

Jodhamal hosts F1 in Schools Regional Finals- A Celebration of Speed, Science, and Teamwork

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To foster a culture of engineering and innovation at the school level and to promote scientific temperament alongside real-world problem-solving skills, Jodhamal Public School organized the F1 in Schools Regional Finals 2025, a dynamic racing and engineering competition conducted on Sunday. This event was part of the internationally acclaimed F1 in Schools STEM Challenge and marked a significant milestone in hands-on experiential learning at the school level.

The Special Guests and Judges for the event were professors from IIT Jammu, Kirti Mathuria, Ritu, Ajay Singh, Rahul, Biswanath Chakraborty and Dr. Rajkumar. They appreciated the depth of knowledge, innovation, and dedication demonstrated by the students. The judges took great interest in the technical aspects of the teams' work and felicitated the winners, encouraging all participants to continue pursuing excellence in STEM fields.

The School is known for its culture of innovation and a sturdy STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Education. School's Innovation Hub takes pride in the achievements of its students, some of



Jodhamal Public School faculty posing with participants of F1 in Schools Regional Finals.

whom have already achieved British and Indian Patents for their innovative ideas and prototypes, one of them is the recipient of the most prestigious Pradhan Mantri Bal Puruskar bestowed by Prime Minister of India.

These budding scientists have also been felicitated by NASA, ISRO, MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA), Caltech (California Institute of Technology, USA) for their inclination in the scientific pursuits.

Eight teams-Team Veer Vajra Racing (comprising Iraj Duggal, Parth Sharma, Adeesh Singh, Aarav Mahajan, Adhyan Gupta, and Akshaj Arora), Team Inferno Racing (comprising Sameer Rahi, Guransh Singh, Gursaadh Gupta, Rajvir Singh, and Harshit Motiyal), Team Velocious Racing (comprising Aanya Mahajan, Aarshia Sharma,

Ayanna Jain, Vernica Mahajan, and Ananya), Team Stratos Racing (comprising Kriday Mahajan, Krishiv Gupta, Amender Singh, and Farhan Ahmed), Team Alpha Racing (comprising Atharva Singh Jamwal, Ritvik Raina, Viven Rometra, Arhant Gandotra, Abhinash Singh, and Kathit Gupta), Team Turbo Racing (comprising Azaan Tak, Ahmed Shahryar, Advay Jandyal, Snithik Jangral, and Ruhaan Thakur), Team Berserk Racing (comprising Adrian Raj Anthony, Ranvijay Singh Bhau, Hargun Singh Virk, Aadya Choudhary, and Saishnu Sharma), and Team Caelestin Racing (comprising Aaron Vaid, Advait Sharma, Evan Arora, Samar Mahajan, Rajveer Singh, and Vihaan Mahajan) - a total of 46 students-participated in the thrilling regional rounds of the competition that tested

both speed and strategy.

The entire event was envisioned and led by Neetu Johri, Headmistress of the School, along with her dedicated team.

The event featured multiple rounds including Pit Display, Team Identity, and Engineering Design Review.

The excitement in the air was palpable as student-designed miniature Formula 1 cars zoomed down the race-track, built entirely by the participants themselves using CAD/CAM software, aerodynamic principles, and precision engineering. After the time trials, the top-performing teams competed in thrilling knockout rounds that tested not just speed but consistency and strategy.

The grand event culminated in an enthusiastic award ceremony where the efforts and excellence of the young racers were celebrated with applause and accolades.

The Trustee of the School, Nandan Kuthiala, and Director, Arati Kuthiala shared that the School's continuous focus on technological empowerment lies at the heart of its progressive educational vision, where students are encouraged to ideate, experiment and engineer their dreams into reality.

They also appreciated the excellent performances and dedication of all the teams.

Dr.Deep Khare, Principal and Ms.AmitaArora, Vice Principal added that the F1 in Schools Regional Finals offered students a comprehensive platform not just to showcase technical acumen, but also to build confidence, communicate effectively, and work collaboratively. From concept to execution, the event was a deep dive into mechanical design, branding, resource management, and competitive racing, giving participants an enriching experience at every level.

The incorporation of high-level engineering challenges like F1 in Schools into the curriculum is a monumental step forward in preparing students for a world driven by science and technology. It aligns with Jodhamal's mission of equipping students with skills essential for navigating and shaping the future.

BSF Senior Secondary School Jammu excels in Indian Talent Olympiad

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: BSF Senior Secondary School Jammu has once again brought laurels to the institution by earning the prestigious Golden School Trophy in the Indian Talent Olympiad (ITO), affirming its commitment to academic excellence and holistic development. The school continues to set benchmarks in scholastic endeavors, nurturing young minds to shine not only within classrooms but also on national platforms.

