

Hotel Association Katra holds Tourism conclave

Every step will be taken to enhance Yatris' stay: Div Com

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: Hotel & Restaurant Association (HRAK) Katra, in association with Federation of Hotels, Restaurants, Industries & Commerce of Jammu region organised a tourism conclave cum felicitation function at Welcome by ITC Hotel, Katra on Monday. The function was attended by a galaxy of dignitaries including Div Com Jammu & Vice Chairman Shiv Khori Shrine Board Ramesh Kumar, CEO SMVDSB Anshul Garg, Director Tourism Jammu Vivekanand Rao, Deputy Commissioner Reasi & Vice Chairman SKSB Babila Rakwal, Addl CEO SMVDSB Navneet Singh, Additional DC Reasi Abdul Sattar, Asstt Commissioner Reasi Sanjay Badyal, SDM Katra Angrez Singh, DySP Katra Kuljit Singh, President HRAK/HRICJR Rakesh Wazir, Chairman HRAK Shyam Lal Kesar, former Minister Jugal Kishore Sharma, Owner Welcome by ITC Katra Chander Gupta, President



HRAK Katra members presenting memento to Div Com Jammu, Ramesh Kumar

Katra Chamber & Sr Vice President HRAK Virender Kesar, Vice President Meena Wazir, President Hotel & Restaurant Association of Patnitop Kushal Magotra, Rajesh Sadhotra, Ravi Nag, Arun Sharma, Rakesh Sharma, Sunil Dogra, Kuldeep Sharma, Gardhari Lal. Speaking on the occasion, Div Com said that every effort would be made to increase stay of visiting pilgrims of Mata Vaishno Devi and for that comprehensive development of tourism in entire Jammu region & Shiv Khori & Vaishno Devi

shrines in particular will be ensured. For achieving the target, roping in of renowned private players, both from India and abroad, is in progress, especially for making a theme Park at Katra and consolidated development of Shiv Khori, he added. Rakesh Wazir, in his welcome address besides appreciating efforts of Div Com during his tenure as CEO Shrine Board elaborated in detail about 'Tourism Conclave' on increasing stay of Vaishno Devi pilgrims. "Major stakeholders of Tourism

including Department of Tourism, SMVDSB, Shiv Khori Shrine Board, Divisional & District Administration are requested to strategize an increase in the tourism potential of J&K besides chalking out a strategy for making J&K a tourism hub of India. For the purpose, comprehensive upgradation of places around Katra, like Shiv Khori, Patnitop, Bhadarwah, Sanasar, Baba Dhansar, Nau Devian, Siar Baba, area on back side of Vaishno Devi hills etc is required," he added. Anshul Garg, while speak-

ing on the occasion said that his priority would be to ensure all possible facilities for Yatris.

Vivekanand Rao said that Department of Tourism is making various strategies for ensuring overall development of places of tourism interest by holding events like Navratra festival, Bhim Garh Fort Festival, Shiv Khori Festival, Patnitop Winter Carnival, Heritage Festival Rammagar, Jammu Mela etc.

Babila Rakwal said that Reasi district has huge tourism potential and its places of tourist interest are attracting huge number of people. A little push can increase it manifold with coordinated efforts of all, which is the need of hour, she added. Others who spoke on the occasion included Shyam Lal Kesar, Jugal Kishore, Virender Kesar, Rakesh Sharma, Rajesh Sadhotra and Ravi Nag. On the occasion, both Anshul Garg and Ramesh Kumar were also felicitated by HRAK.

IGGDC organises workshop under FDP



Dr. Vishal Tandon, Professor, Department of Pharmacology, GMC Jammu along with doctors of IGGDC Jammu.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Post Graduate Department of Conservative Dentistry & Endodontics, Indra Gandhi Government Dental College (IGGDC) Jammu organized a day long workshop under Faculty Development Programme (FDP).

On the occasion, a lecture on "Basics of Research Methodology" was also delivered by Dr. Vishal Tandon, Professor, Department of Pharmacology, GMC Jammu.

The workshop was conceptualized and initiated by Professor Dr. Azhar Malik, H.O.D Post Graduate Department of Conservative Dentistry & Endodontics.

It was immensely beneficial for postgraduate students.

This is in continuation with already initiated efforts for the development of Research acumen in the young post-graduate students of the dental college. The programme was allocated by all the faculty members, graduate and post graduate students of IGGDC Jammu.

