the group arrived at



Women motorbike expedition members at Jammu on Thursday.

the Presentation Convent here, the girl students accorded them a warm welcome by girl students.

The team includes two 'Veer Naris', one of whom is a serving officer, 10 serving women officers of the Indian Army, one woman officer each from the Air Force and Navy, three women soldiers of the Army and eight spouses of armed forces personnel, PRO Defence Lt Col Suneel Bartwal said.

The team will celebrate the victory of the Indian armed forces in the Kargil War and

pay tribute to the soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the nation, he said.

"It is a beautiful initiative taken by the defence services to celebrate the 24th Kargil Divas," Aishwarya Desai, part of the bikers' team, told PTI.

Desai said this expedition is the "best example of women empowerment".

"Everything is possible. If a woman has that zeal and courage, nothing can stop her from achieving anything in this world", she added.

Another biker Nitinder

Dutt said the bike rally celebrates the armed forces and its women power.

"We are all connected to the Vijay Divas. The country should never forget the sacrifices of those martyrs," Dutt, a spouse of an army officer, said.

At the Presentation Convent here, the bikers received a red carpet welcome on Thursday.

Yuvna Sharma, a Class 12 student, said she was elated to welcome the women bikers and the expedition was an "inspiration" for all the students there.

Some students also shared their aspirations to join the Indian armed forces after meeting the expedition team.

"I am so inspired by these women officers. I want to don the uniform to serve the nation", Gunika Gupta, another student of the school, said.

The school's programme in-charge Ashu told PTI that it was a great honour for them to be able to host these "courageous women bikers". For this rally, the Army has partnered with TVS Motor, with the participants riding on TVS Ronin motorbikes.

The motorbike expedition will cover around 1,000 km, wherein the women will traverse through the plains of Haryana, Punjab and the high mountain passes of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh to reach the Kargil War Memorial in Drass.

On July 26, 1999, the Indian Army announced the successful culmination of "Operation Vijay", declaring victory after a nearly three-month-long battle at the icy heights of Kargil, including high-altitude locations, such as Tololing and Tiger Hill.

SP Sharma best veteran in Amar Ujala Chess meet

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Amar Ujala organized one day Rapid Chess Championship at Nek Hotel here on Thursday on International Chess Day. Atul Kumar Gupta, former J&K chess champion won the event while young Aarav Gupta won second place and Aryan Raj Bali finished third. Another former J&K Champion, SP Sharma won best veteran award while Manasvi Gupta got best Under-15 trophy.

Srujanika Gupta bagged best female award and Viraj Singh Jamwal secured best Under-11 title.

President all J&K Chess Association (AJKCA), Baldev Raj and vice president, Kuljeet Singh Jamwal distributed the prizes. Bindu Pathania was chief Arbiter of the event while Ritish Pathania done the pairing with Swiss software. The winners presented with cash prizes worth Rs.11,500.



Winner players with officials at Jammu on Thursday.

Police Martyrs' Memorial Cricket Tournament inaugurated

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BANDIPORA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais along with the SSP Bandipora, Lakshay Sharma on Thursday inaugurated 'Police Martyrs Memorial' Cricket Tournament at SK Sports Stadium Bandipora.

As many as 18 teams from across the district are participating in the tournament.

This cricket event is being organized by the District Police Bandipora in collaboration with the Cricket Association Bandipora, with the aim to pay homage to the brave police personnel who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving the community.

The opening ceremony of the tournament marked the presence of esteemed guests, local dignitaries, cricket enthusiasts, and members of the bereaved families of fallen police martyrs. Speaking on the occasion,



DC Bandipora, Dr Owais interacting with players.

the DC expressed his profound gratitude to the district police and Cricket Association Bandipora for organizing such a significant event that honors the sacrifices of our courageous police force.

Dr Owais highlighted the importance of recognizing the efforts of these unsung heroes, who work tirelessly day and night to maintain peace and harmony in the region.

SSP Bandipora said the Police Martyrs' Cricket Tournament aims to remember

the sacrifices of the fallen heroes, besides to foster camaraderie and sportsmanship among the participating teams. He said 18 teams from various police departments and local cricket clubs in Bandipora will compete in the tournament.

Cricket Association Bandipora, expressed his gratitude towards the district police for joining hands in organizing this momentous event.

Among others, Paisal Ali was also present on the occasion.

19th Police Martyrs Memorial Football Tournament 2023 to begin on July 24



Shahid Mehraj, DIG Armed Kashmir chairing a meeting on Thursday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A review meeting was held today on July 20, 2023, at Bakshi Stadium Srinagar to take stock of the arrangements/ preparation undertaken for smooth conduct of 19th Martyrs Memorial Football Tournament-2023 (MMFT) scheduled to be held at, Synthetic Turf Ground TRC & Polo Ground Srinagar from July 24 to 31, 2023. The meeting was presided over by Shahid Mehraj, DIG Armed Kashmir. During the meeting all the related aspects with regard to successful conduct of the tournament was discussed threadbare and all the nominated officers who have been assigned with various jobs gave their feedback with regard to their earmarked jobs.

Kuldeep Handoo-DYSP (Sports) APHQ J&K gave detailed presentation viz-a-viz various aspects of the arrangements put forth for smooth conduct of the event. During the meeting, DIG Armed Kashmir

impressed upon the participants for timely completion of all the necessary arrangements. The meeting was attended among others by Abdul Qayoom- DIG IRP Kashmir, Abishiekh Mahajan (AIG Welfare PHQ), Suhail Munawar Mir-(SSP Crime Branch Kmr.) Mahmood Ahmad-SSP (SO to ADGP Armed J&K), Mohammad Aslam-SSP (CO JKAP-13th Bn.), Arif Rishu-SSP (CO IRP-8th Bn.), Manoj Pandita-SSP (AIG Communication PHQ), Liyaqat Ali-SSP (CO IRP-9th Bn.), Shafat Hussain-SSP (CO. IRP-6th Bn.), Tahir Saleem SSP CO AP 9th Gh. Jeelani Wani-SSP (CO IRP-5th Bn.), Muzafar Shah-SSP (Traffic Srinagar), Feroz Yehya-SSP (APCR Kmr.), Nazir Andrabi Chairman J&K Football Association, Professor B.A Shah General Secretary Football Association, Sajid Yusuf Football Coach Kashmir University, Bashir Malik President DFA Srinagar and other members of J&K Football Association.

Mangnar Club in semis of Kanuyian Zone Cricket



Participating teams posing for a photograph with dignitaries at Poonch.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Mangnar Cricket Club on Friday qualified for the final of the ongoing zone level cricket tournament Zone Kanuyian of district Poonch under 'Aazadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

In the semifinal decided

today, Mangnar Club defeated Khanate and Khanater Club chasing a target of 68 runs.

Mohd Qasim, district (DYSS) officer Poonch was the chief guest in the semi-final, who interacted with the teams under the supervision of ZPEO Kanuyian,

Anresh Kumar Sharma.

The technical penal in today's match included Rajinder Singh Toofan, Pervez Ahmed, Imran Khan, Vikas Sharma, Pawandeep Singh, Ameet Sharma, Sandeep Kumar, Gurbir Singh, Pankaj Kumar and Chamkor.