

## BVP Shivalik Branch conducts programme on "Women Empowerment"

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Bharat Vikas Parishad Shivalik Branch Channi Himmant, Jammu, conducted a one-day program under the theme of "Women Empowerment" at the Silai Prashikshan Kendra.

This initiative aimed to empower women by providing them with skills necessary for making independent decisions and fostering their social and economic development.

The focus of the program was on training students in cutting and tailoring at the Silai Prashikshan Kendra. This training was not only educational but also practical, aimed at equipping participants with employable skills. At the culmination of the training session for the year 2023-24, certificates were awarded to qualified students. This certification serves as recognition of their skills and readiness to contribute to their livelihoods.

The event was part of the larger Sewa Pakhwara celebration, observed from June 27 to July 10, 2024. This period was chosen in honor of the birth anniversary of Dr. Suraj Parkash Gupta, the founder of Bharat Vikas



BVP Shivalik Branch Channi Himmant members and others at a programme.

Parishad. Sewa Pakhwara emphasizes community service and social responsibility, aligning with the organization's mission to uplift society through various initiatives.

The program commenced with the traditional lighting of the lamp, symbolizing the dispelling of darkness and the spread of knowledge. The gathering also paid homage to the nation through the rendition of "Vande Mataram", the national song of India, highlighting patriotism and unity.

H.S Vaid, President of the organization, extended a warm welcome to the attendees, acknowledging their presence and participation. He expressed gratitude for their support and emphasized the significance of the occasion. Vaid specifically appreci-

ated the dedication and efforts of Smt. Sunita Mahajan, the project in-charge, and all members of the Shivalik Branch who contributed tirelessly to the success of the program.

During his address, Vaid reiterated the mission of Bharat Vikas Parishad, which includes promoting self-reliance among girls and women. He emphasized the importance of instilling moral values and a spirit of community service among its members, thereby contributing positively to society.

B.B Sharma, President of the Prant (regional chapter), underscored the organizational objectives of Bharat Vikas Parishad as a social organization dedicated to community welfare. He praised the

efforts of the Shivalik Branch in advancing noble causes such as women's empowerment through skill development.

Sharma assured ongoing support to the branch's initiatives and recognized the contributions of various stakeholders.

During the event, three pedestal machines donated by UPL Ltd. Samba were honored, recognizing their contribution to enhancing the training infrastructure at the Silai Prashikshan Kendra. This gesture highlighted the collaborative efforts between the organization and corporate entities in promoting social welfare.

Certificates were distributed to the successful students by B.B Sharma, accompanied by

Ashok Gupta, Vice President of the Prant, and other dignitaries.

This moment marked the culmination of the students' efforts and affirmed their readiness to apply their skills in practical settings.

The proceedings of the program were conducted smoothly by Ashok Khajuria, Secretary of the organization, ensuring the event's efficiency and coherence.

Anju Bansal, Mahila Parnukh (women's leader) of the branch, delivered the vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to all participants, dignitaries, sponsors, and supporters who contributed to the success of the program. The event was graced by the presence of several dignitaries, including Arun Sharma from the Centre Committee NGSC, Shiv Sharma, Secretary of the Prant, and other prominent members from the community.

Overall, the program organized by Bharat Vikas Parishad Shivalik Branch Channi Himmant, Jammu, exemplified the organization's commitment to women's empowerment, skill development, and community service.

## PM Modi's 'Mann Ki Baat' elevates J&K to national & international prominence: Kavinder

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta has expressed his admiration for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ongoing efforts to highlight lesser-known regions of India through his popular radio program, 'Mann Ki Baat'. He emphasized the significance of the Prime Minister's discussions on Jammu and Kashmir, noting the positive impact on the region's products and people.

In a statement issued here today, Kavinder Gupta said that PM Modi, in his recent episodes of 'Mann Ki Baat', has consistently brought attention to various regions whose names were previously unheard of by many, shedding light on their unique products and the people behind them. This practice has significantly contributed to the promotion and recognition of these areas on a national and even international level.

