

GGF Women's Wing celebrates Holi with compassion through Langar Seva

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Women's Wing of Gandhi Global Family radiated joy and compassion on this Holi season by organizing a special Langar Seva, marking the festival of colors with a spirit of giving and inclusivity. The event brought together members of the community in a vibrant celebration of unity and solidarity.

Langar Seva, a tradition of selfless service was embraced by the Women's Wing as a means to spread joy and foster a sense of togetherness among all participants. With colorful hues filling the air and hearts brimming with warmth, the event exemplified the true essence of Holi.



GGF's Women Wing during the Langar Seva in Jammu.

Sumi Sahi Seth, Dr. Parvinder Kour, Renu Anthony, Dr. Belu Mehta, Moksha, Punit Kour, Fatima, S. Inderdeep Singh and others served the community.

The Women's Wing

expressed delight at the overwhelming response and participation in the Langar Seva. It emphasized the importance of celebrating festivals like Holi not only with merriment but also with acts of kindness and

generosity towards others.

"The spirit of Holi lies in spreading happiness and embracing everyone as part of our extended family," Dr. Alka Sharma, President Women Wing remarked. "Through our Langar Seva, we aimed to embody this spirit by providing a platform for people from all walks of life to come together, share a meal, and forge lasting bonds of friendship."

Participants of all ages and backgrounds joined hands in serving a delectable spread of traditional dishes, symbolizing the rich tapestry of cultures that make up our society. Laughter, music, and the aroma of festive delicacies filled the air, creating an atmosphere of pure joy and

harmony.

The event not only celebrated the cultural significance of Holi but also underscored the Women's Wing's commitment to serve the community and promoting unity in diversity. By embracing the values of compassion and inclusivity, the Women's Wing hopes to inspire others to spread love and goodwill, not just during festivals but throughout the year.

As the colors of Holi fade away, the memories of this joyous celebration and the bonds formed over shared meals will continue to resonate within the hearts of all those who participated, serving as a reminder of the power of love, kindness, and togetherness.

MP Khatana, Mankotia welcomes political, social personalities in BJP

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Advocate Saleem Sheikh, Vice-President JKNNP from District Poonch, President Dwarka Ashram Sardar Surjeet Singh and Intiyaz Ahmed along with his team, Sohan Singh alias Sony along with his team Joined Bharatiya Janata Party, Jammu in 3 programmes at party headquarter, Trikuta Nagar.

MP Rajya Sabha Ghulam Ali Khatana accompanied by former MLA & joining committee Incharge Balwant Singh Mankotia, BJP Secretary Arvind Gupta, Minority Moreha President Ranjodh Singh Nalwa, District President Parmod Kapahi, Mahila Moreha General Secretary Neha Mahajan and other BJP leaders welcomed the new



MP Ghulam Ali Khatana along with other BJP leaders and new entrants of party.

entrants, while presenting them with the party Patka on the occasion.

Ghulam Ali Khatana, while welcoming the new joiners, said that Bharat has risen to become the world's fifth-largest economy under the 10 years of Modi government. During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's third term, it is projected to advance to the position of the third largest economy globally. Moreover, he said that the previous

Governments failed to recognize the need of comprehensive infrastructure development and Welfare initiatives on the ground level, which were effectively undertaken by the Modi Government now.

Balwant Singh Mankotia also welcomed the new joiners and said that India's security infrastructure has significantly strengthened under the leadership of the Modi Government. Parmod Kapahi, also addressed the gathering.

Ajaz Kazmi demands revocation of suspension orders of KPDC/JPDC engineers/ground staff

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Demanding immediate reinstatement of the suspended officers/officials, the Apni Party's Trade Union President, Ajaz Kazmi has criticized Kashmir

Power Development Corporation Limited (KPDC) and Jammu Power Development Corporation Limited (JPDC) for unfairly suspending over a dozen engineers and other junior level officers in an arbitrary decision.

Such suspension orders were issued in Srinagar that has caused unnecessary pressure on the ground staff in an unjustified manner.

As per a press release, Ajaz Kazmi said that KPDC/JPDC has put aside the rules and regularization

while dealing with the issue shortage of staff in the department that has marred with a mess in management at the top level.

"The KPDC/JPDC as well as JPDC/JPDC should have increased its strength of the staff and strengthened the engineering wing. However, they put all the pressure and suspended the staff that is the backbone of the department," he said.

He said that the KPDC/JPDC and JPDC/JPDC have been facing shortage of staff, but the authorities are continuously sleeping over the issues.

