

# Time ripe for Auqib Nabi's Team India debut

## Manhas, Arshdeep term bowler as 'special character'

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Auqib Nabi, the sensational pace bowling all-rounder from Jammu and Kashmir, has been making waves in domestic cricket with his exceptional skills and consistent performances. His dream run in the Ranji Trophy and outstanding show in the Duleep Trophy have made him an automatic choice for the national selectors, led by Ajit Agarkar.

Auqib's impressive displays in domestic cricket have earned him widespread recognition. In the Ranji Trophy last season, he picked up 44 wickets in eight matches, including six five-fors, and his tally of 95 wickets in 30 First Class matches is a testament to his talent. His recent show in the Duleep Trophy quarterfinals, where he scalped 5/28, including a hat-trick and four wickets on consecutive balls, has further strengthened his case for national selection.

Cricketing experts and legends have heaped praise on Auqib's unique talent. Mithun Manhas, Head of Cricket



Operations and Development JKCA, described him as a "class act" and a "special character" due to his ability to wobble the ball both ways, hit the right areas and generate decent pace. Arshdeep Singh, Team India fast bowler and Auqib's North Zone team-

mate, termed him "sensational stuff" and praised his hard work and dedication. Shubham Khajuria, JKCA's batting maestro, also praised Auqib's talent, saying he seemed far more better than other bowlers, including Mohammad Shami, Harshit Rana, Arshdeep Singh and Mukesh Kumar, whom he faced in the Duleep Trophy match and the nets.

With his consistent performances and impressive statistics, Auqib Nabi has made a strong case for his inclusion in the Indian cricket team. His ability to perform under pressure and adapt to different conditions makes him a valuable asset for the team. The national selectors would be wise to consider his claims and provide him with the opportunity to represent India at the highest level.

With age on his side and a strong work ethic, Auqib Nabi is poised to achieve great things in cricket. His ultimate goal is to wear the India whites, and with his talent and dedi-

cation, he is well on his way to achieving his dream. The ball is now in the court of the national selectors to recognize his talent and provide him with the opportunity to shine on the biggest stage.

Auqib Nabi attributed his remarkable success to the JKCA's unwavering commitment to professionalism and its meticulous processes. He lauded the association's efforts in nurturing and promoting young talent, providing top-notch facilities, equipment, and opportunities for growth.

"Access to world-class infrastructure and equipment, regular opportunities to hone skills and gain match experience and valuable exposure to different playing conditions and opposition is the mantra to succeed in the prevailing system," maintained Auqib.

Nabi's success is a shining example of the JKCA's dedication to fostering talent and creating a conducive environment for players to thrive.

# National Sports Day celebrated at GDC Bani

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BANI: As part of Viksit Yuva Viksit Bharat and the Fit India Movement launched by the Prime Minister under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, Government Degree College (GDC) Bani celebrated National Sports Day with great enthusiasm.

On the eve of the occasion, the Department of Physical Education and Sports organized an Intramural Cricket Match to commemorate the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand. The theme of the event was Healthy India, Fit India, with an added focus on promoting awareness of self-defence.

The match was inaugurated by Prof. (Dr.) Manohar Lal, Principal GDC Bani, who in his address paid rich tributes to Major Dhyan Chand and recalled his extraordinary contributions to Indian hockey on the international stage. He emphasized the significance of National Sports Day,



GDC Bani faculty during National Sports Day celebration.

encouraged students to actively participate in sports and physical activities, and highlighted that the New Education Policy (NEP) has integrated sports and physical education as an essential part of academics. "Sports are a major asset of the college and fitness is the key to a sound body and sound mind," he said.

The event witnessed participation from elite sports persons and students of Physical Education, who contributed to making the

celebration a success. The programme was conducted by Dr. Jogbinder Singh Soodan, Physical Director of the college.

Faculty members including Dr. Resham Singh, Dr. Narinder Kumar, Dr. Sunil Kumar, Prof. Vishab Thapa, Prof. Akash Zutshi, Neena Sondhi, Rashpal Sharma, and Himanshu Sharma were also present. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks presented by Dr. Nisha Devi, NSS Programme Officer.

# J&K UT Yoga Sports Championship held



Participating players posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Yoga Association of Jammu and Kashmir (YAJK) organised J&K UT Yoga Sports Championship under the aegis of J&K Olympic Association Om Shanti Meditation Centre, here involving around 160 participants from various districts.