This workshop gave a guide line on how to systematically, purposefully approach and select research topics.

A proposal to set up an electronic library for easy access to e-literature for various specialities was delivered. This programme was live broadcasted on YouTube for the benefit of students and faculty who could not attend the workshop.

The seminar was coordinated by Dr. Rachna Dhani and

Dr. Shamim Anjum (Assistant Professor). Dr. Ajay Gupta (Associate Professor), Dr. Rudra Kaul, Dr. Ravinder Kumar (Lecturer), Dr. Kanchan Bhagat (Dental Surgeon), Dr. Ashish Choudary and Dr. Sukhbir Kaur (Registrar) contributed in various capacities towards the success of the workshop.

The workshop ended with a vote of thanks by Principal Dr. Rakesh K Gupta wherein he highlighted that fact in a short span that the Institutional Ethical Committee of IGGDC Jammu is provisionally registered with Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

Power shutdown

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Satwari, Ashok Nagar, Shastri Nagar, Raya, Smailpur, Gurah, Mandal, Biapur, Kotli, Kalyana, Purana Pind, Salehar, Rathana, Khour, Sarore, Miran Sahib, Kullian, Badyal, Kadyal, Simbal, Jagti, Nagrota, PHE, Katal, Batal, Sainik School, Migrant Colony, Bamyal Jagti, Gho Manhasa, Marh, Gajansoo and adjoining areas shall remain affected on May 10 from 07 am to 11 am.

Meanwhile, Superintendent Engineer, O&M Circle, Jammu JPDCL has informed that the power supply to Kattal Battal, Panjrian, Naraina and their adjoining areas shall remain affected on May 10 and May 13 from 7 am to 12 noon.

Similarly, the power supply Near Youth Hostel Bypass and its adjoining areas shall remain affected on May 11 and May 14 from 7 am to 12 noon.

J&K Youth Congress slams Modi Govt over WHO Covid death figures

Seeks Commission to analyse fatalities

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Attacking the Centre over the WHO's estimation that India had 4.7 million (47 lakh) Covid-related deaths, the J&K Youth Pradesh Congress demanded setting up of a Commission with members from all parties to ascertain the number of fatalities.

Addressing media persons at Congress Head Office in Jammu today, Uday Chib, President J&K PYC, flanked by Vice President Ricky Dalotra, State secretary Latish Sharma, Office Incharge Manpreet Singh & DYC President Jammu (U) Happy Randhawa accused the Central Government headed by the Bharatiya Janata Party of "under-reporting" Covid deaths and asking if it was a way to "escape" paying compensation to the families



President JKPYC, Uday Chib addressing a press conference at Jammu.

of the deceased. He said asserted that the Modi government has let India down on the world stage once again. While the Modi government has been "chest thumping" over its Covid management, the reality is far harsher than what the Centre wants us to believe, he added.

Uday criticized the BJP Government for spreading misleading data with regard to

number of people died due to Covid pandemic in the country. He said WHO in its report claimed that India's COVID death tally to be nearly 10 times more than the official record. "The World Health Organization (WHO) has recently claimed that India suffered more than 47 lakhs deaths between January 1, 2020, and December 31, 2021, but it's unfortunate that

the Centre has claimed that only 4.8 lakh people died due to this lethal virus," Uday stated.

Uday said when crores of people were pleading for oxygen, medicines, and hospital beds for their families, the Modi Government was focusing on juggling figures. "The people of the country should know what the truth is," he added.

Uday said that the people of our country are suffering because of the anti people policies of the Narendra Modi government. He demanded that a Covid commission is long overdue and asked when the government will come out of its slumber. Besides, he also demanded that the Centre should provide atleast Rs 4 lakh as compensation to families who've lost their loved ones.

Health employees to hold protest on May 12

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu Kashmir Medical Employee Federation (JKMEF) decided to hold protest on May 12 against the administration for not redressing the long pending demands of health employees.

"JKMEF executive members decided to organize a one-day protest on May 12, 2022 at 10:30 AM in Director Health Services Complex, Jammu to press UT Govt to resolve our burning issues immediately," JKMEF leaders said in the press conference.

They said that Departmental Promotion Committee (Promotions) of all categories in the health department is pending from the last 4 yrs, which is supposed to be held twice a year despite repeated representations, deputations nothing has been done so far.

Service subordinate recruitment rules SRO-20 file was kept pending in the office of Secretary - General Administrative Department



JKMEF members talking to reporters.

