

Radiant Diwali celebration illuminates JK Public School Kunjwani



Glimpses of Diwali celebration at JK Public School Kunjwani on Saturday.

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JAMMU: JK Public School, Kunjwani, glowed with festive splendour and spiritual warmth as it celebrated a special Diwali event, transforming the campus into a realm of light, joy, and devotion. The beautifully adorned premises, with twinkling Diyas, vibrant Rangolis, and fragrant floral decorations, exuded an

air of divine grace and cultural richness. The celebration commenced on a soulful note with a melodious choir performance, wherein the harmonious voices of the students invoked the blessings of Lord Rama through a devotional prayer. Their serene rendition set a spiritual tone for the day. This was followed by a mesmer-

izing flute recital by the talented Vedanshi Mahajan, whose mellifluous notes filled the ambience with purity, peace, and celebration, perfectly capturing the essence of Diwali. A captivating enactment of episodes from the Ramayana by the students of Classes VII and VIII transported the audience to the sacred world of

Ayodhya. Through expressive performances and graceful movements, the young actors beautifully portrayed the eternal triumph of righteousness and truth. The programme also featured vibrant dance performances, symbolizing joy, energy, and the spirit of festivity. The occasion was graced by Shashi Choudhary,

Director, JK Educational Society, as the Chief Guest, and Rajesh Rathore, Principal, JK Public School, Kunjwani, who presided over the function. The Director lauded the students and teachers for their outstanding efforts in presenting such a meaningful celebration. In her address, she inspired everyone to celebrate a Green

and Cracker-Free Diwali, fostering environmental awareness, compassion, and harmony. An Inter-House Rangoli Competition added further charm to the celebration. Students showcased their artistic flair and creativity through eco-friendly Rangolis, each design reflecting the spirit of positivity, prosperity, and unity.

Towards the end of the programme, Shoaib Khan and Aaditya Verma, the proud students of the institution who represented JK Public School at the National Athletics Meet held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, were felicitated by the Director and the Principal. Their remarkable achievement brought immense pride to the school

and served as an inspiration to their peers. The event concluded amidst applause and joy, leaving behind a message of love, unity, and sustainable festivity. The radiant smiles, divine music, and cultural splendour reflected the true spirit of Diwali - the eternal victory of light over darkness and goodness over evil.

We will make Nagrota a model constituency: Devyani Rana

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NAGROTA: In an emotionally charged moment filled with both pride and poignancy, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) today witnessed an overwhelming display of solidarity and sentiment as Devyani Rana, daughter of late Devender Singh Rana, filed her nomination papers as the party's candidate for the Nagrota Assembly by-elections.



BJP candidate Devyani Rana along with party leadership addressing rally at Nagrota.

Devyani Rana along with the party leadership was greeted by thousands of supporters at a grand rally organized in Nagrota following her nomination. The rally, marked by tears of remembrance and cheers of hope, transformed into a collective expression of faith - faith in continuity, in leadership, and in the enduring bond between the Rana family and the people of Nagrota. It was also an occasion for the people of Nagrota to once again gather under the banner of the Ranases, a family synonymous with compassion, commitment, and credibility, a family torch bearer of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas Sabka Prayas Sabka Vishwas. The rally reverberated with slogans "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" "Rana Sahib Amar Rahe" and "Jai Tak Suraj Chand Rahega Rana Sahib Ka naam Rahega". Addressing the mega rally, Ms Devyani, with voice choking with emotion, said, "My father, Devender Singh Rana, had a

dream - a dream of a prosperous, progressive, and inclusive Nagrota. I promise to fulfill all his incomplete works and serve the people day and night. I will leave no stone unturned to justify the faith that you have shown in me." She described Nagrota as family of her father and said that this nomination is not just an opportunity to serve the people but it is a sacred responsibility to carry forward her father's mission. "I am daughter of Rana Sahib who was always there to support anyone without considering his religion, caste and creed. I will follow his footsteps and fulfill all his election promises which he could not fulfill due to his sudden demise," Devyani Rana told the gathering amid high pitch sloganeering in her favour and in praise of her father. She said the people of Nagrota are her family and "I have taken a pledge on the hand of my father in his last days that I will work for the bet-

terment of the people of his constituency". "With the continued blessings of the people and their affection, we will make Nagrota a model constituency - a living example of what BJP stands for and what Rana Sahib always envisioned: a vibrant, self-reliant, and developed Constituency." Devyani said that the BJP is not just a party but a family that stands for performance and people-centric governance. She said she was overwhelmed by the support and solidarity of the people, adding that she will endeavour for fulfilling the dreams of her father, who envisioned Nagrota as a model of inclusive and sustainable development. J&K BJP President Sat Sharma, Leader of Opposition Sunil Sharma, General Secretaries Sanjita Dogra and Gopal Mahajan, Assembly Election Incharge & MLA Sham Lal Sharma, and Co-Incharge & DDC Chairperson Bharat Bhushan, among other senior leaders and legislators

