

# Healthy India Stronger India celebrates Diwali with devotion at Raghunath Temple

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Healthy India Stronger India (HISI), under the leadership of its Chairman Hira Lal Abrol, organized a grand Diwali celebration at Raghunath Temple, Jammu.

The event, filled with devotion and enthusiasm, witnessed the participation of hundreds of students and staff members of HISI who came together to celebrate the festival of lights with a message of compassion, empowerment, and social responsibility.

The celebration commenced with Rangoli making and Diya lighting, symbolizing positivity and the victory of good over evil.

Students presented a soulful dance performance on



HISI Chairman Hira Lal Abrol distributing cloths among students during Diwali celebration at Raghunath Temple.

"Siya Ram Aaye Hai", followed by Ram Ji's Aarti, creating an atmosphere of devotion and harmony. The event concluded with the distribution of sweets and clothes among the students and participants, spreading happiness and festive cheer to those in need.

Speaking on the occasion, Hira Lal Abrol, Chairman of Healthy India Stronger India, said, "Healthy India Stronger India is dedicated to the holistic development of youth from economically weaker sections. Our mission

is to empower them through skill-based education so they can lead dignified and independent lives."

He further added, "We are running a Free Training Centre for the skill development of needy and poor children from BPL families. The centre offers three-month free courses in Basic Computers, Cutting & Tailoring, Beautician Course, Vocal Music, Dance, and also provides a Free Library for the students."

Highlighting the organization's achievements, Abrol proudly stated, "Nearly 7,000 students, without any creed and caste, have successfully completed courses from our center. Many of them have been placed in reputed organizations, while others have started their own ventures. It is heartening to see them earning a respectable livelihood for their families and living with pride in society."

In addition to skill training, HISI focuses on building moral values and life skills among the students. "We constantly motivate our students to adopt healthy lifestyles and to stay away from tobacco and drugs," Abrol emphasized. "Our vision is to uplift women's status in society and make them self-reliant through education and empowerment."

The joyous celebration not only reinforced the festive spirit of Diwali but also highlighted the organization's mission to create a self-reliant, healthy, and morally strong India.

As diyas lit up the temple premises and music echoed with devotion, the message of "Healthy India, Stronger India" resonated deeply, reminding everyone that true celebration lies in spreading light, knowledge, and hope among those who need it most.

Healthy India Stronger India society members Gourav Abrol and Aakriti Abrol besides staff members of the institute and a large number of devotees present on the occasion.

## PM Shri Government Girls Middle School Jindrah felicitates National Teacher Awardee Kuldeep Gupta.



PM Shri GGMS Jindrah faculty felicitating National Teacher Awardee Kuldeep Gupta.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JINDRAH: PM Shri Government Girls Middle School Jindrah organized a special felicitation ceremony to honour Kuldeep Gupta, the proud recipient of the National Award for Teachers, conferred by the Ministry of Education, Government of India.

The event was held under the aegis of Kasturi Lal, Principal, Government Higher Secondary School Jindrah, and Cluster Head, and a lunch was graciously hosted by the awardee himself for the students and staff of Cluster Jindrah. The event celebrated his outstanding contributions to the field of education, his

innovative teaching practices, and his dedication to nurturing young minds with excellence and compassion.

During the event, staff members and students expressed their deep admiration and respect for Kuldeep Gupta for an inspiring journey as Teacher. An Award of Honour was presented to him by the school management in recognition of his distinguished service and commitment to academic excellence.

Speaking on the occasion, Principal Kasturi Lal lauded Gupta's exemplary achievements, stating that his national-level recognition brings immense pride not only to

Jindrah but to the entire educational fraternity of the region. He further added that such accomplishments inspire both teachers and students to pursue excellence with dedication and integrity.

The program was attended by Lakshmi Devi, Sadakot Ali, Babita Sharma, and other teaching and non-teaching staff members, who extended their warm congratulations to the awardee.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks and a message of inspiration, reaffirming the commitment of the teaching community to continue their noble mission of shaping the future of the nation.

