

# IIIM celebrates Purple Revolution with farmers

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DODA: CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine, Jammu celebrated the success of lavender cultivation, Purple Revolution with farmers in an impressive function held at Sports Stadium here today.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister and Vice President CSIR was the chief guest of the event, and inaugurated a Startup Exhibition in presence of Dhanater Singh Kotwal, DDC Chairman Doda, Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM, Harvinder Singh, Deputy Commissioner, Doda and Sangeeta Rani Bhagat, Vice Chairperson, DDC Doda.

The purpose of the event was to acknowledge and promote sustainable agriculture, particularly in the context of Lavender Cultivation. The occasion highlighted the positive impact of lavender cultivation on the local economy and agricultural landscape,



Director CSIR-IIIM, Dr. Zabeer Ahmed presenting bouquet to Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh.

symbolizing a significant step forward for farmers in Doda and nearby regions.

With over 900 farmers actively participating, the event showcased a Lavender Cultivation exhibition, Agri-start-ups stalls, and an exhibition of aroma value-added products. These activities not only provided a platform for economic diversification but also contributed to the awareness and knowledge enhancement of the farming community.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, while addressing a mammoth gathering of farmers, start-ups and entrepreneurs

drawn from the Chenab Valley, emphasized the importance of making facilities available in far-flung areas similar to those found in smart cities.

He stressed that a real democracy is where children from any part of the country can be uplifted, educated, and reach higher levels, regardless of whether they are from a city or a village.

Dr. Singh highlighted that since the arrival of the new government in 2014, numerous facilities have been extended to remote areas, promoting inclusivity and equal opportunities.

The event underscored the commitment of CSIR-IIIM towards playing a pivotal role in promoting sustainable agriculture and contributing to rural prosperity. Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, earlier during his welcome address, highlighted the significant research contributions of CSIR-IIIM in the fields of cancer medicines, diabetes mellitus, Rheumatoid

Arthritis and addressing liver ailments, along with research on various diseases. He also talked about two major societal initiatives, namely the "CSIR Aroma Mission" and "CSIR

Floriculture Mission", both operating under the dynamic mentorship of Union Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh.

The event mainly highlighted the success of lavender cultivation with the farmers. Dr. Zabeer Ahmed extended his gratitude to Dr. Jitendra Singh for his efforts on behalf of the entire CSIR-IIIM team, and apprised him about the project CSIR-IIIM would be starting with National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) for beautification of the Highway between Ramban and Banihal, and on the other side of Jawahar Tunnel by planting lavender at identified locations.

The positive influence of the event on economic development and agriculture was acknowledged, setting an example for future initiatives. The emphasis on eco-friendly farming practices and the Purple Revolution movement reflects a commitment to a sustainable agricultural future.

# DPAP District Committee Jammu Urban holds meeting



DPAP District Jammu Committee members during a meeting at Jammu.

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JAMMU: Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) District Committee meeting held in Rehari, here on Saturday, was chaired by Gourav Chopra, District President, and attended by key figures such as Anil Kohli, Vice President District Jammu, and Amrinder Singh Micky, the Chief Guest and General Secretary.

Kirtan Singh, Chairman Minority Cell, Er: Ravinder Sharma, General Secretary District Jammu, Akshay Tak, President Ward-37, Pavitar Jyot, President Ward-72, Jodh Singh, Vice President Minority Cell, Yuvraj Singh, Dr S.K. Bali, Yaseen Khan and John Paul were also present.

While addressing the people, Micky said that LG Government is not worrying about the poor masses of the society.

People of Jammu are facing problems due to installations of smart meters, property tax and

other issues, but nobody is ready to solve the problems of people, he said.

Gourav Chopra said that JMC is destroying the Rehri and Khokhas of locals on the name of smart city.

Many peoples, those who are working on the sides of roads since many years are facing hardships due to current Government's policy, he added.

About 25 new entrants join the DPAP on the occasion. Later, Anil Kohli presented the vote of thanks to all participants and asked them to strengthening the Democratic Progressive Azad Party and Gulam Nabi Azad for future and progress of Jammu and Kashmir.

