

Green Warriors of JKPS Kunjwani explore Buds & Budgies



Students of JK Public School Kunjwani engaged in learning process of plethora of common flowers and birds.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Continuing with its great tradition of extending a balanced blend of theoretical as well as practical knowledge, the MIS Swaminathan Club at JKPS Kunjwani introduced its Green warriors to a plethora of common flowers and birds. As part of their Club Activity, students learnt the common and scientific names of flowers gracing the school campus. Along with the correct identification, the students were able to broaden their knowledge of fragrant flowers, some of which hap-

pened to be in full bloom on the humid afternoon. Accompanied by the teacher In-charge Sheetal Khajuria and equipped with their "green notebooks" and writing utensils, the students were thoroughly engaged in the learning process. They listened with rapt attention and were seen noting down nuggets of relevant information. Some of the common names included Gutta (Marigold, Tagetes sps.), Gulab (Rose, Rosa indica), China Rose (Hibiscus rosa sinensis) and Sadaabaahar (Periwinkle,

Catharanthus roseus). Students added that they had often seen these flowers but were unaware of their scientific names. Gradually, the list grew longer as they added Kamal (Lotus, Nelumbo nucifera), Surajmukhi (Sunflower, Helianthus), Gulbahaar (Daisy, Bellis perennis), Kanda Pushpa (Tulip, Tulipa sps), Champa (Magnolia, Magnolia grandiflora), Lavender (Lavandula) and Gul Mehndi (Balsam, Impatiens) along with their pictorial identification. Some Green warriors exhib-

ited great pride and claimed to have the mentioned flowers at their home gardens. It was an elaborate session of learning and active student participation proved to be a glowing testament of the same. Some students shared the interesting facts and benefits of some of the flowers. LOTUS - It is India's national flower. It floats on water owing to the presence of specialized cells called aerenchyma in its leaves. It symbolizes wealth and purity. MARIGOLD - It is used in religious ceremonies, salads and even for dying food prod-

ucts. ROSE - It is abundantly used as an ornamental plant symbolizing love and beauty. It is also used in commercial perfumery. CHINA ROSE - It is rich in antioxidants and used extensively in herbal teas and medicines. PERIWINKLE - The juice of its leaves is used as folk medicine for the treatment of diabetes. These are most commonly seen in pink and white colours. Having learnt about the floral diversity, the teacher In-charge discussed the

diversity among bird life with the students. The green warriors then headed for the birdhouse on the campus, which is home to birds of colourful feathers, flocked together. Students were told that the scientific name of the group constituting birds is called - Avian and the birdhouse is called Aviary. This aviary hosted over sixteen Australian Budgies. Budgerigar or Common Parakeet is a variety of small, long tailed, seed eating parrots. Commonly called Budgies, these are of

two broad varieties - Australian and English. The Australian Budgies are small yet have high pitched vocals. On the contrary, the English Budgies are bigger with a low voice. The birds inside the aviary were quite active and students were enthralled to watch them. The birds exhibited multiple phenotypes with striking colours and variations from purple to yellow. The students took a few minutes, additional on this new information and promised to share with their classmates and families.

Principal JKPS Kunjwani, Rajesh Rathore lauded the meticulous planning of the mentors as well as the passionate endeavours for collecting the interesting facts and features of nature. It generates curiosity, builds rationality and sensitizes them to the ecosystem of which they are an integral part. He wished a very bright future to those JKians, who wish to pursue serious studies in the field of Ornithology and follow the footprints of famous Ornithologist Dr. Salim Ali.

JKCA on rise, says Mithun

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Feeling ecstatic after the successful conclusion of historic 'Talent Hunt 2022', former ace cricketer Mithun Manhas, Member Cricket Operations and Development, Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA), has congratulated all the participating players and the officials, besides showering praise on entire organising team for contributing to make the event a grand success. "A fantastic finish to the days format (Multi-Day Tournament), first of its kind in JKCA. Many congratulations to both the teams for playing stupendous cricket! Grateful to each and every person who contributed to make this #Talent Hunt 2022 huge success! JKCA on the rise @BCCI,"



Mithun Manhas, Member Cricket Operations and Development JKCA.

tweets Manhas.

