

49th birth anniversary of Guru Ravidass celebrated with devotion at Upper Gumat

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU : The 649th birth anniversary of Guru Ravidass was celebrated with great religious fervour and enthusiasm by Guru Ravi Dass Sabha, Upper Gumat, Jammu. Hundreds of devotees from across the Union Territory gathered to pay homage to the revered saint and social reformer, remembering his timeless teachings of equality, unity, and brotherhood.

The programme commenced with devotional hymns and recitations of Guru Ji's verses, creating a spiritually uplifting atmosphere. A major highlight of the celebration was a series of vibrant cultural performances presented by students of Savitri Bhai Phule School. Through devotional songs, and dance performances, the students beautifully depicted the life, philosophy, and teachings of Guru Ravidass, earning heartfelt apprecia-



MLA Yudhvir Sethi and others at 649th birth anniversary of Guru Ravidass celebration in Jammu.

tion from the audience. Their performances emphasized the Guru's message of social harmony and the eradication of discrimination.

Yudhvir Sethi, who graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, paid rich tributes to Guru Ravidass and highlighted his enduring relevance in contemporary society. He stated that Guru Ji's teachings inspire humanity to rise above caste, creed, and social divisions, and work collectively for peace and progress. He lauded the

Sabha for organizing the grand celebration and for consistently promoting the values propagated by the great saint. Central Sabha Adhoc Committee Convenor, Er. R. C. Bhasin, in his address, underscored the importance of spreading Guru Ravidass Ji's teachings among the younger generation. He said that Guru Ji envisioned a society based on equality and justice, and it is the collective responsibility of society to uphold these ideals. He appreciated the efforts of the Sabha members for organizing

the event in a disciplined and devotional manner.

On the occasion, the Sabha felicitated several distinguished personalities for their contributions to society and the community. Those honoured included Balbir Ram Rattan, former Vice Chairman; Sham Bassan, General Secretary of Bahu Fort Guru Ravidass Sabha; Ashok Gandhi, National Joint Secretary of British Ravidassia Heritage Foundation; renowned singer Raj Kumar Heer; and others.

Prominent among those present were Badri Nath, Chairman of the Sabha; Mangat Ram Atri, President; Vice Presidents Master Jia Lal and Jugal Kishore; General Secretary Adarsh Jathiar, along with other esteemed members and devotees. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks and distribution of prasad, marking the celebration as a grand success filled with devotion and community spirit.

Balwant Thakur's Hindi play 'AAG' staged

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Balwant Thakur's Hindi play 'AAG' staged here today under Natrang's weekly theatre series 'Sunday Theatre' at Rani Park, Jammu under the direction of Neeraj Kant. The play showcases how the Drugmenace is ruining the generations and thus crippling the developing nations. The youth of the country, the most energetic human resource of the country, sometimes unknowingly slip into the world of drug-addicts.

The play was not based on one story-line but as an experiment multiple stories were woven by the playwright in one theme focusing the spread of drug menace like a fire, taking the toll of the important work force of the country. In a sequence a young boy is shown struggling for a good company after his passing of the school



Natrag artists performing in a play.

and entry in the college. He is isolated for not being the consumer of intoxications. All around him treat him like a child which really frustrates him and to prove that he has grown-up as a young man now, he finds the easiest way and demonstrates his coming of age by consuming a variety of intoxications. In another sequence a rural inhabitant particularly the men-folk is shown drowned in the menace of alcohol. All the miseries of the village like

poverty, domestic violence, and ailments are attributed to the growing consumption of alcohol in the village. In a sequence the daily routine of a villager is shown who consumes the whole of his daily earnings for alcohol. Having drunk he has lost his way home. By the time a local escorts him to his place where in the middle of the night the drunken man starts beating his sleeping wife and kids for not receiving him on his arrival.

When the escort intervenes to save the poor lady and children, he is blamed for having bad intentions towards his wife. This fight further messes up when a drunken man after losing senses damages his household property as well. The play unfolds a series of incidents where people influenced by drugs, alcohol and other intoxications create hell for themselves as well as for others. Many precious lives are being charred in this fire of drug menace which is to be fought unitedly. Through this play Balwant Thakur has tried to make an appeal to save mankind from this dragon. Actors who outshined in their respective performances and left an impact of their acting included Neeraj Kant, Pawan Verma, Vishal Sharma, Aadesh Dhar, Kartik Kumar and Kananpreet Kaur.

DHS Jammu undertakes comprehensive review of Health facilities in Rajouri District

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar, Director Health Services Jammu, conducted an official visit to Rajouri district to review the functioning of health institutions and assess the quality of healthcare services being delivered to the public.

