

# EPFO Jammu organises shooting event to celebrate National Sports Day 2025

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) Jammu organised a vibrant series of sporting and fitness activities from August 29 to August 31, 2025, to celebrate National Sports Day 2025. As part of these celebrations, EPFO Jammu hosted a shooting event specifically for children at the Shooting Range, District Youth Services and Sports Office, Apsara Road on August 30, 2025.

The shooting event promoted sports and fitness among the younger generation, providing them with an opportunity to engage in a fun and competitive environment. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from children, who showcased their skills and talent in shooting. By organising this event, EPFO Jammu encouraged mass participation in sports and fitness activities, aligning with the



Satya Prakash, Assistant Provident Fund Commissioner, EPFO Jammu felicitating Vinakshi Koul with the Major Dhyan Chand Trophy.

theme of National Sports Day 2025.

A prize distribution ceremony was held to felicitate the winners. The chief guest, Vinakshi Koul Joint Director, Youth Services and Sports, Jammu directed the occasion and presented the trophies to the winners.

Satya Prakash, Assistant Provident Fund Commissioner, EPFO Jammu felicitated Vinakshi Koul with the Major Dhyan Chand Trophy for making this event a massive success.

Rajesh Viridhi & Insp. Madhupal Singh, Shooting Coach, J&K Police and Vishal Bharti Slathia, Coach, J&K Youth Service and Sports, Pranav Sambyal, Coach NIS were also present in the event.

Shamsher Singh, Member, EPF Central Sports Promotion Board, North Zone, EPFO coordinated and organised the event in collaboration with Youth Services and Sports, Department.

A token of appreciation

was presented to all the participants- Abhay Gupta, International Player, Himanshu Gupta, National Medallist, Madhavi Dabas, Bhavya Sharma, Saksham Viridhi, Sahir Swaraj Singh, Mukul Choudhary, Ru Gupta, Saahil Kumar and Shradha- National Players acknowledging their enthusiasm and participation in the event. This gesture reflects EPFO Jammu's commitment to promoting sports and fitness among the youth. The National Sports Day celebrations featured a range of sporting and fitness activities across the country, and EPFO Jammu's shooting event for children was a part of these celebrations.

Satya Prakash APFC, EPFO Jammu also held a discussion with Vinakshi Koul Joint Director, Youth Services and Sports, Jammu regarding the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana. The discussions focused on collaboration and facilitation under the scheme for wider outreach and effective implementation.

EPFO Jammu believes that sports and physical activity play a vital role in the overall development of individuals, especially children. By promoting a culture of sports and fitness among the youth, EPFO Jammu contributes to the development of a healthy and active society. The organisation is committed to encouraging mass participation in sporting activities and promoting excellence in sports.

# YSS celebrates NSD with Rifle Shooting Competition



**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: In a vibrant tribute to mark the National Sports Day (NSD) celebrations, the Department of Youth Services and Sports J&K in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir Rifle Shooting Association, successfully organized a Rifle Shooting competition on Saturday at the Rifle Shooting Hall in Gandhi Nagar, here.

The event was conducted as part of a series of celebrations held from August 20 to Sep 2nd 2025, to honor the legendary legacy of Major Dhyan Chand, revered as the 'Wizard of Hockey'. The competitions are aligned with the true spirit of the National Sports Day, carrying a powerful message of respect, unity, and remembrance for such national icons whose dedication continues to inspire generations.

The competition was held under the patronage of the Director General of Youth

# Kathua District Volleyball Association celebrates National Sports Day



Organisers along with teams during the event.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KATHUA: The Kathua District Volleyball Association celebrated National Sports Day with great enthusiasm by organizing a volleyball match between Chadwal Volleyball Club and Smadhia Volleyball Club, Hiranagar.

The event was graced by Simant Sharma, Sarpanch Chadwal, as the Chief Guest.

On the occasion, Kamal Sharma, President District Volleyball Association Kathua, along with Mohinder Kumar Sharma, General Secretary, and Ram Lal Sharma, Joint Secretary, were also present.

