

'Rang-e-Chinar' Art Exhibition spreads message of "Say No to Drugs"

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
GANDERBAL: As part of the ongoing 'Rang-e-Chinar' National Art Workshop, a vibrant art exhibition and interactive art session were organised today in collaboration with the Ganderbal Police, spreading the message of "Say No to Drugs" through creativity and colour. The event, held under the banner of the Master Sansar Chand Baru Memorial Charitable Trust (MSCBMC) in association with Petronet LNG Limited, Government of India, witnessed enthusiastic participation from students of sixteen schools across Safapora and adjoining areas of Ganderbal district.

The programme aimed to channel youth energy towards creativity and positive expression while raising awareness against drug abuse - one of the most pressing issues affecting young people today.

The event included live painting demonstrations, poster-making, and interactive sessions between artists, police officials, and students, where art became a medium to convey a powerful social message. Students from Government Higher Secondary School Safapora, Government Girls High School Safapora, Government Middle School Safapora, Government High



Students and other dignitaries at a programme.

School Mirabad Safapora, Government High School Kondabal, Government Middle School Khawaja Bagh Kondabal, Government Middle School Cheshma Manzabal, Government Middle School Gratbal, Government Middle School Pahilpora, New Delight School Kupora Safapora, Angels Care School Safapora, Valley Larks Public School Safapora, Iqbal Memorial School Safapora, Al Huda Public School Safapora, Salsabeel Public School

Safapora, and S.R. Public School Safapora took part in the event with great enthusiasm. Prominent artists participating in the 'Rang-e-Chinar' series - Taslima Sona (Rajasthan), Dr. Rakhi Kumar (Delhi), Dr. Priti Samyukta (Hyderabad), Supriya Amber (Madhya Pradesh), Debashish Dutta (Gujarat), Sharmila Sharma (Delhi), Deepu Kumar (Bihar), Kishan Kappari (Hyderabad), Apurba Karati (West Bengal), A.K. Douglas

(Bengaluru) and Javid Iqbal (Sopore, J&K) - demonstrated live art sessions on anti-drug awareness, turning their canvases into expressions of hope, courage, and resilience. Anuradha Rishi, President of the MSCBMC Trust, emphasized that art can heal and transform communities. "Our message through 'Rang-e-Chinar' is clear - colour your life with creativity, not addiction."

Say no to drugs and yes to dreams," she said. Speaking on

the occasion, a senior officer from Ganderbal Police praised the initiative, calling it "a commendable and innovative way to reach the youth."

He added, "We deeply appreciate the efforts of the Master Sansar Chand Baru Memorial Charitable Trust for using art as a powerful tool for social change. Their dedication to guiding young minds towards positivity and awareness aligns with our mission to build a drug-free and peaceful Ganderbal."

India's Epic Mahabharat returns to national television Collective Media Network, Prasar Bharati partner to reimagine classic epic for today's generation, airing every Sunday at 11 AM

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

MUMBAI: Collective Media Network has announced a groundbreaking AI-led reimagination of India's most celebrated epic - Mahabharat. The series will have its exclusive digital premiere on WAVES OTT on 25 October 2025, followed by its telecast on Doordarshan every Sunday at 11:00 AM starting 2 November 2025. The series will be simultaneously available for digital audiences across India and worldwide via WAVES OTT.

This first-of-its-kind collaboration pairs the legacy and nationwide reach of India's public broadcaster with the creative innovation of a next-generation media network. Leveraging advanced AI tools, the series rebuilds the vast Mahabharat universe, its characters, battlefields, emotions, and moral dilemmas with cinematic scale and striking realism. The project embodies the spirit of Make in India and Digital India, showcasing how heritage and innovation can move forward together.

