

JAMMU & KASHMIR

MLA Mankotia inaugurates Annual Baisakhi Mela at Binisang

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 14

The annual Baisakhi Mela at Binisang, was inaugurated by MLA Balwant Singh Mankotia on Tuesday amid great enthusiasm and festive spirit.

On the occasion, the MLA paid obeisance at the local temple and prayed for peace, prosperity, and well-being of the people. He appreciated the efforts of the Mela Committee and extended his best wishes for the successful organization of the event.

The mela witnessed enthusiastic participation from a large number of locals and visitors from nearby areas. A variety of colorful cultural programmes were presented



by local artists, showcasing the rich cultural heritage of the region.

Special arrangements were made for visitors, including swings for children, food stalls, langar

sewa, and a wide range of shopping stalls offering various items. The mela created a lively and joyful atmosphere, with people of all age groups enjoying the celebrations.

Among those present on the occasion were SDM Ranjeet Kotwal, SDPO Sukhvir Singh, Mandal President Manik Gupta, Amit Abrol, and several other prominent citizens.

LG Saxena addresses newly appointed govt employees at Rozgar Mela in Kargil

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The Lieutenant Governor of UT Ladakh, Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena, today handed over appointment letters to 200 newly appointed government employees at a Rozgar Mela held at Syed Mehdi Auditorium Hall Kargil.

The HLG congratulated the newly appointed employees on successfully clearing the competitive process. He extended his heartfelt congratulations not only to the selected candidates but also to their families, acknowledging their support, sacrifices, and encouragement.

Addressing the gathering, the Lieutenant Governor described the appointment letters as more than just employment documents, calling them the beginning of a lifelong responsibility. He reminded the appointees that millions of young people aspire for government jobs, but only a few are fortunate enough to secure them. This opportunity, he said, must be seen as a chance to serve the nation with honesty, dedication, and commitment.

Last year, recruitment for 1,385 posts was announced in Ladakh, with 710 candidates being appointed, including 200 from Kargil receiving appointment letters today. The remaining process is underway, stated the LG.

Advertisements for 34



Sub-Inspector and 331 Constable posts will be issued soon, with age relaxation up to 35 years for border area youth. Additionally, 213 teacher posts and over 500 non-gazetted posts will be filled shortly.

For 2025, 224 gazetted posts have been advertised through UPSC, and 141 more posts have been proposed for recruitment.

Quoting former President of India Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, the Lieutenant Governor said that while everyone may not possess equal talent, everyone has an equal opportunity to develop their abilities. He stressed that no job is small or big; rather, it is the sincerity and capability of the individual that gives value to the position they hold.

The Lieutenant Governor emphasised that government service should act as a medium to serve the weakest sections of society and bring positive change to

people's lives. A government job, he said, is not merely a means of earning a salary or job security, but a serious responsibility that contributes to the prosperity and development of the country. Honest and committed workers, he added, are the backbone of national progress.

He called upon the newly appointed employees to set an example for the next generation and work towards changing the negative perceptions often associated with government employees. Even a single individual with courage and integrity, he said, can bring meaningful change to the system.

Highlighting recent employment initiatives, the Lieutenant Governor informed that a significant number of employment opportunities have been provided across various departments, including appointments in education,

police, and technical services. Special recruitment drives have also been undertaken, and relaxations have been introduced for youth from border areas to ensure inclusive opportunities.

The Lieutenant Governor further stated that instructions have been issued to fill all pending vacancies in different departments at the earliest. Acknowledging that the recruitment process has traditionally been lengthy, he said efforts are underway to simplify and shorten procedures by adopting modern communication and administrative practices, ensuring transparency and efficiency.

He appreciated the departments involved in the recruitment process for maintaining transparency and fairness, noting that such recognition from political leadership strengthens administrative morale and public trust.