Prominent personalities including Kanwal Kumar Sharma, Raman Sharma, Ravi Kant Sumbaria, and Sushil Kumar witnessed the

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Following successful culmination of First Khelo India Water Sports Festival-2025, a felicitation ceremony was organized by the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council to honour and recognise the collaborating organisations for their invaluable support and cooperation during the First Khelo India Water Sports Festival-2025, which was successfully held at the picturesque Dal Lake, Srinagar.

Addressing the gathering on the occasion, Commissioner Secretary, Youth Services and Sports, Sarmad Hafeez, lauded the collective efforts of all the agencies involved in the successful execution of the

# First Khelo India Water Sports Festival-2025 Sarmad Hafeez felicitates partner agencies for their invaluable contribution



Commissioner Secretary, Youth Services and Sports, Sarmad Hafeez honouring a dignitary.

national event. He acknowledged their invaluable contributions, emphasizing that their dedication was crucial in ensuring the smooth and seamless conduct of the festival.

He further remarked, "Our

present on the occasion.

As a mark of appreciation, Commissioner Secretary presented certificates of gratitude to Department of Information & Public Relations (DIPR) Kashmir, Department of Youth Services & Sports, J&K Lakes Conservation & Management Authority, Tourism Department, Department of Health Services Kashmir, Floriculture Department, Department of Hospitality & Protocol, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Jal Shakti Department Kashmir, KPDC, Fire & Emergency Services Kashmir, J&K Academy of Art, Culture & Languages, Srinagar, JKTDC, SKICC Srinagar, Dooradarshan Kendra, Srinagar, All India Radio, Srinagar, Department of Handlooms & Handicrafts, Royal Springs Golf Course Srinagar, J&K Road Transport Corporation, J&K Police Srinagar, Traffic Police Srinagar, J&K Armed Police, SDRF J&K, Red FM (South Asia FM Pvt. Ltd.), M/S Color Curve Advertisers, M/S Space Communication, M/S Associated Media, President Shikara Association, President Houseboat Owners Association, President Hoteliers Club Srinagar, Airport Authority of India, Regional Transport Officer Kashmir, CISF Srinagar Airport and JKRLM Kashmir.

# Near 300 take part in Jammu Judo meet

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Two days long Jammu District Judo Championship, organised by Judo Association of J&K, concluded on Saturday at Indoor Complex Bhagwati Nagar, here.

Nearly 300 young Judokas took part in this event competing in Sub-Junior, Junior and Cadet categories. Those medal winners felicitated by general secretary of the Association, Suraj Sharma, who was chief guest.

The technical penal for this event included Arshi Nad, Vikas Dogra, Ritika Slathia, Jugal Kishore and Danish Sharma.

Prominent among others present in the closing function were Rohit Sadhotra, Manish Chatwal, Aman Gupta, Rajesh Sumbriya and Sajan Sharma.



Organisers along with players posing with medals.

The Results:

**GIRLS:** Cadet: 40 Kg: Alisa (RCC), Ist; Arti (RCC), 2nd; Khushi Anurag (VS Sports) and Mansi (RCC), joint third. 44 Kg: Mehak Chib (KC), Ist; Shivanshi Dogra (Bagwati Nagar), 2nd; Lakshita (RCC) and Pratibha (V Sports), joint 3rd. 48 Kg: Niharika Sharma (RCC), Ist; Shruti,

2nd; Krishna Sharma and Sirat Sharma, joint 3rd. 52 kg: Kashni Chopra (RCC), Ist; Samriti Devi (V Sports), 2nd and Shamim Akhter (V Sports), 3rd. 57 Kg: Nandani Chib (RCC), Ist. 63 Kg: Aishwarya (RCC), Ist; Khushi Devi (V Sports), 2nd.

