

Ritika leads candle light march to express solidarity with Kolkata rape-murder Doctor

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Spokesperson BJP Mahila Morcha J&K UT Ritika Trehan on Tuesday led a candlelight march in Green Belt Park Gandhi Nagar (Bahu Constituency) along with doctors & dignitaries to express solidarity following the rape and murder of a second-year postgraduate student at R.G. Kar Medical College in Kolkata.

Under the leadership of Ritika, Mahila Moreha activists gathered in large numbers to show solidarity to the victim.

Speaking on the occasion, Ritika paying tributes to deceased Doctor said that we light a candle for the victim, demanding justice, compas-



Chief Spokesperson BJP Mahila Morcha J&K UT Ritika Trehan leading a candle light March at Jammu on Tuesday.

sion, and an end to violence.' She expressed anguish over the incident and failure of the West Bengal government to bring the perpetrators of the crime to justice. She demanded safety of women at the workplace and immediate delivery of justice to the family of the victim. She

also demanded the resignation of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee over the gut-wrenching rape and murder of a post-graduate intern doctor in RG Kar hospital. Ritika slammed Mamata Banerjee and her party for the incident, claiming that

West Bengal under TMC is anti-women, anti-youth and anti-democracy. "The Chief Minister has failed the people of the state, presiding over an administration which has looted with impunity," she said, adding, "The iron grip has clearly rusted and rusted terribly."

Taking a dig at the INDIA bloc, she said anti-BJP party leaders were observing mysterious silence on the horror incident at the Kolkata Medical College.

She accused the West Bengal government of cracking down on doctors and a section of the media for demanding justice in the rape and murder case of a trainee doctor, terming it the "most sinister and institutional cover up" to save the culprits. Instead of owning up to their failure, they have the audacity to scapegoat the movement and the media," Ritika said. She said, "A police force that can't protect its citizens or a crime scene is a disgrace.

Int'l delegation visits Jan Aushadhi Kendra at Agra



International delegation of around 40 policymakers and drug regulators from 15 Global Southern Countries during visit to Jan Aushadhi Kendra at Agra.

STATE TIMES NEWS

AGRA: An international delegation of around 40 policymakers and drug regulators from 15 Global Southern Countries visited Jan Aushadhi Kendra at Agra, Uttar Pradesh on Tuesday.

The PMBI officers briefed them about the PMBJP model and the Government's vision

to provide quality and affordable medicines to citizens.

During the visit, policymakers and experts showed their keen interest to implement the flagship Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP), also known as the Janaushadhi Scheme in their respective countries.

Shiv Sena (UBT) leaders leave for Mumbai to finalize Assembly Election candidates



J&K chief of Shiv Sena (UBT), Manish Sahni speaking in a meeting.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit leaders departed for Mumbai today with a list of potential candidates for the upcoming assembly elections. The list was finalized during a core committee meeting held at the party's central office under the leadership of Manish Sahni, the state chief of Shiv Sena (UBT).

Manish Sahni, along with other state unit leaders, is set to present the finalized list to the party's high command in Mumbai for approval. Speaking to the media, Sahni emphasized the party's commitment to restoring the rights of the local people of Jammu and Kashmir, a directive given by party chief Honorable Uddhav Bala Saheb Thackeray.

The finalized list of candidates, once approved by the high command, will be announced publicly. Shiv Sena (UBT) candidates are expected to contest the elections with a focus on protecting Jammu and Kashmir's identity, preserving cultural heritage, restoring local privileges and rights under Section 371, providing free electricity and water, and introducing unemployment allowances for educated youth.

Among those present at the core committee meeting were General Secretary Vikas Bakshi, Vice President Sanjeev Kohli, G Singh, President of the Kashmir Division Malik Basit, Balwant Singh, Rakesh Gupta, and Raj Singh, President of the Kamghar Wing.

MD VRL Logistics Ltd gets 'Business Person of the year' award

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Leaders of Road Transport Awards celebrate and recognize the exemplary achievements of individuals and organizations in the transport and logistics sector.

The awards aim to inspire innovation, safety, and sustainability within the industry. The event was graced by the presence of the Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways, Harsh Malhotra as the Chief Guest.

