

75th Republic Day celebrated at JK Public School Kunjwani with pride, enthusiasm



Glimpses of Republic Day celebration at JK Public School Kunjwani on Thursday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: JK Public School, Kunjwani presented a tableau on the theme "Unity in Diversity" on the occasion of the 75th Republic Day on Thursday in school ground.

The programme started with flag hoisting by the Director JK Educational

Society, Shashi Choudhary. The Principal JKPS Kunjwani Rajesh Rathore along with students and staff sang the National Anthem with pride and enthusiasm.

Omera of Class VII enlightened everyone with a speech on the topic 'Republic

Day'. The students enthralled the audience and filled the atmosphere with patriotism by singing a patriotic song 'Bharat Vande Mataram', a Nukkad Natak on Republic Day was enacted by Primary Wing.

The four houses Tilak House, Tagore House,

Bhagat Singh and Radha Krishnan House presented a Tableau displaying the culture of Assam, Punjab, Kerala and Jammu & Kashmir respectively.

They made commendable performances, wherein they highlighted the culture and dance of different states of

India. They gave the message to everybody that "although we have different religion, tradition, culture, language and food yet again we are Indians & we are proud of our country".

To celebrate the spirit of Republic Day, students of shared some amazing facts

and a foot-tapping dance on 'Ae Desh Mere'.

The programme concluded with the address of Director Shashi Choudhary. She announced Bhagat Singh House as the winner of the tableau presentation. She congratulated the winners, other participants and

teachers for their efforts. She also awarded the National Participants in different Sports Activities on the occasion.

Dignitaries present on the occasion were Director JK Educational Society Shashi Choudhary; Principal Rajesh Rathore; Vice

Principal Roopinder Kour; School Coordinator Inderjeet Kour; Co-ordinator of Primary Wing, Silvi Agarwal and Toddler's World Coordinator, Shivangani Pandotra. The students of Class 8C, Arushi and Tejasvini were the compères of the programme.

Botany Deptt, CLUJ celebrates 75th Republic Day



Students and faculty of Botany Dept of CLUJ during 75th Republic Day celebration.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Department of Botany at Cluster University of Jammu, commemorated the 75th Republic Day with an enthusiastic celebration that blended national pride with a dedicated commitment to environmental stewardship.

The event, witnessed a vibrant array of activities, symbolizing the unity of the nation and the department's devotion to the principles of democracy.

The day commenced with a solemn Flag hoisting

ceremony, where students, faculty, and staff gathered in patriotic unison to honor the nation's Tricolour.

Distinguished members of the department, including Prof Sugandha Mahajan, Dr. Harpreet Bhatia, Dr. Arun Kumar Khajuria, Dr. Isha Sharma, Dr. Pankaj Kumar, Dr. Anjali Sharma, and Dr. Mohd Saleem, graced the occasion. They underscored the critical role that botanical sciences play in shaping the nation's future, emphasizing its impact on environmental sustainability and national development.

Sonamarg to host first ever 3-day national winter sports event from Feb 17

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Tourist resort of Sonamarg is going to host its first ever National level event in Winter sports with 8th National SnowShoe Championship from February 17 to 20, 2024.

The championship would be hosted by J&K SnowShoe Association with active support from Sonamarg Development Authority of Tourism Kashmir and local stakeholders like Hoteliers.

SnowShoe Federation of India which is National governing body of Snow Shoe sport in Country has already granted hosting rights for the Sonamarg and the event is going to witness participation of more than 200 athletes

and officials from 13 to 17 State/Union Territories of India.

Traditionally, it is Gulmarg that has been over the years hosting Winter-sport events and Sonamarg used to be close during winter months.

However, as the Tourist destination has been kept open for the winter season now, various sports association are contemplating on turning Sonamarg into a next Winter-sports destination of J&K.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Sonamarg, Development Authority termed it great beginning with the bright future ahead.

"This year we had started to roll up things by first conducting first ever Ice

Skating and local level SnowShoe events in Sonamarg. Buoyed with that success we are now all set to host our first ever National level Winter sports event in Sonamarg. It will send a positive message all over Country and World about Sonamarg being next winter sport destination and in coming years Sonamarg may turn out as one of the premier winter resorts of Country," CEO SDA said.

"To conduct any level of National sporting event requires support and coordination from one and all. For this event we have got full support from Hoteliers who will be accommodating guest

athletes and officials. Also infrastructure wise, SnowShoe doesn't require mega infrastructure overhaul or development. It requires basic track and few inches of Snow that we already have. In that regard, we expect our first National level Winterport's turning out as huge success," he said.

"The idea is to explore all tourist destinations across Kashmir other than the traditional ones for the benefit of local populace and stakeholders. That is going to help a great deal the locals as well as stakeholders who mostly run out of business during winter season," he said.

SnowShoe Federation of

India President Mir Mudassir said that idea behind granting hosting rights is to help destination in promoting winter tourism.