70 Kg: Harshika Gupta (V Sports), Ist; Shriya Sharma,

Ridham Sharma (RCC), Ist; Aditya Sharma GD Goenka, 2nd. 73 Kg: Akshay, Ist; Dakshesh, 2nd; Ahem Parihar and Raghav Dutta, joint 3rd. 81 Kg: Rudra Manhas (RCC), Ist; Owais Khan (RCC), 2nd and Shehnaz Khan (RCC), 3rd. Plus 100 Kg: Rajan Bhardwaj, Ist and Jaideep Singh, 2nd. CADET: 50 Kg: Hitesh Chibber, Ist; Mayank Sharma, 2nd; Pankaj and Dhanial, joint 3rd. 55 Kg: Amrit Gupta (RCC), Ist and Daksh Chib (RCC), 2nd. 60 Kg: Amrit Gupta, Ist and Daksh Chib, 2nd. 66 Kg: Ridham Sharma, Ist; Ashish Singh, 2nd and Shorya Dev Singh, 3rd. 73 Kg: Dakshesh Kaul, Ist; Raghav Dutta, 2nd and Achem Parihar, 3rd. 81 Kg: Rudra Manhas, Ist; Divansh Gupta, 2nd and Namandeep Singh, 3rd.

# Team Amrita wins cash prize in Chess



Team members posing with trophies.

(12,814), Pearl (8,214) and Anjali (10,068) were other contributors to the team's performance.

Started two years in April last, Vivek chess Academy regrouped and has been training the youngsters hard. Amrita was two time Senior women Chess Champion of J&K. Earlier, two players of Vivek Chess

# ESIC Model Hospital Jammu celebrates National Sports Day 2025



ESIC members during the event.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: In line with the directives of the Union Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports and ESIC Headquarters, New Delhi, ESIC Model Hospital Bari Brahmna, Jammu celebrated National Sports Day 2025.

The event held over two days, on the 29th and 30th of August 2025, featured a variety of sports activities with enthusiastic participation from the hospital staff.

National Sports Day is observed annually on the 29th of August to honour

India's rich sports heritage. This day is also a tribute to the legendary Hockey player, Major Dhyan Chand, whose contributions to the sport have been unparalleled. It is an occasion to recognize and celebrate the achievements of the nation's sporting icons, acknowledging their relentless efforts in bringing glory to the country on the international stage.

Under the FIT INDIA initiative, ESIC Model Hospital Bari Brahmna has organized a variety of games and sporting events to foster a spirit of fitness, teamwork,

# Devastating flash floods wreak havoc on JKCA's cricket facilities

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: In a shocking turn of events, the recent flash floods have left the Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association's (JKCA) Hostel ground and allied infrastructure in shambles.

The unprecedented rainfall on August 26 caused the JKCA Complex to be inundated with 6 to 8 feet of water, resulting in extensive damage to the facility.

The floodwaters, which entered the ground through two overflowing Nallahs, have left behind a trail of destruction. The lower portion of the office, stores, electric and electronic equipment, office records, cameras, clothing, and cricket equipment, including balls, have been severely damaged.

The recently re-laid carpet grass on the entire playground has been enveloped by 3 to 5 feet of silt and slush, rendering it unusable.

Brig Anil Gupta, Member Administration JKCA, revealed that the restoration process has begun, with men and machinery employed to



clear the area in phases. The losses are being assessed and measures initiated to ensure that the preparedness of JKCA teams do not suffer for the ensuing national level tournaments as per the already issued BCCI Calendar. Brig Anil Gupta, Member Administration who is closely monitoring and supervising the restoration process asserted that the test of leadership lies in converting an adversity into an opportunity while hoping that the things would return to normal sooner than later.

However, the absence of functional generators and lack of adequate water supply due to submergence has slowed down the process, making it a

time-consuming task.

The JKCA had recently

# National Sports Day celebrated with hockey exhibition match



**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KATHUA: In celebration of National Sports Day, an exciting exhibition hockey match was held at Sports Stadium Kathua, featuring Khelo India Hockey Centre Kathua and Hockey Club Lachhipur.

Sandeep Malgotra, Executive Member of Hockey J&K, graced the event as the Chief Guest, while Sandeep Sharma, Physical Director of GDC Kathua, and Vikramjeet Singh were the Guests of Honour.

The match was officiated by

ter playing surface for cricketers. Unfortunately, the flash floods have undone this progress, leaving the outfield in a deplorable state. The association is now working tirelessly to restore the facilities to their former glory.

As the JKCA navigates this challenging situation, the cricketering community in Jammu and Kashmir remains hopeful that the facilities will be restored soon, allowing the sport to thrive once again.