

Rajouri District Volleyball Association elects new office bearers

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Volleyball Association of Jammu and Kashmir (VAJK) has recently elected new office bearers for the Rajouri District Volleyball Association for the term 2025-2029.

The election took place at the Community Hall in Chackjaralan, Bognoti, Rajouri.

The process was overseen by Parithvi Raj Sudan, a retired Captain of the Indian Army, who served as the Returning Officer. Kuldip Magotra, the Chief Executive Officer of VAJK, was appointed as the Observer for the election, which was conducted under his watchful guidance.

The newly elected office bearers include Sujad Majeed as President, Tasabaq Hussain, Sachin



Newly elected office bearers of Rajouri District Volleyball Association posing with Kuldip Magotra observer, Parithvi Raj Sudan Returning officer and Mohd Tariq Incharge of Rajouri District Volleyball Association.

Raina, and Anwar-ul-Haq as Vice-Presidents, Noval Sharma as Secretary, Aquib Ahmad as Treasurer, Jamrood Singh, Ekjyot Singh, and Aftab Azam as Joint Secretaries. Additionally, the Executive Members of the association include Shobh Akhter, Shabir Hussain, Kunal, and Utsav Sharma.

The election process saw

participation from 32 volleyball clubs in the Rajouri District, all of whom cast their votes in favour of the newly elected office bearers. The election was a smooth and unanimous process, reflecting the confidence and support the new team has within the local volleyball community.

Following the election,

Mohd Tariq Khan, the Joint Secretary of VAJK and in-charge of the Rajouri District Volleyball Association, was officially relieved of his duties.

The newly elected office bearers assured to focus on the growth and promotion of volleyball in Rajouri, bringing new energy and initiatives to the sport.

Bageshree Charak captures Jammu's soul through poetic masterpieces

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In the heart of Duggar land, where history, valor, and culture flow as deep as the Chenab, Bageshree Charak Jamwal, daughter of Gandharva Singh Charak and Rohini Charak has emerged as a shining literary voice, weaving together the region's glorious past and vibrant heritage through her stirring poems.

Bageshree Charak Jamwal is 'Kaliteries' Ambassador for Dogra cultural heritage and diplomacy. A dedicated Dogra organization focused on promotion and preservation of duggar heritage. Despite living thousands of miles away in Dubai Bageshree the proud Dogra daughter is using her art to inspire, educate, and unite the people of Jammu reaffirming that a physical distance from one's homeland need



Bageshree Charak Jamwal

not lead to an emotional or cultural disconnection. Though, the Dogra poet is an edupreneur and resides in the UAE with her husband Vikram Jamwal-Head of hospitality in the region and two sons, her heart beats with a Jammu-centric passion. Every poem she writes is steeped in the pride of her homeland, reflecting a deep emotional connection to its history, heroes, and

traditions. Her verses - often centered on her homeland Jammu -, and duggar heroes and freedom fighters like legendary Mian Dido, the valiant Brigadier Rajinder Singh Jamwal.

Her recent poem - Maa Dogri touched the hearts of the Dogras in J&K and around the world evoking the sense of Dogra pride in their mother tongue and bringing glory to the melodious language of the hills. Her poems reflect a rare blend of emotional depth and historical authenticity, her works celebrate the courage of the Dogras in defending the motherland during the Dogra rule and in the years after independence.

In an era of globalization and digital domination, many rich regional identities risk fading into silence. Among them is Dogri, Through her evocative poet-

ry, Bageshree raises a heartfelt appeal to the new generation: to take pride in their language, heritage, and cultural roots, no matter where they live in the world.

Her poetic voice resonates with a profound yet simple message - Dogri must not only survive, it must thrive. It must be spoken at home, written with pride, sung in celebrations, Dogra culture be preserved through art, literature, and education.

Voices like that of Bageshree Charak Jamwal remind us of the power of cultural revival through poetry, pride, and participation. Her call is not just to preserve Dogri and Dogra heritage but to celebrate it globally with enthusiasm.

Let this be the beginning of a Duggar renaissance - led by its proud sons and daughters, wherever they may be.