## Natrang presents Hindi comedy play 'Purvabhyas'



A scene from play 'Purvabhyas' directed by Neeraj Kant, presented by Natrang.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: In its endeavours to come up with a theatre production every Sunday, Natrang presented a Hindi comedy play 'Purvabhyas' written by Om Prakash and directed by Neeraj Kant in its weekly theatre series 'Sunday Theatre'.

"Purvabhyas" is a satirical stage comedy that unfolds in a small town where two self-proclaimed healers, an overconfident Hakim and a flamboyant hypnosis professor are fierce rivals. Hakim swears by his miraculous "Amar Bhaskar" powder, prescribing it to everyone from a nervous middle-aged woman to a farmer whose cow refuses to eat grass and give milk. Meanwhile, the professor uses dramatic mind-control sessions, urging patients to imagine wild

forests, lions and elephants, only to leave them more terrified than before.

Their competitive worlds collide when both are summoned to treat a young boy who has mysteriously fainted at home. Instead of curing him, they plunge into a ridiculous battle of words, each trying to prove their own superiority.

The parents watch in dismay as their "doctors" descend into a physical scuffle. Suddenly, the boy springs up and reveals the truth, he's perfectly healthy and was merely rehearsing for a play with the "Natrang" theatre group, where he must lie still on stage for two hours.

The truth makes both the Hakim and the Professor look foolish, showing how blind faith and big egos can mislead people. With lively

## IWC New Gen Jammu visits SAHYOG: A Home for Specially Abled Children

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The members of IWC New Gen Jammu paid a heartfelt visit to SAHYOG, a home dedicated to providing care and support to specially abled children, located at Trikuta Nagar, Jammu. The

and enthusiasm of the residents reflected the nurturing environment and affection they receive at the home. It was a moment of compassion and realization for the visitors, who were touched by the spirit of resilience and happiness that

SAHYOG continues to serve as a pillar of hope and compassion for specially abled children by providing them with care, education, and rehabilitation services. The organization relies on the generosity of individuals and groups to sustain



IWC New Gen Jammu donating a range of essential items at SAHYOG.

visit proved to be an inspiring and emotional experience, offering a glimpse into the lives of the children who, despite their challenges, display remarkable strength, positivity, and joy.

During the visit, the members of IWC New Gen were deeply moved by the selfless dedication of the caretakers and staff at SAHYOG, who work tirelessly to ensure the physical and emotional well-being of the children. The cheerful smiles, laughter,

filled the place.

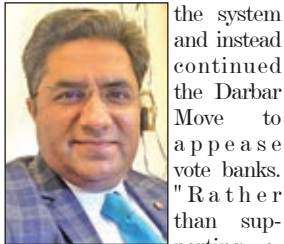
As part of their visit, IWC New Gen members donated a range of essential items to support the daily needs of the children. The donation included nuts (badam, walnuts, kishmish), healthy snacks (biscuits, chips, muesli), fresh fruits, sugi, desi ghee, juice, and tea. These contributions aim to add nutritional value and comfort to the lives of the children, enhancing their quality of life and ensuring their continued well-being.

its noble mission. The visit by IWC New Gen Jammu exemplified true community spirit and social responsibility, reflecting the importance of collective efforts in building an inclusive and compassionate society.

Through this act of kindness, IWC New Gen Jammu reaffirmed its commitment to social welfare and inclusivity, spreading the message that empathy and service can make a meaningful difference in the lives of those who need it most.

## Having insulted Maharaja, NC now seeks blessings in his name: Dr. Varinder

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Dr. Varinder Sharma, Co-Convenor of the BJP Health Cell, Jammu & Kashmir, launched a sharp attack on the National Conference (NC) for politicising the Darbar Move and misleading the people of Jammu. He accused NC of hypocrisy, saying the same party that once insulted Maharaja Hari Singh and forced him out of his princely state is now invoking his name for political gain.