During the visit, a comprehensive review meeting was convened at Community Health Centre Thanamandi of Block Darhal, which was attended by Incharge Medical Officers, Block management unit, District Resource Persons, BAC, MLHPs and Nodal Officers of various health programmes.

Detailed deliberations were held on the implementation of National Health Programmes, service delivery indicators, infrastructure status, manpower deployment, availability of essential drugs and proper maintenance of records.

Block Medical Officer, Dr. Ruksana delivered a detailed PowerPoint presentation highlighting the performance of the block, achievements under various schemes, gaps identified and the action plan for further strengthening healthcare services.

Director Health emphasized strengthening patient centric services, ensuring discipline and accountability, maintaining updated registers and enhancing monitor-



DHS Jammu, Dr. Abdul Hamid Zarga during visit to Rajouri district hospitals.

ing mechanisms at all levels. He directed all concerned officers and officials to work with dedication and professionalism to further improve healthcare delivery in the district.

The meeting was also attended by the Divisional Coordinator, ASHA & Community Processes, Jonson Chandail along with District Resource Person, Romesh Kumar who actively participated in the review proceedings.

Local residents also expressed gratitude to the Director Health Services Jammu for visiting the remote area and personally reviewing healthcare facilities, appreciating the department's commitment towards improving medical services in the district.

51 Saint literature works including "Trikamsaheb" launched on eve of International Mother Language Day

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: On the eve of International Mother Language Day, a historic ceremony celebrating saint literature was held at the grand auditorium of the National Forensic Sciences University in Gandhinagar. Organized by the Gujarat Sahitya Akademi, the event reflected a powerful confluence of spirituality, folk tradition, and literary heritage in Gujarat.

Under the Akademi's "Bhajan-Bhavan" series, 51 books were launched simultaneously, each dedicated to the spiritual experiences, poetic works, and life stories of 51 renowned saint-poets and women saint-poets of Gujarat. The collective release of these volumes from a single platform marked a golden milestone in the history of Gujarati literature. More than a pub-



lication ceremony, the event symbolized reverence for the mother tongue, pride in the saint tradition, and the reaffirmation of cultural consciousness.

Among the significant works released was "Trikamsaheb," authored by Dr. Mukundchandra Nagar, columnist of "Vedvani" and writer for the daily Rajya Samachar. This research-based volume explores the life philosophy, spiritual discipline, social vision, and teachings of Saint Trikam

Saheb, a revered saint of Kutch associated with the Ravibhan tradition of the Kabir sect in Gujarat. The book presents an analytical study of his spiritual insights, message of social harmony, and the philosophical depth of his poetic compositions. It also connects his teachings with contemporary social challenges, emphasizing that saint literature continues to offer moral guidance in modern times.

The books were formally released by the Chief Minister of Gujarat, Bhupendra Patel, State Minister Dr. Jayram Gamit, President of the Akademi Bhagyesh Jha, General Secretary Dr. Jayendra Singh Jadav, and noted poet Madhav Ramanuj. The dignitaries described saint literature as the soul of Indian culture and stressed the importance of preserving and promoting the mother tongue.

Shiv Sena (UBT) condemns move to link salaries with NOCs in Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU : The Jammu and Kashmir unit of Shiv Sena (UBT) has strongly criticised the district administration's reported decision to link government employees' salaries with electricity and water "No Objection Certificates" (NOCs), terming the move as mental harassment and a violation of employees' constitutional rights. Addressing reporters at the party's state office, Shiv Sena (UBT) J&K chief Manish Sahni accused the administration of adopting a double standard. He alleged that several government departments have pending electricity bills amounting to crores of rupees and questioned why action was not being taken against those defaulting departments. According to him, targeting junior employees by withholding salaries was unfair and unjustified.

Sahni further argued that withholding salaries directly violates Article 21 of the Constitution, which guarantees the Right to Life. He stated that the Supreme Court has, in multiple judgments, recognised salary as a basic necessity for subsistence and maintained that it cannot be withheld without strong legal justification. He added that non-payment of electricity and



Shiv Sena (UBT) J&K chief Manish Sahni talking to reporters.

water bills is a civil matter, and departments have the option to impose penalties or disconnect services, but withholding salaries without a departmental inquiry or suspension raises serious legal concerns.

The party leader also appealed to the Lieutenant Governor to intervene in the matter, urging authorities to prevent what he described as administrative arbitrariness and to protect employees from unnecessary mental stress.

