

JU inaugurates Inter-Collegiate Gatka (Men & Women) Tournament



Participating Gatka teams posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu, organized the Inter-Collegiate Gatka (Men & Women) Tournament 2025-26 at the University Sports Stadium on Wednesday.

The championship saw enthusiastic participation from 12 teams representing various affiliated colleges of

the University of Jammu, showcasing their skill, agility, and competitive spirit.

In the men's section, the Parri Stiek Individual event saw Sehajveer Singh (PG Department, JU) clinch the gold, followed by Hardeep Singh (GDC R S Pura) with silver, while Bhavneek Singh (Dogra Degree College) and Baljeet Singh (GDC Marh) shared the bronze medals. In the Single

Stick Individual category, gold went to Kanavjot Singh (GDC Kathua), silver to Gagandeep Singh (GDC Kunjwani), and bronzes to Ramanjot Singh (Dogra Degree College) and Jaideep Singh (GDC R S Pura). The Single Stiek Team event was won by the GDC Kathua team comprising Samarjot Singh, Daljeet Singh, and Kanavjot Singh, with Dogra Degree College

taking silver, and GDC Kunjwani and GDC R S Pura sharing the bronze. The overall men's trophy was lifted by GDC Kathua with 15 points.

In the women's section, the Single Stick Individual gold went to Payal Devi (Dogra Degree College), silver to Namanjot Kour (GDC Kathua), and bronzes to Mantasha Jan (GDC Kunjwani) and Nazish

Akhter (PG Department, JU). The overall women's trophy was awarded to Dogra Degree College with 5 points.

The valedictory function was graced by Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba, Director, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu, who awarded medals and trophies to winners in the presence of faculty members and officials, including Prof. Baljinder Kour, Prof. Sukhpreet Kour, Aajiz Malik, Ravi Kumar, and others.

The bouts were professionally officiated by an expert panel comprising Lovepreet Singh, Mandeep Singh, Ravinder Singh, Harpreet Singh, Parvinder Singh, Harmeet Singh, Simrandeep Singh, and P D Singh, ensuring fair play and adherence to tournament rules.

Inter-college JU Basketball tourney begins



Basketball teams posing for a photograph with officials at JU.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Organised by the Directorate of Sports, the annual inter-college Basketball (Men and Women) Tournament of University of Jammu (JU) got underway on the main campus, here today.

The opening day witnessed six matches in men section and one in women section. A couple of

matches turned out to be one-sided contests.

The Results (Preliminary Round): MEN: PG. JU beat GMC Kathua 40-12 points; GDC Udhampur beat Dogra Law College 41-06 points; Dogra Degree College beat GCET Jammu 31-27 points; GDC Kathua beat GDC Akhnoor 23-00 points;

MIET College beat ASCOMS Jammu 29-27 points. GDC Kunjwani beat GMC Kathua 40-23 points. WOMEN: GDC Kathua beat GCW Udhampur 12-00 points.

The technical panel in Basketball comprised Ranbir Singh, Shubham Sharma, Pariyanshu Thakur, Vikas Karlopia and Dr. Inderjeet Singh.

Inter District UT Level Tournament in Boxing & Football begins at Kathua



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: The Department of Youth Services and Sports, Kathua, on Wednesday inaugurated the Inter District UT Level Boxing Tournament (All Age Groups, Boys & Girls) and the Inter District Division Level Football Tournament (U17 & U19 Girls) with great enthusiasm and participation.

The opening ceremony was graced by Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rajesh Sharma as the Chief Guest, accompanied by Tehsildar Kathua, Vikram

Kumar and BDO Keerian, Sakriti Koul. Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner motivated the young athletes to play with sincerity and uphold the spirit of sportsmanship.

He remarked that victory and defeat are part of the game, but true success lies in participation with dedication and fair play. He also extended his best wishes to all players for the tournament.

The championship is being organized under the overall supervision of District Youth

Services & Sports Officer Kathua, Sh. Sunil Singh Sambyal, as part of the Annual Sports Calendar of the department.

The opening day witnessed thrilling contests. In the U19 Girls Football, Kathua defeated Poonch with an impressive 3-0 victory, while in the U17 Girls Football, Jammu outplayed Kathua with a dominant 5-0 win. Simultaneously, the Boxing competitions for U17 Girls began with great enthusiasm, drawing attention from sports lovers and spectators alike.