The Indian Talent Olympiad, a nationally recognized platform, conducts various Olympiads such as General Knowledge International Olympiad (GKIO), English International Olympiad (EIO), International Science Olympiad (ISO), International Maths Olympiad (IMO) and Drawing Olympiad.

BSF Senior Secondary School students achieved notable rankings in various Olympiads.

Kritika of Class 6th and Yuvraj Salotra of class 9th got 23 state rank and 20 State Rank respectively and Excellence Medal Award in GKIO (General Knowledge International Olympiad) whereas Sampreity Sood of class 6th and Gunee Kour of class 8th achieved State Rank 21 and State Rank 19 respectively and Excellence



BSF Senior Secondary School Jammu faculty felicitating winners students.

Medal Award in EIO (English International Olympiad) while Eshan Magotra of Class 7th got State Rank 20 and Shubham Bhat of class 9th got State Rank 19 and Excellence Medal Award in ISO (International Science Olympiad).

Kishu Jara of class 9th, State Topper was awarded a cash prize of Rs 700, Piyush Raj of class 6th, State Topper received a cash prize of Rs 1000 and Pratyush Juyal of class 8th, State Topper was honored with Rs 1200 for their brilliant performance in IMO (International Maths Olympiad).

The stellar achievements of these students serve as an inspiration for their peers and underscore the school's unwavering dedication to academic distinction. A Certificate of

Appreciation was awarded to Sonu Sharma (GKIO Incharge), Sunita Soni (EIO Incharge), and Arjan Kumar Sharma (IMO & ISO Incharge) for their commendable efforts in guiding and mentoring the students throughout the Olympiad journey.

The Principal of the School, Dr. S.K. Shukla, under whose able guidance these Olympiads were conducted, received the Golden School Trophy and the Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the institution.

Addressing the students and staff, Dr. Shukla applauded the dedication of the incharges and encouraged students to actively participate in future Olympiads, stating that such platforms not only recognize academic brilliance but also foster a spirit of healthy competition.

DPS Jammu's Vaibhavi Sharma to represent India at FIG Rhythmic Gymnastics World Challenge Cup 2025

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu is elated to share a moment of immense pride and honour-Vaibhavi Sharma of Class XII-G has been selected to represent India at the prestigious FIG Rhythmic Gymnastics World Challenge Cup 2025, to be held in Romania from July 25 to 27, 2025.

This global event, hosted under the aegis of the Federation Internationale de Gymnastique (FIG), will witness participation from elite senior and junior gymnasts across the world.

Vaibhavi's journey in rhythmic gymnastics has been nothing short of extraordinary. At the National Rhythmic Gymnastics Championship 2024 in Surat, Gujarat, she was declared the Second-Best All-Around Gymnast in the junior category. She further added to her accolades with a



silver medal in the team event, along with two gold and two silver medals in the individual apparatus finals, showcasing her unparalleled grace, technical finesse, and unwavering commitment.

Her consistent excellence at the inter-

national level is equally commendable. She has proudly donned the national colours at the Asian Rhythmic Gymnastics Championships in Tashkent, Uzbekistan-2024, Manila, Philippines-2023, and Pattaya, Thailand- 2022.

A symbol of dedication, perseverance, and sportsmanship, Vaibhavi continues to inspire the entire DPS Jammu fraternity. Her achievements reflect the values of discipline, determination, and excellence that are the hallmark of the institution.

The distinguished Management of DPS Jammu- President-RCT, Ajatshatru Singh; Pro VC, Dr. Ritu Singh; Director, S.S Sodhialong with Principal, Ruchi Chhabra and the entire faculty, extend their heartfelt congratulations to Vaibhavi and her proud parents on this stellar accomplishment.

Pacer Kamboj added to India squad as cover for Akash Deep, Arshdeep; Nitish too doubtful

■ AGENCY

MANCHESTER: Pacer Anshul Kamboj was on Sunday added to India squad as cover for Akash Deep and Arshdeep Singh, who are racing against time to be ready for the fourth Test against England, beginning here Wednesday.

Akash Deep, who is dealing with a groin niggle, played in the second and third Test against England at Birmingham and Lord's respectively, while left-arm pacer Arshdeep is yet to feature in a match in the on-going series.

According to sources, India all-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy is also doubtful for the

fourth match after sustaining a knee injury during a gym session on Sunday.

"Nitish suffered a knee injury during his training in gym today," a source said.

Reddy was part of the playing XI in the second and third Tests.

There is no clarity as yet on Akash Deep's availability, while Arshdeep is unlikely to be available for selection for the Manchester Test, and therefore the selectors decided to call Kamboj, PTI has learned.

Arshdeep copped a blow on his left hand while trying to stop a shot from Sai Sudharsan in his follow through during the net session at Beekenham on

Thursday, which necessitated the bandaging of his bowling arm.

"We'll take a call on the combination we play, particularly given the Arshdeep situation as well, we'll make that call closer to Manchester," assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate had said.

