

Annual Mindhal Yatra 2025 to be held from June 1 to 6: ASDCSS

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JAMMU: Prof. Daljeet Singh Manhas, President of Aadi Shakti Devi Chandike Sevak Sanstha (ASDCSS), Blassu, Doda (J&K), has officially announced that the Annual Mindhal Yatra 2025 will take place from June 1st to June 6th. The Yatra, a deeply revered religious pilgrimage, witnesses participation from thousands of devotees each year who come to seek the blessings of Maa Chand.



President ASDCSS, Prof. Daljeet Singh Manhas talking to reporters.

Prof. Manhas shared that on June 1st from Maa the Yatra will commence Chandi Temple, Blassu,

Doda, under the banner of ASDCSS. The spiritual journey is led by Pyar Singh, Chief Patron of the Sanstha, along with Chhari Mubariks (sacred staffs) from various parts of Jammu and Kashmir including Jammu, Kathua, Udhampur, Ramban, Bhaderwah, Doda, and Bhallesa.

As per the itinerary, the Yatra will reach Gouri Shankar Temple, Kishtwar on June 1st, proceed to Maha Kali Temple, Sohal, Padder on June 2nd, and arrive at the sacred Mindhal Darbar, Pangti (HP) on June 3rd. The main spiritual gathering, Mindhal Mela, will be observed on June 4th, featuring Havan-Pooja, Bhaderwahi Kud (folk dance), and Jagran (devotional night vigil) at the holy shrine of Maa Chand.

After seeking divine blessings, devotees will begin their return journey, reaching Gouri Shankar Temple, Kishtwar on June 5th and concluding at their respective hometowns including Blassu, Doda on June 6th.

The Sanstha is working diligently in collaboration with Maa Chandi Sevaks

from Kathua, Jammu, Udhampur, Batote, Ramban, Prem Nagar, Thathri, Kishtwar, Galhar, Kundal, Sohal, Tyari, Lujh, Killar, and Mindhal, and with active support from the district administrations of Doda, Kishtwar (J&K) and Chamba (HP) to ensure smooth execution of the Yatra.

Prof. Manhas made a heartfelt appeal to the district authorities of Doda, Kishtwar, Kellar, and Pangti, along with Chhari Sevaks and all devotees, to extend their full cooperation for the safe and smooth conduct of this sacred pilgrimage. He also urged those arranging Bhandaras (community meals) and other facilities to manage them properly and respectfully, in line with the spiritual sanctity of the event.

He further acknowledged the dedicated efforts of the ASDCSS executive members including Pyar Singh, Prem Singh, Ajay Sethi, Katar Singh, Ravinder Singh, Prof. Shrikant, Satish Kumar, Muninder Singh Kotwal, and Arun Manhas in organizing and managing the Yatra successfully every year.

BJP J&K delegation visits shelling affected villages in Karnah, Kupwara

Lauds confidence of border population, assures for addressing all concerns

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KUPWARA: A senior delegation of J&K BJP visited several shelling-affected villages in the Karnah Tangdhar in Kupwara district to assess the on-ground situation and express solidarity with families affected by recent cross-border shelling from Pakistan.

The delegation included J&K BJP President Sat Sharma, Leader of Opposition in the J&K Legislative Assembly Sunil Sharma, BJP National Secretary Dr. Narinder Singh (MLA), J&K BJP General Secretary Dr. D.K. Manyal (MLA), and BJP Spokesperson R.S. Pathania (MLA). They were accompanied by District President Kupwara Rafiq Shah, senior leader Anwar Khan, local BJP district team members, and other senior party functionaries.

During the visit, the delegation toured various impacted areas including Dhani, Trungi, Chowkibal,

Tarboni, Batpora, and other nearby villages in the Tangdhar sub division, that have faced the brunt of Pakistani shelling in recent days. The BJP leaders interacted extensively with local residents, especially those whose homes and properties have been damaged or whose lives have been disrupted by the constant threat of shelling.