"The engineering wing and the lower-level ground staff work 24/7 to ensure round the clock electricity supply during winter as well as summer season. They overloaded with the work and

ensured the supply of electricity to cover a vast area single handedly without complaining. However, in response, the authorities did not appreciate them, but they were suspended for doing their work," he said.

He said that the authorities should have engaged more staff during the peak of work to ensure its timely competition.

He said that the Apni Party stands with the suspended engineering wing officials and lower staff and demands their immediate reinstatement to their respective place of postings.

"We will not tolerate injustice with the employees," he added, while opposing privatization of the electricity as well as the department that would snatch employment.

Sant Nirankari Sammelen held

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Sant Nirankari Mission proudly announces the successful completion of an open Satsang program held at Phalayein Mandal, Jammu. This spiritual gathering, open to all, witnessed an overwhelming influx of devotees not just from the locality but also from the surrounding branches of the mission. The event marked a significant day in the spiritual calendar of the region, fostering unity, love, and understanding among attendees from diverse backgrounds.

The open-air Satsang was graced with the presence of Revered Ajit Singh Zonal Incharge Jammu, who shared insights and discourses on the values and teachings of Sant Nirankari Mission. The atmosphere was imbued with devotion, as hymns and devotional songs resonated, uplift-



Devotees participating in religious Satsang in Jammu.

ing the spirits of the congregation. In a heartwarming display of community and spirituality, devotees partook in the program, sharing experiences of personal growth and transformation gained through the mission's teachings. The event also served as a platform for spreading the message of universal brotherhood, love, and peace, which lies at the core of Sant Nirankari Mission's philosophy.

Reinforcing the commitment to humanitarian efforts, the program underscored the importance of selfless service, kindness, and compassion towards all beings. Attendees left inspired, carrying with them the message of unity and the resolve to contribute positively towards society.

The Sant Nirankari Mission is devoted to guiding souls

towards the realization of the universal oneness of God. We believe that true spirituality transcends all man-made distinctions, leading us towards a life filled with peace, compassion, and understanding.

Let us carry the teachings and experiences from this Satsang into our daily lives, fostering an environment filled with love and harmony. Let's continue to spread the

light of truth, love, and wisdom to every corner of the world. We eagerly look forward to more such gatherings that not only strengthen our faith but also help in realizing the mission's vision of a spiritually awakened world. Let's unite in service, love, and brotherhood, remembering that divinity lies within us all.

While concluding his Spiritual Sermon Revered Ajit Singh said that The Sant Nirankari Mission is a global spiritual movement that emphasizes the importance of realizing the oneness of God. It aims to spread the message of universal brotherhood through spiritual awakening, emphasizing that true religion unites, never divides, humanity. With its roots deeply embedded in love, compassion, and understanding, the mission encourages self-realization and service to humanity.

NIT Srinagar hosts design awareness programme for MSMEs

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A week-long awareness program aimed at sensitizing Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to the Design Innovation scheme, a sub-component of MSME, and the Udyam registration drive, concluded on Saturday.

The program, organized by the IIED Centre of the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar, was sponsored by the Ministry of MSME, New Delhi.

The awareness program took place at various Industrial Clusters in Kashmir, including the Ganderbal Industrial Cluster on March 19th, the Zakura Industrial Cluster on March 21st, and the Industrial Estate Zainakote on March 23rd. Additionally, a session was held at the IIM Srinagar off-campus location.

Velladurai Jt., Director MSME, J&K and Dr Saad Parvez Head, IIEDC are the Chairman, Saheb Alaqband Assistant Director MSME,



A resource person delivering lecture.

Srinagar and Dr Dinesh Kumar Rajendran, Assistant Professor Mechanical is the Nodal Officer for MSME Design & IPR Scheme are the convenor of the program and Dr Noor Zaman Khan and Dr Ved Parkash are the coordinator of the event.

Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. A Ravinder Nath and Registrar Prof. Prof. Atikur Rehman said MSMEs are the major sources of employment for Kashmir valley, now India is growing with major contributions from MSME, particularly in developing cities like Srinagar where large-scale industries are limited.

"There is a need for such industries in the region and

NIT Srinagar is committed to use its resources for the benefit of the Indian Economy," he said. The program started with the welcome address by Tayseef Ahmad from Govt. Polytechnic College Ganderbal, he welcomed the President of Ganderbal Handicraft cluster and other Industrialists taking part in the program.