Civil Sectt, Jammu for the last four months for the final approval, they said adding that the administrative department fails to frame rules of promotion.

"UT Govt of Jammu & Kashmir also failed to resolve the salary problems of female multi-purpose health workers and other staff getting salaries under Head -2211 Family Welfare," they said adding that the wages of FMPHWs have been pending for the last five months. JKMEF urged the UT Govt to grant registration to leftover Govt Pharmacists under new central pharmacy

Act 1948 section 32-C which is implemented in UT after the revocation of Article 370.

Leaders strongly appealed to the Navin Kumar Choudhary, Principal Secretary, Health & Medical Education department UT of Jammu & Kashmir; to the fulfill the demands of Health employees immediately.

Those who were participated in press conference include Parfulat Singh, Kamal Jit Sawhney, R. P Singh, Ch Jarnail Singh, Jasvinder Singh, Shaffiq Hussain, Madan Lal, Tajinder Singh, Jugal Bakshi and Bharat Bhushan Bhagat.

VDT is sole representative to look after management of all Hindu Shrines, Asthapanas of Bijbehara'

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: General Body Meeting of Vijeshwar Devasthan Trust (VDP) Bijbehara was conveyed at Minerva School of Learning Akalpur, here on Monday under the chairmanship of Prof M L Tikoo (Malla).

In the meeting, it was unanimously decided by majority of the members that trust will be the only and sole representative body to look after the affairs and management of all the Hindu Shrines and Asthapanas of Tehsil Bijbehara forthwith and transfer all the assets and liabilities of erstwhile Devasthan Prabandhak Committee to Vijeshwar Devasthan Trust (Regd).

Further members unanimously authorized the trustees to apply to concerned authorities and get the title of all the revenue records pertaining to Tehsil Bijbehara temples and shrines transferred in the name of trust after seeking legal opinion and initiate formal negotiations with the land encroachers of Harishchander temple area at Bijbehara for vocation and for suitable via media for early solution of encroached land dispute and place before the Executive body members the outcome of such negotiations for further necessary action accordingly.

It was informed to General body members that new cur-

rent account in the name of Vijeshwar Devasthan Trust was opened with Punjab National Bank, Durga Nagar Jammu and authorised signatory as President, General Secretary and Treasurer for transaction with the bank.

PAN card of the trust has been obtained to comply with statutory regulations.

Besides other General body members the meeting was attended by Sanjay Tikoo (Dembi), President, P N Tikoo, General Secretary, Varinder Mohan Bhat Treasurer, Rattan Lal Raina, Trustee, Brij Nath Raina, Sr. Advisor, A K Tikoo, Sr. Advisor and A K Koul, Sr. Advisor.

EPFO Jammu to organise outreach programmes "Nidhi Aapke Nikat" today

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), Regional Office - Jammu is organising outreach programmes "Nidhi Aapke Nikat" and Pension Adalat on 10th May 2022 under the guidance of Rizwan Uddin, Regional PF Commissioner-I (till 02:00 PM), Ajit Mishra, RPF-C-II and Harinder Singh, RPF-C-II.

Nidhi Aapke Nikat is a public outreach programme that endeavours to address the problems/grievance of all stakeholders i.e., employees and employers by bringing them on a common platform and to

increase awareness and sensitize them about the new initiatives undertaken in their interest by the organisation (EPFO).

Pension Adalat provides a platform to existing and prospective pensioners for closer interaction with EPFO officers for understanding the provisions of EPS 1995 and getting resolution of their pension related grievances such as non-receipt of pension, Digital life certificates etc.

All the stakeholders are invited to attend the above programme for quick disposal of their grievances and/or to register any problems faced by them related to EPFO.

Dharmarth Trust celebrates Bagalamukhi Jayanti with religious fervour

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In yet another religious endeavour, Dharmarth Trust J&K on Monday celebrated Bagalamukhi Jayanti with traditional fervour and gaiety here at Natraj Temple inside the premises of historical Shri Raghunath Temple.

In this connection, a mega Hawan by renowned preachers of Vedas from Chitrakoot and New Delhi along with Pujaris of Shri Raghunath Temple performed followed by Arti in the temple of Mata Bagalamukhi.

