

Ram Navmi celebrations: J&K Dharmarth Trust to organise Grand Rath Yatra on April 10



Ajay Gandotra, President of J&K Dharmarth Trust talking to reporters.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: J&K Dharmarth Trust is going to organize a grand Rath Yatra on April 10, 2022 to mark the celebrations of Ram Navmi.

Talking to media persons at Trust's Central Office in Jammu, Ajay Gandotra, President of J&K Dharmarth Trust, said that the Trust is going to hold the grand Rath Yatra after the long gap of two years due to coronavirus restrictions.

"Due to COVID-19 the Shobha Yatra was not held for the last two years but this time as the pandemic has subsided therefore the Dharmarth Trust has decided to organize the Shobha Yatra

in a big way by holding the same in conventional manner with traditional zeal and enthusiasm," he said.

The Sobha Yatra shall be conducted in collaboration with Sanatan Dharm Sabha and Dharmik Youvak Mandal, he added.

The Trust's President said that the Shobha Yatra will cover the traditional route this year commencing from historical Shri Raghunathji Temple and after passing through various markets including Residency Road, Rajinder Bazaar, Kanak Mandi, City Chowk, Purani Mandi, Link Road, Jain Bazaar, Chowk Chabutra, Panjtirthi, Mubarak Mandi, Pacea

Danga, Moti Bazaar, Raj Tilak Road, Old Hospital Road, Raghunath Bazaar and will finally culminate at Shri Raghunath Ji Temple.

Ajay Gandotra said that on April 10, 2022 at 3:30 PM Trustee/s will preside over the Shobha Murti Poojan ceremony while at 4:00 PM there will be Rath Poojan and Dhawajrohan ceremony in which Trustee Ajatshatru Singh will preside. Later, the Rath Yatra will be flagged off by Dr Raghav Langar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu, who shall be the Chief Guest of the occasion.

Ajay Gandotra appealed to the people of Jammu and Kashmir to join the celebrations in big numbers as these auspicious occasions are significant and give opportunity to people to know their rich culture and roots.

Dr Gopal Parthasarathi Sharma, Secretary of the Trust, Nishal Anand and Gopal from Dharmik Youvak Mandal were also present in the press conference.

GGM Science College organises sensitisation programme 'Implementation of Tobacco-Free Educational Institute'



Principal, Dr. Ravender Tickoo along with faculty members and students at a programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: GGM Science College under the patronage of Principal Dr. Ravender Tickoo organized a sensitization Programme 'Implementation of Tobacco Free Educational Institute (TbFEI)'.

The event was attended by the faculty and NSS volunteers of the college.

The resource persons were Shweta Raina Divisional Coordinator National Tobacco

Free India Programme and Dr. Balkari Lal Choudhary District Health Officer Jammu.

TbFEI is an initiative under

National Tobacco Control Programme conducted by District Health Society Jammu.

The resource persons highlighted the epidemiology of tobacco use policy, burden of tobacco in India and in the history of JK UT, COTPA 2003 and necessity of Tobacco free educational.

Tobacco (smoking or smokeless) use is one of the biggest public health threats the world has ever faced and it is one of the major preventable causes of death and disability worldwide.

Cigarette smoking is the most popular form of tobacco

use. The World Bank has reported that 5,500 adolescents in India begin smoking every day. About half of them will continue to smoke to adulthood and half of the adult smokers are expected to die prematurely due to smoking related diseases.

In view of the deep-rooted nature, the eradication of tobacco habit would require concerted action resulting into a social change. Community education regarding tobacco and its health hazards would necessarily be an integral component of such an action plan.

Anti-tobacco education needs to be targeted at deci-

sion-makers, professionals and the general public, especially the youth. In India, chewing tobacco is slowly becoming endemic. Students, professionals, taxi drivers, labourers, children, young and old people all take it.

The consumption of tobacco has declined by three per cent in Jammu and Kashmir due to the efforts of the National Tobacco Control Programme launched by the Government of India.

Regular enforcement drives for implementation of COTPA-2003 are being conducted by the State.

As per section 6 of the COTPA, sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products within a 100-yard radius of educational institutions is deemed illegal.

The mementos were presented by Dr. Vandna Khajuria HOD English.

The programme was co-ordinated by Dr. Deepali Mahajan NSS Programme Officer. Technical assistance was provided by Dept. of Electronics.

NC Minority Cell Chief resigns

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a setback to the National Conference, its minority cell president M K Yogi on Friday resigned to protest against the party leadership's alleged failure to recognise the work of ground activists in Jammu and Kashmir. Dozens of top leaders including lawmakers have left the party in the past six months over various issues.

"I am tendering my resignation from the post of president minority cell and also from the basic membership of the party," Yogi told reporters here.

In a letter to the president and vice-president of the NC, Yogi charged the leadership of the party with pursuing their personal agenda instead of strengthening the party and its workers. "Having served NC for the last 27 years, I painfully record my annoyance with its leadership for pursuing their personal agenda and not recognising the sincere work of ground workers", he said. Yogi said he gave his whole life to this party but his work was not recognised.