He expressed his gratitude to Dr Saad Parvez, Head IIEDC and Dr Dinesh Kumar Rajendran, the Nodal officer of the MSME awareness program of Jammu and Kashmir.

President Ganderbal Willow Wicker cluster said, next to English willow, Kashmir willow are ranked the best in the

world.

Ganderbal being the willow wicker bowl of India and Kashmir, there are more than 5000 artisans whose livelihood depends on this work. Technological intervention in this will be a great boom to the growth of this industry as demand is more on handmade crafts. Dr Saad Parvez listed the series of activities carried out by MSMEs for the development of the artisan and design and incubation scheme and also explained about the registration process of the cluster and the technological intervention of NIT Srinagar.

Burhan Co-founder of Kilab in Zakura Industrial estate expressed his support for the upcoming industries and craft for the development of Kashmir.

Dr Azra Mufti from IIM Jammu (Srinagar Off campus) joined the session on Zainakote industrial cluster program and explained about the various activities IIM offers on skill development and MSME projects.

Dr Dinesh Kumar Rajendran delivered the awareness session to the industrialists about the Design Scheme of MSME.

He explained about the two components of the scheme having the opportunity to get funding up to 40 lakhs for the growth and betterment of the industries in collaboration with the educational Institute.

Dr Rajendran added this scheme from the ministry of MSME will add an additional feather to the crown of the developed Industrial Estates of Kashmir. Dr Ved Prakash Sharma the Coordinator of the program delivered the formal vote of thanks and concluded the session by adding it was great to have two-week series of sessions in Jammu And Kashmir Industrial cluster. "We have sowed the seeds of design thinking into the minds of the industries and are ready to collaborate with industries through our students. Hope to have better collaboration for better tomorrow," Dr Sharma added.

Sham, Rana inaugurate Chenab Building Material Association

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former Minister and State Vice President, Sham Lal Sharma, along with Former MLA and BJP leader, Devinder Singh Rana, ceremoniously inaugurated the "Chenab Building Material Association" today, marking a significant milestone in the realm of community development and cooperation. The inauguration took place at the esteemed Sai Palace, located in Mishriwala, amid an atmosphere brimming with optimism and enthusiasm.

During the inauguration ceremony, Sham Lal Sharma extended his congratulations to the entire team, notably recognizing Rakesh Singh (Chairman of the association), Sham Singh Manhas (President of the association), and Lakhwinder Singh (Vice President), for their proactive initiative. He emphasized the association's role in addressing challenges encountered by both the association and the



BJP State Vice President, Sham Lal Sharma along with Former MLA Devinder Singh Rana and others during the event.

general public. Sharma expressed optimism that under a BJP-led government, issues such as mining and others, currently under administrative purview, would be efficiently resolved. Devinder Singh Rana echoed his support for the association and pledged his ongoing assistance. He congratulated the entire team and affirmed his commitment to working for the betterment of the community.

Rana further highlighted the critical need for close coordination between administration and union, emphasizing its potential to bridge existing gaps effectively. Additionally,

he advised association to align themselves with consumers, recognizing the immense value of direct community engagement in addressing their needs and concerns.

The inauguration ceremony witnessed the presence of several distinguished personalities, including Zorawar Singh Jammwal, Chairman of Team Jammu, Former Sarpanch Vandana Kumari, Vijay Master, Former Sarpanch Bhalwal Raj Dev Singh, Karni Sena President Arjun Singh, alongside former Sarpanches, Panches, and numerous other prominent individuals.

Natrang showcases play 'Rehearsal'



Artists performing during the play.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Natrang featured 'Rehearsal', a play in Hindi written by Lakshmi Kant Vaishnav and directed by Neeraj Kant on Sunday at Natrang Studio Theatre Kachi Chawni in its weekly Theatre Series, Sunday Theatre. In the play the writer has very satirically mocked the people who want to do something without its proper knowledge and also without possessing the basic eligibility of the field.

The play 'Rehearsal' very interestingly portrays the rehearsal scenario of a play where the cast is all

women. Though they (Kitty-mates) want to present a good show, their approach is not good enough and too much immature. The basic ingredients which are required to mount a professional theatre production like discipline, punctuality, team spirit, self-motivation, neutrality of the mind etc were all missing in these ladies and they were instead full of the traits like jealousy, gossip, lack of coordination and egotism.

