

# Impressive Shobha Yatra organized on eve of Maha Shivratri



Glimpses of Shobha Yatra being taken out in Jammu ahead of Maha Shivratri on Tuesday. (Pics by Ashok Anand).

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: On the eve of Maha Shivratri Festival an impressive Shobha Yatra (Shiv Barat) was taken out in Jammu city. Shri Ranbireswar Ji Mandir Welfare Committee (SRMWC) with the active cooperation of Jammu and Kashmir Dharmarth Trust

and Jammunities has organized this Shobha Yatra in Old Jammu City. Mahant of the Temple Rishi Ban (Chairman SRMWC) lead this Shobha Yatra. At around 3.30 PM this Shobha Yatra has started from Shri Ranbireswar Ji Temple and passed through all main Bazaars of the old

city viz. Indira Chowk, Hari Market, Raghunath Ji Bazaar Chowk, Raghunath Ji Bazar, City Chowk, Old Hospital Road, Purani Mandi, Link Road, Jain Bazaar, Pacca Danga, Moti Bazaar, Parade Chowk and will finally culminated at Shri Ranbireswar Ji Temple. Many social reli-

gious organizations viz. Dewan Mandir Natak Samaj Mandli, Hudh Mata Trisandhya Committee Jammu Branch, Nat Manch, Akhil Bhartiya Dharam Prachar Sewa Samiti, Asaram Babu Ashram Bhagwati Nagar, Jagdipak Sudesh Memorial Society Jain Bazar, Trinetra Dhari

Shiv Shambhu Seva Dal Parade, Best Item Group, Manish Musical Group, Shishu Kala Kendra Kanji House has participated in this Shobha Yatra and presented colourful Jhankies. Artists of Band parties sing Devotional songs and made atmosphere ShivMay. Trader organizations of old Jammu

city has decorated their markets with gates, bunting, lights to welcome Shiv Barat. Distt. Admn. of Jammu has made all elaborate arrangements for the success of this Shobha Yatra. SRMWC members who took part in this Shobha Yatra were Onkar Sharma (Nandi Ji), President,

Rajkumar Gupta Sr. Vice President, Suneet Raina (Vice President), Vishal Chopra (General Secretary), Amit Gupta, Advocate Jyoti Sarup Misra, Advocate Kapil Sharma, Mandeep Sharma, Anubhav Suri, Deepak Kumar, Dr. Sunny Gupta, Rajinder Gupta and others.

Dignitaries who took part in the Shobha yatra and performed special puja were Yudhveer Sethi MLA Vinay Gupta Distt. President BJP Jammu Suneet Raina Ex corporator Vivek Shekar SP City R.S. Langleh President JK Dharmarth Trust Ashok Sharma Secretary JK Dharmarth trust and others.

## Gender sensitisation workshop organized at JU

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Centre for Women's Studies, University of Jammu today organized a Gender Sensitization workshop for the PG Students and scholars of the Department of Punjabi and Home Science, University of Jammu.

Prof. Baljeet Kour, Department of Punjabi, University of Jammu, welcomed all the participants and congratulated the Centre for organising such a workshop on important issues. She emphasized that gender sensitivity plays very important role in fostering environment where women feel fearless and dignified. Prof. Savita Nayyar, Director, Centre for Women's Studies, was the key speaker at the event, where she discussed about number of gender-related



JU officials during the workshop on Tuesday.

Sensitization and Legal framework". She began her presentation by explaining the meaning of gender sensitization and its importance. She said gender sensitization means, recognizing and respecting differences without discrimination. It's not just about women's rights but also about fairness, respect and dignity of all irrespective of gender. Further, she discussed about number of gender-related

issues, focusing on how women are positioned in society as a result of deeply embedded patriarchal systems that require change. Prof. Nayyar also explained that individual socialization is crucial in forming views of gender, emphasizing the important need of comprehending how socialization affects attitudes and behaviors toward gender. She emphasized that a mix of innate tendencies,

taught actions, cultural standards, and individual experiences shape this view. She also gave detailed presentation regarding different constitutional provisions and legal protections under specific laws that are available to women and stressed upon the awareness regarding these laws and their stronger enforcement. Earlier Dr. Saranjit Kaur after welcoming the partici-

pants explained the motive behind the conduct of the workshop. She explained that through these workshops the centre is creating awareness regarding gender equality, breaking stereotypes and promoting inclusivity by challenging biases and encouraging respectful behavior among the masses. She also emphasized how the young students as future leaders can be the change makers and play important role in shaping a more equal and inclusive society.

Large number of faculty members and students from both the departments very enthusiastically participated in the workshop and asked various questions which were answered to their satisfaction. Dr. Pritam Singh, Dr. Harpreet Kour, Dr. Harsimran Singh, faculty members, Department of Punjabi were also present. Dr. Saranjit Kaur, faculty member from Centre for Women's Studies conducted and coordinated the program and also presented the formal vote of thanks.

## Dr Darakhshan leads Mat-Laying at Mosque at Ziyarat Baba Roshan Shah Upgradation of facilities at Masjids & Shrines is part of transformation plan of JKWB: Andrabi



Chairperson J&K Waqf Board, Dr. Syed Darakhshan Andrabi laying Mat at Mosque of Ziyarat Baba Roshan Shah at Gumat.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Chairperson of the Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board, Dr. Syed Darakhshan Andrabi on Tuesday led the new Mat-Laying of the historic Mosque at Ziyat Baba Roshan Shah at Gumat Jammu.

The Board during the past two years has layed new mat-

tings at numerous prominent shrines and mosques throughout J&K replacing the old worn-out and shabby mattings as a part of the Facility Upgradation Plan of the Board.