Meanwhile, in a statement issued today, Manhas said that by holding this cricketing extravaganza, which spread over for three long months, JKCA has succeeded in unearthing raw talent even from the far off areas. "All the current players and the

players pooled from the Talent Hunt 2022 were provided ample opportunity to showcase their skill and talent to impress selectors through this historic initiative- the brainchild of the JKCA Sub Committee Members. The magnanimity of this three months long event was that the Multi-Day Tournaments were played in Under-19 Men's and Senior Men's sections, besides One-Day Tournaments in all age groups. Holding multi-day matches has never been a custom in JKCA earlier," Manhas maintained. He said over forty centuries have been scored and equal number of 5-wicket hauls have been taken in this historic event which has enabled JKCA to pick players on merit, adding that JKCA has enough time to hold training/conditioning camps

and prepare teams before the commencement of the domestic season of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). "Multi-Day Cricket is the best way to test the skill of the players. That is why we focussed on holding multi-day event. Apart from honing skill, it develops temperament of the players and makes them mentally tough," added Manhas. Meanwhile, top current cricketers of Jammu and Kashmir have highly praised this initiative of the Association, saying that JKCA provided them similar facilities and atmosphere which they see in the national level tournaments with regard to quality of grounds, quality of balls and standard of officiating etc.

Indian U-20 Men's team leaves for Asian Volleyball C'ship

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Indian men's U-20 volleyball team left on Saturday for the participation in 21st Asian Men's U-20 Volleyball Championship to be held at Riffa, Bahrain from August 22 to 29, 2022. As per report reaching here, Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta, Member of Parliament, Kandhamal, President, Volleyball Federation of India and Founder, KITT & KISS, Bhubaneswar, Odisha has provided support for the smooth conduct of the Coaching Camp and extended his good wishes to the team for 21st Asian Men's U-20 Volleyball Championship. The team was announced by Anil Choudhary, Secretary General, VFI and flagged off from Bhubaneswar. Team: Dushyant Singh (Captain), Aman Kumar, Joshnoor Dhindsa, Sandeep, Ajay Kumar, Sameer Chaudhary, Bharanidharan S, Tanish Choudhary, Harshit Giri, Sachin Dagar, Karthikeyan K (L) and Ajeet Shekho. Officials: Prof. Nalakath Bashere (Manager), G E Sridharan (Head Coach), Rajesh Kumar (Assistant Coach), Praveen K Sharma (Assistant Coach), Narendra S Kshatriya (Referee).



Indian Men's U-20 Volleyball team posing with President VFI, Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta.

Jodhamal School honoured in Jaipur

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: At the recently held very prestigious Global Educators Fest 2022 in Jaipur, Jodhamal Public School was conferred with the 'Exceptional Schools of India' award. The award was introduced to acknowledge the sagacity and coherence of outstanding schools, including the quality and consistency of teaching. The theme for this year at the education meet was "Transforming school curriculum: empowering learning for life". On behalf of the organizer, Abdulla Rasheed Ahmed, Minister for State for Education, Republic of Maldives, and Lakshyaraj Singh Mewar, Trustee, Maharana of Mewar Foundation & Vidyadan Charitable Trust handed over the award to Nandan Kuthiala, Trustee, and Dr. Deep Khare, Principal Jodhamal Public School.



Nandan Kuthiala, Trustee and Dr. Deep Khare, Principal Jodhamal Public School receiving awards.