Rana reviews upgradation works at Nishat, Alusteng Water Filtration Plants

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jal Shakti Minister Javed Ahmed Rana on Saturday conducted a comprehensive review of the ongoing upgradation works at the Nishat and Alusteng Water Filtration Plants, aimed at enhancing Srinagar's potable water infrastructure and ensuring uninterrupted supply of safe drinking water to residents.

During his visit, the Minister assessed the current status of potable water availability, filtration processes and the progress on under-construction filtration units, including the 3.0 MGD (Million Gallons per Day) plant at Nishat and the 5.5 MGD plant at Alusteng.

The Minister inspected various operational units of the facilities, including water reservoirs, pump rooms, testing laboratories and storage capacities.

The officials informed the



Jal Shakti Minister Javed Ahmed Rana reviewing upgradation works at Nishat, Alusteng Water Filtration Plants.

Minister that the plants play a critical role in supplying the treated drinking water to a significant portion of Srinagar's population. They added that the upgradation works are progressing steadily.

Rana emphasized the need to strictly adhere to project timelines and called for immediate procurement of Alum, a vital coagulant used in the water filtration

process, to ensure optimal treatment efficiency. He cautioned that any unnecessary delays could undermine the service delivery and erode public trust.

Asking the officials to adopt modern best practices, the Minister stressed the importance of regular maintenance and efficient management to ensure continuous, high-quality water supply. He reiterated the

government's commitment under the leadership of Omar Abdullah to provide safe, clean drinking water to every household in Jammu & Kashmir.

"Access to potable water is a cornerstone of public health, economic progress, and social well-being. Our administration is committed to invest in modern infrastructure, incorporating advanced filtration technologies and strengthening the operational protocols to guarantee a reliable and safe water supply for both urban and rural areas," the Minister stated.

While inspecting the reservoirs, Rana highlighted the region's natural wealth in water resources and underscored the collective responsibility to safeguard them.

"The Valley is blessed with abundant water reserves. It is our shared duty as government, local bodies and

citizens alike to protect these resources from pollution, overuse and neglect," he said.

Appreciating the efforts of the Jal Shakti Department, he called for stringent hygiene around treatment facilities. He urged the officials to prevent any potential sources of contamination near water treatment plants. He further emphasised efficient water management practices and reaffirmed the government's resolve to provide clean water to every household.

The Minister was accompanied by the Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti Kashmir, Superintendent Engineer, Hydraulics Circle Srinagar, Executive Engineers and other senior officials.

The Chief Engineer briefed the Minister on the current progress and assured timely completion of the upgradation works.

Javid Dar inaugurates Macadamization projects in Rafiabad Constituency

STATE TIMES NEWS

BARAMULLA: Minister for Agriculture Production Department, Rural Development Department, and Panchayati Raj, Javid Ahmad Dar, on Saturday inaugurated the macadamization work of roads in various localities of Rafiabad Constituency including Alsafa Colony B&C, Rohama Seripora, Brandub Kammer and

Khanmoh and Tujjar Sharif - Zanipora road, Baramulla.

Javid Dar stated that the road infrastructure development is aimed at improving the connectivity and accessibility for residents. He further said that the government is determined for enhancing the road conditions to facilitate smooth transportation and boost local economic activities in

these areas.

The Minister assured that macadamization of roads in these localities is expected to have a positive impact on the local community, improving connectivity, accessibility and economic activity. The projects demonstrate the government's efforts in enhancing the quality of life for the residents and promote sustainable development in the region.

Dr Sanjay Gupta takes charge as new Director Animal Husbandry, Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dr Sanjay Gupta on Saturday took charge as the new Director Animal Husbandry, Jammu, at the Directorate of Animal Husbandry in Talab Tillo. Senior officers and staff of the department were present for the handover.

With over thirty-five years of experience, Dr Gupta has held several key positions in the department across various districts of the Jammu division and in Ladakh.

After assuming charge, he instructed officers to work with dedication and ensure the timely implementation of all government schemes. The staff assured him of their full support and cooperation.