The event was witnessed by patron-in-chief of Association, Rajyogini Bk.Sudarshan Didi, who

declared the event open. Colonel Sundar Singh Bishat was chief guest in the closing function, who along with guest of honour, Bk. Ravinder Bali felicitated the winners in the presence of Vinod Bhatia (general secretary of YAJK), Ashwani Katoch, (chairman of Amba Kids School), Rajinder Kumar (Principal of Sunlight High School), Sonia Sharma, Veena Chib and Sunita

Raina. The competition officiated by the technical penal including Dayal Ram, Mukesh Sharma, Rajesh Bandal, Anoushka Koul, Sabita Sharma and Aryaaveer Singh. Aryaaveer Singh, the first-ever medal winner of JKUT in Senior National Yoga in Professional group was honoured by Brahma Kumaris for being inspiration for the youngsters. The Results:

BOYS: 8-10 year: Satyam (Reasi), Ist; Kriday Sawhney (Udhampur), 2nd and Akshit Sharma (Jammu), 3rd. 10-12 year: Parth Samnotra (Reasi), Ist; Aadhy Gupta (Reasi, 2nd and Hitesh Pangotra (Samba), 3rd. 12-14 year: Arun Kumar (Jammu), Ist; Rohit Verma (Reasi), 2nd and Navjot Singh (Jammu) 3rd. 14-16 year: Mridul Raj Gupta (Jammu), Ist; Akhilesh

# Ranking, selection Badminton tourney begins

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Three-day Yonex-Sunrise All J&K Senior and Junior Ranking cum Selection Badminton Tournament, organised by Badminton Association of J&K (BAJK) in collaboration with J&K Sports Council, got underway today at Indoor Complex, MA Stadium, here.

However, the players had a tough time to negotiate their moves in view of the slippery courts due to flood water entering the indoor complex. Now, the organisers have decided to hold remaining part of the competition for next two days at Indoor Badminton Hall of J&K Police, here.

"The courts at MA Stadium indoor complex have turned slippery due to flood waters that inundated



the entire Stadium. It has been decided by the organising committee to holding remaining part of the event at Badminton Hall of the Police Lines," informed general secretary of BAJK, Balbir Jamwal. Earlier, the event was declared open by chairman of the BAJK and vice president of the BAI, Dr OD Sharma. He interacted with the participants. About 150 shuttlers from

different districts of J&K are taking part in this event. Among those prominent present were Arshi Nad (Manager Indoor Complex), Dushyant Sharma (treasurer BAJK), Pawanjit Singh, Sukhdev Singh, Anil Gurkha, Basanti Bhat and Preeti Gupta. The technical part of the event is being assisted by Touseef Ahd and Vikram Saini, both SAI coaches

posted at Indoor Complex.

"It will be out this event that J&K teams in men, women, junior boys and girls shall be selected for the North Zone inter-district tournament to be held at Una in Himachal Pradesh from September eight to September 11," disclosed Balbir Jamwal.

The Results (Preliminary Round): Boys U-19 Singles: Naveed Ahmad (Poonch) bt Abrar Touseef (Srinagar) 21-15, 21-16. Girls U-19 Singles: Zinia Lone (Srinagar) bt Shreya Gupta 21-11, 21-13. Mixed Doubles: Samaksh and Zina (Srinagar) bt Vivaan and Paavni 21-08, 21-08. Men Singles: Vaibhav beat Brijeshwar 21-09, 21-12. Men Doubles: Vipul and Sahil bt Laksh and Sameer (Reasi).

# Brilliant Nasir Ajaz makes it to India Volleyball Camp

## DG-YSS lauds young spiker for landmark achievement

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a remarkable achievement, Nasir Ajaz Sofi, a talented young spiker from district Baramulla, Jammu and Kashmir, has been selected for the India Volleyball Camp.

This prestigious camp, organized by the School Games Federation of India (SGFI), aims to shortlist the best young volleyball players in the country for the upcoming International Volleyball Championship in China.

Nasir's exceptional spiking skills and outstanding performance have earned him a spot among the 23 probables selected from a pool of 192 talented players from 27 affiliate units across the country.

Recognized as one of the brightest volleyball stars in J&K, Nasir's talent and dedication have been praised by coaches Naresh Kumar and Azhar Aziz Raina (Employees of the Department), who believe he has the potential to excel on the international stage.

Nasir's selection is a proud moment for



Jammu and Kashmir, and his achievement serves as an inspiration to young sportspersons in the region. His impressive performance in the 67th National School Games, where he helped J&K's U-14 Boys Volleyball team qualify for the national scene, has paved the way for his selection to the India Volleyball Camp.

