

With sixteen shows 'Mata Ki Kahani' show series concludes at Katra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KATRA: The mega musical-theatre show series 'Mata Ki Kahani' conceived, designed and directed by Padma Shri Balwant Thakur, the ultimate attraction of Navratra Festival-Katra concluded here on Tuesday at the Auditorium of Spiritual Growth Centre with the Sixteenth successful performance.

Organized by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board and Directorate of Tourism Jammu, this show series commenced on 2nd Navratra at the holy town and the brilliant artists of Natrang Jammu kept mesmerising large gatherings everyday with two highly professional presentations.

Giving details about the shows, Balwant Thakur the Director of Natrang informed that it took him over two years in creating this ultimate wonder on stage taking help of top professionals of Bollywood Film industry and talented designers, directors, music composers, choreographers, and art directors.

Given the opportunity, Natrang can perform this show



Natrang artists presenting a musical-theatre show series 'Mata Ki Kahani' at Katra.

on a regular basis for the millions of devotees visiting Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine.

This show has all the potential to become another most sought-after destination in the holy town of Katra. On the occasion he repeatedly thanked Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine

Board, Directorate of Tourism and divisional administration for giving Natrang an opportunity to offer the Navratra Festival audiences a spectacular piece of art and electrifying creativity which in a highly innovative manner unfolds the entire legend of Mata Vaishno

Devi.

Seventy accomplished artists, performers, technicians, designers have mounted this presentation. Prominent amongst those included Neeraj Kant in Direction, Virji Sumbly in art direction, Rahul Singh, Brijesh Avtar Sharma

and Mohd. Yaseen in Costumes and properties, Chander Shekhar in Designing, Sunny Mujoo (Choreography) and Shivam Singh in light design.

The prominent participants of this mega production included Neeraj Kant, Sunny Mujoo, Gopi Sharma, Chirag Anand, Sushant Singh Charak, Aadesh Dhar, Mahikshit Singh, Kushal Bhat, Vishal Sharma, Sanket Bhagat, Sumit Bandaral, Abhimanyu Choudhary, Abhinav Sharma, Chaitanya Shekhar, Ajay Lalotra, Anand Verma, Amit Rana, Sunny, Raghav Pandita, Vansh Pandotra, Rikshit Sharma, Arun Sharma, Palshin Dutta, Radhika Khajuria, Radhika Sharma, Meenakshi Bhagat, Shivam Singh, Kananpreet Kaur, Mehak Singh, Mehak Chib, Mehak Panzore, Ritika, Anmolpreet Kour, Jaspreet Kour, Shriya Razza, Madiha Sajad, Kashish Katoch, Tania Balgotra, Priya, Suneha Agural, Priyal Ashok Gupta, Perna Sharma, Deepshikha Sharma, Himanshi Jain, Tarun Sharma, Munish and Uday Manhas.

Kavinder meets Dhirendra Krishna Shastri, discusses enormity of Hindu traditions

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Kavinder Gupta, senior BJP leader and former deputy chief minister, engaged in a profound meeting with Dhirendra Krishna Shastri to delve into the profound depths of Hindu culture and its significance.

Kavinder Gupta emphasized the remarkable antiquity of Hinduism, heralding it as the oldest of all religions, a testament to a meticulously crafted way of life rather than just a religious doctrine.

During their extensive discussion, Kavinder noted that Shastriji underscored the scientific and natural exclusivity of Hinduism, where solutions to life's challenges are deeply embedded within its culture and traditions.

The BJP leader highlighted the unique aspect of Hinduism, stating that its daily practices are meticulously designed to lead individuals toward a



Senior BJP leader, Kavinder Gupta taking blessings from Dhirendra Krishna Shastri.

higher quality of life. He expressed his belief that Hinduism stands out not merely as a religion but as an immaculate way of living in harmony with nature.

Dhirendra Shastri, in a

message to the people of Jammu, shared his thoughts and wisdom on the significance of Hindu traditions, undoubtedly fostering a greater appreciation for this rich cultural heritage.

Yuva Rajput Sabha organizes Shashatar Pooja on Dussehra



Yuva Rajput Sabha members performing Shashatar Pooja at Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: On the holy festival of Dussehra, Yuva Rajput Sabha (YRS) organized a Shashatar Pooja in Ram Mandir Bantalab in traditional way. The Pooja was started in morning with Hawan and after that team YRS took blessings of Bhagwan Rama and completed Shashatar Pooja with prayer.

YRS president Vikram Singh Vicky along with team members took part in prayer. Vikram said that Dussehra and Vijay Dashmi is a symbol of victory which represents that Truth is always win and

there is always a victory of Dhaarm. He also described that our generation has to be remembered our religion which teaches us that we all have to be stand for truth and our rights.