In the Goods Transportation category, Dr. Anand Sankeshwar, MD of VRL Logistics Limited was selected as the Business Person of the year representing VRL Logistics Limited.



Dr. Anand Sankeshwar, MD of VRL Logistics receiving award from MoS Road Transport and Highways, Harsh Malhotra.

His efforts in leading the Company were recognized by the Jury in bestowing him with this recognition. Addressing the forum, he acknowledged the efforts put in by each employee of the VRL Group and also reminisced the initial days of the Company when his father and Padma Shri awardee.

Dr. Vijay Sankeshwar had started this Company with a single truck in the year 1976. The fact that the Company is today the largest fleet owner of Commercial vehicles in India owing more than 6100+ vehicles got him a standing ovation from the attendees.

Shiva Sankeshwar led Vijayanand Travels Private Limited (VTPL) was recognized as the Emerging Brand of the Year for Bus Operations Category. The Bus Operations business was separated from VRL Logistics during the year 2023 and operates as an independent company today.

Considering the rapid fleet addition and inclusion of newer routes and innovative practices adopted, VTPL was selected as the year's emerging brand slated for huge success in the days ahead.

The event was organized by TV9 network, India's No.1 News Network and the TV9 Network Leaders of Road Transportation Awards in collaboration with Continental Tyres and

seeks to recognize the best performers in the sector.

It is a prestigious award where the selection is based purely on merit without any associated commercials and a moment of pride for the VRL Group for two of its entities to be accorded Country wide acclaim through these awards.

The event also saw meritorious recognition being given to quite a few Women Entrepreneurs who operate commercial vehicle fleet ranging between 50-200 vehicles which is a unique development in this Industry in India. Other awardees include V-Trans, Gyan Logistics Pvt. Ltd., JKM Transport, HBR Transport, Pankaj Transport amongst several others.

Dr. Ritu launches 'Bonds of Love' Initiative for community empowerment on Raksha Bandhan

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As part of her commitment to community building, empowerment, and skill development, Dr. Ritu Singh launched the "Bonds of Love" initiative, designed to foster inclusion and a spirit of learning among future generations on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan. This meaningful initiative was inaugurated through a heartwarming program at both Old Age Home, Amphalla and Muskaan Home, Jammu where the students and faculty of DPS Jammu, under their Prayas Outreach Program, engaged in a series of impactful activities. At the Old Age Home, the day was enriched by a series of touching



Students making rakhis.

performances. The school staff delighted the residents with a soulful flute recital and melodic songs, while the students showcased their talents through dance and singing performances. The elderly residents,

touching by the gesture, joined in the celebration, singing along with the children and faculty, which created an atmosphere of warmth and connection. The children further honored the elderly by applying Tilak,

tying Rakhis on their wrists, and sharing sweets, deepening the bonds of love and respect. Under the visionary guidance of Kunwari Ritu Singh, the celebration at Muskaan Home took on a creative and heartfelt dimension. A workshop, focused on the art of Rakhi making, was conducted for the special children, instilling in them a deep sense of inclusion, love, and community service.

With the support of the school's art faculty, the children eagerly crafted their own Rakhis, showcasing their creativity and enthusiasm. As the celebration unfolded, these handmade Rakhis were tied by the students and faculty on

the children's wrists, accompanied by the traditional application of Tilak and the sharing of sweets. The event was further enlivened by a poetic dance performance by the students, which brought smiles and joy to everyone present. Dr. Ritu Singh joined the event virtually, where she highlighted the importance of these values, urging the younger generation to carry forward the spirit of love, inclusion, and community service in their lives.

Her words left a lasting impact, reinforcing the significance of the "Bonds of Love" initiative in nurturing a compassionate and connected society.