Speaking about this landmark collaboration, Vijay Subramaniam, Founder & Group CEO of Collective Artists Network, said, "Like millions of Indians, I grew



up watching the classic Mahabharata on television every Sunday, it was an experience that shaped my imagination and my connection to our culture. With Mahabharat, our hope is to give today's generation a similar touchstone that feels as immersive and unifying as it did for us but told through the possibilities of today's technology. This is about Bhakti and Pragati walking together to create something that is both deeply rooted in tradition and boldly forward-looking."

Speaking on this collaboration, Gaurav Dwivedi, CEO, Prasar Bharati added, "Prasar Bharati has always brought stories of national and cultural significance to every Indian home. The retelecast of the original Mahabharat during the lockdown reminded us how

deeply these narratives bind families and generations together. Partnering on this AI-led reimaging allows audiences to experience one of India's greatest epics a new honouring tradition while embracing cutting edge technology in storytelling. It is an expression of Vikas and Virasat coming together in modern broadcasting."

WAVES, Prasar Bharati's official OTT platform, brings together India's rich tapestry of culture, news, and entertainment on one digital destination. Featuring video-on-demand, live events, and an extensive bouquet of TV, radio, audio, and magazine content, WAVES has swiftly garnered millions of users for its credible, family-friendly, and multilingual offerings. Built on the pillars of inclusivity, innovation, and heritage, the platform bridges India's timeless legacy with cutting-edge storytelling. Its collaboration with Collective AI Mahabharat exemplifies how technology and tradition can converge to create powerful, contemporary narratives that resonate with audiences across India and the world.

LGEU urges timely release of pending 3% DA ahead of Deepawali

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Lower Grade Employees Union (LGEU), Civil Secretariat, on Thursday convened a meeting under the chairmanship of its President, Isher Das, wherein the members unanimously expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Government for the much-awaited release of House Rent Allowance (HRA) and Children Education Allowance.

The Union particularly extended its appreciation to the Lieutenant Governor, J&K, the Chief Minister, J&K, the Chief Secretary, J&K, the Principal Secretary, Finance Department, and the Commissioner/Secretary, General Administration Department for their proactive and employee-friendly decision.

This gesture, the Union observed, reflects the Government's continued commitment to the welfare of its employees, enabling them to cope with the rising cost of living.

Such initiatives not only boost employee morale but also reaffirm the trust of the workforce in the administration's responsiveness and care.

The Union further expressed hope that the government will also consider the release of the pending 3% Dearness Allowance (DA) in a time-bound manner, preferably before the holy festival of Deepawali, to make the occasion more meaningful and joyous for the employees and their families.

AstroSage AI revolutionizes astrology with world's first 'AI Astrologer on Call'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NOIDA: In a groundbreaking technological leap, India's prominent AI innovator, AstroSage AI, has unveiled the world's first 'AI Astrologer on Call' feature in its mobile application. This pioneering initiative allows users to converse with an AI astrologer over the phone, in any Indian language, 24/7, offering not just astrological predictions but also personalized guidance as a counselor and psychological companion.

The feature, championed by AstroSage AI's Chief Innovation Officer, Punit Pandey, exemplifies the power of 'Made in India' innovation. Embedded with the knowledge of thousands of astrological texts, the AI astrologer pro-

vides insights into Vedic, Krishnamurti, Lal Kitab, and Nadi astrology. This initiative aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's IndiaAI Mission, democratizing access to socially responsible AI.

The AI astrologer supports numerous Indian languages, breaking communication barriers for millions. AstroSage AI CEO, Pratik Pandey, emphasizes that the AI astrologer surpasses traditional counterparts due to its multi-domain knowledge, offering insights into modern subjects like cryptocurrency. Already handling 20 million monthly queries, AstroSage AI aims to extend its reach to 100 million Indians within a year, bridging the gap between tradition and technology.

Former Councillor Narottam organizes "Vandana Card" Upgradation Camp for senior citizens



Former Councillor Ward 3, Narottam Sharma and others at a camp.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former Councillor of Ward No. 3, Narottam Sharma, organized a one-day camp at Laxmi Narayan Temple (Dhakki Sarajan), Jammu, to facilitate the upgradation of Ayushman Cards to the new "Vandana Cards" format for senior citizens under the Ayushman Bharat scheme. The camp witnessed enthusiastic participation from a large number of senior citizens, both men and women, from across the ward.

