

Empowering girls, enriching lives: BBBP revolutionizes J&K



District Samba Convenor Parveen Lata and others with students at drawing contest.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Under the inspiring leadership of J&K UT Convenor Beti Bachao Beti Padao (BBBP) Ritika Trehan, the organization has been a beacon of hope for the girl child in Jammu and Kashmir. With a focus on empowering girls and promoting education, BBBP has been working tirelessly to bridge the gap in far-flung and rural areas. The recent event at Middle School Arazi, Samba, is a testament to the organization's commitment to this cause.

The vibrant drawing competition organized by District Samba Convenor Parveen Lata not only sparked young creativity but also highlighted the immense potential of girls

in these areas. The heart-warming prize distribution and pen giveaway that followed spread smiles among the little ones, reinforcing the message that every girl matters. The enthusiasm and talent displayed by the students were truly commendable, and it's evident that BBBP's efforts are yielding positive results.

Ritika Trehan's vision for BBBP is to reach every corner of Jammu and Kashmir, empowering girls and promoting education as the key to a brighter future. Her leadership has been instrumental in driving the organization's mission forward, and her passion for empowering girls is inspiring a generation of young women to dream big.

By focusing on the girl child, Ritika Trehan and her team are challenging societal norms and paving the way for a more inclusive and equitable society.

The impact of BBBP's work is evident in the smiles of the girls who are now more confident, more empowered, and more determined to shape their own destinies. As BBBP continues to expand its outreach, it's clear that the organization is making a tangible difference in the lives of girls across Jammu and Kashmir.

Under Ritika Trehan's leadership, BBBP is indeed scripting a new narrative for the girl child in the region - one of hope, empowerment, and limitless possibilities.

Radiance 2025: APS BD Bari celebrates Annual Day of Secondary Wing

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Army Public School BD Bari celebrated its Annual Day for the Secondary Wing with great enthusiasm and magnificence under the inspiring theme "Kshitij: Rising to Radiance - Where Dreams Meet Destiny." The event showcased the school's unwavering commitment to holistic education, creativity, discipline, and value-based learning, while highlighting how students are nurtured to transform dreams into meaningful achievements.

The occasion was graced by Brig Naveen D. Prabhu, Chairman, Army Public School BD Bari, as the Chief Guest, and Sudha Prabhu, Chairperson, FWO, HQ 92 Infantry Brigade, as the Guest of Honour. They were accompanied by Lt Col Kanwar Rohit Singh, SO APS BD Bari, and Dr. Neeta Rawal, Principal of the school. The programme witnessed the enthusiastic presence of senior officers, parents, teachers, students, and other distinguished guests.

The evening commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, symbolizing knowledge and enlight-



Students presenting Punjabi dance during Annual Day celebration.

enment. The cultural journey unfolded with Cosmic Tandav - Rhythm of Creation, followed by the presentation of the Annual Report by Principal Dr. Neeta Rawal, highlighting the school's academic, co-curricular, and infrastructural achievements. A series of captivating performances followed, including Bollywood Beats, Step Up and Shine emphasizing education as a transformative force, and Grace of the Ancients, a soulful blend of classical dance and devotion. Christmas-themed dances added festive cheer, while Footprints of Glory traced the school's proud journey since its establishment in 1994.

The highlight of the

evening, Kshitij - Rising to Radiance, paid a stirring tribute to the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force, evoking a strong sense of patriotism. Other notable presentations included Route to Fitness showcasing yoga, Symphony of Wonders instrumental medley, The Valour Dance, The Soul of Sufiyana, and the vibrant Virsa-E-Punjab.

Meritorious students were felicitated by the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour for their outstanding achievements.

In his address, Brig Naveen D. Prabhu applauded the students, teachers, and staff for an exceptional display of teamwork and creativity. He emphasized the four pillars of effective learning-

dedicated teachers, a conducive environment, positive company, and real-life experiences-and encouraged students to dream big, work hard, and uphold strong values.

The programme concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by Priya Charak, Headmistress, APS BD Bari, marking a memorable and inspiring celebration.

Attestation Parade of Territorial Army conducted at Kupwara

STATE TIMES NEWS

KUPWARA: The Attestation Parade for the new recruits of the Territorial Army (TA) was conducted with full military decorum and solemnity at Kupwara marking a proud and momentous occasion for the young soldiers, their parents and the region alike. The ceremony symbolised the formal induction of young recruits into the Kupwara Terriers of the Territorial Army, reaffirming their oath to serve the nation with honour, integrity, and selfless dedication.