"Discussing Jammu and Kashmir in 'Mann Ki Baat' is particularly significant. There are many unique products from Jammu and Kashmir that gain automatic promotion when the Prime Minister mentions them. This not only boosts the local economy but also instills a sense of pride among the people of Jammu and Kashmir regions," he added.

The senior BJP leader further elaborated on how the Prime Minister's acknowledgment has led to increased visibility and appreciation for the diverse cultural and traditional offerings of Jammu and Kashmir. From exquisite handicrafts and handlooms to world-renowned agricultural products, the spotlight provided by 'Mann Ki Baat' has opened new avenues for economic growth and cultural exchange.

"Prime Minister Modi's initiative is a testament to his commitment to inclusive development and bringing every corner of the country into the limelight. By highlighting Jammu and Kashmir, he is ensuring that the region receives the recognition it rightfully deserves," he added.

Kavinder Gupta appealed to the people of Jammu and Kashmir to recognize the transformative impact of PM Modi's 'Mann Ki Baat', which has elevated the region's visibility both nationally and internationally.

Meanwhile, Kavinder Gupta has initiated a plantation drive under the inspiring 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign, spearheaded by Prime Minister Modi. This initiative was launched in Ward 43, in the vicinity of the revered Ram Mandir, Gandhi Nagar constituency. Senior BJP leaders Rajeev Charak, Paapu Surjeet Chowdhary, former corporator, Sardar Varinder Jeet Singh, and Kamal Batra accompanied the former deputy Chief Minister.\*

In his address, Kavinder extended a heartfelt appeal to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, urging them to embrace the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign by growing at least one plant in honor of their mothers. He emphasized that this simple yet profound act could significantly contribute to a greener, healthier environment.

The senior BJP leader highlighted that the campaign was not just about planting trees but also about nurturing a deep connection with nature, instilling a sense of responsibility towards environmental conservation. He encouraged everyone to view this as a legacy they could pass on to future generations, a living testament to their love for the planet and their mothers.

## Natrang stages Hindi play 'Koi Aur Raasta'



Natrag artists performing in a play.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Natrang staged a Hindi play 'Koi Aur Raasta' written by Pratap Sehgal and directed by Neeraj Kant here on Sunday at Natrang Studio Theatre, Jammu under Natrang's weekly theatre series 'Sunday Theatre'.

The play 'Koi Aur Raasta' very sensitively touches the topic of man-woman relationship in context of mar-

riage and very brilliantly presents different shades of it with such vivid detailing that the audience could relate to it instantly.

This intense presentation was followed by an interaction on the play which was conducted by Balwant Thakur.

Natrang actors who acted in the play included Brijesh Avtar Sharma, Palshin

Dutta, Kushal Bhat, Payal Khanna, Priya Kumari, Lalita Sharma, Priyal Ashok Gupta, Vandana Thakur and Mehak Chib. Lights were designed and executed by Neeraj Kant whereas music was scored by Aadesh Dhar.

The show was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen and the presentations were done by Vrinda Gujral.

## Samvedna Society distributes ration cards at doorstep

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Chairman of the Samvedna Society, Keshav Chopra, on Sunday organized an event to distribute ration cards to locals at their doorstep.

During the event, he expressed gratitude towards the Director of Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs and her team for their efforts in facilitating the distribution of these cards.

He emphasized the importance of the ration card not only for obtaining rations but also for accessing other government benefits like Ayushman Bharat Golden cards and pensions.

Keshav Chopra highlighted the societal mission of Samvedna Society, which aims to provide convenient doorstep services particularly benefiting women and senior citizens, sparing them from the inconvenience of going out, especial-

ly in harsh weather conditions.

Locals, including Anju, Manoj Tandon, Ritesh Peer, Lucky Sharma, Vikas Kumar, Sahil Verma, Parshotam Gupta, and others, appreciated the efforts

of Keshav Chopra and his team, as well as the Director and her team, for making this service possible. This initiative appears to be well-received and valued by the community for its practical benefits.