Sat Sharma also paid rich tributes to the late Devender Singh Rana, the former MLA of Nagrota, describing him as a true son of the soil who served people from the core of his heart and ruled over the hearts of Nagrota's residents. He added that though he is no longer with us, his dreams and dedication continue through his daughter, Devyani Rana, who has inherited his spirit of service. Sunil Sharma lauded Devyani Rana for her resolve to take forward her father's mission, saying that the people of Nagrota have seen what commitment and compassion meant under Devender Rana's leadership. Devyani Rana embodies the same sincerity and vision, and BJP stands firmly behind her. Sham Lal Sharma assured the people that the BJP government is working tirelessly for every section of society. He said that the development, empowerment, and dignity for all are our guiding principles. Devyani Rana's leadership will ensure that the constituency receives the attention and development it truly deserves, he stated. Bharat Bhushan said that under the Modi government, historic reforms have taken place in J&K, and BJP is determined to build a prosperous and inclusive future. He urged the people to strengthen BJP's hands for a stronger Nagrota and stronger Jammu and Kashmir.

Justice Rajnesh Oswal reviews progress of upcoming Judicial Infra projects in Kathua

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Justice Rajnesh Oswal, Judge of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Administrative Judge for District Kathua on Saturday inspected and reviewed progress of the judicial infrastructure projects coming up in the District.



Justice Rajnesh Oswal, Judge of HC of J&K and Ladakh welcoming at Kathua.

Justice Oswal began his tour from Hiranagar, where he inspected the under-construction new Court Complex. The HC Justice assessed the pace of work and directed the executing agency to expedite the remaining work and complete the project at the earliest. He was warmly received by Principal District Judge Kathua Jatinder Singh Jamwal, Munsiff Hiranagar, and members of the Bar Association. Member Legislative Assembly Hiranagar Vijay Kumar Sharma was also present. SDM Hiranagar and functionaries of the executing agency briefed the visiting dignitary about the status of the project. Later in Kathua, Justice Oswal interacted with the concerned Executive Engineers and functionaries from J&K Housing Board to take an appraisal of the progress of Judicial Infrastructure Development

work at Billawar, Basohli, Mahanpur and the new District Court Complex. Special emphasis was laid on the timely completion of the Lawyers' Chambers block. The Administrative Judge directed the functionaries of Executing Agencies to expedite the works to ensure early completion of the same. Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rajesh Sharma and Senior Superintendent of Police Mohita Sharma also met Justice Oswal during his visit. The HC Justice later held a meeting with the Bar Association Kathua, where President, Y.C. Katoch presented a charter of demands on behalf of the Lawyer fra-

ternity. Responding to the demands, Justice Oswal assured that the genuine concerns of the Bar would be given due consideration. Justice Oswal also reviewed facilities at the District Court Complex Kathua and emphasized creating adequate infrastructure to meet the needs of litigants and lawyers alike. In separate meetings at Kathua and Hiranagar, he impressed upon judicial officers to work with devotion and ensure speedy disposal of cases with focus on clearing old matters. His visit, marked by detailed inspections and interactions with officers and members of the legal fraternity, assured timely strengthening of judicial infrastructure in the district.

Purmandal-Uttarvahini Tirth Sewa Nyas submits development proposals to LG; special emphasis on heritage restoration, development

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JAMMU: A meeting of the Purmandal-Uttarvahini Tirth Sewa Nyas, led by President Satish Gupta and Secretary Maheshwar Sharma along with Executive Members Jatinder Goswami, Satish Bharti, and Vikas Baru, was held with the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to discuss major religious, cultural and developmental proposals for the sacred site of Purmandal (also known as Chhota

Kashi) on the banks of the Devika River. A key focus of the discussion was the ring road connectivity-the Nyas proposed that Purmandal be included within the alignment of the upcoming Ring Road, citing that the current route bypasses the area via Raya Morh, thereby limiting regional access and mobility for visiting pilgrims. Integrating Purmandal would not only bolster connectivity but would enhance accessibility to this historic



pilgrimage destination. Another important proposal involved the creation of a dedicated Ved Vidyalaya (Vedic School) in Purmandal, aimed at pre-

serving Sanatan culture and Vedic traditions and imparting sacred knowledge and values to future generations. The Nyas urged allocation of land and resources for building a grand structure to house the institution. Heritage restoration also featured prominently: the Nyas emphasized the need to restore ancient havelis and temples in Purmandal to their original architectural forms, thereby rejuvenating the site's historical religious

legacy and boosting cultural tourism. The meeting further covered the preservation and beautification of the Devika River-a comprehensive plan was presented that includes regular cleaning of the river, the construction of check dams at suitable locations to control flooding, and active collaboration with departments such as Flood Control, Geology & Mining, and Social Forestry to mount a coordinated campaign for the river's upkeep. Finally,

the Nyas proposed the construction of a "Devika Yatri Bhawan". The proposal stressed early identification of suitable land and swift commencement of construction to address the growing needs of pilgrimage tourism. In closing, the Nyas formally invited the LG to visit Purmandal on the auspicious occasion of Margashirsha Chaturdashi-the manifestation day of Devika Maiya-on 19th November 2025.