Senior Army officers, civil dignitaries, families of the recruits, and members of the local community witnessed the parade.

The event showcased immaculate drill, discipline, and high morale of the soldiers, reflecting the professionalism and preparedness of the Territorial Army. Addressing the troops, the Reviewing Officer Lt Gen Prashant Srivastava, GOC 15 Corps congratulated the young soldiers and highlighted the vital role of the TA as a strong pillar of National security, especially in challenging environment like Kupwara.

The Recruitment drive for



Reviewing Officer Lt Gen Prashant Srivastava, GOC 15 Corps congratulating the young soldier.

TA Bn commenced in Nov 2024 under the aegis of Vajr Division after a gap of five years. The drive witnessed unprecedented participation from the youth of Kupwara & Bandipora. Finally, 313 aspirants were selected for the rigorous training at Jammu and Kashmir Regimental Centre, Jabalpur. The Attestation Parade is the culmination of successful military training of those selected individuals.

The Attestation Parade had a significant and reassuring impact on the local population. The presence of the Territorial Army and

the conduct of such a ceremonial event reinforced the sense of security and stability in the region. Residents expressed pride in seeing local youth joining the Armed Forces, viewed it as a symbol of hope, patriotism, and constructive engagement for the younger generation.

The event also strengthened the bond between the Army and the civilian population. Interactions between soldiers, officers, and locals fostered mutual respect and trust, reinforcing the Army's image as a force for protection, peace, and development.

BJP J&K UT Minority Morcha observes Veer Baal Diwas at Bahu Fort Gurudwara

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The BJP J&K UT Minority Morcha today observed Veer Baal Diwas with deep reverence and devotion at Gurudwara Yaadgaar Mahant Bachitar Singh, Bahu Fort, Jammu.

A large gathering of the Sikh Sangat assembled to pay heartfelt tributes to the four Sahibzadas of Guru Gobind Singh Ji, who sacrificed their young lives for the protection of humanity, religious freedom, and the values of Sanatan Dharma. The solemn occasion reflected unity, gratitude, and remembrance of the supreme sacrifices made by the Sahibzadas.

The religious proceedings began with soulful Shabad Kirtan by the Ragi Jatha led by Bhai Daljit Singh and his group, filling the Gurudwara premises with devotion and spiritual warmth. Langar was also served to the Sangat, sym-



Ragi Jatha reciting Shabad Kirtan during Veer Bal Diwas programme at Bahu Fort Gurudwara.

bolizing equality, humility, and community service, which are core values of Sikhism.

Prominent BJP leaders who attended the programme included BJP General Secretary (Organisation) Ashok Koul, BJP J&K UT President and Member of Parliament Rajya Sabha Sat Sharma, BJP JKT UT Minority Morcha President Ranjodh Singh Nalwa, Jammu South District President Naresh Singh

Jasrotia, Jammu District President Rajesh Gupta, Poonch District President Gurdeep Singh, Advocate Jasmeet Kour Pandey, General Secretary of BJP State Minority Morcha, and Surjit Singh, Parbhari BJP Minority Morcha Jammu District.

Speaking on the occasion, Ashok Koul highlighted the role of historical figures who stood for truth and justice during the time of Guru Gobind

Singh Ji. He spoke about Kirpa Ram, later known as Bhai Kirpa Singh, a Kashmiri Pandit who led a delegation of Kashmiri Brahmins to Guru Tegh Bahadur seeking protection from forced conversions and later became a Sikh and martyr at Chamkaur.

He also remembered Moti Ram Mehra, who bravely provided milk to the imprisoned Sahibzadas and Mata Gujri in the freezing Thanda Burj, and Diwan Todar Mal, who

arranged their cremation at Fatehgarh Sahib despite great hardship. He further mentioned the compassionate role of the Nawab of Malerkotla, whose actions showed humanity beyond religious lines.

Sat Sharma praised the contribution of the Sikh community in India's freedom struggle and nation-building, stating that the courage of the Sahibzadas continues to inspire generations to stand for truth and righteousness.

