

Holy Chhari Yatra departs on Oct 2, Darshan will be on first Navratra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The 42nd Holy Chhari Yatra of Shiv Sena (UBT) will depart from the famous Shri Raghunath Ji temple of Jammu on October 2 in the form of a Shobha Yatra.

Following the mythological form, the Holy Chhari Yatra will reach Maa Ke Darbar via Kaul Kandoli, Deva Mai and on the eve of the first auspicious Navratra Chhari Poojan darshan will be performed.

In a press conference held today at the party state central office, state head Manish Sahni said that the 42nd Chhari Yatra for Shri



Shiv Sena (UBT) J&K President Manish Sahni addressing a press conference.

Mata Vaishnodevi will depart from the famous and historical Shri Raghunath Ji temple of Jammu on October 2 as a Shobha Yatra. After receiving the blessings of the first Darshan at Kol Kandoli and the second Darshan Deva

Mai, it will depart towards Katra and on the first auspicious Navratra, the Chhari Poojan and Maa ke darshan will be performed at Maa Ke Darbar.

Sahni has appealed to the devotees to become a part of the Yatra and seek the bless-

ings of Mata Vaishno Devi.

Along with this, Sahni appealed to the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha (who is the Chairman of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board) to create Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Yatra Circuit

by connecting the famous and historical temples of Jammu and Katra on the lines of Lord Shri Ram Temple Yatra Circuit in Ayodhya and for this, start special bus service from Jammu Railway Station and Main Bus Station so that the devotees get the opportunity to visit these temples and the economy of the Jammu division gets a boost.

On this occasion Vikas Bakshi (General Secretary), Balwant Singh (Vice President), Raj Singh (President Kamgar Wing), Rohan (President Jammu City), Mangu Ram (Secretary) were present.

GGM Science College organizes awareness campaign "Save Tree Save Life"

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The National Cadet Corps (NCC) in coordination with Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) Cell and Electoral Literacy Club (ELC) of GGM Science College Jammu organized an awareness campaign titled "Save Tree Save Life" aimed at promoting the conservation of medicinal plants and raising awareness about their critical role in healthcare and biodiversity.

The event, held on the college campus, was inaugurated by the Principal, Dr. Romesh Kumar Gupta, who highlighted the importance of preserving medicinal plants, many of which are endangered due to overharvesting, habitat loss, and climate change.

These plants, he said, have been a vital part of traditional medicine systems for cen-

turies and continue to provide the basis for many modern pharmaceuticals.

The NCC cadets, in collaboration with the SVEEP Cell, took an active role in cleaning the booth area and border area of medicinal herbs and trees around the college premises, ensuring a greener campus and a hands-on learning experience for the students. Demonstrations were provided on how to identify, grow, and care for medicinal plants such as neem, tulsi, aloe vera, and ashwagandha, which hold immense health benefits.

The faculty members who participated in the event included, Lt. Dr. Devinder Kumar Sharma (ANO), Prof. Brinder Kumar (Convener ELC), Dr. Chaman Lal (Convener SVEEP Cell) and all the committee members.

Painting & Photography competition held at Govt SPMR College of Commerce

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In line with the directives of the Chief Electoral Officer, Jammu & Kashmir, Government SPMR College of Commerce organized a vibrant Painting and Photography Competition on Monday, as part of a broader initiative to promote electoral literacy among youth ahead of the upcoming J&K Legislative Assembly Elections 2024. This event was conducted under the guidelines set by the Electoral Literacy Clubs (ELCs) and aimed to encourage maximum participation of first-time voters and foster a sense of civic responsibility among students. A total of 30 students enthusiastically participated, showcasing their artistic skills by painting walls, creating posters, and capturing thought-provoking photographs. The event highlighted the theme of "Greater Participation for a Stronger Democracy" with students expressing their interpretations of democratic values and the importance of voting through creative media. The entries were evaluated by a panel led by Dr. Deepshikha Sharma and her team, who assessed the paintings and photographs based on creativity, relevance to the theme, and execution. The top

three students in wall painting were Pranav and Jaismine, Sonakshi and Bhoomi and Varsha, Vivek and Sumit and in Poster making Competition, Muskan gets first prize, Siddharth bagged 2nd and 3rd prize was won by Kiranjeet who were awarded certificates of excellence in recognition of their outstanding contributions. Principal Dr. Rajinder Singh graced the occasion and appreciated the efforts of the participants, faculty, and organizers in making the event a success. He emphasized the importance of such initiatives in educating and motivating the youth to exercise their voting rights. The entire event was efficiently coordinated by Prof. Rajni Sharma, Dr. Ridhi Sharma, Prof. Rishu Mahajan, Dr. Mantar Rani and Ravi Kumar. This event is part of a series of activities initiated by the college under the Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) campaign, as directed by the Chief Electoral Officer, J&K, to boost electoral participation among the youth. Further activities planned include street plays, debates, quizzes, film screenings, and social media campaigns, all aimed at spreading electoral awareness.