Director General Youth Services and Sports, Anuradha Gupta, congratulated Nasir on his achievement, saying, "With your extraordinary skill and exceptional talent, you have made the entire Union Territory proud. You have set a benchmark for young sportspersons and will serve as an inspiration for them. Good luck for future endeavors."

Nasir Ajaz Sofi's selection for the India Volleyball Camp is a testament to his hard work, talent, and dedication.

As he prepares to represent India on the international stage, the sporting fraternity wishes him all the best for his future endeavors.

# Cycle Rally held under 'Fit India'

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Department Youth Services and Sports organised Cycle Rally across different education zones of district Udhampur under the 'Fit India' initiative.

School going boys and girls were involved in this exercise from Zone Udhampur (29), Jib (20), Chenani (10), Ramnagar (13) and Kulvanta (21).

The district officer appreciated the efforts of the concerned officials and encouraged the students for taking part in Nationwide fitness campaign.

The event concluded with an appeal to the general public to dedicate at least 30 minutes daily towards physical fitness and contribute in building a healthy and strong Nation.

# Satish visits Chowki Choura, assures immediate relief, rehabilitation

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs and Transport, Satish Sharma on Monday visited the flood-affected areas of Block Chowki Choura, including Panchayat Rah (village Rah) and Hardu Mallara, to take stock of the situation caused by heavy rains and flash floods.

The Minister was accompanied by senior officers of district Administration, PHE, RDD, PWD, Irrigation and Flood control and other allied departments.

During his visit, the Minister interacted with the affected families and personally assessed the damages to property, infrastructure, and agricultural fields. He was informed that several families have been shifted to safer places, including Government High School and Panchayat Ghar Rah Salyote, as a precautionary measure to ensure their safety.

Satish Sharma directed the district administration



Transport Minister, Satish Sharma during visit to flood-affected areas of Block Chowki Choura.

and concerned officials to provide immediate relief and rehabilitation support to all affected households. He stressed that essential supplies like ration, clean drinking water, LPG and medical aid must reach the displaced families without delay. The Minister also instructed officials to ensure the restoration of electricity, road connectivity, and water supply at the earliest.

The Minister reiterated that the safety and well-being of citizens remains the topmost priority of the Government and assured

the people that adequate funds and resources will be mobilized for their relief and rehabilitation.

He further directed the authorities to conduct a comprehensive assessment of damages to property, livestock, and crops so that affected families can be compensated in a timely manner.

Appealing to the people to remain vigilant in vulnerable areas, Satish Sharma said the administration is keeping a close watch on the situation and necessary measures are being taken to minimize further hardship.

# Delegations meet Javed Rana, seek relief measures

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Several delegations from the Sidhra and Nagrota areas of Jammu today met with Minister for Jal Shakti, Javed Ahmed Rana to highlight the extensive damage caused by recent floods.

The delegations raised pressing concerns regarding the restoration of civic amenities and demanded immediate compensation for the losses suffered by residents.

In response, the Minister assured the delegations that the Omar Abdullah-led gov-



Minister for Jal Shakti, Javed Ahmed Rana interacting with delegation members.

ernment is closely monitoring the situation and is committed to taking swift, people-centric measures.

He emphasized that restoring essential services

remains a top priority for the administration.

# Functioning of AHD across Jammu Div reviewed

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Director Animal Husbandry Department Jammu Dr. Sanjay Gupta convened a meeting on Monday here in the Directorate's Conference Hall to review the functioning of the department.

Chief Animal Husbandry officers of all the districts of Jammu division joined the meeting through virtual mode, while Manager Frozen Semen Bank, Jammu, Rinderpest Control Officer, Jammu, Dy. Director Planning, Extension Officer, besides officers from techni-



Director AHD Jammu Dr. Sanjay Gupta chairing a meeting.

cal and planning sections participated in the said meeting in-person.

During the meeting a detailed review was held on

progress achieved under CAPEX, HADP, CSS and NABARD components of Animal Husbandry department vis a vis expenditures

incurred under each component. The Director issued on-spot directions to bridge shortfalls wherever noticed.

While reviewing progress

under flagship Nationwide Artificial Insemination Programme (NAIP) and National Animal Disease Control Programme for FMD (NADCP-FMD), the chair noticed several deficiencies in data-uploading part and passed strict instructions to concerned officers to upload all pending data on designated portals at the earliest.

Concluding the meeting, the Director emphasized completion of works assigned along with efficient utilization of allotted funds in a time bound manner.