Sat Sharma assured the residents that all their grievances have been duly noted. He said, "The BJP stands shoulder to shoulder with the people living in border areas. We will prepare a comprehensive report to be submitted to the Government of India to ensure that relief, compensation, and long-term rehabilitation measures are implemented at the earliest." He further stressed the need for improved infrastructure and emergency response systems in these vulnerable regions.

Sunil Sharma, while interacting with locals, lauded their bravery and resilience,

stating, "The people living on the borders of our nation are true patriots. Their courage and unbreakable spirit in the face of adversity is no less than that of a soldier defending the nation."

Dr. Narinder Singh emphasized the party's commitment to the region, saying, "This visit is not symbolic. We are here to listen, record, and act. The BJP is dedicated to finding long-term solutions for the safety and development of border communities."

Dr. D.K. Manyal stated, "Immediate medical and psychological support is critical for families, especially children, exposed to trauma due to shelling. We will push for mobile health units and trauma counseling centers."

R.S. Pathania highlighted the policy framework required to support affected people. He stressed that the existing relief mechanism must be overhauled to respond swiftly and effectively in times of crisis."

Senior Open Swimming Championship 2025 begins



Winner swimmers posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

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JAMMU: The Senior Open Swimming Championship 2025 was inaugurated on Saturday by Chief Guest, Vikram Randhawa, MLA Bahu, at the Jodhamal Public School Swimming Complex.

The event is being organized by the Jammu and Kashmir Swimming Association under the leadership of President Ramandeep Singh Soodan and General Secretary Bharat Kumar Sharma, with active support from Arti Kuthiala, Trustee of Jodhamal Public School,

and Competition Director Pooja.

Over forty male swimmers from across J&K UT, including participants from departments like J&K Police, showcased their talent in various competitions. In the second half of the day, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, Deputy Commissioner Jammu, graced the event as Guest of Honour and distributed prizes.

During the championship the selection of the best Swimmers is also in the process in the presence of their parents, coaches and senior officials of the Jammu

& Kashmir Swimming Association and Jodhamal Public School mainly, Babita Rani Joint Secretary, Amita Arora Vice-Principal and other staff members for 78th Senior National Aquatic Championships 2025 conducted at Aquatic Complex, Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar, Odisha from June 22, 2025 by the Odisha State Swimming Association under the auspices of Swimming Federation of India. Tomorrow the remaining competitions of male swimmers and all of the female swimmers are going to be held by 10.00 am.

Cleanliness drive held at Rajpura Ram Mandir under "Saturday for Ghagwal" initiative



Residents of Rajpura participating in cleanliness drive.

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SAMBA: The residents of Rajpura came together on Saturday to participate in a cleanliness drive organized under the "Saturday for Ghagwal" initiative in the border tehsil of Rajpura, sub-division Ghagwal. The campaign was led by SDM Ghagwal KS

Bali, with DDC Asha Rani, Vyapar Mandal president Sanjay Kumar Sharma, Tehsildar Rajpura Karanjeev Singh, BDO Rajpura Shivani Choudhary, Ex Sarpanch Suresh Basotra, the youth and local residents enthusiastically joining the effort. The campaign began in the prem-

ises of Ram Mandir in Rajpura, after which public places and roads were cleaned. Wearing gloves, the participants took an oath to make cleanliness their priority, stating that if every individual dedicates some time each week to this cause, Rajpura and the surrounding areas could become clean and beautiful.

SDM Bali emphasized the importance of the cleanliness drive, noting that it is not solely a government or administrative responsibility but a duty for every citizen. As part of "Saturday for Ghagwal," such drives are being organized at one location each week. He appealed to everyone to join hands in making this mission successful and build a clean, beautiful, and green sub-division of Ghagwal.

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KUD: District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), Kud, Udhampur successfully organized a one-day Exhibition and Seminar on Millets and Sustainable Development under the leadership of Principal R.K. Vashistha. The event aimed to raise awareness among students and educators about the nutritional and environmental benefits of millets and to promote sustainable practices in education and agriculture.

The program was conducted under the overall coordination of Dr. Rashpal Singh, District Coordinator, with dedicated support from Nodal Officer Sh. Raj Kumar and District Technical Coordinator S.K. Mansotra. Their seamless planning and execution ensured that the event was not only informative but also highly engaging for participants.