Panel Discussion on adoption of Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam 2023 at CUJ

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The Central University of Jammu under the Patronage of Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, successfully organized a Panel Discussion cum Open House on the Adoption of Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, 2023 at Brigadier Rajinder Singh Auditorium, DDE Building today on the theme "Women as Path-breakers of Viksit Bharat." The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from Deans, Heads of Departments, faculty members, research scholars, and students, creating a vibrant platform for academic dialogue and social reflection.

The event commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, followed by a documentary screening highlighting women's empowerment and the journey towards gender equality. Prof. Ritu Bakshi, Dean Students Welfare (DSW), delivered the welcome address, emphasizing



ing the importance of inclusive governance and equal representation of women in achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat.

The panel discussion was moderated by Prof. Jaya Bhasin, Chairperson GSCASH. The session featured eminent speakers including Prof. Vandana Sharma, Prof. Neelika Arora, Prof. Niranjana Bhandari, Dr. Nancy Mengi, and Prof. Bharti Gupta, who deliberated on various dimensions of the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, 2023. The discussion covered the historical trajectory of feminism, the long-awaited realization of the Adhiniyam, prevailing gender stereotypes, and the

future potentialities and challenges associated with its implementation.

The panelists collectively described the Adhiniyam as a historic step toward strengthening women's political participation, leadership, and democratic inclusivity, highlighting the crucial role of women in governance as a cornerstone of inclusive development.

An interactive open house session followed, wherein students actively engaged with the panelists by asking questions and seeking clarifications regarding the provisions of the Adhiniyam, societal barriers, and ways through which society can adopt and support gender

equality. The programme was further enriched with a poetry recitation and singing performance reflecting the strength and aspirations of women, followed by a PPT presentation on the relevance of the Adhiniyam in contemporary India.

The atmosphere resonated with enthusiasm and patriotism as participants raised slogans of "Bharat Mata Ki Jai," and a signature campaign was conducted in support of the adoption of the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, 2023.

A memento presentation ceremony was also conducted to felicitate the esteemed panelists for their valuable contributions.

BJP pays tributes to Dr. B. R. Ambedkar on his birth anniversary across J&K

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Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir, led by its senior leaders paid heartfelt tributes to Bharat Ratna Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar on his birth anniversary, organizing a series of programmes across the Union Territory to commemorate the life and legacy of the chief architect of the Indian Constitution.

The main programme in Jammu was led by J&K BJP President and Rajya Sabha MP Sat Sharma (CA), along with MLAs Vikram Randhawa, and Devyani Rana, and District President Naresh Singh Jasrotia. Floral tributes were offered to Dr. Ambedkar, remembering his unparalleled contribution towards social justice, equality, and nation-building.

Sat Sharma, addressing on the occasion, said that Dr. Ambedkar was a visionary leader who worked wholeheartedly to realize inclusive India after freedom from British rule. He emphasized that the BJP has given Dr. Ambedkar the respect and recognition he truly de-



served, which, he stressed, was long denied by the Congress leadership. He stated that prominent Congress leaders, including Jawaharlal Nehru, sidelined Dr. Ambedkar on crucial national issues, ultimately compelling him to resign from the ministry.

Sat Sharma added that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the government is firmly committed to the principle of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas," ensuring justice, dignity, and equal opportunities for the underprivileged

and marginalized sections of society.

Meanwhile, in Kashmir, the main programme was organized at Bandipora by J&K BJP General Secretary (Organization) Ashok Koul, who paid rich tributes to Dr. Ambedkar at the BJP office.

Ashok Koul, in his address, reiterated that Dr. Ambedkar's ideals continue to guide the BJP's policies and governance. He asserted that while previous governments failed to honour his legacy in true spirit, the Modi-led government has taken concrete steps to uphold his vision of social

equality and empowerment. He further said that the BJP remains dedicated to strengthening the rights of the downtrodden and ensuring inclusive development across all regions.

BJP Jammu District President Adv. Rajesh Gupta, State General Secretary Sanjita Dogra, MLA Yudhvir Sethi, District Prabhari Brishesh Rana, and other leaders paid floral tributes at the BJP office, Kachi Chawni, Jammu.