IRCS distributes sanitary napkins in GHSS Domana

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS), J&K has undertaken a significant initiative to promote menstrual hygiene and health among young girls by distributing Sanitary Napkins in various girl's schools. Likewise, on Tuesday, IRCS, J&K has distributed sanitary napkins at Govt. Higher Secondary School, Domana, Jammu ensuring that students have access to essential menstrual hygiene products. This initiative is part of the IRCS's ongoing efforts to enhance health and hygiene standards in remote and underserved regions. Besides the distribution of Women hygiene materi-

al, the team Red Cross Dr. Manpreet Kour, Medical Officer and Vironica Marwah, Field Officer; J&K also organized educational sessions to raise awareness about menstrual hygiene management. These sessions covered topics such as the importance of using sanitary napkins, proper disposal methods, and breaking the stigma associated with menstruation. Mahinder Sharma, Principal stated, "The distribution of sanitary napkins by the IRCS, J&K has been immensely beneficial for our students. The educational sessions have helped in dispelling myths and fears surrounding menstruation, making our girls more confident and informed."

Charak appeals President to address persecution of Hindus in Bangladesh

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sushil Singh Charak, Founder cum General Secretary of the Nations Development Association (NDA) and a prominent social activist, has taken a significant step to address the ongoing persecution of the Hindu community in Bangladesh.

In a letter dated August 14, 2024, Mr. Charak has appealed to the Honorable President of India, urging him to take immediate action on the international stage. The letter highlights the recent escalation of violence and atrocities against Hindu temples and communities in Bangladesh. Mr. Charak expressed his deep concern over the alarming situation, which has seen an increase in attacks on religious minorities, threatening their safety and violating their fundamental human rights. "I have also written to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Antonio Guterres, and requested him to take up this matter globally. However, India must lead the charge in ensuring the protection of these vulnerable communities," said Charak. In his let-

ter, Charak has requested the President to condemn the ongoing violence and atrocities against Hindus in Bangladesh, urge the Government of Bangladesh to take immediate measures to protect the rights and safety of all citizens, especially religious minorities, initiate a fact-finding mission to investigate the situation and report back to the United Nations General Assembly and to take appropriate action under the United Nations Charter to prevent further human rights violations and ensure accountability for the perpetrators. The President's office has since acknowledged the receipt of the letter and has forwarded the matter to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) of India on August 20, 2024, for further consideration.

Charak emphasized that this is a matter of urgent concern, not only for the Hindu community in Bangladesh but for all those who value human rights and religious freedom.

He called upon the international community to stand in solidarity and take decisive action to prevent further atrocities.

SGWF launches 'Adopt a Tree' Campaign



SGWF members launching 'Adopt a Tree' Campaign.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Synergetic Green Warriors Foundation (SGWF) on Raksha Bandhan, launched the "Adopt a Tree" campaign, inspired by Sham Lal Sharma, former J&K Minister and Chief Patron of SGWF. This campaign aims to involve communities in environmental conservation by encouraging individuals, families, and groups to adopt and care for trees.

The campaign kicked off with a symbolic ceremony where trees were adorned with Rakhis, symbolizing protection, mirroring the Raksha Bandhan festival's

spirit. Participants in the campaign commit to selecting a tree to water, nurture, and protect as it grows, fostering a personal connection to nature while promoting environmental stewardship.

The Rakhi-tying ceremony was led by Dogar Nath, Office Secretary of SGWF, and supported by volunteers including Daksh, Shri Kant, Vinayak, Madan Sharma, Garima Sharma, Pinki Devi, Anju Bala, and Shashi Devi. Er Rohit Sharma, SGWF General Secretary, encouraged public participation, stating, "The 'Adopt a Tree' initiative embodies our collective responsibility towards

the environment. Each tree we adopt is a step towards a greener, healthier planet."

Dr. Sonia Verma, SGWF Director, highlighted the campaign's long-term vision, emphasizing the importance of nurturing trees to maturity. Reeta Verma, SGWF National President, described the campaign as a critical effort in combating climate change and improving environmental conditions for future generations.

SGWF has set an ambitious goal to adopt 25,000 trees and plans to involve schools, community groups, and local governments to ensure widespread participation. Under Sham Lal Sharma's leadership, the campaign is a key part of SGWF's mission to foster environmental awareness and sustainable living.

Interested individuals or groups can join the campaign by contacting greenwarriorsonia@gmail.com or malhotrareeta121@gmail.com for guidance and updates. The initiative offers a range of involvement opportunities, from tree adoption to organizing community events.