A total of 46 students from



DIET Kud officials posing with students and faculty members.

various schools in the district enthusiastically participated in the seminar segment of the event. The students presented thought-provoking papers and insights on the importance of millets as a superfood, their role in ensuring food security, and their contribution to sustainable farming practices. The sessions also highlighted the importance of aligning educational initiatives with national goals such as Viksit Bharat.

In addition to the seminar, an exhibition was organized

where 39 innovative exhibits on themes related to sustainable development were showcased.

The zonal coordinators who contributed immensely to the event included: Parveen Singh, Harbans Singh, Lakshadweep Singh, Surjit Singh, Dalip Singh, Sanjeev Chand, Richa Mahajan, Tariq Hussain, Yasbir Singh, Ajay Kumar, Ajeet Singh, Satish Kumar (Master), Parveen Singh, and Avinash Thappa. Their dedication and leadership helped bridge the gap

between schools and the district-level initiatives, creating a collaborative educational environment.

Speaking at the event, Principal R.K. Vashistha emphasized the importance of promoting millets in school curriculums and integrating sustainable development goals (SDGs) into teaching practices. He appreciated the students for their active participation and the teachers for mentoring and guiding the young minds. Dr. Rashpal Singh highlighted the global recog-

nition of millets as climate-smart crops and reiterated their significance in the Indian context, especially in rural and semi-arid regions like Udhampur.

The event concluded with an interactive session where students and teachers shared their experiences and learning outcomes. Prizes and certificates were distributed to the best exhibits and outstanding seminar presentations.

HSS Panchari at first Position, HSS Garhi at Second Position , HSS Salmarmari at 3rd Position in Seminar Category.

Whereas HSS Ramnagar, HSS Chaunta, HSS Sudhmahadev, HSS Jakhed, HSS Pakhali, HSS ChakRakwalian selected for Sustainable development Exhibition

Parveen Singh, Suchetna Khajuria , Richa Mahajan, Jasbir Singh, Rakesh Singh and Vinod Kumar enacted as Judgement panel.

Inter-School Zone Level Competition in full swing

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POONCH: The Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS), Zone Poonch, is conducting the Inter-School Zone Level Competitions in multiple disciplines including Volleyball, Kho-Kho, Kabaddi, Chess, and Badminton for Under-14 boys and girls at the Sports Stadium, Poonch.

Organized under the dynamic leadership of Director General, YSS J&K, Rajinder Singh Tara, the event is part of a broader initiative to empower youth through sports and foster talent at the grass-roots level. The competitions are being held under the supervision of DYSSO Poonch, Mohd Qasim, and ZPEO Poonch, Sara Bakshi, with Pawan Kumar serving as the overall Incharge of the event. On the second day of the competition, around 420 girl students in the Under-14 category from various government and private schools across District Poonch participated with great enthusiasm. Their

display of skill, discipline, and sportsmanship set a lively tone for the ongoing matches. The events are being technically supervised by Shaftat Hussain Shah (PET), Aman Sharma (REK) (Volleyball), Ruchika Sharma (PET), Jasmeet Kour (PET), Prabjot Kour (REK) (Badminton), Rajinder Singh (PEM), Narinder Kumar Verna (PEM), Bhupinder Kour (PET) (Kho-Kho), Rajesh Kumar (PEM), Nirdosh Kumar (PET), Gurdeep Kumar (PET) (Kabaddi), Harnik Singh (PET), Pawandeep Singh (PET) (Chess).

Results of the Day: Kabaddi: MS Deri Sahib beat MS Sheesh Mehal. Kho-Kho: DNRM Girls High School Degwar (M) beat Rani Sarmori GMS Poonch. Chess: SAI School of Education beat Nanak Academy. Volleyball: Nanak Academy beat High School Karmara. Badminton: Jamia Ul Uloom beat Nanak Academy.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In line with the directions of SSP Jammu Joginder Singh Jammu, and under the initiative of public/students outreach launched by SP South Ajay Sharma, a PCPG meeting was held on Saturday with the Traders Federation Ware House/Nehru Market Jammu.