"Therefore, I am resigning from the party", he said.

Vertical Garden inaugurated at Govt SPMR College of Commerce

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Eco Club and Department of EVS of Government SPMR College of Commerce developed eco-friendly vertical garden raised in discarded plastic bottles in the college.

Prof. Ranjeet Singh Jamwal, Principal of the college inaugurated the vertical garden consisting of various plants such as Zebrina, Pelia, Syngonium, Petunia, Pothos, Spider plant etc.

He appreciated the efforts of the Department of EVS and Eco Club members for taking this green initiative in the college.

He encouraged the students to create such gardens in order to save space and enhance beauty in their surroundings.

The vertical garden was created under the guidance of Dr. Nazia Rasool, EVS



Students and faculty members posing for a photograph in front of vertical garden.

Coordinator (CLUJ).

In her address, she explained in detail about the importance of such gardens in reducing air pollution, improving the air quality index and conserving water.

On the occasion, Dr. Deepak Pathania,

Convener of the Eco club, talked about the menace of plastic pollution and sug-

gested the use of discarded plastic bottles in creating greenery.

Manmeet Singh, Maheppal Singh, Manyata Sharma, Kamia Khajuria, Deepasha and other volunteers of Eco club actively participated in the decoration and maintenance of the garden.

Faculty members present during the inauguration

were Prof. Archana Koul, Prof. Sandhya Bharadwaj, Prof. Shafkat Jehangir, Prof. Monika Mahajan and Prof. Roomi Rani.

The entire event was coordinated by Eco club members Dr. Jagmeet Kaur, Prof. Fayza, Dr. Sarabjeet Kour Sudan, Prof. Rishu Mahajan. The vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Anu Sharma.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: On the 2nd day of their two-day visit, FA&CAO, EPFO, Hemant Jain, and ACC (HQ) - Delhi, Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh, K. L. Taneja on Friday visited Regional Office, Jammu.

Rajiv Bisht (Additional Central P.F Commissioner); Sanjay Bisht (Regional P.F Commissioner-I); M. M. Ashraf (Regional P.F Commissioner-I); Rizwan Uddin (Regional P.F Commissioner-I) were accompanying them during the visit.

A meeting was held between J&K EPFO and EPFO on various issues related to migration of J&K EPFO to EPFO and implementation of the EPF & MP Act, 1952 in the UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

J&K EPFO team including



FA&CAO, EPFO Hemant Jain speaking at a meeting.

Abdul Rashid War (Provident Fund Commissioner) and his team also attended the meeting.

Topics ranging from transfer of members' accounts, absorption of J&K EPFO staff in EPFO, Transfers of Assets and Liabilities etc were taken up during the meeting.

Later in the day, a conference was held with employers and representatives of establishments in which representatives from Hotel Association, Narayana

Hospital and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University participated. During the event, K. L. Taneja highlighted the importance of PF, Pension, and Insurance schemes framed under the EPF&MP Act in providing social security to the members and their dependents in their most vulnerable times.

He also informed the stakeholders about availability of insurance benefits up to the

tune of Rupees Seven Lakh to the family members in case of unfortunate demise of members while in service.

Speaking on the occasion, Hemant Jain underscored the importance of implementation of the EPF & MP Act in the UTs of J&K and Ladakh in terms of increased employment opportunities for the members of the Region.

He exhorted the employers to educate the employees about the benefits under the EPF & MP Act, 1952 and cooperate with RPF&C-I, Jammu in spreading the awareness.

Earlier, a felicitation programme was held in the Regional Office, Jammu in which employees with consistent good performance were recognized and felicitated.

Bukhari appoints new office bearers Dr Rohit assigned addl charge of District President Jammu Urban

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari on Friday approved the names of new organizational office bearers for Jammu and Kashmir.

A statement of Apni Party issued here said that after Bukhari's approval, former MLA Pahalgam and General Secretary Apni Party Rafi Ahmad Mir issued formal orders of the appointment of new office bearers of the party.

It said that Arun Kumar Chibber has been nominated as Additional General Secretary (Organizational), Dr. Rohit Gupta Provincial Secretary Jammu has been assigned additional charge of District President



Jammu Urban and Sunny Kant Chib has been nominated as the State Coordinator Youth Wing. Bukhari said the new appointments would work to broaden the party base in Jammu and Kashmir.

He stated that the newly appointed office bearers will closely monitor and supervise party affairs besides give representation to their specific genres in respective zones.

TTJ Travmart at Kolkata gets excellent response



Dignitaries at TTJ Travmart event in Kolkata.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KOLKATA: Travel Trade Journal (TTJ) held its B2B Travel Event 'TTJ Travmart' which got excellent response at the Park Prime Kolkata on April 6.