BJP Kashmir Displaced District also paid tributes at the BJP office, Kachi Chawni, Jammu.

Scenic Celebration of Baisakhi at Dera Baba Banda Bahadur

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vibrant and spiritually enriching scene was witnessed at the historic shrine of Dera Baba Banda Bahadur in Reasi district on the auspicious occasion of Baisakhi (Basoa). Renowned writer and social figure Abdul Quddir Kundria extended warm greetings to the people on this festive occasion.

The celebrations commenced with a traditional ritual at the Gurdwara Sahib, where sacred weapons (Shastras), including swords, were ceremoniously taken to the Chenab River, cleansed in its holy waters, and then brought back to the shrine. This marked the formal beginning of the Baisakhi festivities at the revered site.

Simultaneously, farmers across the region began harvesting their wheat crops, expressing their joy and gratitude. Devotees from various parts of India gathered at Dera Baba Banda Bahadur, celebrating the festival with great enthusiasm and spreading a message of peace, unity, and brotherhood. The shrine witnessed a festive atmosphere filled with devotion and cultural vibrancy.

Abdul Quddir Kundria remarked that the happiness and devotion of the visiting pilgrims reflected a deep



sense of communal harmony. He noted that groups of devotees (jathas) not only participated in religious rituals but also shared their joy with the local community, offering prayers for lasting peace, love, and brotherhood in the country.

The celebrations were further enriched by traditional cultural activities, including wrestling matches (dangal), musical performances with dhol, and other folk entertainments. These activities showcased the region's rich cultural heritage and strengthened the spirit of unity among participants.

Several visitors expressed their heartfelt experiences, stating that their visit brought them immense peace and a strong sense of

communal harmony. Prominent among them were Sardar Prem Jeet Singh Kamla (Delhi), Sardar Bhupinder Singh (Delhi), Som Nath Pawa (Hisar, Haryana), Sardar Sarabjeet Singh Hans (Panipat), and Ashok Khurana (Hisar, Haryana).

Adding to the cultural richness, Abdul Quddir Kundria presented his Dogri and Urdu poetry, which was highly appreciated by the audience. Devotees and pilgrims also shared their thoughts and emotions through poetry and devotional expressions in Punjabi, Hindi, and other languages during the Nagar Kirtan, captivating the gathering.

Thousands of devotees

from Haryana, Punjab, and other regions participated in the celebrations and enjoyed various programs, including Shastra rituals at the Chenab River, Nagar Kirtan, Langar, and wrestling events. Abdul Quddir Kundria personally attended these events and described the experience as deeply peaceful and a beautiful reflection of communal harmony.

On the occasion, Abdul Quddir Kundria congratulated the public on Baisakhi and appreciated the district administration for ensuring proper facilities.

He also acknowledged the effective security arrangements made by the police, army, and other agencies to ensure a safe and smooth celebration.

Kissan Cong celebrates Dr Ambedkar Jayanti at Pargwal

AKHNOOR, APR 14:

The JKPC Kissan Congress today organized an impressive celebration of Dr Ambedkar Jayanti at Pargwal in Akhnoor, with Chairman Bharat Priye leading the programme and highlighting the enduring relevance of B. R. Ambedkar in the present era.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from local residents, youth, and party workers, reflecting a collective commitment to remembering and promoting the ideals of Dr Ambedkar.

The programme began with floral tributes to the portrait of the great leader,



followed by addresses emphasizing his contributions to the nation.

Addressing the gathering, Bharat Priye paid rich tributes to Dr Ambedkar, describing him as the chief architect of the Indian Constitution and a visionary reformer who dedicated

his life to the upliftment of marginalized and underprivileged sections of society. He stressed that Dr Ambedkar's principles of equality, justice, and fraternity remain the cornerstone of Indian democracy and continue to inspire generations.

Elaborating further, he highlighted that Dr Ambedkar's contributions were not limited to drafting the Constitution but extended to shaping policies aimed at ensuring social and economic justice.