The new entrants who joined DPAP include Rahul Kumar, Narinder Kumar, Balbinder Kumar, Surinder Shinda, Ankush, Vicky, Amit Sharma, Shubam Gupta, Gulshan, Balwant, Rampal, Rajpal and Ravi Kumar.

# KK Gandhi to participate in 15-day International Rome Art Biennial selective exhibition

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JAMMU: While recognizing the global fame and fragrance of KK Gandhi's artworks, CIAC - Centro Internazionale Artisti Contemporanei events in cooperation with CIACK Italy invited KK Gandhi to participate in the 15-day-long International Rome Art Biennial selective exhibition in many cities of Italy where many Italian and international artists will exhibit their artworks. KK Gandhi has been assigned to make two live paintings on the March 17, 2024 at two different locations - first on Lake Park, Terni, and the other at the famous waterfall in the same city, on the 19th of March 2024 the group exhibition of local and international to showcase their masterworks will be held. On the 23rd of March 2024 a grand valedictory function will be organized where National President Dr. Giuseppe Chivaro of CIAC of Rome will grace the occasion. KK Gandhi shall perform live on a large canvas twinning with an Italian artist compatibly with Dr. Anna Peretti, Art Director CIAC Terni. During his sojourn in Italy, Gandhi's visit will be organized to Rome, Vatican City, and other different art workshops, art galleries, and museums. Anna Peretti, Art Director CIAC has initiated and taken the responsibility to extend traditional hospitality to Mr. Gandhi and has revealed that their organization has been holding Biennale events in different cities of Italy and other countries. Now they also intend to extend their activities by holding events such as an art fair at some appropriate places in India next year which will promote the cultural exchange and cooperation between the two great Nations.



# 5-Day KRPs Training under Nishtha UT Level (XI & XII) concludes

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JAMMU: A five-Day KRPs Training under Nishtha UT Level (XI & XII) with effect from March 4 to 9, 2024 under the mentorship of Prof. (Dr.) Parikshat Singh Manhas, Director SCERT J&K and guidance of H. R. Pakhroo Joint Director, JKSCERT Central Move and Prof. (Dr.) Sindhu Kapoor Joint Director, SCERT Jammu concluded on Saturday at SCERT J&K Divisional Office Jammu.

H.R. Pakhroo focussed on the need for such training programme thereby empowering the teacher faculty to reach their full potential and achieve their goals.

Prof. (Dr.) Sindhu Kapoor invited professionals from all backgrounds to embark on a journey of self discovery, professional growth and holistic development approaches.

Other dignitaries present on



Participants of training programme posing for a photograph.

the occasion were Prof. Surjeet Kumar Sharma Head AU-III, Prof. Swarn Singh, Head AUII, Ms. Sultana Kouser, Associate Professor, Tahira Parveen Shawl, Associate Professor, Neeraj Jandial, Associate Professor, Dr. Sanjevani, Arti Gupta Assistant Professors.

Vivek Jandial Academic Officer presented the key note address at the inaugural function.

The Programme was attended by 90 participants from all

districts of Jammu Division including the faculty of SCERT J&K Jammu Division with the objective to train the KRPS to develop and strengthen personal-social qualities of students for their holistic development.

The methodology of the sessions included lectures, group discussions, case study, quiz, recapitulation session etc. The participants also shared feedback and presentations regarding the topics on the concluding day of the programme.

The resource persons during the training day included Rakesh Chobber, Rajesh Hali, Sushil Hitashi, Yogesh Kumar, Parshotam Singh, Jeevan Singh, Pawaan Vivek, Amit Bhagat, Deepak Kumar, Dr. Balgar Singh, Navneet Gupta, Monica Sharma, Poja Sharma, Dr. Jyoti Sudan, Sabah Rasheed, Rukhsana Kousar (Sr. Academic Officers / Academic Officers) from SCERT J&K Divisional Office Jammu.

Dr. Seema Zakir, Teacher

moderated the session during the programme. All the resource persons delivered their presentations with special focus on modules developed under NISHTHA including curriculum, inclusive education, health and well-being, personal social qualities, art integrated learning, initiatives in school education, subject specific pedagogies, integration of ICT in teaching-learning, leadership, Gender sensitization etc.