Dr Sanjay Gupta

KCPS shines bright in LogIQids Mental Aptitude Olympiad 2024-2025

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: KC Public School (KCPS), Jammu, has once again demonstrated academic excellence with an outstanding performance in the Final Stage of the LogIQids Mental Aptitude Olympiad 2024-2025.

This prestigious national platform celebrates intellect, logical reasoning, and problem-solving skills, and the school's achievements are a testament to its commitment to nurturing young minds.

LogIQids is an Aptitude Development Programme for students from UKG to Class 9, designed to cultivate essential 21st-century skills such as logical thinking, reasoning, problem-solving, and analytical ability. Founded by IIT-IIM alumni, the program uses engaging puzzles, challenges, and brain games to foster critical thinking.

In the final stage of the Olympiad, 117 students from KC Public School participated, securing impressive International Ranks. Notably, 24 students clinched International Ranks between 1 and 10, earning trophies and medals.

The top achievers include Kusum Langer (Class UKG) - International Rank 1; Hridhaan Katoch (Class UKG) - International Rank 3; and Yuvaan Sadhotra (Class UKG) - International Rank 3.



KC Public School faculty felicitating winner students.

Other star achievers include Gouranch Raina (UKG) and Harviraj Singh (UKG) - Rank 4; Darshraj Singh (UKG), Aarnav Sharma (UKG) and Hayan Saini (Class 1)-Rank 6; Shanaya Gupta (UKG) and Amushi (UKG) - Rank 7; Mishika Bhan (UKG), Ruhab Sayeed (UKG), Straina (UKG), Vivaan Sharma (UKG), Shivay Mahajan (Class 1), and NilaakshMenia (Class 2) - Rank 8; Arushi Sharma (UKG), Kavish Mehra (UKG), Himansh Sharma (Class 5), Shiven Koul (Class 5), and Svadhi Mahajan (Class 5)-Rank 9; Shubul Dhar (UKG), Agamroop Singh (UKG) and Amaryta Kotwal (Class 1)-Rank 10.

Students securing International Ranks 10 and above received certificates.

This achievement reinforces the school's vision of nurturing sharp, creative minds and serves as an inspiration for young learners to embrace the joy of thinking, exploring, and problem-solving.

Speaking on the achievement, School Chairman Raju Chowdhary, Managing Director Arti Chowdhary, Vice Chairman Arjun Chowdhary, and Principal Amarendra Kumar Mishra expressed pride in the relentless dedication of the students, parents and the guiding hands of the teachers and the Exams Coordinator Nishu Dubey, whose combined efforts have propelled KC Public School into the national spotlight once again.

HGT campaign: Students participate in patriotic activities

STATE TIMES NEWS

GANDERBAL: As part of the ongoing Har Ghar Tiranga (HGT) campaign under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, a series of patriotic activities were held today across various educational institutions in district Ganderbal, witnessing vibrant and enthusiastic participation.

All educational institutions across the district have been actively mobilized to foster widespread awareness and community engagement. The day was marked by a multitude of events, including flag hoisting ceremonies, cultural programmes, awareness rallies, and painting competitions, drawing active

involvement from students, teachers, and local community members.

Special emphasis was laid on sensitizing students about the significance of the National Flag and the provisions of the Flag Code of India. Sessions were held to educate students on the correct etiquette for hoisting and displaying the tiranga, instilling a deep sense of patriotism and respect for national symbols.

Across educational schools in the district, students displayed handmade tricolour-themed artwork, while school premises were adorned with flags and banners, radiating patriotic fervour and national pride.

DDC reviews progress under PM Surya Ghar-Muft Bijli Yojna

STATE TIMES NEWS

KUPWARA: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kupwara, Shrikant Balasaheb Suse on Saturday convened a meeting of concerned officers to review the progress achieved under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojna.

During the meeting, Executive Engineers of KPDCL Handwara and Kupwara were directed to give special focus to increasing the pace of the installation of rooftop solar panels.

They were also directed to organise camps for on-spot loan disbursement, and visit beneficiaries who have already selected vendors to expedite the installation process.