"It's ironic that those who criticized Maharaja Sahib are today pretending to seek blessings in his name. Will Jammu forgive such opportunists who have repeatedly betrayed Dogra pride?" Dr. Sharma asked. He criticised the Darbar Move as an outdated and wasteful colonial practice, irrelevant in today's era of digital governance and modern connectivity. "Every six months, crores are spent on shifting offices between Jammu and Srinagar, including allowances, accommodation, transport, and damages to equipment. This is sheer wastage of taxpayer money," he said.

Dr. Sharma noted that NC, despite ruling the state for decades, failed to modernise the system and instead continued the Darbar Move to appease vote banks. "Rather than supporting e-governance and digital reforms, NC opposes every progressive step taken by the Union Government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi." He asserted that the Union Government's focus on transparency and digital transformation has rendered the Darbar Move obsolete. "When files move online and meetings happen virtually, why waste money on such outdated exercises?"

Calling out NC's "political drama," Dr. Sharma said the party has no interest in people's welfare and is only chasing votes. "These are the same leaders who undermined Maharaja's legacy and Jammu's interests. People must see through this deceit."

He urged Jammu to reject falsehood and support PM Modi's vision for equal, transparent, and digital progress in J&K.

## NCC Army Attachment Camp concludes with enthusiastic participation



NCC cadets at Somgarh Military Station (Old Air Field), Srinagar.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: A 12-day Army Attachment Camp for NCC cadets successfully concluded at Somgarh Military Station (Old Air Field), Srinagar. The camp was organized under the combined aegis of the Chinara Corps, Chinara Army Defence Brigade, and coordinated by the 9 J&K Girls Battalion, Srinagar, part of the J&K & Ladakh Directorate.

A total of 117 cadets, including both boys and girls from various educational institutions across Jammu & Kashmir, participated in the camp. The primary objective was to give the cadets first-hand exposure to the Indian Army's ethos, professional lifestyle, and rigorous training standards. The camp aimed to instill in them the values of discipline, leadership, teamwork, and national pride. Throughout the camp, cadets took part in a variety of structured activities. They received hands-on exposure

to modern military equipment, and participated in interactive sessions on leadership, life-saving skills, and career opportunities in the Armed Forces. Notable highlights included visits to cutting-edge facilities such as the Drone Lab and the 3D Printing Lab.

The co-educational nature of the camp promoted mutual respect, cooperation, and shared learning, reinforcing unity among the youth of the region. Cadets exhibited high energy and discipline in various physical training sessions, sports, drill, and vibrant cultural activities.

A grand closing ceremony marked the culmination of the camp, featuring a colourful cultural programme presented by the cadets. The event was graced by the Commander of the AD Brigade, senior Army officers, and families of personnel from Old Air Field Station.

During the prize distribution ceremony, outstanding cadets were honoured with medals and prizes, further motivating them. As the camp concluded, cadets left with renewed inspiration, a deeper understanding of Army life, and a stronger commitment to nation-building.

Such initiatives by the Indian Army continue to play a vital role in empowering the youth of J&K, fostering patriotism, and promoting peace and progress in the region.

## Arti Parihar wins symposium on drug menace



Senior Citizens Welfare Forum Katra members with dignitaries and participating students.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
REASI: Arti Parihar of the host school, GHSS, Panthal won the symposium on drug menace which was organised by the Senior Citizens Welfare Forum (SCWF) Katra.

Winner Arti presented a cash prize of Rs 1000. Second place went to Divyanshi Sharma of DPS Katra, who was awarded Rs 700 while Khushi of Amba Kids Panthal finished third to receive a cash prize of Rs 500.

Seven other participants were given consolation prizes worth Rs 200 each. Certificates of merit and participation were given to all

the 10 participants.

Chief guest, Superintendent of Police (SP) Katra, Vipan Chandern (JKPS) and Principal of hosts school, Remuka Sharma felicitated the students amidst appreciation for their views.

Narinder Singh Antal, retired Deputy Commissioner Excise, was guest of honour. In

the symposium, Shub Dutt Puri (retired Principal), Chanay Ram (retired ZEO) and Kaka Ram (retired ZEO) were the adjudicators.