The tournament aims to provide a vibrant platform for young athletes across the Union Territory to showcase their sporting talent. It further seeks to instill values of discipline, fitness, teamwork, and excellence among the youth, contributing to the overall growth of sports culture in Jammu and Kashmir.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Joint Director Tourism Aijaz Qaiser on Wednesday gave away 14 commercial river rafting permissions to adventure tour operators for carrying out commercial river rafting activities at Baradari. The permissions have been granted for a period of two years, with each operator authorized to operate two rafts. The distribution ceremony was organized under the overall guidance of the Additional Chief Secretary J&K (Tourism), Dr. Ashish Chandra Verma and the Director Tourism, Jammu Dr. Vikas Gupta.

Speaking on the occasion, the Joint Director underscored the department's vision of positioning Jammu as a hub of adventure and recreational tourism. He further stated that:



Joint Director Tourism Aijaz Qaiser distributing commercial river rafting permissions to adventure tour operators.

"Adventure tourism is one of the fastest-growing segments in the travel industry, and Jammu with its rivers, mountains and diverse landscapes, has immense potential. The issuance of rafting permissions will not only strengthen our tourism

ecosystem, but will also generate employment opportunities and boost the local economy."

He further impressed upon the operators to strictly follow all safety protocols and standard operating procedures (SOPs) while conduct-

ing rafting, ensuring a secure yet thrilling experience for tourists.

On this occasion, the Deputy Director Tourism Savita Chouhan, Jammu and the Assistant Director Tourism Vishal Sadhotra Jammu also highlighted the

importance of expanding the adventure tourism circuit in Jammu to complement pilgrimage and leisure tourism.

President Rafting Association Baradari Reasi, Gurjeet Singh expressed gratitude for the initiative and stated that, "This step will go a long way in formalizing rafting activities in the region. With the government's support, we are confident of attracting more adventure lovers and ensuring world-class experiences in Jammu."

The Directorate of Tourism reiterated its commitment to develop adventure tourism infrastructure in Jammu, diversifying tourism products, and creating sustainable livelihood opportunities for the youth, while showcasing the pristine natural beauty of the region.

Samba district Fencing meet begins

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Organised by the District Samba Amateur Fencing Association under the aegis of Jammu and Kashmir Amateur Fencing Association, the district championship started on Wednesday at Tagore Institute of Learning and Education, Ghagwal, here.

Sponsored by the J&K Sports Council, the event witnessed preliminary round of the competitions in both boys and girls sections on the opening day today.

Among those prominent present in the inaugural included MJ Sharma, founder president of the Association; chairman of Tagore Institute of Learning, Prem Sharma; Manager Sports Stadium Samba, Dalbir Mehta; Sanjay Gupta, treasurer of the Association; Ram Pal Sharma and office bearers



MJ Sharma, founder president of the Association with fencers and officials.

of the district association.

The technical panel in today's events was led by Dr. G. Nagasubramanian and comprised other qualified technical officials, a hand-out issued here today informed.

Around 120 young fencers from different parts of the district are taking part in three events of Sabre, Epee and Foil.

The Results:
BOYS: Under-14: FOIL: Naudep (Gold), Anmol (Silver), Arun Kohli and Bhavishay (Bronze). EPEE: Krishana Raghuvansh (Gold), Mohit Kumar (Silver), Danish Choudhary (Bronze). SABRE: Keshav sharma (Gold), Bhavesh sharma (Silver), Abhinav Sharma and Raghav (Bronze).

GIRLS: Under-14: FOIL: Sewata Sharma (Gold), Aaradhaya Mahajan (Silver), Kanika Sharma and Peehu Sharma (Bronze). EPEE: Princy (Gold), Arushi Sharma (Silver), Ishana and Anushta Kumara (Bronze). SABRE: Divya Samridhi (Gold), Bhoomika Sharma (Silver) and Aaheli Verma (Bronze).

Rajesh Bhardwaj elected as Staff Secretary of GGM Science College Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a spirited but friendly observed election, Prof. Rajesh Bhardwaj of Department of Physics of the College has been elected as the new Staff Secretary of GGM Science College, Jammu.

The election witnessed enthusiastic participation from the faculty, underscoring the significance of the role in ensuring academic and administrative harmony within the institution.

In a direct contest, Prof. Rajesh Bhardwaj emerged victorious with 49 votes, while his opponent, Dr. Revika Arora, secured 36 votes. The election proceedings were conducted with transparency and fairness under the supervision of Prof. Vandana Khajuria and Dr. M. S. Saini, who served as Election Commissioners, with Prof. Suneel Singh Behryan as the Election Officer.

After the results were declared, Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Gupta, Principal of the College, extended his warm congratulations to Prof. Rajesh Bhardwaj. He commended



the orderly conduct of the election and lauded the faculty for their active involvement in the democratic process.

The Principal expressed confidence that the newly elected Staff Secretary would work diligently to represent the collective voice of the staff, address their concerns effectively, and contribute positively to the continued growth and excellence of the college.