Lead District Manager was instructed to clear all pending loans at the branch level without any delay.

The meeting was attended by Executive Engineers of PDD Kupwara and Handwara, AEEs, LDM, officials from the Planning department, CSC Manager and registered vendors.

It was informed that 15,783 applications have been received in the district so far out of which 249 solar rooftops have been installed.

LG Gupta stresses quality education & sports to empower Ladakh's youth

Calls for better facilities, women's participation, campaigns against substance abuse



Lt Governor Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta interacting with a delegation.

STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: Students from Ladakh should have access to the best education along with required facilities to compete with the best, and more women should come forward to carry forward the message of women empowerment to promote the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao initiative as envisioned by the Prime Minister of India.

This was stated by the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, while interacting with a delegation from Turtuk area led by former Councillor, Abdul Ali, at the LG Secretariat.

The delegates highlighted the need to establish a Government Degree College at Turtuk and the need to improve the facilities and infrastructure of the Army Goodwill School. They also

raised the demand to recognise Balti among the state languages of Ladakh.

Another delegation comprising members of Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), Ladakh, called on the Lt Governor and apprised him about the upcoming football tournament to be organised at the Football Stadium in Spituk as a part of an awareness programme to sensitise youth against drugs/substance abuse.

Similarly, the Lt Governor met a delegation from Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd (GCMMFL) led by Branch Manager, Yatharth Sharma and anaesthesia technicians working on an outsourced basis under the National Health Mission, who requested his interven-

tion in notifying permanent posts for the said post in the Health and Medical Education Department.

The Lt. Governor emphasised the development of skills among Ladakhi youth and the need to motivate them to start their own businesses, thereby benefiting the local population and providing employment opportunities to other youth as well. He highlighted sports as a medium to keep youth away from drugs and substance abuse and stated that youth must be sensitised to focus on the development of Ladakh instead of indulging in bad practices. He reiterated

UT Ladakh Administration's commitment to provide a supportive environment for Ladakhi youth.

Sakeena inaugurates Science Block at GHSS D K Marg Kulgam

STATE TIMES NEWS

KULGAM: Minister for Education, Sakeena Itoo, on Saturday inaugurated the newly constructed Science Block at Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS), D K Marg besides participating in Parent-Teachers Meet (PTM) of the institute.

Director School Education Kashmir, CEO Kulgam, Principal GHSS D.K Marg, SDM DH Pora, senior officers of district administration, faculty members and students were present on the occasion.

While speaking on the occasion of the Cluster PTM, the Minister said that the government is focused to ensure access to quality education for all, adding that concrete measures are being taken to strengthen the educational infrastructure across the region. She added that the government is actively creating and upgrading the school infrastructure across Jammu and



Education Minister, Sakeena Itoo felicitating an achiever.

Kashmir to provide students with modern, well-equipped learning environments.

The Minister further said that the students possess immense talent and the government is giving special focus to the education and health sectors, ensuring inclusive development. She noted that there is ample talent among the students which needs to be tapped in a positive way by providing them with platforms to showcase their abilities, including those from remote areas.

The Minister highlighted that the schools will be equipped with all kind of basic amenities like washrooms, fencing and other essential facilities to create a better learning environment.

The Minister also said that the tourism potential of DH Pora and its surrounding areas like Aharbal, Kongwattan, Kounsarnag and Panchan Pathri areas, known for their pristine beauty, rich biodiversity and trekking routes, will be tapped to boost tourism activi-

ties in these areas. She added that the local youth will be trained in tourism related trades to boost the self-employment avenues for them and also develop these areas economically.

The Minister also felicitated NEET achiever and an athlete of the institution on the occasion.

Later, the Minister visited GHSS K.B.Pora and participated in a PTM at the institute.

Addressing the gathering, the Ministers said that Omar Abdullah led government is determined to ensure holistic development of Jammu and Kashmir. She added that education and health sectors are prime target for this government for development, adding that infrastructure and staff augmentation in schools and hospitals is being boosted for public good.

On the occasion, the Minister also distributed aids and appliances among the Children with Special Needs (CWSN).