BVP celebrates "Guru Bandhan Chhatra Abhinandan"

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bharat Vikas Parishad (BVP) Tridev Branch, Shastri Nagar, Jammu, celebrated the "Guru Bandhan Chhatra Abhinandan" event at Dogra Higher Secondary School, Shastri Nagar, with great enthusiasm.

The event was marked by a large gathering of teachers, students, and prominent members of the community, all coming together to honor the role of teachers in shaping the future of students.

The ceremony began with the traditional "Deep Ujala" ritual, symbolizing the light of knowledge and wisdom.

Arun Sharma, National Member of BVP, was the Chief Guest for the occa-

sion. His presence added significance to the event as he addressed the students, underscoring the importance of the day.

Arun Sharma enlightened the students about the relevance of "Guru Bandhan Chhatra Abhinandan" and its significance not only in India but globally.

He reminded the gathering that this day is celebrated in honor of the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, a distinguished educationist and the second President of India.

Sharma urged the students to show respect and gratitude toward their teachers, acknowledging them as the real guides and mentors who shape their future lives.

In addition to the importance of respecting teachers, Sharma emphasized the need for students to be responsible citizens. He spoke on environmental protection, encouraging students to ensure cleanliness in and around their school premises. He stressed the importance of keeping the environment clean as part of their responsibility toward society.

Sharma also highlighted the growing menace of drug abuse, a serious issue affecting the youth today. He urged the students to stay away from this evil, which not only destroys careers but also the future of the younger generation. His words resonated strongly with the audience,

inspiring both students and teachers to take a stand against this threat.

The event was further enriched by speeches from Shiv Ram Sharma, General Secretary of BVP JK Prant, and Suman Khanna, Sewa Pramukh of BVP Tridev Branch.

Both speakers emphasized the values of service, education, and respect for teachers, while also encouraging the students to uphold these values in their daily lives.

Several prominent figures were present at the function, including M.L. Padha, President of BVP Tridev Branch, B.R. Sharma, Secretary, JS Slathia, Treasurer, Darshan Gupta, Patron, Prof. Rakesh Vaid,

Sanskar Pramukh, Smt. Kailash Mohani, Mahila Pramukh of BVP Tridev Branch, and the Vice Principal of Dogra Higher Secondary School. Their presence highlighted the collective commitment of the community to promoting education and moral values among the younger generation.

The event concluded on a patriotic note with the singing of the National Anthem, reinforcing the spirit of unity and respect for the nation. The "Guru Bandhan Chhatra Abhinandan" event was not only a celebration of the teacher-student relationship but also a call for the students to become responsible, disciplined, and socially aware citizens.

Take Mountain Dew's Sip of Courage for opportunity to win wild card entry to Kaun Banega Crorepati

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Mountain Dew, a brand synonymous with courage, has launched an exciting collaboration with the renowned game show Kaun Banega Crorepati (KBC), offering consumers a chance to secure a wild card entry into the show's 16th Season. This unique opportunity allows the Mountain Dew® fans an opportunity to sit on the iconic hot seat, playing this popular game show, opposite the legendary Amitabh Bachchan, even after the official participation period has closed.

This partnership is a testament to Mountain Dew's commitment to motivating people to confront their fears and embrace Courage, a theme central to both the brand and KBC. So, the Mountain Dew x KBC campaign theme is, "Yeh



khel 'gyaan' ka hai, par jeeta 'himmat' se jaata hai" (KBC is a game of knowledge, however, it takes courage to win it!).

Commenting on the partnership, Akankshaa Dalal, Category Head, Mountain Dew, PepsiCo India, said, "Mountain Dew has always been about celebrating courage and victory in the various 'hot seat' situations that one can face in life. And this partnership with KBC is A natural fit as the game shows with its moments

where the stakes are high, and both knowledge and courage are tested every step of the way, Mountain Dew hopes to inspire millions to take bold steps towards realizing dreams."