"He took a ball while he was bowling...it's just a cut, so we have to see how bad the cut is. Obviously the medical team has taken him off to see a doctor and obviously if he needs stitches or doesn't need stitches that's going to be important to our planning for the next few days," he added.

The 24-year-old Kamboj is a worthy addition to the

squad after his impressive effort for India A against the England Lions in two side games prior to the Test series.

He took five wickets across four innings at Northampton and Canterbury while moving the ball appreciably and finding disconcerting bounce on occasions. The Haryana pacer is a hit the deck seam bowler and is being looked as a future prospect as Mukesh Kumar is already on the wrong side of 30s while Harshit Rana is yet to find his strides in red ball cricket.

Kamboj shot into fame after taking all 10 wickets in an innings against Kerala last year in a Ranji Trophy match at Lahlhi.

Monthly Medal Round 2 conducted at JTGC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu Tawi Golf Course (JTGC) conducted Monthly Medal Round 2 this weekend, bringing together avid golfers from across the region for a spirited display of skill, sportsmanship, and community camaraderie.

Held on the lush fairways of one of Jammu's premier golfing destinations, the tournament saw enthusiastic participation from club members across various handicaps. The Monthly Medal Round is part of JTGC's continued commitment to promoting golf as a competitive and recreational sport in the region.

As many as 42 players participated during the tournament, who were



Medal winners golfers posing for a photograph at JTGC.

divided into 11 four-balls.

Col. K.R.S Jaswal and Col. J.V Singh were adjudged as the overall winner and Runner up respectively of the tournament. While J.P Singh and Maj. Gen. Shamsher Singh were adjudged as the winner and Runner up respectively in Senior Citizen Category.

Shakeel Bheigh, Sunil Gupta, Dr. Ritesh Gupta, Swarn Singh, Vinod Gupta, S. S Pathania, Col. Sandeep, Adharv Rishi, Rajeev Thakur, Rakesh Dubey, Col. Geetu and S. L Tickoo were adjudged as winners in their respective four balls.

The Golf Course manage-

ment expressed satisfaction over the growing interest in the Monthly Medal events, which are designed to provide regular playing opportunities and foster a healthy competitive spirit among members. The meticulously maintained course, coupled with ideal weather conditions, ensured a seamless

and enjoyable experience for all participants.

The event concluded with a brief prize distribution ceremony, acknowledging the best performances of the day and encouraging emerging talent.

Jammu Tawi Golf Course continues to serve as a hub for golf enthusiasts, offering an unmatched blend of scenic beauty, technical challenge, and hospitality. The Monthly Medal series is expected to gain further momentum in the months ahead.

Secretary, Jammu Tawi Golf course speaking on the occasion highlighted the need to bring together golfers and enthusiasts on a common platform for the love of sport and community building.

Anahat Singh to spearhead India's challenge at World Junior Squash C'ships

■ AGENCY

CAIRO: Teen squash sensation Anahat Singh will lead a 12-member Indian contingent at the World Junior Squash Championships, starting Monday at the Black Ball Sporting Club here.

The championships, running from July 21 to 26, will feature 234 of the world's top under-19 players.

India's squad comprises six men and six women competing in singles.

Anahat, seeded second in the women's draw behind Egypt's three-time defending champion Amina Orfi, is carrying rich form into

the tournament.

The 17-year-old, ranked 54th in the senior world rankings, recently clinched the U19 Asian girls' title and also secured Asian senior doubles gold earlier this year.

Joining her in the women's section is Anika Dubey, a bronze medallist in U17 at the Asian Junior Championships in South Korea last month.

In the men's draw, Arihant KS and Yusha Nafees are seeded, while Aryaveer Dewan, the reigning U17 Asian champion, is also part of the squad. Egypt's Mohamad Zakaria, the defending champion, is

top seed in the men's category.

No Indian has won an individual junior world title so far. Joshna Chinappa came closest as runner-up in 2005.

Squash is set to debut at the LA 2028 Olympics, raising the stakes for emerging talents worldwide.

Indian squad. Men: Arihant KS, Yusha Nafees, Karan Yadav, Shiven Agarwal, Aryaveer Dewan, Sandhesh P.

Women: Anahat Singh, Anika Dubey, Unnati Tripathi, Rudra Singh, Navya Sundararajan, Aradhiya Porwal.

JKSA conducts selection trials

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Swimming Association conducted selection trials at the K.C. Sports Club Complex, Jammu, to finalize teams for the upcoming 51st Junior National Aquatic Championships and 41st Sub-Junior National Aquatic Championships. These prestigious events will be held under the aegis of the Swimming Federation of India.