"The 8th National SnowShoe Championship 2024 is going to witness participation of more than 200 athletes and officials from 13 to 17 State/Union territories. It is going to be big event with competition held in Senior and Junior categories in both men and women sections. The championship is also going to act as selection event for the International SnowShoe Championship scheduled to be held in Dubai, UAE in August-September 2024," he added.

CSIR IIIM conducts farmer interactive workshop under CSIR Floriculture Mission



Raghunandan Singh, Vice Chairman, DDC Kathua and others at a workshop in Kathua.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine, Jammu under CSIR Floriculture Mission organised a farmers interactive workshop on production, crop management and value addition of floricultural crops in coordination with department of agriculture at Kathua on Thursday.

150 farmers from various agrarian zones of Kathua district participated in the programme who were imparted technical hands-on training on scientific cultivation of floricultural crops.

The QPM of high yielding variety of marigold was also distributed to the farmers. The Chief Guest, Raghunandan Singh, Vice Chairman, DDC Kathua while speaking at the event appreciated the outreach of

CSIR-IIIM under the mission for providing technical knowledge and quality inputs for the benefit of the farmers of the district.

He further added that such programmes, create greater awareness about the initiatives of the government that are oriented for farmer welfare.

While addressing the farmers, Dr Zabeer Ahmad, Director CSIR-IIIM informed that CSIR since past more than a decade CSIR has launched many mission programmes for handholding the farmers for their economic prosperity and inclusive growth.

He further informed that with the impactful work done by CSIR in various projects, CSIR tableau will be showcasing its technological accomplishments at the Republic

Day parade this year.

In his address to the participating farmers, Rakesh Minhas, Deputy Commissioner, Kathua assured of all support in conducting skill oriented programmes in value addition of flowers. Tejinder Singh Wazir, member J&K Kisaan Advisory Board who was present at the event appreciated the efforts being made for the development of the floriculture sector in the UT through various activities under the mission and expressed his gratitude to Dr Jitendra Singh, Minister of Science and Technology for his contributions in enhancing the economic status of farmer community.

Dr Shahid Rasool Nodal Scientist of the Mission while emphasizing the need for adoption of advanced scientific

and technological approaches for achieving quality and promising crop yields informed that CSIR Floriculture Mission through its various verticals is actively handholding the farmers of the J&K UT for their enhanced income generation and gainful employment opportunities.

Efforts are made through such trainings to also generate skilled human resource for value addition of floricultural crops to develop different floral products.

Earlier in the programme welcome address was given by Sanjeev Rai Gupta, Chief Agriculture Officer, Kathua who thanked the mission team of CSIR IIIM to organise the event for the benefit of floriculture farmers in Kathua.

In the technical sessions of the workshop, lecture on scientific cultivation of Marigold was delivered by Dr Iqra Farooq Sr. Project Associate, CSIR-IIIM and Dr Vishal Mahajan, Head KVK, Kathua informed the farmers about the use of bio-inoculants in floriculture crop.

Farmers were also given method demonstration for quality nursery production and its management. The event was conducted under the patronage of Dr Zabeer Ahmed Director, CSIR IIIM Jammu.

Nav Matdata Sammelan held at Amar Singh Club in Srinagar

■ SHAKEELA ANDRABI

SRINAGAR: The Bharatiya Janata Party Youth Wing on Thursday organised a live interactive session at Amar Singh Club, here.

This special event was part of the Namo Nav Matdata programme aimed at connecting with the youth and encouraging active participation in the democratic process.

The gathering was attended by hundreds of new voters, who were keen to engage with the Prime Minister of the Namo Nav Matdata programme.



One of the highlights of the occasion was the successful registration of more than 100 new voters, highlighting the event's commitment to promote civic responsibility and ensuring the inclusion of

youth in the democratic fabric of the country. BJP General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul addressed the gathering and discussed the importance of youth involvement in shaping the future of the country.

Ashok Koul emphasized the pivotal role that every new voter plays in influencing the democratic landscape.

He said, the Namo Nav Matdata programme continues to make strides in connecting with the youth and promoting an environment of active political participation.

The Bhartiya Janata Party is dedicated to empowering the next generation of voters, ensuring their voices are heard, and collectively taking the country towards progress, he said.

Republic Day celebrated at K C College of Education



KC College of Education students during R-Day celebration at Jammu on Thursday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Republic Day was celebrated on Thursday at K.C. College of Education. A rally was taken out from the college premises. The participants

including students and staff thronged the lanes of the neighbourhood of college carrying Tirangas and chanting patriotic slogans: 'Bharat Mata ki Jai' and 'Vande Mataram'.

This created an environment of patriotic fervour among the onlookers also.

The participants distributed Tirangas among general public and also went door to door to make people

aware of the patriotic values which has been achieved through sacrifices of our great freedom fighters.

The rally culminated back in the college where all assembled to pay respect to the National Flag unfurled at the rooftop of the college by Dr. Sanjay Tickoo, Principal of the College.

On this occasion a Nukkad Natak was also displayed in the nearby slum area regarding education of girl child and women empowerment.

The programme was convened by Priya Gupta, NSS Programme Officer and Dr. Puja Sharma, Convenor Cultural Club.