EPFO Jammu organises shooting event to celebrate National Sports Day 2025

Fund Provident (EPFO) Organisation 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 vounger 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



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 Director, Youth Services and Sports, Jammu graced the occasion and presented the trophies to the winners.

Satya Prakash, Assistant Commissioner, Jammu felicitated Vinakshi Koul with the Major Dhyan Chand Trophy for making

Rajesh Virdhi & 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, Central Sports Promotion Board, North Zone , EPFO coordinated and organised the event in collaboration with Youth Services and

award was presented to all the participants- Abhay Gupta, International Himanshu Gupta, National Medallist, Madhavi Dabas, Bhavya Sharma, Saksham Virdhi, 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 celebra-

tions 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

YSS celebrates NSD with **Rifle Shooting Competition**

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

First Khelo India Water Sports Festival-2025

Sarmad Hafeez felicitates partner agencies for

their invaluable contribution

underscored the departand

Services Anuradha Gupta. The event was organized under the guidance of the Deputy Director Central and the chief supervision of the Joint Director of Youth Services and Sports YSS Jammu. The overall supervision for the smooth and successful execution of the event was provided by the District Youth Services and Sports Officer of Jammu.

Dignitaries from the concerned association and technical officials of the department were present to ensure the flawless execution of the event. The

ment's commitment to promoting sporting excellence and providing a robust platform for young athletes across the Union Territory.

The Joint Director of Youth Services and Sports for Jammu expressed immense appreciation for all the participants who showcased their skills and sportsmanship. The official also commended the efforts of everyone involved for organizing a successful and well-coordinated event that truly embodied the spirit of athletic dedication and national pride

Kathua District Volleyball Association celebrates National Sports Day



Organisers along with teams during the event.

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: The Kathua Vollevball District Association celebratedNational 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

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

spirited match, which reflected true sportsmanship and enthusiasm among the play-

The Association members highlighted that celebrating National Sports Day not only pays tribute to hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand but also encourages youth to actively participate in sports for fitness, discipline, and team-

STATE TIMES NEWS SRINAGAR: Following suc-

cessful 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

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



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 festi-

He further remarked, "Our

collective efforts have helped elevate JammuKashmir's standing in the national sports arena, and we hope to carry this momentum in future events.'

Nuzhat Gul, Secretary, J&K Sports Council was also 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 & Authority, Tourism Department, Department Health ofKashmir, Services Floriculture Department, Department of Hospitality & Protocol, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Jal Shakti Department Kashmir, KPDCL, Fire & Emergency

Services Kashmir, J&K

Academy of Art, Culture &

JKTDC, SKICC Srinagar,

Srinagar,

Languages,

Doordarshan 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 President Association, Hoteliers Club Srinagar, Airport Authority of India, Regional Transport Officer Kashmir, CISF Srinagar Airport

Near 300 take part in Jammu Judo meet

JAMMU: Two days long Jammu District Championship, organised by Judo Association of J&K, concluded on Saturday at Indoor Complex Bhagwati

Nearly 300 young Judokas took part in this event cometing 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),

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

2nd; Janvi Rajput and Angel Sharma, joint 3rd. Plus 70 Kg: Ikshita (V Sports), Ist; Ridhima (RCC), 2nd and Vartika (V Sports), 3rd.

BOYS: Junior: 55 Kg: Sumit Lal, Ist; Suraj Kewat, 2nd; Daksh Chibber and Harvinder Singh, joint 3rd. 60 Kg: Atul Sharma (RCC), Ist; Mohit Kumar, 2nd and Rudra Partap, 3rd. 66 Kg:

Aditva 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 Bhardwai, Ist and Singh, 2nd. CADET: 50 Kg: Hitest 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 **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Amrita led team won the INSAN team chess championship August-2025 and awarded a cash prize of Rs. 11,000 and title trophy. The event was organised by Vivek Chess Academy involving top 20 players representing four different based on points for August

The winner Amrita's team secured around 69,000 points to secure top place. Ishaan's team finished second with 62,000 points whereas Surinder Gupta's team finished third with 57,000 points.

The winning team included Amrita Gupta, Anjali, Pearl, Parth and Avni. Amrita contributed maximum 17631 points for her team, Avni (20,867), Parth



Team members posing with trophies.

(12,814), Pearl (8,214) and Anjali (10,068) were other contributes 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 Academy, Soham Kamotra and Meenal Gupta excelled at the International Level. While Soham is first ever

International Master from J&K and also first Commonwealth gold medalist. Meenal was first ever Commonwealth gold medalist and Commonwealth Silver edal winner from

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 & and Headquarters, New Delhi, ESIC Model Hospital Bari Brahmana, Jammu celebrated National Sports Day

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 interna-

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

and healthy living among the staff. This initiative aligns with FIT INDIA's mission to promote physical fitness and an active lifestyle across the nation. The hospital management

is committed to promoting sports and physical activity as integral components of overall health and well-being. Through this celebration, ESIC Model Hospital Bari Brahmana reaffirms its dedication to not only serving the healthcare needs of the community but also nurturing a culture of sportsmanship and unity among its employees.

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 sham-

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 dam-

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

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 Gupta.

BCCI Calendar. Brig Anil 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 JKCA, functional generators and lack of adequate water supply due revealed that the restoration process has begun, with men to submergence has slowed and machinery employed to down the process, making it a



time-consuming task. The JKCA had recently invested in laying carpet grass on the ground to provide a bet-

ter playing surface for crick eters. 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 cricketing community in Jammu and Kashmir remains hopeful that the facilities will be restored soon, allowing the sport to thrive once again.

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

The match was officiated by



Rohit Sharma, Hockey Coach, along with Chanveer Singh Sukhwinder Singh. Notable attendees included Parminder Singh, Jagmeet Singh, Randeep Singh, and other sports.

Tanveer Singh. The event highlighted the spirit of sportsmanship and encouraged local youth to participate actively in hockey and