Vivek Suri named captain of Media Cricket Club



Newly elected Media Cricket Club Jammu team posing for a photograph.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior journalist Take1, Vivek Suri has been unanimously elected as the new captain of Media Cricket Club Jammu, whereas Rahul Khatri senior Correspondent The JK Pages as Vice Captain by registered players during an election held at Press Club, here on Saturday. Elections were held for the posts of captain, vice captain, executive committee of the Team in which registered members exercised their vote to elect a new body of the Media

Cricket Club. Aditya Rajput Correspondent JK News 7 was the Presiding Officer for the election, who later declared the result in presence of all the players. Anil Bhat Bureau Chief PTI Jammu, Amit Kumar, Editor in Chief Ujjwal News, Varun Sharma Correspondent The Publish, Naveen Koul, senior Correspondent Danik Saveria, Abhishek Baru photo journalist Young Bytes were also unanimously elected as executive committee members.

Speaking on the occasion, newly elected captain Vivek Suri said that Media Cricket Club has been playing good cricket at professional level and his priority will be to keep the momentum going on. He also finalized calendar of events for the coming matches with the team. Later with the consent of the newly elected body and team members of Media Cricket Club nominated Aman as Team Manager, Sunil Sharma as team Coach and Advocate Unique as Legal Advisor of the team.

Vivek Chess Academy wins Jammu League



Winner Vivek Chess Academy players posing with officials.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Vivek Chess Academy emerged champion after the side witnessed some close contest against White Knights in the Jammu Chess Premier League which was organized under the banner of Jammu District Chess Association, here on Saturday. Hockey J&K president and member J&K Sports Council, Rajiv Sharma was Chief Guest, who declared open the event amidst encouragement of the players and the organisers. "The chief guest appreci-

ated the efforts of Chess Association for evolving innovative ways to better the performance of youngsters. He also announced Rs 20,000 cash award for the winning team," informed President of All J&K Chess Association, Atul Kumar Gupta. He further said that other team owners distributed the reserved cash awards of Rs.48000 among players. There were five pools comprising strong (above 1500) rated players, Medium (below 1500) rated players, women,

Under-14 and Under-10. While pool-A players were paid Rs 5000 each, Pool B, C and Pool D players got Rs 2000 each. Pool E players were paid Rs 1000 each. Earlier, over 100 players applied for league out of which 20 were selected by the owners. Pool A: Atul Kumar Gupta, Ajit Singh, Arushi Kotwal and Danish Pathania. Pool- B: Aakash Singh Bhatia, Ravi Kumar, Superb Jain and Ankush Bhardwaj. Pool C: Srujanika Gupta, Manasvi Gupta, Anrita Gupta and Sonali Manhas. Pool D: Pazhany Kohli, Laksh Chowdhary, Aarav Gupta and Vansh Bakshi. Pool E: Aadvik Gupta, Ishaan Chowdhary, Paras Sharma and Viraj Singh Janwal. At the closing of the event, vice president of the AJKCA, Baldev Raj complimented the winning team and appreciated those young participants for their performance.

India enters semifinal of U-18 Asian Boys Volleyball Championship

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Indian volleyball team, on Saturday, made their way into the semifinals of the ongoing 14th Asian Men's U-18 Volleyball Championship at Tehran, Iran. The Indian boys defeated Chinese Taipei 3-1 (25-19, 25-14, 25-27 and 25-23) in their quarterfinal match to seal a berth for themselves in the final four.

Earlier in league matches after losing opening match against Japan, Indian boys came back with strong will and defeated Thailand 3-1 in their second match, Chinese Taipei 3-1 in third match and South Korea 3-0 in last league match. India's skipper Kartik Sharma, Dhurvil Patel, Shekhar Turan, Kabilan, Yaman Khatik (Libero) and Kushi Singh played excellently and storm into semifinal.



In its semifinal on August 21, India will meet winner of match between Iran and Thailand. By this creditable win, Indian Team has also qualified to play FIVB Volleyball Men's U-19 World Championship 2023. Prof. Achyuta Samanta, President of Volleyball Federation of India (VFI), MP Kandhamal & Founder of KITT & KISS congratulated the team on for their continue

winning in the championship and extending his good wishes for the upcoming matches. Patron-in-Chief, Volleyball Association of Jammu and Kashmir, Raj Daluja, President, Sidharth Daluja, Chief Executive Officer, Kuldeep Magotra and others office bearers also extended their good wishes to the Indian squad for performing well and clinching the trophy for the country.