The Forum also felicitated the World University Games silver medal winner from village Seri in Katra, Hritik Sharma. Hritik interacted with the students and encouraged them towards sports.

Among others who spoke and expressed their views on drug menace were Shiv Kumar Sharma (president SCWF), Sub Inspector, Preeti Jamwal; Sub Inspector and Akhlesh Khajuria. Sukhdev Singh, vice president of the Forum, presented vote of thanks.

## Dr. Sreenevasulu delivers lecture on Industry Prospects for veterinary students at SKUAST-J

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Under the guidance of Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST Jammu, the Counselling and Placement Cell organized an online lecture by Dr. Sreenevasulu Kilari, Executive Director of Biovet Pvt. Ltd., Malur, Karnataka and Professor of Practice at SKUAST Jammu, on Industry Prospects for Veterinary Students. The lecture aimed to bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world veterinary industry practices, offering students insights into career pathways in animal health and biotechnology.

Dr. Kilari shared the mission and vision of Biovet Pvt. Ltd., emphasizing its commitment to innovative solutions in animal healthcare. He provided an overview of the company's state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities, including drug substance production, EMD operations, and stringent quality assurance systems, ensuring global standards. A major highlight was Biovet's vaccine portfolio, explaining their development, testing, and role in improving livestock and poultry health.

He also showcased Biovet's BSL-3+ Ag Facility, India's first and the world's second, demonstrating leadership in high-containment research and vaccine production.

Dr. Kilari discussed emerging technologies in animal healthcare, collaborative research opportunities, and internship and placement programs, encouraging students to gain hands-on industry experience. The session saw active participation from around 80 students, including fourth professional B.V.Sc& A.H. students, interns, and postgraduate scholars. The lecture was hosted by Prof. Sanjay Guleria, Incharge, Counselling and Placement Cell & Dean, FBSc, and coordinated by Dr. Pankaj Goswami, Professor & Head, Veterinary Pathology, and Dr. Puneet Chaudhary, Head, KVK Jammu.

The lecture provided students with a comprehensive understanding of the veterinary industry, vaccine innovations, quality operations, and career prospects, while reinforcing the value of industry-academia collaborations for professional growth and research excellence.

## Theatre Director late Kavi Ratan to be honoured with Ramesh Mehta Memorial Award 2025

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Renowned theatre director late Kavi Ratan has been posthumously selected for the 5th Ramesh Mehta Memorial Award for his outstanding contribution to theatre in the Jammu region.

The award, jointly instituted by the family of late Ramesh Mehta and the Hindi Sahitya Mandal, Jammu, honours exceptional individuals in the fields of arts and literature.

The award will be presented to Shashi Ratan, wife of the late Kavi Ratan, during a ceremony to be held in Jammu on November 6, commemorating the upcoming birth anniversary of Ramesh Mehta (November 13).

The announcement was made in a joint press release by Pavitra Mehta, daughter of late Ramesh Mehta, on behalf of the Mehta family, and Dr. Chanchal Dogra, representing the Hindi Sahitya Mandal.

The permanent jury, nominated by the family and the Mandal, met on October 19 and unanimously chose Kavi Ratan for the honour.

Established in 2021, the award recognises excellence in performing and fine arts, Hindi literature and journalism, and promotion of Hindi teaching and culture, particularly for individuals from Jammu region who may not have received due recognition from official academies or government institutions.

The jury evaluated several artists, writers, and institutions from Jammu on a suo motu basis before selecting Kavi Ratan. This marks the first time the award is being conferred posthumously.

The award includes Rs. 11,000 in cash, a citation, and a shawl, and is organized in collaboration with the Hindi Sahitya Mandal.

Previous recipients include Raj Bharti (2021), Jang S. Varman and Sham Sajjan (2022), Deepak Kumar (2023), and Shiv Dobaliya (2024).

The award jury comprises Prof. Kiran Bakshi, Dr. Chanchal Dogra, and Padma Shri Prof. (Dr.) Lalit Magotra-all noted figures in Hindi and Dogri literature and education.

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