Ranjodh Singh said the Sikh community is grateful to Prime Minister Modi for taking Veer Baal Diwas to every corner of the country, making the world aware of the supreme sacrifice of the Chaar Sahibzadas.

He added that schools, colleges, and universities across India have organised programmes on this day, making it a source of inspiration for the younger generation.

Abrogation of Art 370 ended decades of separatism, stagnation in J&K: Dr. Pardeep

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Media Incharge, J&K BJP, said that Article 370 reminds the people of Jammu & Kashmir of the grave injustice inflicted by this provision for over seven decades.

Dr. Pardeep said that the abrogation of Article 370 marked the end of a draconian, discriminatory, and regressive system that kept Jammu & Kashmir isolated from the national mainstream and deprived many sections of rights and opportunities to lead dignified life.

He said the worst sufferers under Article 370 were West Pakistan Refugees, Gorkhas, Valmiki Samaj members, women, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and other marginalized communities, who were denied citizenship rights, property ownership, and equal opportunities despite being Indian citizens. He highlighted that women of J&K lost permanent residency rights upon marrying outside the state, calling it a blatant example of gender discrimination incompatible with democratic values.

Dr. Pardeep quoted Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who emphasized that Article 370 was dismantled to ensure welfare, dignity, and justice for the people.

He further stated that Article 370 obstructed governance and transparency, as laws like the Right to Information Act and Central Vigilance Commission had limited applicability, allowing corruption, dynastic politics, and lack of accountability to flourish.

Dr. Pardeep asserted that Article 370 was misused to fuel a sense of separatism and terrorism, providing Pakistan an excuse to interfere in India's internal affairs. Recurrent strikes, unrest, and curfews



crippled daily life, damaged tourism, and curtailed freedoms. Paying tribute to Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookherjee, he recalled his sacrifice opposing "Ek Desh mein Do Vidhaan, Do Pradhaan, Do Nishaan," a vision later carried forward by Atal Bihari Vajpayee and realized under Prime Minister Modi.

Susashan Diwas reminds Atal Ji's lifelong commitment to transparency, people-centric governance: Col Mahan



STATE TIMES NEWS

BANI: A Susashan Diwas function was held today at the Bharatiya Janata Party office in Bani to commemorate the centenary celebrations of legendary leader and former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The programme was organised by the BJP Team Bani and was chaired by Col Mahan Singh (Retd), DDC Chairman, who also served as the chief spokesperson on the occasion. "The event highlighted the importance of good governance and paid tribute to Atal Ji's lasting contribution to the nation.

Several senior BJP leaders and workers attended the programme, including former MLA Jeevan Lal, Thakur Dass, BJP General Secretary Pahari Zila, Moti Ram, District President ST Morcha, Yubkaran Singh, District President Kisan Morcha, Kajor Rajput, District President Mahila Morcha, Mela Ram and Milkhi, both former ZEOs, veteran leader Uttam Chand Goswami, and many other party karyakartas. Col Mahan Singh (Retd) said that Atal Bihari Vajpayee was not only a great statesman but also a visionary who believed in inclu-

sive growth and national unity. He stated, "Susashan Diwas reminds us of Atal Ji's lifelong commitment to transparency, accountability, and a people-centric system of governance. His leadership laid the foundation for a responsive and responsible administration in India." He further added that good governance must always focus on the welfare of the common citizen, which was the core of Atal Ji's political philosophy.

Former MLA Jeevan Lal, while addressing the gathering, praised the Central Government for its initiatives aimed at improving transparency and citizen engagement. He said, "Through Digital India and the MyGov platform, the Central government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has empowered people to directly connect with governance and access services in a transparent and efficient manner."

Div Com exhorts youth to channelize energies towards sports, literature, performing arts

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar on Friday attended the 'Dastaan-e-Mic': A Landmark Open Mic Event for Youthful Expression organised by Directorate of Youth Services and Sports here at Bahu Plaza.

The historic venue echoed with the powerful voices of J&K's youth at the first-of-its-kind event and a vibrant initiative to foster creative expression and youth engagement.

Speaking on the occasion, the Divisional Commissioner congratulated the Directorate of YSS for organizing this ground-breaking event. He highlighted the need for organizing more such innovative programs to provide an encourag-

ing stage to the youth, who are brimming with untapped talent and perspectives. He emphasized that initiatives like Dastaan-e-Mic are crucial for building confidence and giving a significant platform to every voice that deserves to be heard. The Divisional Commissioner exhorted the youth to channelize their energies towards sports, literary and performing arts- inspiring the youngsters to lead a happy and healthy life - free from all social evils.