H.R. Pakhroo presided over the valedictory function in the presence of Prof. Surjeet Kumar Sharma, Head AU-III, Prof. Swarn Singh Head AU-II and faculty of SCERT including Associate and Assistant Professors.

He appreciated the efforts of

the team for impressively carrying such training programmes focussing on sensitising the KRPs on new initiatives in school education. The programme was co-ordinated by Vivek Jandial, Academic Officer and Anil Sharma, Academic Officer.

The Program was managed by the team members namely Dr. Sandeep Singh, Roopse Kapoor, Dr. Bhuvir, Arsh Kour (Sr. Academic /Academic Officers) & Dr. Seema Zakir, Yousaf Kishore, Akash Khajuria (Teacher) from SCERT Jammu. Certificates were distributed among the participants and resource persons. Vote of thanks was presented by Anil Sharma, Academic Officer SCERT J&K.

# Maha Shivratri Mela: Bhandara held at Peer Kho Temple



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JAMMU: In the ongoing Peer Kho Maha Shivratri Mela, a grand Langar/traditional Bhandara was held at Peer Kho temple Jamwant Gupha on Saturday under the supervision of Mahant Peer Rajinder Nath.

Mahant Peer Rajinder Nath of Peer Kho temple Jamwant Gupha, Yogi Karan Nath, Yogi Dharti Nath and Yogi Pawan Nath showered their blessings to the devotees. A large number of devotees including men, women, and children participated in Bhandara. Mahant Peer Rajinder Nath made an appeal to all people to participate in the holy programme and get blessings of Bhagwan Shiva. On March 10 the concluding day, Indian Wrestling will be held in which leading wrestlers from J&K and other parts of the country will participate.

The four-day Mela will conclude on March 10. During the four-day Mela, cultural programme, devotional songs besides amusement park and food stalls for children and devotees were among the main attractions. In the evening today a religious programme was held, while on the concluding day on March 10, Dawan Pujan shall be held in the afternoon while the Mela will conclude with Indian wrestling completion.

# Apni Party commemorates fourth Foundation Day in Banidpora

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BANDIPORA: Apni Party marked its fourth foundation day with vibrant celebration in Banidpora, while as the party vice president, Usman Majid, addressed a large gathering of party workers at the party office in Bandipora.

The atmosphere was charged with enthusiasm as young and dynamic party members echoed slogans, underscoring their unwavering support for the party leadership and their shared vision for a brighter future for Jammu and Kashmir.

Usman Majid, in his address, expressed anticipation during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to Srinagar.

He conveyed the party's hopes for significant announcements, including the restoration of statehood



JKAP vice president, Usman Majid addressing a gathering.

to Jammu and Kashmir, expeditious Assembly elections and a special package for the unemployed youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

However, Majid candidly acknowledged that the expected announcements did not materialize during the Prime Minister's visit. Despite the optimism, there was no declaration regarding the restoration of statehood or concrete plans for key

issues affecting the region.

Majid reiterated the party's commitment to advocating for the aspirations and concerns of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, emphasizing the need for sustained efforts towards a more inclusive and prosperous future.

As Apni Party moves forward into its fifth year, the leadership and members reiterate their dedication to constructive dialogue, collabora-

tion, and relentless pursuit of the socio-political well-being of Jammu and Kashmir.

The foundation day celebration serves as a reminder of the party's enduring commitment to the people it represents, with a renewed spirit to address challenges and work towards a prosperous and harmonious future for Jammu and Kashmir.

While addressing a massive gathering Majid cautioned the people against the return of what he termed as "shameless traditional parties" engaging in the politics of deception.

He urged the people of Jammu and Kashmir to remain discerning in the face of potential political overtures.

He remarked, "The shameless traditional parties will come again, shedding crocodile tears and attempting to

deceive you. But let them know, the people of Jammu and Kashmir are wise enough now. They cannot be cheated with this cheap politics."

