

Religious fervour marks last Navratri Prabhat Pheri

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KATRA: The nine days Navratri Festival's Prabhat Pheri in the holy town of Katra-Vaishnodevi came to conclusion on Tuesday morning with religious fervour.

The Prabhat Pheri was jointly organized by Department of Tourism J&K and Shri Mata Vaishnodevi Shrine Board Katra in association with J&K Association Prabhat Pheri beside indirect support from other organizations during Navratri Festival 2022.

The function concluded amidst chanting of Bhajans & beating of drums at Bus Stand Katra. Earlier, Chief Guest Nishant Gupta, SHO Katra and Guests of Honour, Gopal Dutt BMO Katra and Shiv Kumar Sharma former Joint Secretary J&K Sports Council flagged off the Prabhat Pheri from Bus Stand Katra from where colorful procession started in which artists from J&K, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and a large number of locals and devotees participated. Today's attraction was Jhanki of Maa Sidhidatri showcased by Baldev and party.

Pilgrims group from Delhi



Dignitaries during the Prabhat Pheri at Katra.

and other states joined the Prabhat Pheri. Nishant Gupta wished may Maa Vaishnodevi shower her blessings upon all and complimented the members of the J&K Association of Prabhat Pheri in making this event colourful, successful and spiritual. Gopal Dutt said that Prabhat Pheri during Navratras is a form of devotion towards the holy deity & performing Prabhat Pheri at Katra will definitely please Maa Vaishnodevi. Senior Citizen Forum led by Rattan Chand also participated in the Prabhat Pheri. Being the last day of festivity, the association members were all enthusiastic and danced in full swing all along the route while wearing orange Pagris. A felicitation ceremony

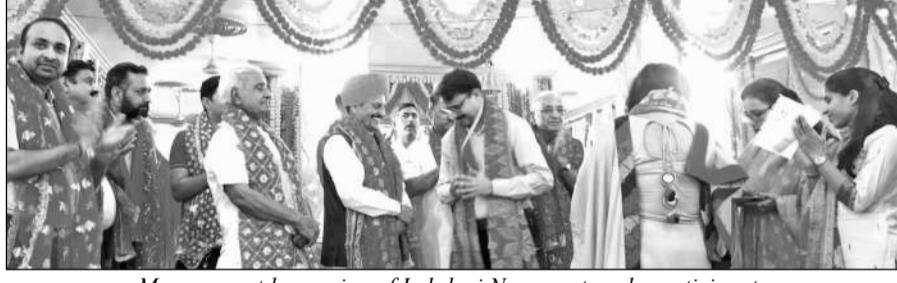
was hosted to honour the dignitaries present in the procession and members of J&K Association of Prabhat Pheri with mementos for making necessary arrangements and better coordination during Prabhat Pheri. Nishant Gupta, Gopal Dutt and Shiv Kumar Sharma felicitated with Pagari, Chunari and memento by association members.

After the Prabhat Pheri culmination Kanya Pojan was performed and Halwa was served to the Yatris and participants. Raj Kumar Padha president J&K Association of Prabhat Pheri told that it was the result of coordination & sincere efforts put in by the people of Katra especially association members for making the event of Prabhat Pheri a

grand success. He thanked the J&K Tourism Deptt, district administration, Health Department, Police Department, CRPF 6th Battalion Katra, school students, Municipal Committee Katra, print and electronic media and Katra people for their active cooperation and support during Prabhat Pheri celebration.

Association members present on the occasion were Raj Kumar Dubey, Aman Mahajan, R S Manhas, Ashwini Katoch, Neelam Singh, Rakesh Sharma, Renuji Dhar, Rattan Chand, Rakesh Gupta, Vimal Sharma and Pawan Kumar. Among others present in the procession were Babu Ram Dubey, Muralidhar, Sham Lal, Sanjay Tickoo, P N Raina, Rohit and Sanjesh.

Nine-day Navratri festival concludes at Lakshmi Narayan Mandir



Management honouring of Lakshmi Narayan temple participants.

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JAMMU: Hindu Festival of Navratras i.e. 9 nights of worshipping Goddess Durga, is celebrated by Hindu community throughout the World.

Navratri celebrations is being celebrated in Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Gandhi Nagar Jammu for the last over 50 years.

Today i.e. on Ram Naumi a Hawan Yagna was conducted wherein besides Member

Trustees, devotees in large numbers took part. After completion of Hawan Yagna, Kanjak Poojan was performed.

Earlier during Navratras, the Management conducted different programmes on all eight days which include Bhajan Sandhya, Garba, Dandia, Satsang by ladies, Laziam, Shlokas, Ram-Rawan yudh scene, Bhagwat Geeta recitation and all Savrups of Mata

Vaishno.

On the last day of Navratras the Management headed by Thakur Gulchand Singh Charak (former Minister) and President of the Trust facilitated the participants of different Educational Institutions i.e. Dogra Higher Secondary, School Rich Harvest School, Shastri Shiksha Kendra, High School Gandhi Nagar besides member Trustees and Mandir Pujaris.

The day-long celebration ended after evening Aarti and Bhajan.

