



Inter-School Girls U-19 Volleyball Tournament organized at Shopian

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, MAY 25

Under the banner of Nasha Mukt Jammu Kashmir Abhiyan, the Department of Youth Services and Sports, District Shopian, organized an Inter-School District Level Girls U-19 Volleyball Tournament today.

The tournament was inaugurated by DYSSO Shopian, Mohammad Ayoub Bhat.

The final match was contested between HSS Imamsahib and HSS Keegam, where players demonstrated exceptional sportsmanship, discipline and competitive spirit.

A large number of students and officials witnessed the thrilling encounter. After the successful completion of the tournament, trophies were distributed among the winners and runners-up teams by the chief guest.

On the occasion, DYSSO Shopian also administered



the Nasha Mukt pledge to all participants and officials, encouraging youth to stay away from drug abuse and embrace a healthy lifestyle through sports and physical activities.

Alongside the district-level tournament, various sports activities were conducted across different zones of District Shopian

under the ongoing awareness campaign. Zone Shopian organized a Yoga session to promote physical and mental well-being among students.

Zone Imamsahib held a Volleyball match with enthusiastic participation, while Vehlil Zone hosted a Girls Chess Competition to encourage indoor sports and

intellectual development among young girls. All events concluded successfully with active involvement from students, teachers and field staff. The sports activities aimed to strengthen sports culture, fitness, discipline and awareness against drug abuse among the youth of the district.

District level inter-zonal sports competition held at Reasi

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The Department of Youth Services and Sports Reasi today organised a District Level Inter-Zonal Sports Competition for the under 14 and under-17 age groups here at General Zorawar Singh Sports Stadium. The sports event featured competitions in Kho-Kho, Kabaddi, Volleyball, Chess, Wrestling and several other disciplines.

Young athletes from five zones of the district participated enthusiastically, exhibiting remarkable sportsmanship, discipline and team spirit. The event witnessed spirited performances as participants competed with enthusiasm and determination.

Deputy Commissioner Kumar Abhishek- the Chief Guest, interacted with the players and appreciated the efforts of the Department of Youth Services and Sports for providing a significant platform to young athletes to showcase their talent and strive for excellence in sports. "Every player who



has reached the district level was already a winner and should compete with the true spirit of sportsmanship," he encouraged the contestants. He emphasised that active participation in sports plays a vital role in steering youth away from drug abuse and other social evils. He encouraged students to motivate their friends and classmates to actively engage in sports and physical activities.

Underscoring the impor-

tance of health and well-being, the Deputy Commissioner advised participants to remain adequately hydrated and take necessary precautions in view of the prevailing hot weather conditions. He also encouraged students to strengthen teamwork and foster a spirit of unity through meaningful interaction with participants from different zones.

District Youth Services and Sports Officer Dharamvir Singh informed

that the department is also planning to organise sports activities for women and senior citizens to promote fitness, recreation and greater participation in sports among all sections of society.

On the occasion, participants also took Nasha Mukt Jammu Kashmir Abhiyan pledge to spread awareness against drug abuse and contribute towards building a healthy, disciplined and addiction-free society.

Hazil Memorial Cricket Tournament draws massive participation

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Hazil Memorial Cricket Tournament, organized by the Baramulla Cricket Forum in collaboration with the District Administration Baramulla under the banner of Nasha Mukt J&K, is witnessing overwhelming participation from youth across the district.

A total of 64 teams are participating in the tournament, while 42 matches have already been successfully played at the General Bipin Rawat Ground. The tournament has emerged as a major sporting platform for local youth, promoting sportsmanship, discipline, and healthy competition.

Meanwhile, the trophy of the 1st Varmul Cup Football Tournament was officially unveiled today in the presence of dignitaries, sports enthusiasts, and youth of



Baramulla, marking the commencement of another significant sporting event in the district.

The organizers highlighted that both tournaments are being conducted with the objective of engaging youth in constructive ac-

tivities and strengthening the ongoing Nasha Mukt J&K campaign through sports and community participation. Speakers on the occasion appreciated the efforts of the organizers and the District Administration for encouraging local talent

and creating opportunities for young players to showcase their sporting abilities. They emphasized that such events play a vital role in steering youth away from drug abuse and towards positive and productive pursuits.

Srinagar Admin's Rolling Trophy Inter College Cricket Tournament concludes at SP College

SRINAGAR MAY 25: District Administration Srinagar's Rolling Trophy Inter College Cricket Tournament 2026, organized under the Youth Empowerment and Engagement Programme, today concluded with a valedictory function held at SP College Srinagar, marking the successful culmination of the Inter-College sporting event.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar Akshay Labroo presided over the valedictory ceremony as the Chief Guest and formally felicitated the winning and runner-up teams with trophies, medals, and certificates of appreciation.

The event was also attended by Chief Planning Officer Srinagar, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, Nodal Principal, Kashmir Division Colleges, Seema Naaz, IAS Probationer Alfred Thomas, Principal SP College, Dr. Haris Izhar Tantray, Principal Gandhi Memorial College, Masood Ahmad, District youth Services & Sports Officer, Ghulam Hassan, besides enthusiastic participants from students and faculty members of various City Colleges.