The initiative aimed to

ensure that elderly residents can seamlessly access healthcare benefits under the revamped format of the central scheme. Participants expressed gratitude towards the Ayush Department and BJP workers for bringing the service to their doorstep.

Narottam Sharma highlighted the importance of such initiatives in empowering senior citizens and simplifying access to government welfare schemes. He assured that similar camps and awareness programs would

be organized regularly to ensure every resident of Ward No. 3 benefits from various Central Government schemes.

Prominent individuals including Vidhya Gupta, Saroj Gupta, Sanjay Abrol, Pt. Satpal Raina, Akhil Gupta, Lucky Mehra, and Rajesh Khajuria were present and played key roles in the smooth conduct of the event. "Our constant effort is to bring the benefits of Central Government schemes to every household in Ward No. 3," Sharma emphasized.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The State Director of MY Bharat J&K, in collaboration with the State NSS Officer (SNO) NSS J&K, and Deputy Directors of MY Bharat from Rajouri and Jammu, announced the launch of the Viksit Bharat Padyatra under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

This initiative aims to instill national pride, deepen civic engagement, and strengthen unity among the youth, in line with the Prime Minister's vision of Jan Bhagidari in Rashtraniirman.

In a press conference held today, State Director said that main highlight of the initiative is the Sardar@150 Unity March, launched on October 6, 2025, to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India.

The campaign seeks to awaken the spirit of Ek Bharat and Atmanirbhar Bharat among youth by encouraging civic responsi-



State Director of MY Bharat J&K talking to reporters.

bility and honoring Patel's legacy in uniting a fragmented India. Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, digitally launched the campaign on the MY Bharat portal.

The first phase includes various youth engagement activities such as a social media reel competition, an essay writing contest, and the Sardar@150 Young Leaders Program, under which 150 winners will participate in the National Padyatra. The Unity March will unfold in two phases. In

first phase, District-Level Padyatras (Oct 31 - Nov 25) in which each district will host an 8-10 km, 3-day padyatra, preceded by school and college activities like debates, essays, street plays, and seminars on Sardar Patel. Swadeshi fairs, yoga camps, health camps, and cleanliness drives will also be conducted. Participants will take the Nasha Mukht Bharat and Atmanirbhar Bharat pledges, and pay floral tributes to Sardar Patel.

On second phase of National March (Nov 26 - Dec 6), a 152-km padyatra from Karamsad to the Statue of Unity in Kevadia will be organized. Along the route, 150 cultural stops will feature exhibitions, developmental activities, and evening Sardar Gatha sessions.

Youth are encouraged to register at [MY Bharat Portal](https://mybharat.gov.in/pages/unity_march) and take part in this historic initiative.

RMMC organizes free Multi-Speciality Health Camp

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Ramakrishna Mission Medical Centre, Ramakrishna Vihar, Udhaywala, Jammu, organized a Free Mega Multi-Speciality Health Camp on Thursday from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

The event aimed at providing accessible healthcare services to the residents of Jammu and nearby areas, bringing together a team of experienced doctors and medical professionals under one roof.

The camp featured the expertise of renowned specialists across various fields. Dr. Vidyt Gupta (MBBS, MS General Surgery, M.Ch. Urology) provided consultations for kidney stones, bladder stones, prostate diseases, urological cancers, and disorders related to andrology and urogyneology; with free uroflowmetry tests for patients.

Dr. Sudesh Gupta from



RMMC members with doctors and others at a camp.

Shalyatantra, GAMC Akhmoor, offered treatments for piles, fistula, fissures, and other anorectal diseases, while Dr. Twinkle Gupta from Kayachikitsa, GAMC Akhmoor, focused on managing diabetes, blood pressure, anxiety, depression, and migraine disorders.