Bhog Prasad was also distributed to the devotees in the afternoon.

The Ramakrishna Mission Jammu is always in forefront to help the locals of Jammu region. With an aim to spread the teaching process of Swami Vivekananda a Vivekananda Study Circle was established. The dispensary in ashram premises provides basic medical care and medicines to locals.

In this semi final, out of 15 participants who qualified for it through preliminary rounds of competitions, quarter final, and then this Semi Final, 7 participants qualified for the Mega Final to be held at Yog Ashram Complex Katra including Meenu Atwal from Punjab, Sukhjinder from

the celebration.

The full day celebration was started at early morning with Mangalarati and Vedic chanting. A special Pooja, Havan & Pushpanjali was performed under the guidance of Swami Yajnadharananda, Secretary Maharaj of the Mission.

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Amritsar, Shubham Banerjee

Enthusiasm marks Durga Puja celebration by Bengali community in Jammu

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JAMMU: A grand Durga Puja is being celebrated by the Bengali community here in Jammu with full enthusiasm, fervour and gaiety.

As festivities continue across the country during Navratri, Jammu Durga Puja Committee, Digiana Industrial Area along with numerous Bengali community members residing here, are celebrating grand Durga Puja processions.

The worship of Goddess Maa Durga is being performed with traditional Bengali Rituals.

The sound of Dhak (musical instrument), Sanskrit Mantra by Pujari engulfs the mind of devotees. Sandhi Puja on Moha Ashtami was the main attraction. Daily Pushpanjali and Sandhya Aarti draws a huge gathering.

The Bengali ladies wearing Red & White Sarees add aura to this festival.

The ladies arranged the Puja Upachar and male members whole heartedly joined on hands for other preparations.

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Members of Bengali community during Durga Puja celebration.

Daily more than 1000 people were distributed with Puja Mohabhog (Prasad/food of Maa Durga).

Daily Cultural programme performed by local talent at Puja Pandal premises mesmerized the visiting audience.

Rinku Bose, Secretary of the Puja Committee said, "We are organizing this Puja more than 50 years since our father ages. Earlier it was a very small scale within few families.

But now it has crossed horizon. There are so many national level institutions came up in Jammu where many

Bengali families joined. People from across religion and caste of entire Jammu come here and we cordially welcome them all. We extend greeting to join with us to make this Durga Puja a grand success. This festival is an example of communal harmony."

Durga Puja is the much-awaited festival of the Bengali community in India. This festival is observed in the month of Ashwin according to the Indian calendar, which falls in September or October in the Gregorian calendar. The festival is celebrated in the last 5

days of Navratri. Although this is a festival of the eastern region in India, nowadays Durga Puja is celebrated all over the country by various Bengali societies.

Jammu being the summer capital of J&K is the abode of a large population of Bengalis who perform Durga Puja at various places in Jammu every year.

The Pandals, rituals, food, and the concerts arranged during the Puja can give you a hint of the grand celebration of goddess Durga in West Bengal.

Dr Chris from Monash University Australia delivers lecture at IIM Jammu

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JAMMU: On the third day of Special Campaign 2.0 for disposal of Pending Matters and cleanliness drive from October 2 to 3, 2022 on Tuesday conducted cleanliness drive near Check in counter at Jammu Airport.

Sanjeev Kumar Garg,



Sanjeev Kumar Garg, Airport Director along with AAI Staff, CISF personnel and other stakeholders during the drive.

Airport Director along with AAI Staff, CISF and other Stakeholders participated in this cleanliness drive and encouraged the participants to keep the area neat and clean and motivated all for improvement of environment at Jammu Airport.

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JAMMU: A guest lecture session by Dr. Chris Bain, Lead of the Alliance for Digital Health, Monash University, Australia was hosted for the students of MBA Hospital Administration and Healthcare Management at the Canal Road Campus of IIM Jammu. The session focused on the current and future trends in digital health.

Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director IIM Jammu, mentioned that the session by Dr. Chris Bain was extremely insightful as it provided a detailed overview of the field of medical care, upcoming new IT, and digital trends in the field of medical care which will shape the way medical sciences are practiced in the

near future.

Dr. Chris discussed the relevant organizations, upcoming IT standards, and the essential role of key standards in healthcare organizations.

He also emphasized that India despite having a vast population has a tremendous opportunity in data storage and management and in digitalization (Talking about the Digital certificates of COVID-19

vaccination).

Prof. Sahay, felicitated Dr. Chris Bain, with a memento as a token of appreciation. The vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Harsha Jariwala, Chairperson MBA (HA & HM).

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It is worth to mention here that Navratri Festival's All India Devotional Song Competition is being organized by SMVD Shrine Board, Deptt. of J&K Tourism, PTC Punjabi Gold in association with Patanjali Dantkanti and co sponsored by Monalisa Fashion and Wedding Stores, Lia Agarwalla, J&K Bank, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Super Specialist Hospital, Nidhi Builders Pvt. Ltd. Jammu, Yog Ashram Trust with active support of District Administration and the local host Community with 92.7 Big FM as its Radio Partner.

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