Former president Surinder Singh Gilli appealed people to come in front to describe and celebrate our religious festivals so that our future generation known about our culture and religions.

The members of YRS present in the Shashatar Pooja along with President and former president include Core Committee members Ramesh Singh, Mohinder Singh,

Mohan Singh, Dharminder Singh, Komal Singh, Shamsheer Singh, Balbir Singh, Prem Singh Ballu Langeh and Stakeholders members Mandeep Singh, Vishal Singh, Vikramjeet Singh, Sumit Singh, Timnu Langeh, Udayveer Singh, Bupinder Singh, Rajeev Jamwal, Raghuvir Singh, Akash Singh, Mahkan Singh, Vasudev Singh and many other active members.

They all gave wishes on the festival of Dussehra and Vijay Dashmi and said that team YRS is always stand and work for the rights and betterment of Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir remembered Pt. Prem Nath Dogra on his birth anniversary in a programme organized by BJP District Jammu at Pt. Prem Nath Dogra Chowk, Jammu.

J&K BJP president Ravinder Raina accompanied by general secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul, MP Jugal Kishore Sharma, former Minister Sat Sharma, and other party leaders garlanded the statue of Sher-e-Dugger, besides paying rich tributes to him on the occasion.

Ravinder Raina, while addressing on the occasion termed Dogra a great leader and said he was instrumental in leading Praja Parishad and Ek Pradhan, Ek Vidhan, Ek Nishan agitation, which ultimately culminated into success. He added that Pt ji served the people with pure heart earlier and dedicated his whole life for total integration of J&K with the rest of India. He said that Pt. Ji's credentials are unmatched and he gave true representation to the masses of Jammu & Kashmir.



BJP J&K paying tributes to Pt. Prem Nath Dogra on his birth anniversary at Jammu.

Ashok Koul said that Pt. Ji depicted life of high-grade values and spirits. He led the struggle of "Ek Vidhan, Ek Nishan, Ek Pradhan" very strongly as a result of which the separate post of Prime Minister was abolished in J&K and now due to dedicated leadership of BJP under PM Modi, mission has been completed with total integration of the erstwhile J&K State with India.

Jugal Kishore Sharma narrated the achievements of late Pt. Prem Nath Dogra and described him a tallest leader of his time in the State who led famous Praja Parishad Movement for total integration of J&K with

India.

Sat Sharma appealed the workers to follow the path of Late Panditji and maintain high standards of life by serving people and nation selflessly.

District President Parmod Kapahi presented the vote of thanks.

BJP Vice-President Aseem Gupta, Ayodhya Gupta, Sanjita Dogra, Chander Mohan Sharma, Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Sanjay Baru, Keshav Chopra, Parveen Kerni, Ramon Sharma, Kuldeep Kandhari, Rajesh Gupta, Jeet Angral, and others also paid tributes to Pt. Prem Nath Dogra on the occasion.

Arrangements for National Unity Week, Rashtriya Ekta Diwas reviewed

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In connection with National Unity Week and Rashtriya Ekta Diwas-2023 celebrations, Commissioner Secretary General Administration Department, Sanjeev Verma, on Tuesday chaired a high level meeting to review arrangements for the celebrations.

The meeting among others was attended by the Divisional Commissioners of Kashmir and Jammu, ADGP Kashmir, Secretary Culture Secretary, Youth Services and Sports Department. The meeting had threadbare discussions on the details of events planned to be organized for the celebrations within broad contours of the program notified by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs. It was emphasized that the Divisional Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners in close collaboration with Police,

Youth Services and Sports and Culture Departments shall ensure befitting celebrations of the Meri Maati Mera Desh Campaign as well as National Unity week and the UT Foundation Day at the UT, Divisional, District, Block and Panchayat level. The Divisional Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners were advised to incorporate multiple activities such as short and long walks, yoga competitions, cleanliness drives, debates, painting competition etc during the week long celebrations.

It was decided that participation of PRIs as well as persons from all sections of society including youth and senior citizens shall be ensured to impart synergy for celebration of the events with zeal and enthusiasm.

The Divisional Commissioners were advised to closely review the celebrations on regular basis.

SAVE organises free surgery, sterilisation and vaccination camp

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Save Animals Value Environment (SAVE), an NGO working for the welfare of animals, organised a free two day Surgery, Sterilization and Vaccination Camp in collaboration with Vet Care Pet Clinic at Chhani Himmat which concluded here on Tuesday.

In the camp, 50 pet and stray dogs and cats were sterilized, vaccinated and operated upon free of cost by veterinary doctors trained from World Veterinary Service.