The meeting was chaired by SP South, Ajay Sharma and was attended by SDPO South Sunil Jasrotia, SHO Police Station Gandhi Nagar Inspr Arun Sharma, and ICPP Nehru Market PSI Sunil Singh. Representing the Traders Federation were prominent office bearers including Deepak Gupta (President), Abhimanyu Gupta (General Secretary), Dheeraj Mahajan (Sr. Vice President), Vishal Gupta (Jr. Vice President), Rahul



SP South Ajay Sharma chairing a PCPG meeting on Saturday.

Gupta (Secretary), and Nitish Gupta (Cashier).

During the meeting, multiple key issues concerning public safety, business security, and social responsibility were discussed in detail.

The police officers urged traders to enhance security

arrangements around their shops and godowns, particularly in view of the current security scenario; install CCTV cameras in and around business establishments to aid surveillance and deter criminal activity; conduct proper verification of employees to

prevent any potential misuse of commercial space by ANEs; display banners and boards promoting drug abuse prevention, raising awareness among customers and the general public; reinforce adherence to COVID-appropriate behavior, including main-

taining hygiene standards in public-facing business premises.

The Traders Federation appreciated the proactive approach of Jammu Police and assured full cooperation in all security-related and socially responsible initiatives. They also raised a few concerns regarding traffic management/accidents and nighttime patrolling, to which the officers responded positively with assurances of enhanced coordination and support.

The meeting ended on a constructive note, reaffirming the mutual commitment of both police and the business community toward a safe, secure, and drug-free environment in Jammu.

Samba police organizes debate competition on drug abuse at GHSS Smailpur

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SAMBA: Samba Police organized a debate competition on drug abuse at Govt. Higher Secondary School Smailpur in the jurisdiction of Police Station Bari Brahmana which was attended by hundreds of students, lecturers, teachers and other members of the school management.

The programme at Govt. Higher Secondary School Smailpur organized under Civic Action Programme (CAP) was presided over by SSP Samba, accompanied by Addl. SP Samba, SDPO Bari Brahmana, SDPO Vijaypur and SHO PS Bari Brahmana in which a total of thirteen



Police officers presenting trophy to a winner student.

students of Govt. Hr. Sec. School Smailpur, St. Mary's Convent School Smailpur and Star Sec. School of Intellectuals had actively participated. SSP Samba presented mementos and certificates to the first, second and third best student speakers

whereas ten other student speakers were also felicitated with participating certificates on the occasion.

While speaking on the occasion, SSP Samba urged upon the students to channelize their energy in the right direction and participate in recre-

ational activities besides taking keen interest in their studies. He asked the students to stay away from the drug abuse and inform police about any drug related activity in their areas. The identity of the informer shall be kept secret. A pledge for say no to drugs was also taken on the occasion.

The Principal of GHSS Smailpur expressed her sincere gratitude to the Police Department for organizing such programme in the school. The efforts of J&K Police in promoting awareness about the negative impact of drug abuse were highly appreciated by the school management and attendees.

Inter-Zonal U/17 Football Tournament held at Nowshera



Participating teams posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Department of Youth Services and Sports, Zone Nowshera, organized an inter-zonal U/17 boys football competition at Sports Stadium Nowshera. The tournament, managed by Rajesh Kumar, I/c Zonal Physical Education Officer Nowshera, along with field staff, saw participation

from three zones with a total of 46 enthusiastic students. In the first match, Zone Nowshera defeated Zone Dandessr with a solid 2-0 win. The final match between Zone Rajouri and Zone Nowshera ended in a thrilling 4-4 tie at full time. The winner was decided through a penalty shootout, where Zone Rajouri clinched victory with a 4-3

score. The event's Chief Guest, Gurnam Kour, Principal of AGPS Rajouri, interacted with the young players and emphasized the importance of sports in keeping youth away from harmful habits like drug abuse. She urged parents to encourage their children to participate in sports to channel positive energy and foster discipline and charac-

ter.

The commendable social work of Vinod Sharma, a prominent social activist from Nowshera, was also appreciated. His consistent efforts in promoting youth engagement, community development, and support for sports and education in rural areas were acknowledged by the organizers and dignitaries present.