"Such unprecedented youth engagement initiatives shall be organised at the District levels also to promote the local art, culture, heritage and folk traditions among the younger generations," he stressed.

The Director General YSS, in her address, extended a warm



Div Com Jammu, Ramesh Kumar lighting ceremonial lamp.

welcome to the Chief Guest, participants and the audience, stating, "Dastaan-e-Mic is our commitment to listening. It is a platform built on the belief that every young person in J&K has a story worth telling and a voice worth hearing." She appreciated the participants for their courage and creativity in shar-

ing their authentic expressions.

The event offered a vibrant stage to young artists for showcasing their passion and talents in Dogri, Urdu and English poetry; Singing, folk music and storytelling. The Open Mic was a tapestry of diverse artistic expressions, featuring captivating poetry by artists like Akhil

Brahmann, Paras Angral, Anup Kumar, Deepankar Sharma and Saddam Hussain Kafeel, who wove emotions into eloquent couplets. The stage also resonated with powerful poetry from Saqib Wani, Pankaj Kumar, Sheikh Masood Hamid, Sayed Rizwan, Kriti Mahotra, Simran Bharti, Ahmad Irfan, Iran Shareef and Ajay Singh, each presenting original verses that ranged from personal introspection to social commentary. The art of storytelling was masterfully presented by Mukhtar Ahmed Madni and Ishwar Kumar, who held the audience spellbound with their narratives. The program further diversified with melodic singing by Salmar Najar and a dynamic fusion of singing and rap by Hai Singh.

The event was further elevated by distinguished guest performers who lent their stature to the cause, including the lyrical prowess of RJ Aryan and Yogeshwar Singh, the literary compositions of poetess and lecturer Sushma Rani, the evocative words of writer Sushant Sabharwal and a unique performance by G One, a singer-rapper who also serves as a policeman symbolizing the multifaceted talents within the community. As a token of appreciation and encouragement, all participants were honored with trophies and certificates by the dignitaries.

Senior officials, staff from the Directorate of YSS and locals, school children and a large number of youth from across the UT were present.

Zamin Foundation, AYUSH Deptt Jammu hold Free Medical Camp in Block Dansal

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Demonstrating a steadfast commitment to community health, the Zamin Foundation on Friday organized a free medical camp in Block Dansal, Jammu.

Under the guidance of Director AYUSH Dr. Suresh Sharma and the supervision of District AYUSH Officer Dr. Vandana Dogra a free medical camp organized at Shiv Mandir Dansal, Block Dansal, Jammu by Dr Pallvi Dutta MO GAD Chhurma, Dr Dimple MO AAM Marh Drabi and Ramesh Kumar Head Pharmacist in collaboration with Zamin Foundation, Chairman Sheikh Idress Ahmad, Director Sahil Singh Wazir, MK Rana, Sudesh Singh and the Dansal team led by Raj Ali and Mohd. Arif and local people Pyare Lal (Sarpanch), Mohd Aslam, Naresh Khajuria, Anmol



Zamin Foundation and AYUSH Deptt Jammu officials at a medical camp.

Sharma, Mohd Raffiq, Mohd Abas, Mohd Ashraf, Rajath Seth, Sobat Ali, Mohd Saleem, Rahul Sharma, Mohd Saleem Wani, Burhan Bhat, Chamel Singh, Shabeer Ahmed. The camp provided a wide array of complimentary medical services, including free AYUSH medicine distribution, free health check up, general physician consultations, specialized check-ups, and diagnostic tests. Reflecting the

Foundation's comprehensive approach to health, services integrated both allopathic and Ayurvedic medical systems. Around 323 patients received free consultations and necessary medicines, with special arrangements for check-ups related to blood pressure, diabetes, and general wellness.

The event highlights the impactful results possible through partnerships between non-profit organiza-

tions and government bodies. By leveraging their respective strengths and resources, the organizers ensured that quality healthcare reached a broad segment of the community. This initiative aligns with the Zamin Foundation's broader mission in the health sector: Collaborative initiative brings essential healthcare services to the community, underscoring a commitment to accessible and holistic well-being.