The dogs and cats were given vaccinations against many serious and commu-



Snapshots from the Free two day Surgery, Sterilization and Vaccination Camp organised by SAVE.

nicable diseases. 7 in 1 Vaccine, Tri-Cat Vaccine and Anti Rabies Vaccine were sponsored by Inner Wheel Club, Jammu,

Subhash Gupta and Sanjeev Prabhakar, owner of Anutham Hotels and Restaurant.

Dr Gourav Chowdhary,

Dr Mithleshwar Thakur, Dr Preety and Dr Ganpat attended all the voiceless patients brought by the animal lovers for surger-

ies, sterilisation and vaccinations.

Animal lovers brought dogs and cats from Udhampur, Akhnoor, Nagrota for surgeries for tumours and other related ailments.

SAVE Society offered free services of their Ambulance to animal lovers who wanted to get the community animals sterilized and vaccinated.

Speaking on the occasion, Devinder Kaur Madaan, President, SAVE informed that more such free camps will be organised in different parts of the Union Territory in the near future.

Vijeshwar Devasthan Trust installs Goddess Murties on Maha Navami



Vijeshwar Devasthan Trust members during a programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: On the auspicious occasion of Maha Navami, the Vijeshwar Devasthan Trust of Tehsil Bijbehara installed Murties of Mata Jaya Devi, Mata Vijaya Devi, and Mata Mangla Devi in the premises of Geeta Bhawan, Vinayak Nagar Muthi.

A grand Hawan ceremony followed, along with the distribution of Prasad to all the devotees in attendance.

During this momentous event, the trust took the opportunity to felicitate prominent workers and religious scholars. Notable individuals recognized

for their contributions included Swami Kumar; Prof M.L Malla, Axtar Bhat, Arjan Nath Bhat (President), Geeta Bhawan Vinayak Nagar Muthi), Pushkar Nath Tikoo (SSP), Bushan Lal Bhat (Ex MLC), Pushkar Nath Jotshi, A.K. Koul, A.K. Tikoo, B.N. Raina, and Vijay Kumar Pandit.

The honourees were garlanded with flowers and presented with Angvasstra.

The trust also acknowledged the commendable work done by former members of the erstwhile Devasthan Prabandhak Committee in Bijbehara.

As a tribute to those who sacrificed their lives during the tumultuous period in the valley, floral tributes were paid to the Martyrs of the community, particularly in the Vijeshwar Khetra.

The Vijeshwar Devasthan Trust expressed its gratitude to all those who provided active cooperation and support in organizing this significant event. The ceremony concluded with the recitation of the Gayatri Mantra and Mata Jaya Devi Leela, presented by Varinder Mohan Bhat. The vote of thanks was delivered by Sanjay Tikoo Dembi, the President of the Trust.

P.N. Tikoo, General Secretary of the Vijayshwer Devasthan Trust in Tehsil Bijbehara, issued this statement to mark the event.

This event highlighted the cultural and religious significance of Maha Navami and the dedication of individuals and organizations to preserving and celebrating these traditions.

Dharmarth Trust organizes Rath Yatra on Vijayadashami

Thousands join cavalcade of impressive Jhankis to become part of festivity

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: To mark the auspicious occasion of Vijayadashami, a grandiose Rath Yatra was taken out by J&K Dharmarth Trust from the historical Shri Raghunathji Temple here.

On the occasion, Brig R.S Langeh, President of the Trust and Ashok Kumar Sharma (SSP Retd), Secretary presided over the Murti Poojan at Shri Raghunath Ji Temple. Thereafter, Rath Poojan was performed.

Earlier in afternoon, the Trustees Ranvijay Singh and Martand Singh paid obeisance at the Shri Raghunathji Temple and prayed for the peace and prosperity of the Union Territory. They also took stock of the Rath Yatra preparations. Thousands of devotees comprising prominent citizens, politicians



J&K Dharmarth Trust members performing Pooja at Raghunathji Temple.

and heads of social and religious organizations participated in the Shobha Yatra.

The Rath Yatra was organised by Dharmarth Trust in collaboration with Sanatan Dharam Sabha.

The Rath Yatra was followed by Jhankies taken out by the Sanatan Dharm Sabha which was started from the famous Dewan Mandir and was passed through various markets of

Old City and reached Shri Raghunathji Temple. Thereafter, the Rath Yatra was passing through the Raghunath Bazaar, City Chowk area successfully culminated at Parade

Ground Jammu where the massive Dussehra celebration was organized.

Trust's President, in his message, felicitated people on the auspicious occasion of Vijay Dashmi and prayed that this auspicious occasion would be the harbinger of peace, progress and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir. He said that the celebration of festivals, which are an important part of our glorious heritage, strengthens communal harmony and brotherhood and reinvigorates the secular ethos.

Ashok Kumar Sharma also prayed for peace and the well-being of the people of the Union Territory. He said Tight security arrangements were ensured by the UT administration across the city for the smooth conduct of Dussehra celebrations.