The 51st Junior National Aquatic Championships (Swimming) will be hosted by the Gujarat State Aquatic Association at the Naranpura Sports Complex in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, from August 3 to 7, 2025. Simultaneously, the 41st Sub-Junior National Aquatic Championships (Swimming) will be conducted by the Karnataka Swimming Association at the Basavanagudi Aquatic Centre, Bengaluru, from August 4 to 5, 2025. The selection trials in Jammu saw enthusiastic participation from young swimmers across three age categories. In the Junior (15-17 years) age group, four boys - Vihan Goel, Sohun Pathania, Saksham, and Pryanish Singh - were selected, with Riaan, Shiv Dev, and Qaaid named as standbys. Among the girls, Aditi



Aditya Bargotra and Tegmeet Kour were selected. In the Junior (13-14 years) category, selected boys include Mussa P Mallik, Aryan Parbhakar, Vivan Yadav, and Advait Sharma, with Pargnay Sharma as standby. Among the girls, Mayra Thakur, Manha Mallik, Anahita Gupta, and Hitanshi Yadav were selected, with Piyushi and Hargun Kour as standbys.

In the Sub-Junior (11-12 years) category, the selected boys are Daayvik Gupta, Pratyaksh Vir Parmar, Riyan Gupta, and Samar Partap.

The selected girls include Saisha Gupta, Hargun Kour, Jeena Kour Sudan, and Sharanya Jandial, with Aryana Bakshi named as standby.

The trials were conducted under the supervision of the Association's President Ramandeep Singh Soodan and General Secretary Bharat Kumar Sharma, with active involvement of coaches and technical staff. The selection process was carried out with fairness and transparency, focusing on the swimmers' timing, technique, and overall performance.

The Jammu and Kashmir Swimming Association congratulates all selected athletes and wishes them success at the national championships. These swimmers will now represent the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir at the national level, carrying the hopes and aspirations of the region with them.

Indian opens WUG medal account with bronze in badminton mixed team

■ AGENCY

BERLIN: India opened its medal account in the World University Games (WUG) through the shuttlers, who won a bronze in the mixed team event despite defeat against Chinese Taipei, while swimmer Srihari Nataraj continued his record-breaking spree in the pool on Sunday.

The Indian mixed team comprising Sathish Kumar Karunakaran, Devika Sihag, Saneeth Dayanand, Tasnim Mir, Varshini Viswanath Sri and Vaishnavi Khadkekar lost to their Chinese Taipei opponents 1-3 in the semifinals.

Under the rules of competition, both the losing semifinalists - the other being Korea -- will secure a bronze each.

China and Chinese Taipei will square off in the final. China beat Korea in the other semifinal on Sunday.

For India, only Devika was

able to win her women's singles match as she beat Huang Ching Ping 15-10 15-10.

Karunakaran was the first to take the field and he lost his men's singles match to Su Li Yang 13-15 15-13 10-15.

After Devika's win, the Indian men's doubles pair of Dayanad and Karunakaran went down 8-15 13-15 to Chen Zhi Ray and Lin Yu Chieh.

The women's doubles pair of Tasnim and Varshini then lost 3-15 8-15 to Hsu Yin-Hui and Yang Chu Yun in the fourth match as Chinese Taipei wrapped up the semifinal.

In the swimming competitions, Nataraj bettered the 'Best Indian Time' in the men's 100m freestyle, clocking 49.46 seconds to qualify for the semifinals.

The 24-year-old Nataraj erased Guangzhou Asian Games bronze medallist

Virdhawal Khade's long-standing mark of 49.47 seconds, set way back in 2008.

He won heat number 6 race and made it to the semifinals at 12th position overall.

On Friday, Nataraj had twice bettered his own 'Best Indian Time' in the 200m freestyle event.

In swimming, national record timings are those achieved only at the National Aquatics Championships. Timings clocked in other meets are considered 'Best Indian Time' or 'Best Indian Performance'.

Compatriot Jashua Thomas Durai failed to make it to the semifinals with a 47th place finish overall with a time of 51.45s in the heats.

Nataraj also qualified for the 50m backstroke semifinals after winning heat 4 with a time of 25.59s and finishing 10th overall.

Another Indian in the fray, Dhiyaan Mahesh Kumar took the 35th spot overall in the heats and missed out on the semifinals.

In women's 100m butterfly, India's Nina Venkatesh (1 minute 04.49 seconds) and Nilabja Ghosh (1:05.52) finished 28th and 31st overall respectively in the heats to make an exit.

The same was the case for Divyanka Dibya Pradhan and Anushka Sayaji Patil, who finished 29th and 34th overall respectively in the women's 200m breaststroke.

Meanwhile, the Indian team did not start (DNS) in the women's 4x200m freestyle relay heats.

In fencing, the Indian women's Epee team of Mitva Jesangbhai Chaudhari, Tanuja and Yashkeerat Kaur lost 21-45 to Germany in the pre-quarterfinals.