Chairman Samvedna Society, Keshav Chopra handing over ration card.

## LG Mishra pays tributes to Col Chewang Rinchen on 27th death anniversary



LG Ladakh, Brig (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) paying tributes to Col Chewang Rinchen.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

LEH: The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) took part in an event organised by Ladakh Scouts Regimental Centre (LSRC) to commemorate the 27th death anniversary of Col Chewang Rinchen at his Memorial Park in Housing Colony. The LG laid wreath at Col Rinchen's Memorial and paid rich tributes to him. The LG also felicitated family members of Col Chewang Rinchen, including his daughter Dr Phuntsog Angmo, Phuntsog Dolma, Sonam and Tsering Angmo, on the occasion and also interacted with them. The tale of valour of Col Chewang Rinchen, who was the youngest recipient of Maha Vir Chakra, was also shared on the occasion. Col Rinchen is the recipient of two Maha Vir Chakra and Sena Medal.

Lower Leh Councillor, Tsering Namgial; Deputy Commandant, LSRC, Lt Col R Ranjan; officials from LSRC and 14 Corps; Ashok Chakra Chering Mutup; President, Ex-Servicemen League, Hon Captain Sonam Morup; ex-servicemen; family members of Col Chewang Rinchen and other officials were present during the occasion.

## Karan Singh greets on commencement of Amarnath Yatra Congratulates Indian Cricket Team on historic T20 World Cup victory

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: Dr. Karan Singh, former Member of Parliament and former Sadr-i-Riyasat (President) of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, has extended his heartfelt greetings to all Amarnath Yattris on the commencement of the sacred pilgrimage.

In his message, he prayed to Lord Shiva for the safety, peace, and success of all pilgrims undertaking this spiritual journey.

"I extend my warm greetings to all the devotees embarking on the Amarnath Yatra. I pray to Lord Shiva to ensure a peaceful and successful pilgrimage for all Amarnath Yattris. May this holy journey bring blessings, peace, and spiritual fulfillment to everyone involved," Dr. Karan Singh said in a statement issued here on Sunday.

Dr. Karan Singh also took the opportunity to congratulate the



Indian Cricket Team on their remarkable victory in the T20 World Cup. Under the Captainship of Rohit Sharma, the Indian team secured a historic win in what has been described as one of the most exciting matches in cricket history.

"Heartiest congratulations to the Indian cricket team, led by Rohit Sharma, on their historic victory in the T20 World Cup. This incredible achievement has brought immense pride and joy to the nation. The team's dedication, skill, and spirit have truly inspired us all," he remarked.

## NC banking upon dead issues, vitiating atmosphere: Dr Varinder

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Co-convenor Professional Cell of Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP), Dr Varinder Sharma criticised National Conference (NC) Member Parliament (MP) Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi for showering unnecessary advises on Om Birla, the three-time MP from Kota Lok Sabha constituency and current Speaker of the Lok Sabha since 19 June 2019.

He said that the first time MP from Srinagar was trying to play to the gallery by telling the Speaker about his responsibilities as to how the proceedings of Lok Sabha are conducted which was uncalled for. Dr Varinder also criticised newly elected MP for raising controversial issues in the House in his debut speech and trying to vitiate the atmosphere.

He said that newly elected National Conference (NC) MP unnecessarily tried to

rope in the issue of Article 370, a controversial provision, that has been debated over multiple times in both the houses before its abrogation by constitutional methods with President of India putting her final seal of approval on the decision and also having been upheld by the Supreme Court of India as well. Om Birla, he added, has become the first person in 20 years to be re-elected as an MP to the lower house, after serving as the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, and also the one of the only two MPs to be appointed the speaker twice. Advising him as to how the proceedings are conducted speaks of naive behaviour of NC MP who was later snubbed by the Speaker who stated and I quote, "today is the first day of this session. "Look at the tenure, then comment".