J&K U-23 Wrestling meet begins

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Two-day J&K UT level Under-23 Wrestling (men and women) Championship started on Saturday at Gymnasium Hall of University of Jammu (JU), here under the banner of Wrestling Association of Jammu and Kashmir and in collaboration with Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, JU. The competition was formally declared open by international wrestling coach from J&K, Sahil Sharma, who speaking to the participants, shared his experience in the just concluded Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, where he was coach of the Indian women team. "Soon after the weighing and draws in the morning, the preliminary rounds of the competition started under the supervision of technical panel. The highlight of the event was interaction of international coach, Sahil Sharma with the young wrestlers," informed General Secretary of the Association, Jai Bharat. A good number of female wrestlers have also turned up for the event and shall compete in the weight categories of 50, 53, 55, 57, 59, 62, 65, 68, 72 and 76 Kg. Those

male wrestlers shall contest weight groups of 57, 61, 65, 70, 74, 79, 86, 92, 97 and 125 Kg in Free Style while the Greco Roman event shall be held in 55, 60, 63, 67, 72, 77, 82, 87, 97 and 130 Kg categories. Prominent among those present were former wrestlers Om Parkash, Ravinder Kumar, Roshan Sharma, Beniya Ameen, Anil Kumar, Diler Khan and Ajay Bharti. A total of 110 wrestlers, including women, are taking part in this event. Meanwhile, the Association also conducted selection trials for the 36th National Games to be held in Gujarat. The Results (Preliminary Round: 57 Kg: Mangal Singh, Reasi bt Mohd. Nasir, Jammu 10-0 points. 61 Kg: Arjun Sharma, Samba beat Mohd. Hussain, Kathua 8-6 points. 65 Kg: Mohd. Gulam Sawar Jammu beat Ankit Saini, Jammu 10-4 points. 79 Kg: Gulshan Chib, Jammu beat Toufeeq Umar, Kathua 10-0 points. 86 Kg: Madan Singh, Reasi beat Koshal Kumar, Jammu 10-0 points. 92 Kg: Goutam Singh, Jammu beat Ravinder Singh, Jammu 8-0 points. 125 Kg: Vikram, Singh, Jammu beat Mohd. Azam 10-0 points.

Jodhamal in final of PEFI Inter-school Cricket tourney



Participating teams posing for a photograph with officials.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jodhamal Public School (JPS) on Saturday qualified for the final of the ongoing Ist PEFI Inter-School Cricket Tournament, being organised under the auspicious of Physical Education Foundation of India (PEFI) at Railways ground, here. In the first semifinal, JPS trounced Delhi Public School (DPS) Jammu by a comfortable margin of 59 runs. Earlier, batting first, after winning the toss, JPS set a target of 198 runs for the loss of three wickets in 20 overs a side game. Tegvanish Singh scored highest 78 runs while Aarit Nagpal contributed unbeaten 63. From DPS Jammu, Aashutosh Mahajan took two wickets while Ashank Sharma bagged one.

In reply, DPS Jammu could make 139 runs for eight wickets thus lost the game by 59 runs. Aashutosh Mahajan remained top scorer with 36 runs while Krishna Gupta and Gurtaj Singh contributed 17 and 18 runs respectively. For JPS Ridhman Sharma claimed three wickets, followed by Sanam, Tegvanish and Madhur, who shared apiece each. Later, Tegvanish Singh of the winners JPS team adjudged man of the match. Today's semifinal was officiated by Balbir Singh, Dalvir Thakur, Siddharth and Aditya. This tournament is being organized in collaboration with Trikuta Cricket, Football and Elite Sports Academy under the overall supervision of Sukomal Ganguly.