The locals praised the move by Waqf Chairperson for his personal supervision and involvement in such transfor-

mative moves which people have witnessed for the first time in their life.

Dr Andrabi paid obeisance at the shrine of Peer Baba Roshan Shah Sahib and prayed for the peace and prosperity of all.

Later speaking to media, Dr Andrabi said that she was happy that the Board arranged new matting for their historic mosque for the first time ever.

"Upgradation of the facilities & infrastructure at Masjids & Shrines is part of the transformation plan of J&K Waqf Board and we are committed to continue this mission," said Syed Darakhshan.

Waqf Board CEO Zaheer Kaifi (JKAS) and Administrator for Jammu Abid Hussain (JKAS) along with other officers and officials were present on the occasion.

## Shakti Udghosh Foundation launches 'Nasha Mukh Seemayein' Campaign

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: In a bold and inspiring initiative ahead of International Women's Day, the Shakti Udghosh Foundation (SUF) held a press conference today, announcing the launch of its Nasha Mukh Seemayein campaign.

The campaign will feature an all-women motorbike expedition, covering 800 km from Kathua to Poonch between March 1 and 4, with the goal of raising awareness about drug abuse and trafficking in border areas. The press conference was led by Preeti Choudhary, Founder of SUF, who emphasized the urgent need to combat drug smuggling along Jammu & Kashmir's borders, which poses a significant threat to the youth.

"This ride is not just about covering distances; it is about touching lives, raising



Founder of SUF, Preeti Choudhary briefing media.

awareness, and mobilizing communities to fight drug trafficking," she stated.

With the theme "Accelerating Action Against Drugs and Protecting Our Youth," the expedition will bring together women bikers from across India, including Chennai, Vijayawada, and Punjab, alongside local riders.

The participants will travel through some of the most

remote and challenging terrains of Jammu & Kashmir, engaging with communities at each stop to promote a drug-free future and encourage vigilance against illegal activities.

Divya Sharma, Coordinator of Shakti Udghosh Foundation, highlighted the foundation's long-standing commitment to social change, women's empowerment, and youth

welfare. "With this campaign, we aim to fuel the mission of a drug-free society by spreading awareness and inspiring action at every level," she said.

The ActionAid J&K Chapter has also joined hands with SUF to support this impactful initiative. The collaboration is expected to enhance the reach and effectiveness of the campaign, bringing together stakeholders from various sectors to fight against drug smuggling and ensure a secure future for the youth of Jammu & Kashmir.

As the all-women biker expedition prepares to set out on its journey, the Shakti Udghosh Foundation has reaffirmed its commitment to creating lasting change, empowering communities, and ensuring that the voices against drug abuse grow stronger than ever before.

## District Level Sports Meet at Shri Ram School



Management along with students during the sports meet.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Nations Development Association, in collaboration with MyBharat NYK Jammu, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, successfully organized a District Level Sports Meet at The Shri Ram Universal School. The event witnessed spirited competition among young athletes, fostering sportsmanship and unity.

The event featured various sports competitions, showcasing the talent and dedication of the participants. The participants of the Meet were Barjani Youth Club, Rangarh Club, Rahian, Khanwal Club, SRC Club and The Shri Ram Universal School. The winners in different categories were Race: Jatin Kumar; Rope Skipping: Lakshmi Shukla, Shot Put: Gautam, Kho-Kho: The Shri Ram Universal School, Badminton: Priya Choudhary and Prananya Tripathi, Volleyball: Barjani Club.

The event was graced by the presence of esteemed guests who encouraged the participants with their motivational words and support. Chief Guest was Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, MLA Rangarh and Former Minister for Health & Medical Education J&K. Guest of Honour was Sanjeev Gupta, Chairman, The Shri Ram Universal School. Special Guest was Darshan

Singh BDC.

Additionally, the event was attended by distinguished guests including Former Sarpanch Bhagwaan Singh and Tajinder Singh, Former Vice Chairman Municipal Committee Rangarh Anil Gupta, President Rangarh Nancy Choudhary, and President Sawankha Naveen Sharma.

Sushil Singh Charak, Founder cum Chief Functionary of the Nations Development Association, served as the principal organizer of the event. He expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the management of The Shri Ram Universal School for their unwavering support and for providing excellent facilities that contributed to the success of the event.

The Sports Meet saw enthusiastic participation from various clubs and schools, contributing to a lively and energetic atmosphere. The Shri Ram Universal School played a crucial role as the Venue Partner, ensuring the seamless execution of the event.

The successful conclusion of the District Level Sports Meet underscored the importance of sports in youth development and community engagement. The organizers extended their gratitude to all participants, dignitaries, and supporters for making the event a grand success.

## Vivek Bali greets people on Mahashivratri

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Vivek Bali, prominent political leader on Tuesday greeted people on the auspicious occasion of Mahashivratri, which is celebrated by Kashmiri Pandits as Hairath.

In his congratulatory message to the people, Bali said that this festival symbolizes the values of piety, symbolizes the values of piety, brotherhood and harmony, which are the hallmark of our glorious and cultural ethos.

Wishing the people a happy Mahashivratri, he hoped that the munificence of Shivratri would this year fulfill the wishes and aspirations of the people of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

Other leaders Dilawar Singh, Raj kumar and Bashir Ahmed Shah while greeting the people on this holy occasion of Maha Shivratri said that observation and celebrations of holy occasions and festivals in collectively and togetherness adds colour to the joyful events.

"Hairath is the important part of Kashmiriyat and denotes historical bonds of love and amity between Hindus and Muslims," they added.

These leaders also prayed for peace and betterment of the UT and the Country on the occasion.

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