Consumers can purchase Mountain Dew x KBC packs featuring a QR code till 30th September. By scanning the code, they will be directed to a WhatsApp bot where they can enter the 16-digit code found behind the label, provide demographic details, and answer a

qualifying question. Those who complete these steps will have a chance to move on to auditions, with 10 lucky winners ultimately participating in KBC's exclusive "Week of Courage." The Mountain Dew x KBC cam-

campaign will be amplified through a TVC and a 360 campaign. The special Mountain Dew packs are being introduced across India and will be available at retail outlets and online platforms.

EO inspects Shadow Registers of contesting candidates

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

PULWAMA: In line with the efforts to ensure transparency and adherence to election expenditure norms, Expenditure Observer (EO) Shrikant N inspected the shadow registers of contesting candidates for expenditure examination.

The inspection was conducted to ensure that all financial transactions and expenses made during the election campaign are accurately documented and comply with the guidelines laid down by the Election Commission of India.

This step is crucial to maintaining accountability and ensuring a level playing field to all candidates. Shrikant N reiterated the importance of maintaining accurate records and urged the candidates to adhere strictly to the expenditure limits set by the Election Commission.

India's top grade music composer award conferred to Pt Abhay Sopori



Pandit Abhay Sopori receiving award.

Pandit Abhay Sopori was earlier awarded the 'Top Grade Artist' award as a Santoor player by All India Radio in 2019.

He expressed his heartfelt gratitude to All India Radio for bestowing upon him the second 'Top Grade' award, becoming the youngest artist in the country to be awarded a double 'Top Grade' honour.

He said it's a rare honor to be awarded a double Top Grade, both as a Santoor player and now Music Composer, and dedicated the honor to his father and guru, the Great Saint - Music Legend Late Pandit Bhajan Sopori, who is hailed as the Saint of Santoor and King of Strings.

Pandit Abhay Sopori represents the 300-year-old exclusive traditional Santoor family of the country with age-old Shaivite - Sufi roots.

Regarding as a Cultural Icon of Jammu and Kashmir, Sopori has been instrumental in introducing 'Cultural Policy' in J&K and also introducing music as a subject in various Districts of Jammu and Kashmir creating new academic streams in colleges and universities as well as new job opportunities. for the youth in J&K.

NSS volunteers attend First Aid Training



Red Cross Society officials imparting First Aid training.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A one day First Aid and Youth Red Cross Camp was organized under the joint aegis of NSS Unit of Central Sanskrit University, Shri Ranbir Campus, Jammu and Indian Red Cross Society, Jammu. During this period various activities were organized for the volunteers.

In the camp, the volunteers were given first aid training by the Red Cross Society regarding the treatment of heart attack, brain stroke and angina. Red Cross Society instructor Dr. Kavita Nijhon told the volunteers about CPR.

She explained the process of giving CPR to a person if he

has chest pain. She told that if the heart stops beating or blood stops then giving CPR is the first aid. She said that timely first aid given to the injured person in an accident plays the biggest role in saving his life. She said that in such a situation, a cotton cloth should be tied tightly on the bleeding spot. An attempt should be made to stop the bleeding by pressing the pressure point.

Red Cross Field Officer Veronica formed the Red Cross unit in the campus. During the camp, students were also given information about first aid and assistance to be given to an accident victim in case of head injury.

She emphasized that head injury is the biggest cause of death in road accidents. In such a situation, if the injured person gets proper treatment on time, the chances of saving his life increases.

Campus Director Prof. Shreedhar Mishra said that the NSS unit of the campus is doing commendable work for the mental and social development of the students.

He said that NSS develops the feelings of patience, service to others, service to society and country, hard work and working in a group among the students. Students should participate in nation service by joining NSS. He said that by joining NSS, students can do social service along with studies.

The guests were duly welcomed by Dr. Shweta Sood. The program was conducted efficiently by NSS Program Coordinator Dr. Yogendra Dixit and vote of thanks was given by NSS Program Officer Maninder Singh. Volunteers and other students of the NSS Unit were present on this occasion.

J&K SOTTO, SVMMCH organize Eye/Organ Donation Awareness Rally

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (SOTTO) J&K in collaboration with Swami Vivekanand Medical Mission Charitable Hospital (SVMMCH) Amphalla organized an Eye/Organ Donation rally as part of the 39th National Eye Donation Fortnight celebrations, to create awareness among the public on Eye/Organ Donation and importance of saving lives by pledging eye/organs for donation on Monday.