In his address following the victory, Prof. Rajesh Bhardwaj expressed heartfelt gratitude to the faculty for their trust and support.

He pledged to work with utmost dedication for the welfare of all staff members, assuring that resolving long-standing issues, fostering a positive teaching-learning environment, and advancing institutional progress will remain his foremost priorities.

He further emphasized his commitment to working in close cooperation with the Principal and entire staff to ensure timely redressal of concerns and collective growth of the institution.

Kumerjit qualifies Ph.D

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JAMMU: Kumerjit

Chajgotra, daughter of Kishori Lal and Sudesh Kumari, resident of Ghagwal, District Samba, and wife of Himanshi Verma, son of Ghar Chand and Pinki Devi, resident of Bishnah, Jammu has been declared qualified for the award of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Mass Communication and New Media by the Central University of Jammu.

She worked on the topic "Impact of Contemporary media on the Subaltern in Jammu Region: A Case study of District Samba" under the supervision of Prof. J.N. Baliya, Professor, Department of Educational Studies, Central University of Jammu.



56th NSS Foundation Day celebrated at GDC Mahanpur



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

MAHANPUR: The NSS Unit of Government Degree College (GDC) Mahanpur celebrated the 56th NSS Foundation Day with great enthusiasm. The programme was organized by Dr. Rupalee Jasrotia, NSS Programme Officer, under the patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Sangeeta Sudan, Principal of the College.

The event began with a lamp lighting ceremony, led by the Principal along with faculty members. Dr. Rupalee Jasrotia delivered the welcome address, followed by a presentation of

the NSS Work Report, highlighting various activities including special camps, awareness programmes, and cleanliness drives conducted under the leadership of Prof. (Dr.) Sangeeta Sudan.

NSS Volunteers Megha Sharma, Jyoti Devi, and Kiran Billawaria spoke on "The Role of NSS in Nation Building", sharing their insights and experiences.

In her address, Prof. (Dr.) Sangeeta Sudan congratulated the volunteers for their selfless service, and emphasized the significance of the NSS motto,

"Not Me, But You." Megha Salaria, Shivani Proeh, and Damini were felicitated with trophies for being the Best NSS Volunteers. Anshu Devi was also honoured for her participation in the North Zone Inter-University Competition held in Bathinda, Punjab.

The event was graced by faculty members Prof. Binti Sharma and Prof. Renn Bhabla, and witnessed participation from over 50 NSS Volunteers, making the celebration both meaningful and impactful.

Heritagean Samar Dev shines in JK UT Ranking Table Tennis Championship

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Heritagean Samar Dev Bansal made the school proud by his stellar performance, securing the second position in the 2nd JK UT Ranking Table Tennis Championships in the Under-15 category.

The championship, organized by the Table Tennis Association of J&K, was held on August 14 and 25, 2025.

Samar's remarkable feat stands as a testament to

his dedication, hard work, and sporting spirit. Competing against some of the best young talents from across the Union Territory, he displayed exceptional skill and determination, setting an inspiring example for his peers.

Heritage School extended its heartfelt congratulations to Samar on this outstanding achievement and wishes him continued success in his sporting journey.



JU Inter-Collegiate Women's Kabaddi Tournament enters exciting second day

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The ongoing Inter-Collegiate Kabaddi (Women) Tournament 2025-26, organized by the Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu, entered its second day with thrilling performances and impressive displays of skill, strength, and strategy.

The annual tournament aims to promote a vibrant sports culture and encourage youth participation in competitive sports across the region.

Day two witnessed a series of nail-biting encounters as teams showcased remarkable agility, coordination, and tactical brilliance.

Players not only demonstrated exceptional physical endurance but also exhibited a deep understanding of the game, making every match a captivating spectacle. The enthusiastic cheers of the audience added to the



vibrant atmosphere, reflecting the spirit of healthy rivalry.

Results of the day's matches included GCW Udhampur defeating GDC Ghagwal by 16 points, GDC Billawar beating GDC Kathua by 19 points, GCW Parade overcoming GDC Rangarh by 10 points, and PG Department, JU, securing an 11-point victory over GDC Reasi.

The tournament is being conducted under the overall supervision of Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba, Director, Directorate of Sports and

Physical Education, University of Jammu, whose team has ensured smooth and efficient management of the event with a strong emphasis on discipline, fair play, and organizational excellence.

The technical panel, comprising Anil Sharma, Ajay Gupta, Dheeraj Sharma, Keshav Singh, Amandeep Singh, and Gagan Kumar, officiated the matches professionally, ensuring that all contests were conducted fairly and in strict adherence to official rules.