A total of 153 patients benefited from the expertise of 14 doctors during the camp. Free consultations were provided by physicians, dentists, general surgeons, gynaecologists, eye specialists, physiotherapists,

and Ayurvedic experts, while essential tests like uroflowmetry, hemoglobin, uric acid, and blood sugar were conducted free of cost.

Additionally, a full-body checkup package, including CBC, lipid profile, urine tests, thyroid function tests, liver and kidney function tests, and vitamin D assessment, was offered at a discounted rate of Rs. 1200, down from the original Rs. 2300, making preventive healthcare affordable for participants. The camp was graced

by distinguished guests including Prem Lata, Deputy Director, Finance; Dr. Anita Gupta, Physiotherapist; Raman Gupta, MD Pans and Pots; and Dr. Vijay Gupta, Gynaecologist, who lauded the efforts of the Ramakrishna Mission in providing accessible and quality healthcare to the community. Swami Yajnadarhananda Ji, Secretary

of Ramakrishna Mission, Jammu, emphasized the organization's commitment to the ideals of Sri Ramakrishna Dev, Maa Sarada, and Swami Vivekananda, highlighting that serving humanity is akin to divine worship.

He also announced plans to organize similar free medical camps monthly, reinforcing the Mission's dedication to community health and welfare. The health camp attracted a large turnout from Jammu and surrounding areas, providing a valuable opportunity for residents to access expert medical advice, diagnostic services, and health awareness initiatives at no or minimal cost. For further information, the public can contact the Mission at 9596984032.

Nissan unveils its latest C-SUV: First Look at All-New Tekton

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Nissan Motor India has officially revealed the name and design preview of its upcoming C-segment SUV - the All-New Nissan Tekton. Derived from the Greek word "Tekton" meaning "craftsman" or "architect," the name reflects Nissan's philosophy of innovation and precision. Set for a full launch in 2026, the Tekton will be the second product under Nissan's 'One Car, One World' strategy and will be produced in collaboration with Renault at the Chennai plant for both domestic and export markets. Inspired by the legendary Nissan Patrol,

the Tekton features bold design elements including a sculpted bonnet, signature C-shaped LED headlamps, a muscular bumper, and a "Double-C" door accent inspired by the Himalayas. The rear sports a full-width lightbar and dynamic tail lamps, projecting a premium SUV appeal. Nissan's design head Alfonso Albaisa described the Tekton as a segment disruptor. Saurabh Vatsa, MD of Nissan India, said the SUV symbolizes Nissan's resurgence in India, with its bold stance, refined interiors, and technological prowess leading the brand's renewed growth trajectory.

Dr. Parneesh hails PM's 24 years of transformative leadership

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader Dr. Parneesh Mahajan today hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 24 years of uninterrupted public service as a transformative journey that has redefined India's development narrative, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir.

Recalling PM Modi's oath as Gujarat Chief Minister in 2001, Dr. Mahajan described him as a "Karma Yogi" whose vision of 'Nation First' and 'Developed India' has brought real change across the country. He highlighted the abrogation of Article 370 as one of PM Modi's boldest decisions, which fully integrated Jammu and Kashmir with the rest of India, ending decades of discrimination. Dr. Mahajan emphasized that marginalized



communities such as West Pakistani refugees, Gorkhas, and Safai Karamcharis now enjoy full citizenship rights for the first time. Under PM Modi's leadership, Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed significant infrastructure development, grassroots empowerment through Panchayati Raj, and renewed peace and stability. Calling Modi's political journey-12 years as Chief Minister and over a decade as Prime Minister without a single electoral defeat-unprecedented, Dr. Mahajan said it reflects the people's deep trust. He concluded by stating that Jammu and Kashmir is now on a path of inclusive growth, peace, and prosperity under PM Modi's visionary leadership, fulfilling the dream of a united and developed India.