Dr Varinder said, Aga Syed was being unjust in telling the speaker that the

Bill of abrogation of Article 370 in J&K was placed before the House within a minute and then subsequently passed in 30 minutes to which Speaker categorically reminded the MP saying, "He doesn't have the knowledge that the bill was debated for nine and a half long hours,".

Dr Varinder Sharma said Aga Syed must remember that speaker Om Birla has remained member of the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly representing Kota South Assembly constituency from 2003 to 2014. He has won the 2024 Lok Sabha Speaker election and serves as a Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha from Kota constituency in Rajasthan since 2014. OM Birla, he added is known for his conduct of the House proceedings in most fair manner and advising him how to conduct the House is absolutely childish.

## ABVP launches membership drive in Kashmir Division



ABVP members at a meemship drive in Kashmir.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: The Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) on Sunday launched its membership campaign in the Kashmir division, specifically inaugurating the program in Srinagar.

The event was attended by prominent ABVP leaders, including Prof Permender Singh, who was a special invitee, State Organising Secretary Tilak Thakur, and State Joint Secretary Akeel Ahmad Tantray.

ABVP has set an ambitious target of enrolling 10,000 new members from the Kashmir division within the current year.

The primary objective of the membership drive is to bring together students from diverse backgrounds and institutions in Kashmir under a unified platform.

Akeel Ahmad Tantray reiterated the organization's commitment to working for the welfare of students in Kashmir.

This commitment includes

addressing student concerns, promoting their well-being, and advocating for educational reforms that benefit the student community.

Through this initiative, ABVP seeks to initiate discussions and actions on educational reforms in Kashmir. These reforms are intended to improve the quality of education, enhance academic facilities, and create a conducive learning environment for students across the region.

## PM Modi unites every Indian through Mann ki Baat: Adv Purnima

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Adv. Purnima Sharma, Spokesperson BJP, J&K, and former Deputy Mayor Jammu, highlighted the profound impact of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's radio program, "Mann ki Baat," on the nation.

She emphasized how the program serves as a platform for the Prime Minister to connect directly with citizens from all walks of life. She highlighted its role in fostering national unity and promoting dialogue on important issues affecting the nation.

The senior BJP leader today organized a live

screening of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 111th episode of 'Mann Ki Baat' at the Bawe Wali Gali, Ward No. 6, Jammu East Constituency.

The program saw enthusiastic participation from former Councilors, President of Bazaar Association, dedicated BJP workers from Jammu East, and former President of the Jammu Chamber of Commerce, among others. The local community also actively participated, showcasing their support and unity.

The event featured a live broadcast of the Mann ki Baat episode, followed by a discussion session



Adv. Purnima Sharma, Spokesperson BJP, J&K at a programme.

where attendees shared their thoughts and reflections on the Prime Minister's messages. The gathering was marked by a spirit of camaraderie

and patriotism, reflecting the collective resolve to work towards the nation's development.

During his address, PM Modi expressed his gratitude to the people for re-electing the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) to power. He also extended his support to the Indian contingent participating in the upcoming Paris Olympics, urging the public to cheer for them.

Speaking on the occasion, Adv. Purnima Sharma emphasized the importance of Mann ki Baat in bridging the gap between the government and the common people.

She highlighted how PM Modi's initiative has created a platform for the citizens to share their ideas, achievements, and concerns directly with the nation.

"Through Mann ki Baat, Prime Minister Modi has successfully brought the voices of ordinary citizens to the forefront. This program has become a symbol of our collective aspirations and achievements. It has given every Indian a sense of belonging and participation in the nation's progress," she added.

Adv. Purnima Sharma also acknowledged the contributions of various

stakeholders in making the event a success. She lauded the efforts of the BJP workers, market associations, and the local community for their unwavering support and active involvement.

The program concluded with a vote of thanks, with Adv. Purnima expressed her gratitude to all the participants for making the event memorable and impactful.

She reaffirmed the commitment of BJP J&K to continue working towards the welfare and development of the region, inspired by the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Adv. Purnima Sharma also acknowledged the contributions of various