The rehearsal becomes a free for all situation where everyone reveals her mind

in a dramatic manner. Though there is a director also but because of her own limitations and lack of mettle, she is not able to control the team. Where these ladies were required to act with compassion towards their fellow artists they had their own whims and fancies, few of them even had proud in their mind as their husbands are at higher posts resultantly they seek pampered treatment. Finally the rehearsal which was shown in the play Rehearsal ended up to be a chaos leaving a stern message that we need to be disciplined and committed to create a meaningful work of art.

Natrang artists who performed in the play included Kananpreet Kaur, Vansh Pandotra, Priya Kashyap, Payal Khanna, Vandana Thakur, Sana Devi, Mehak Chib and Palshin Dutta. The lights of the play were operated by Neeraj Kant. The presentations were done by Kushal Bhat and the show was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen.

BLSKS celebrates Holi Mahostav 2024

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To celebrate the three days Traditional Holi Mahostav 2024 of Duggar Pardesh, Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan under the aegis of Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India in coordination Sangam Tru Art Production and National College of computer Education Organized Holi Milan at open Air theatre, Durga Bhawan Janipur Jammu on Sunday.

This special program was a part of 410th Regular Series Musical Play "Rang Dari Deo" written, produced and directed by Dr.M.L.Dogra, former Regional Director, Song and Drama Division Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India and the Music was composed by Sh.RajuBajjal, Music Instructor.

The Program was inaugurated by Padam Shri S.P.Varma, Social Worker and Peace Activist, Vice President Gandhi Global Family, Jammu and Kashmir, Jammu, Farooq, Choudhary social activist associated with Gurger charitable Trust, Jammu was Guest of Honour. The Dignitaries lit the Traditional Lamp and Knotted Ribbon to "Holi



Members of BLSKS during Holi celebration.

Nishan Flag" with V.K.Magotra, Former Regional Director of Directorate Field Publicity, Government of India and other dignitaries on the occasion. KuldeepMagotra, Chief Executive Officer, Volleyball association of J&K presided over the function.Amongst dignitaries Karuna Bajaj, Mukesh Singh, Media Person Jammu, were Guest of Honours on the occasion. The programme commenced with song "Ho Mubarik ManjiriPhoolaoon Bhari", "Chali Barsane Khellen Holi", "Rang Dari Deo o belean Main", "Meri Nath Ghari Day Shel Sunare Ve", "Murli Da Nazara" sung by the renowned artistes of Institute. The Holi Dances "Khari Holi",

"Ras - Rasia" and Women Holi Dances with Radha and Krishan were also presented. The Chief Guest lauded the efforts of the organizers in making such colorful Festival and highlighted history of "Holi" festival which signifies the victory of good over evil, the arrival of spring, end of winter, and for many a festive day to meet others, play and laugh, forget and forgive, and repair ruptured relationships. Speaking on occasion Chief Guest appreciated the role of Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan - (NGO) for staging such plays in all parts of the JKUT generating awareness thereof among the masses about various social evils through musical play/theatre/drama which are still very

powerful medium of communication. The chief Guest also recalled the contribution of freedom fighters Bhagat Singh, Sukdev&Rajguru who sacrificed their Lives on 23rd March in 1931 at Lahore Jail for attaining India's Freedom. The martyrdom of these young freedom fighters will always be remembered for ever for all of us. K. K. Joshi, Vice chairman, BLSKS conducted the proceedings of the Function.

Kuldeep Magotra appreciated the efforts of organizers and urged that sports and culture activities should be prompted in the country for promotion of cultural heritage of India and he also suggested that artists and players should be felicitat-

ed for their outstanding contribution so that budding generation would get inspiration in near future. Karuna Bajaj member of BLSKS associated with Gandhi Samark Nidhi also spoke on the occasion & highlighted the importance of day.

Earlier in welcome address of V. K. Magotra, MD BLSKS, said, "Holi is a spring festival also known as the festival of colours or the festival of love, and it's celebrations start with a Holika bonfire on the night before Holi where people gather, sing and dance.

The, artists who participated & captivated the audience were Raju Bajgal, Rajni Gupta, K.K.Joshi, Sanjeev Sodhi, Binda Arora, Rakshit Sharma, DeevamJandiyal, Ujwal Sharma, Bodh Raj, Afroz Raj, Sudesh Manhas, Kamla Devi, Neelam Gandotra, Sunil Kumar, Vandana Gupta, Sakshi Kumari, Taniya Gupta, Varun and party etc.. The program was witnessed with keen interest by large numbers of people including youths. Deepak Kumar Dogra, Programme coordinator presented vote of thanks and urged upon the people to join hands in this field to awaken the society to get rid of social evils.