During the valedictory address, the DC emphasized that initiatives under the Youth Empowerment and Engagement Programme are designed to provide constructive avenues for young people, encouraging them to actively participate in academic, cultural, and sports-related activities. He reiterated that such platforms play a crucial role in channelizing youth energy in a positive direction and strengthening community engagement at the grass-

roots level.

The DC emphasized that the District Administration Srinagar will provide similar platforms to students to showcase their talent by organizing events including cultural feast, entrepreneur feast, science & technology events under 12 month long under the Youth Empowerment and Engagement Programme to nurture sporting talent and build a strong sports culture within the district. The DC commended the efforts of the or-

ganizing Committee, Nodal Principal Colleges Kashmir, SP College and sports coordinators for ensuring the smooth conduct of the tournament by involving youth in constructive and healthy pursuits. He stated that the event also play a key role in promoting sportsmanship, youth engagement, physical well-being and awareness against social evils through constructive extracurricular activities under the broader framework of the Nasha Mukt Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan.

While highlighting the ill effects of the drug menace, the DC also underlined the counselling, treatment, and rehabilitation facilities available in Srinagar District for individuals affected by drug addiction and substance abuse, particularly at IMHAANS and through the Tele-MANAS platform. The DC said these facilities are playing a vital role in providing psychological support, medical assistance, counselling services, and rehabilitation to victims of drug abuse, while also helping families cope with the social and emotional impact of addiction.

World Football Day: ZFA empowers 1,400+ young footballers to accelerate India's football growth

UDAIPUR, MAY 25:

On the occasion of World Football Day, Zinc Football Academy (ZFA) reiterated its commitment to driving the growth and development of football in India. As it continues to celebrate the transformative power of football in shaping young lives, Zinc Football, in the past year alone, has positively impacted more than 1,400 young boys and girls in its bid to nurture grassroots talent and support India's footballing aspirations.

This season has been a landmark chapter in ZFA's journey. The academy clinched its third Rajasthan State Men's League title, remarkably achieved with one of the youngest squads in the competition, underlining its strong development pathway. On the national stage, ZFA's Under-18 team finished runners-up in the AIFF Under-18 Elite League, emerging as the second-best Under-18 team in India. Marking another significant milestone, the Zawar academy made its debut in the I-League 3, one



of the top tiers of Indian football.

The girls' team also delivered an exceptional season within just one year of its debut, securing titles at the Doon Cup, DAV Under-19 Nationals, and Asmita Football League, while currently leading the points table in the ongoing Rajasthan Senior Women's League, highlighting the rapid rise of women's football at ZFA.

Guided by its core philosophy, "Football Creates Dreams. Zinc Football Academy Builds Futures", Hindustan Zinc's ZFA has evolved from a grassroots initiative into a professionally driven football ecosys-

tem. With a strong focus on holistic development, the academy combines world-class infrastructure, structured coaching methodologies, and technology-led performance analysis to nurture the next generation of Indian footballers.

Beyond the pitch, the academy promotes a true student-athlete model, ensuring every player's education is taken care of, all on a full scholarship basis.

Since its inception in 2018, Zinc Football Academy--an AIFF 3-star rated academy--has consistently produced players for India's age-group teams, strengthening the nation's talent

pool. Recently, the academy also launched India's first residential football academy for girls, with an inaugural batch of 20 players from rural backgrounds.

Mohammed Kaif, nurtured at the academy, became the first player from Rajasthan in over 40 years to represent India, marking a historic milestone and showcasing the strength of ZFA's development pathway. He said, "I will always be grateful to Hindustan Zinc and Zinc Football. My seven years in Zawar, learning under top coaches at a world-class facility, played a defining role in shaping my career."

Army organises cultural event at Tantrayapura Banihal to celebrate Unity in Diversity

RAMBAN, MAY 25: In an effort to promote unity, harmony and cultural awareness among the youth, the Army organised a grand cultural event at Government School Tantrayapura, Banihal to mark the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, local residents and Army personnel. The programme was conducted with the objective of celebrating India's rich cultural heritage and strengthening the spirit of "Unity in Diversity." Students presented a variety of cultural programme featuring traditional folk dances,



patriotic songs, poetry recitations, cultural skits and musical performances, depicting the diverse traditions and values of the nation. The Army officials highlighted the significance of cultural diversity in building peace, mutual respect and communal harmony in

society. They encouraged students to preserve their cultural heritage and work towards promoting brotherhood and national integration.

The event created an atmosphere of joy, patriotism and togetherness as participants from different back-

grounds came together to celebrate cultural unity. Teachers and local residents appreciated the efforts of the Army in organising such meaningful programmes for the development and motivation of the youth.

Meanwhile, participants expressed gratitude towards the Army for continuously supporting educational and social initiatives in the region. The programme also served as a platform for students to showcase their talent and boost their confidence. The Indian Army remains committed towards fostering social harmony, youth engagement and cultural awareness through community outreach programmes across the region.