Maharaja Shri Ranbir Singh's Birth Anniversary celebrated



Dignitaries at Maharaja Shri Ranbir Singh's Birth Anniversary celebration.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sanskrit Week is being organized at Central Sanskrit University, Shri Ranbir Campus, Kot Bhalwal, Jammu. During this week, the birth anniversary of Maharaja Shri Ranbir Singh was celebrated with great pomp by the campus.

Former senior teachers of the campus, Sharat Chander Sharma and Dr. Ramdas Sharma were also honoured as learned scholars in this program. On the occasion, the guest of honor, Sharat Chander Sharma said that being the Maharaja, Ranbir Singh took many steps for the development of Jammu and Kashmir and worked hard to provide justice to the people. He had established new dimensions of development in the state by eradicating the evils prevalent in the society. He eliminated evils like casteism and also banned the practice of Sati.

Dr. Ramdas Sharma said that the Maharaja served the people of the state with full devotion. His contribution can never be forgotten. He appreciated organizing such an event by the campus.

In his Presidential address, Campus Director Prof. Shreedhar Mishra said that Maharaja Ranbir Singh was a very knowledgeable person. He was proficient in Sanskrit, Persian and Pashto languages. He has made an incomparable contribution for the preservation of Sanskrit.

The program was started with Vedic invocation. Dr. Ratan Kumar Pandey of Astrology Department welcomed the guests. Dr. Anup Pandey proposed the vote of thanks to the guests. On the occasion, Sanskrit Week coordinator Prof. Satish Kumar Kapoor, Dr. Rishiraj, Dr. Gopal Verma, Dr. Rajkumar Mishra, Dr. Tej Nath Paudel, Dr. Neetu

Sharma, Dr. Shweta Sood, Dr. Anay Mani Tripathi, Dr. Pawan Singh, Dr. Ravikant Tiwari were present. The programme was conducted efficiently by Dr. Sarvesh Tripathi.

Wanchoo pushes for Sharda Peeth Corridor, presents book to Union Minister



BJP KDD Vice President Chetan Wanchoo presenting book to Union Minister G Kishan Reddy.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a significant meeting, BJP Kashmir Displaced District Vice President Chetan Wanchoo met with the Union Minister for Coal and Mines G Kishan Reddy.

During the meeting, Wanchoo presented the Minister with an authoritative book on Sharda Peeth, authored by Ravinder Pandita, a prominent scholar and founder of the Save Sharda Foundation.

Wanchoo took the occasion to elucidate the profound historical and cultural significance of Sharda Peeth, particularly for the Kashmiri Pandit community. He underscored that Sharda Peeth, located in the Sharda village along the

Neelam River across the Line of Control (LoC), is not merely an ancient temple but was once a revered seat of learning. Regarded as one of the 18 Maha Shakti Peethas in South Asia, Sharda Peeth has long been an epicenter of Vedic scholarship and spiritual practice, deeply embedded in the cultural consciousness of Kashmiri Pandits.

Expressing deep appreciation for the BJP government's unwavering commitment to preserving India's cultural and religious heritage, Wanchoo acknowledged the pivotal role of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Hon'ble Home Minister Amit Shah. Their leadership was instrumental in the recent construction and consecration of a Sharda temple at Teetwal in Kupwara. This temple, strategically located near the Line of Control, serves as a symbol of cultural resurgence and spiritual continuity for Kashmiri Pandits.

Wanchoo also articulated the enduring aspiration of the Kashmiri Pandit community to re-establish the Sharda Peeth pilgrimage route, akin to the Kartarpur Corridor. He highlighted the pressing need for cross-border religious tourism, which would enable devotees to reconnect with this sacred site, thus restoring a vital aspect of their religious and cultural identity.

In response, the Union Minister G Kishan Reddy assured Wanchoo that the matter would be prioritized following the conclusion of the upcoming Assembly elections in Jammu & Kashmir. He affirmed the government's commitment to addressing this legitimate demand, signaling hope for a positive resolution to this longstanding issue.