60 families of war veterans honoured by Tushar trust

Captain Tushar Mahajan's 10th Martyrdom Day observed with solemn tributes in Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Captain Tushar Mahajan Memorial Trust solemnly observed the 10th martyrdom day of braveheart Captain Tushar Mahajan at Government Women College, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, to pay rich tributes to the valiant Army officer who laid down his life in the line of duty.

The commemorative event witnessed the presence of trust members Asha Gupta, Master Jia Lal and Jugal Kishore; General Secretary Adarsh Jathiar, along with other esteemed members and devotees. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks and distribution of prasad, marking the celebration as a grand success filled with devotion and community spirit.



Sushri Shagun Parihar MLA Kishtwar was chief guest on the occasion while Megna Garish, Major Gen sunita Kapoor, Col R.K Sharma, Col V. K Sahi, Lt CDR Parvin Tulpule, parents of martyr Captain Pranjal, Captain Shubham, Flt Left Abhimanyu Wife of martyr paratrooper Arvind and Zorawer Singh Jamwal chairman team Jammu were guest of honours on the occasion.

Floral tributes were paid to the martyr amid patriotic fervour and emotional remembrance. Speaking on

the occasion Parihar and other speakers highlighted Captain Tushar Mahajan's courage, dedication, and unwavering commitment to safeguarding the nation's sovereignty. She emphasized the importance of keeping alive the legacy of martyrs by inspiring the younger generation with their stories of bravery and sacrifice.

A special highlight of the programme was the felicitation of more than 60 families of Army martyrs hailing from different parts of country. The families were honoured for their

immense sacrifice and resilience, receiving heartfelt appreciation from the organizers and attendees. The audience expressed deep gratitude for the courage of the families who continue to inspire the nation with their strength and patriotism.

Students of the college presented patriotic performances, creating an atmosphere filled with pride and remembrance. The event concluded with a pledge to uphold the ideals of patriotism, unity, and service to the nation.

The Chairman Tushar Memorial Trust Dev Raj Gupta highlighted activities of trust and reiterated its commitment to preserving Captain Tushar Mahajan's legacy and continuing initiatives that promote patriotism and support the families of martyrs.

Over 2,400 benefit from Free Health Screening Camp

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Narsingh Seva Kendra organized a massive free disease screening camp at the ancient Panjvaktra Mahadev Mandir, popularly known as Rupaye Wala Mandir, in Jammu on Sunday. The camp witnessed an overwhelming response, drawing nearly 2,400 people from areas including Panjirthi, Panjvaktra Road, Mohalla Darugiran, Partap Garh, Kanak Mandi, Raghunath Pura, Talab Khatikan, Residency Road, Jullaka Mohalla, Jain Bazar, Purani Mandi, Lakhdata Bazar, Mohalla Kaleeth, and City Chowk.

The initiative was conceived by Raman Suri, Vice President of the Kendra, with active support from noted physician Dr. Rajesh Gupta and his medical team. Specialists including Dr. Neeraj Mahajan (Cardiologist), Dr. Punita Gupta (Professor and HoD Medicine, Acharya Shri Chander College of Medical Sciences & Hospital), Dr. Shaily Kandhari (Ophthalmologist), along with a dietitian and around 40 medical technicians, offered free consultations and screenings.

The camp was inaugurated by Dr. Vikrant Sharma, Seh Prant



Dr. Vikrant Sharma, Seh Prant Sanghchalak Jammu Kashmir inaugurating a camp.

Sanghchalak Jammu Kashmir, in the presence of Surrender Mohan Gupta, Suresh Sharma (Retd. Judge, J&K Judiciary and Receiver of the temple), Ajay Bharti, Vikram Gujral (President, Narsingh Seva Kendra), and Raman Suri. Beginning at 8:30 a.m. and concluding at 3:00 p.m., the camp provided comprehensive screenings including Fibro-Scan, Spirometry, Neuropathy, Bone Mineral Density, Blood Pressure, ECG, eye examinations, and blood tests such as Thyroid, PSA, HbA1c, Lipid Profile, Sugar, Uric Acid, Hemoglobin, and Hepatitis-B.

Prominent community leaders, including Arun Gupta and Anil Gupta from the

Chamber of Commerce & Industry Jammu, along with other social activists and senior journalist Sunny Dua, were present and extended their support to ensure smooth functioning.

Elaborate arrangements, including private cabins, seating areas, and LED displays showcasing the Kendra's social initiatives, ensured efficient operations. Dr. Vikrant Sharma lauded the organizers for providing costly diagnostic tests free of charge, especially benefiting economically weaker sections. Dr. Rajesh Gupta highlighted that this was the 18th such camp and emphasized the growing prevalence of lifestyle diseases, stressing the importance of timely screening and preventive care.