The event witnessed a footfall of 110 buyers from the city of joy. At the other end of the table, 20 sellers

including, DMCs, tourism boards, hotel chains, airlines, cruise lines and visa facilitation companies showcased their latest product offerings to the buyers.

Local and national travel trade associations well supported and appreciated the event.

Ambedkar Jayanti celebrations BAJCC to hold bike rally on Apr 10, Ambedkar Mela on Apr 14

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To give details of activities to be conducted as a part of Ambedkar Jayanti celebrations, Babasaheb Ambedkar Jayanti Celebration Committee (BAJCC) held a press conference in Jammu on Saturday. Speaking on the occasion, member of BAJCC, Vijay Kundal said that in addition to Ambedkar Jayanti Mela, this year the celebration committee will also organise a Bike Rally from Satwari Chowk to Ambedkar Chowk, Jammu." he further said that rally will start at 11:00 AM from Satwari Chowk and after passing through Vikram Chowk, Dogra Chowk, Jewel, Gumat, Prem Nagar, Gujar Nagar, University road etc, will culminate at Babasaheb Ambedkar Chowk,



BAJCC members taking to reporters.

Jammu. He further said that a large number of people from different areas of JKUT will attend the rally. "For smooth conduct of rally and maintenance of law and order, proper permissions have been obtained from concerned authorities," he said adding that it will be for the first time in the history of J&K UT that a massive bike rally will be held to commemorate birth anniversary of Dr Babasaheb

Ambedkar. Special arrangements have also been done to facilitate participation of women and elderly persons in rally, he said, urging participants to wear blue turbans and scarves during the rally. Lunch will be served to all participants at Ambedkar Chowk after rally, he told. "On April 14, 2022, Ambedkar Jayanti Mela will be organised at Ambedkar Chowk, Jammu, a cultural event organised

annually at same venue. Many renowned artists across J&K and even from other States will perform on the occasion," he added. "People from across UT along with their families visit the venue to pay obeisance to their leader. However due to COVID pandemic, Ambedkar Mela could not be organised. This year it is expected that a number of people will attend the function. To facilitate participation of people, breakfast, lunch and drinking water would be served, followed by cake-cutting ceremony at 6 PM," he informed.

Others present during the press conference included Adv Pawan Kundal, Adv Leena, Adv Jasdeep Kour, Prof Chaman Lal and Sham Lal Bassan.

JKMEF reiterates demands, to hold Dharna on April 19

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To highlight various long pending issues and demands of health employees, a meeting of Jammu Kashmir Medical Employees Federation (JKMEF), Jammu was held on Friday under the leadership of its President Sushil Sudan.

While speaking during the meeting, Sudan said that a number of demands of health employ-

ees are pending since long but nothing has been done to fulfill the same by authorities, like delayed Departmental Promotion Committees (DPCs) for all categories, amendment in service recruitment rules SRO-20 etc. Pertinent to mention here earlier also on March 17, the federation has asked health authorities to conduct DPC within 30 days failing which they would be forced to

launch a massive protest/Kaam Chor Hartal.

It is surprising that despite the call, the administrative department failed to initiate process for DPC, leaving us with no other choice than to launch a Dharna, said Sudan, adding that a Dharna will be held at every district Headquarter April 19, 2022 including one in front of Directorate of Health Services Complex, Jammu.

Others present during the meeting included Parfulat Singh, Jarnail Singh, Neelam Kumari, Mohd Nadeem, Pawan Singh Jamwal, Harpal Singh, Aslam Bhai, Dharminder Singh, Kamaljeet Sawhney, R P Singh, B B Bhagat, Madan Lal Sharma, Govind Sharma and Tajinder Singh.

making the region a stakeholder in emerging technologies so that it can compete with the developed world.

He said "For this, we have to encourage our talented youth towards science and rational thinking," and added that this kind of thinking and innovative spirit can be promoted by connecting our young entrepreneurs and start-ups.

Dr Jitendra pointed out that as a result of consistent boost to research and innovation, India has reached 3rd position in scientific publication as per



Roshanshu after winning 2nd Runners-up trophy in Indian Super Model Season-7.

Roshanshu brings laurels to Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The son of the soil, Roshanshu Wadhwa has brought laurels to Jammu by becoming 2nd Runners-up in Indian Super Model Season-7, the finale of which was held in Jaipur. Roshanshu was introduced by Dreamz Production House, Sharad Choudhary and participated in ISM Season-7, with 80 participants from across the country. In semifinals, there were 60 participants and Roshanshu qualified elimination rounds, making way to top-15 in contest. In finale, he was among top-7 and bagged title of 'Best Smile' besides winning 2nd Runners-up trophy. He received awards from celebrities like Rohit Khandewal, Prince Narula, Zoya and Sharad Choudhary.



Abhinav Anand joining Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) at AAP Head Office, New Delhi in presence of Gopal Rai (Environment Minister) and Imran Hussain (Food and Supplies Minister) of Delhi Government.