He exuded confidence as he articulated the ambitious vision of Jammu Kashmir Apni Party to secure representation in the Parliament of India. Addressing the energetic crowd, Majid proclaimed, "Apni Party is poised to represent the diverse and vibrant people of Jammu and Kashmir on the national stage. We are steadfast in our commitment, contesting on all parliamentary constituencies across the region, he added.

Senior party leader leader Intiyaz Parray while addressing the gathering underscored the unparalleled strength of Usman Majid as the preminent

voice of North Kashmir.

He highlighted Majid's unwavering commitment to the welfare and aspirations of the people, emphasizing his deep understanding.

Parray expressed confidence in Majid's ability to effectively represent the diverse interests of Jammu and Kashmir at the national level within the Indian Parliament.

The others who spoke on the occasion includes District President Syed Shafat Qazmi, District Vice President and DDC Arin Ghulam Mohiuddin, Zonal President Ghulam Hassan Lone, District Youth President Wasif Mir, District ST President Mawali Chouhan, DDC Bonakoot Ab Gani, besides this all senior functionaries of the party were present on the occasion.

# Chairman JKBOSE visits Exam Centres Stresses upon conducive environment for CSWN Examinees

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As the Annual Regular examination 2024 are being conducted by the J&K Board of School Education (JKBOSE) across the UT of J&K (designated Soft Zone areas), more than three lakh candidates are appearing in exams at 3133 centers constituted for this purpose.

In order to take stock of the arrangements made for ongoing examination, the Chairman, JKBOSE Prof. (Dr.) Parikshat Singh Manhas paid a surprise visit to the Examination Centres pertaining to HSP-II (12th Class) constituted at GHSS SRML, GHSS Jagti and GHSS Nagrota.

Further, Prof. Manhas also visited GHSS Hari Singh where a special examination centre has been constituted for Children with Special Needs (CWSN).

While inspecting the aforesaid examination centre/s Prof. Manhas expressed his great satisfaction on the arrangements put in place and also stressed upon the supervisory staff deployed to take good care of the examinees to make them as comfortable as you can while they write their answer scripts.

The Chairman was accompanied by the Joint Secretary Exams Suraj Singh Rathore, Joint Secretary, General Chaman Lal Sharma, Dy. Secretary Exams Kuldeep Sharma and other BoSE officials.



# Rekha expresses gratitude to PM Modi for further reducing LPG prices

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JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), District Jammu South conducted its "Labharthi Sampark Abhiyan"- the beneficiaries contact campaign under the leadership of its President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan.

The motto of the campaign is to ensure the existing golden beneficiaries of Modi government schemes.

During the campaign, Rekha met with hundreds of beneficiaries of



BJP President Jammu South, Rekha Mahajan with others at a programme.

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Ujwala (Gas Cylinder) Yojana, Ayushman Bharat Yojana and guided them to avail the multiple benefits of public-friendly

schemes. She highlights, If we look at the past ten years of the BJP-led government at the centre, it is clear that the government has systematically worked

# Dharmarth Trust solemnizes Hawan on Dr Karan Singh's birthday at Raghunath Temple

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: J&K Dharmarth Trust on Saturday celebrated 94th birthday of Dr Karan Singh, a former Member Parliament and Chairman Trustee of the Trust with enthusiasm.

A Hawan was solemnized by the priests of Shree Raghunathji Temple in the temple complex.

On the occasion, Brig R.S Langeh (Retd), President



of J&K Dharmarth Trust, participated in the Hawan. Later, Prasad was distrib-

uted among the participants. Trust's President prayed

for the longevity of the Chairman of the Trust and highlighted his eminence as acknowledged scholar of great fame who had contributed immensely in social work at the state (Erstwhile J&K) as well as national arena uplifting the underprivileged and enlightening masses on varied subjects including religion, amity, camaraderie and pluralistic

ethos existing in Indian sub continent since ages. He wished him good health and a well contented life ahead.

He said it is really a blessing for the people of J&K that a philanthropic personality like Dr Karan Singh is continuous to lead the over 170 years old Dharmarth Trust with ultimate dynamism and vibrancy.