On the occasion, Ritu Singh, wife of Ajjatshatru Singh, Trustee of J&K Dharmarth Trust along with President Advocate Ajay Gandotra, Secretary Dr Gopal Parthasarathi Sharma, members of J&K Dharmarth Trust Advisory Committee also participat-



Priests and devotees performing Aarti of Mata Bagalamukhi at Shri Raghunath Temple.

ed in the Hawan.

Deputy Mayor Purnima Sharma also thronged the Raghunath Temple to pay obeisance to Mata Bagalamukhi. Dr Karan Singh, Chairman Trustee also participated in the Aarti through virtual mode and performed live Darshan of Mata Bagalamukhi.

Speaking on the occasion, Ritu Singh said that Mata Bagalamukhi is one of the ten Mahavidyas (great wisdom Goddesses) in

of paying focused attention towards religious activities in the region and the people associated with this over hundred years old institution never fail in fulfilling their responsibility of carrying out conventional religious obligations.

Gandotra said that today's celebrations of Mata Bagalamukhi Devi Jayanti and several others in the past are being carried out flawlessly in the temples and shrines of Dharmarth Trust since decades and every constituent of the Trust gives his or her hundred percent in ensuring success of these religious functions and events.

He said that the role played by the Royal Family of erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir in keeping up the religious traditions of this region is impeccable and people

associated with the Trust are keen to put in their best to continue with the rich legacy of this institution as far as taking care of temples and shrines in the region is concerned.

Prominent among those who participated in the celebrations include members of DT Advisory Committee comprising Vijay Saraf, Advocate Vandana Sharma, Darshan Kumar Sharma, Anil Sharma, members of Raghunath Bazaar Businessmen Association Sanjay Gupta, Kuldeep Khajuria Ex Municipal Commissioner, Ex Director General Planning U T of J and K Anil Gandotra and staff and Pujaris of the Trust.

On the occasion, a community kitchen (Langar) was also organized for a large number of devotees who took part in the celebrations.

Gynae surgery held at Maternity Hospital Gandhi Nagar



Doctors after performing Gynae surgery at Maternity Hospital Gandhi Nagar.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Maternity Hospital Gandhi Nagar which was a COVID Hospital for two years and started non COVID OPD, IPD & Operations one month back continued to perform Gynaecology

Operation. A 44 year old woman patient residence of Kot

Bhalwal with Cervical Descent was operated for Total Abdominal Hystereectomy with Posterior Colpoproctectomy.

The case was done by Department of Gyane & Obst. SMGSSH Jammu under guidance of Dr. Swarn Kanta HOU Dr. Vinay Menia Sr. Consultant Dr. Megha, Sr. Consultant

Dr. Gupreet PG Department of Anesthesia, Dr. Shruti Gupta Associate Professor, Dr. Preti Senior Resident Dr. Priyanka Pathak PG along with staff of Maternity Hospital Gandhi Nagar Mamta Sharma (SSN) I/C OT Mumtaz (SSN) Bandana Bharti (JSN) Afia (JSN) Riaz and Anil (MTS).

World-class indigenous technology available for road construction: Dr Jitendra

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh said, here on Monday that world class indigenous technology is now available in India for road and highway construction.

However, he said, many of the sectoral Ministries are not fully aware of the technology being offered for application in their sector and, therefore, he has initiated a process wherein scientists from different streams separately sit with representatives of each of the sectoral Ministries to explain to them how best they can utilise the available technology. The Minister was speaking at a programme to dedicate to the public two equipments developed by CSIR in the Union Ministry of Science & Technology for latest value addition in road construction and highways.

Nitin Gadkari Union Minister for Road and Highways and General (Retd) V K Singh MoS RTH participated in the formal launching of 'Mobile Cold Mixer Cum Paver' for constructing

black top layer using bitumen emulsion and 'Patch Fill Machine' for Pothole repair along the road. Dr Jitendra said, increasing application of Science and Technology in the Road Transport and Highways sector is adding great value to India's developmental journey.

Dr Jitendra said, 25 years from now, when India will celebrate 100 years of Independence, the role of Highways in taking India as a front-line country in the world will be written in golden letters. Dr Singh said, the use of affordable, sustainable and recyclable technologies in the Road and Highways sector is fast building the arterial network of India. Referring to the dedication of two equipments of 'Mobile Cold Mixer Cum Paver' for constructing black top layer using bitumen emulsion and 'Patch Fill Machine' for Pothole repair to the nation, Dr Jitendra Singh said, these are the perfect examples of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' as both the equipments are completely built indigenously.