The awareness rally was flagged off from the main gate of Super Specialty Hospital by Dr. Ashutosh Gupta, Principal, GMC Jammu, Dr. Elias Sharma, Nodal Officer SOTTO J&K and HOD Urology and Renal Transplant SSH Jammu, Dr. Sanjeev Puri, Joint Director SOTTO J&K, Dr. Rehana Khurshid, Medical Superintendent, SSH Jammu and Mohan Singh Chauhan, Treasurer; SVMM-



Dr. Ashutosh Gupta, Principal, GMC Jammu flagging off awareness rally

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Students from Rajiv Gandhi College of College of Nursing, Chak Bhalwal participated in the rally, held placards, banners and raised slogans to create awareness regarding the eye/organ donation.

Dr. Ashutosh Gupta, Principal GMC Jammu said many vital organs like heart, liver, kidneys, intestine, lungs, pancreas etc can be donated and saves many lives. "People

should come forward for this noble cause", he added.

Dr. Elias Sharma, Nodal Officer SOTTO J&K and HOD Urology and Renal Transplant SSH Jammu said that organ donation can save many lives and ensure that donors continue to make a difference in the lives of others.

Dr. Sanjeev Puri, Joint Director, SOTTO J&K said that SOTTO is carrying out various campaigns to create

mass awareness on the importance of eye/organ donation and motivating people to pledge their eyes/organs for donation after death. On Saturday, he delivered a lecture about Status of Eye Donation in J&K along with Dr. Suruchi Gupta who talked about Myths and Facts on eye donation in an event organized by Bee Enn College of Nursing Chack Bhalwal attended by faculty and nursing students.

The rally covered Maheshpura Chowk, Rehari, Amphalla & concluded at SVMMCH Amphalla and received by Anil Gupta, President, SVMMCH; Amar Chand Gupta, Sr. Vice President, SVMMCH; Dr. Romesh Gupta, Administrator; SVMMCH; Dr. Sham Jurangal, Sr. Ortho Surgeon, BB Gupta, General Secretary, SVMMCH; B.S. Janwal, Secretary, SVMMCH; Subash Gupta, Member, SVMMCH and Dr. Sachin Gupta, Member, SVMMCH.

The event was coordinated by Dr. Suruchi Gupta, Sr. Eye Consultant and Dr. Pallvi Sharma, Sr. Eye Consultant, SVMMCH and Team SOTTO J&K comprising Anshu Sharma, Consultant (IEC/Media), Irfan Ahmad Lone, Transplant Coordinator, Nisha Kumari, Programme Assistant and Drivers Ashok Singh and Ashwani Kumar.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Government Polytechnic Bikram Chowk, Jammu bags the "Outstanding Institution Award" at National level in a grand ceremony conducted at National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research (NITTTR), Chandigarh on its 57th Annual Day function. This award is given by NITTTR every year to the Best Polytechnics and Engineering Colleges in the country whose performance during the year is the best.

Er Arun Bangotra, Principal of Government Polytechnic Bikram



Er Arun Bangotra, Principal GPC Jammu receiving award.

Chowk, Jammu received the award from Gulab Chand Kataria, Governor, Punjab, and Administrator, UT, Chandigarh. He appreciated the efforts

of Government Polytechnic Jammu in providing quality education in J&K UT. The Principal was accompanied by Er Sukhdeep Singh, HOD Civil Engg. Dr.

Binod Kumar Kanaujia, Director, N.I.T, Jalandhar and Dr. Bhola Ram Gurjar Director NITTTR present in the function also congratulated Government Polytechnic Jammu for its excellent performance during the year 2023-24.

Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, IAS Administrative Secretary Skill Development Deptt J&K congratulated the Principal and staff on its exponential growth in imparting quality education and receiving the Outstanding Polytechnic Award at national level. Om Prakash Bhagat, JKAS, Director Skill Development, J&K also congratulated

and applauded the efforts and hard work of Er Arun Bangotra, Principal and staff of college in bringing the laurel to the J&K UT and stressed that Skill Development Department should achieve such milestones in future endeavors also. Er Arun Bangotra informed that the college had received this prestigious award for the second time, which is an achievement by itself and the credit for the award goes to the hardwork and dedication of staff and students.

While ascertaining the performance of the Polytechnic and Engineering colleges

in the country, Prof. A.B Gupta, Chairman, Awards Committee, NITTTR Chandigarh said that Polytechnic and Engineering colleges are awarded every year and this year three Polytechnics one each from Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and third Government Polytechnic Jammu has bagged the Best Polytechnic award for its remarkable performance during the academic year 2023-24 in various aspects like, academics, industries linkages, placements, MOUs, entrepreneurship activities, seminars and other co-curricular and extra-curricular activities conducted during the year 2023-24.