

JAMMU & KASHMIR

5-day Handicrafts & Handloom Expo heritage concludes at Kishtwar

Local craft sector get major boost with Over Rs 4 lakh sales

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 17

The 5-day Handicrafts & Handloom Expo themed "Come Explore - Local products are waiting; your purchase keeps heritage alive," concluded today here at the historic Chowgan Ground.

The scintillating event was organised by the Department of Handicrafts & Handloom under the RR Plan of HEPPs.

The 5 Day Programme was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma as the Chief Guest.

The expo witnessed overwhelming public participation, with thousands of visitors thronging the venue over five days. Artisans recorded more than Rs. 4 lakh sales during the 5-day



event marking a significant boost to the local craft and handloom sectors.

A felicitation ceremony was held to honour participating artisans for their contributions to preserving

local heritage. At the end, a Nasha Mukht pledge was administered to all the Participants as a part of the ongoing 100 Days Nasha Mukht JK Abhiyan Campaign aimed at to pro-

vide a drug-free society. The event showcased Kishtwar's rich artisanal legacy and reinforced the importance of supporting local products to keep heritage alive.

Nasha Mukht Abhiyan awareness programme held at Surankote

POONCH, APRIL 17:

In a significant initiative to promote a drug-free society, an awareness programme under the "Nasha Mukht Abhiyan" was organized today at TCP Surankote.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from students of the schools from across the Surankote area. The event aimed to sensitize the younger generation and the general public about the harmful effects of drug abuse and the importance of leading a healthy, disciplined life.

During the programme, students presented a series of cultural performances



that highlighted the adverse impact of substance abuse on individuals, families and society. The performances

effectively conveyed a strong message encouraging people to stay away from drugs and adopt posi-

tive life choices.

As part of the awareness drive, a rally was also taken out through Surankote town. Students actively participated, raising slogans against drug abuse and spreading awareness among the public. They appealed to the community to stay away from drugs, safeguard their children from the menace and focus on building a secure and bright future for the younger generation.

The event was coordinated by District Information Officer, Executive Officer Municipality Surankote and Cultural Officer JKAACL.

LG Ladakh introduces traditional uniform for commercial drivers

LEH, APRIL 17:

In a significant step towards enhancing the tourism experience and promoting Ladakh's unique cultural identity, the Administration of the Union Territory of Ladakh has launched a traditional Ladakhi uniform for commercial drivers following the intervention of the Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory of Ladakh, Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena. On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor also flagged off a vehicle branding initiative, featuring a common logo for all registered tourist vehicles.

Aimed at ensuring a pleasant, safe, and culturally immersive experience, the initiative recognises drivers as the first point of contact for



tourists and seeks to position them as cultural ambassadors of Ladakh. The introduction of a standardised logo-based sticker for tourist vehicles will create a distinct identity while enabling easy identification of authorised vehicles, thereby enhancing safety, transparency, and reliability.

Speaking on the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor said, "Our drivers are the first

ambassadors of Ladakh for every visitor. This initiative not only enhances the tourist experience but also proudly showcases our rich cultural identity. It will ensure safer, more reliable services while strengthening Ladakh's position as a unique and responsible tourism destination."

The initiative follows a meeting of the Lieutenant Governor with tourism

stakeholders, including representatives from ALTOA, ALHGHA, and AKTTA, held on March 17, after which directions were issued to mandate traditional attire for commercial drivers. Subsequently, the Regional Transport Officer (RTO), Ladakh, issued a circular on March 23 making it mandatory for all commercial drivers across Leh and Kargil to wear traditional Ladakhi attire. The directive covers all categories of transport vehicles.

The initiative is expected to bring greater discipline and professionalism in the tourism transport sector, while instilling a sense of pride among local drivers. It will be implemented in a phased manner in consultation with stakeholders.

NC nominates ward presidents, incharges

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 17

With the approval of the Provincial President Jammu Mr Rattan Lal Gupta. Mr Chander Mohan Sharma District President Jammu Urban has nominated the following Ward Presidents & Ward Incharges 76- Jammu East Assembly Constituency. On the recommendation of Mr Ashwani Charak Block President Jammu East.

The list of all the Wards Presidents & Ward Incharges is as under:-

Mr Puran Chand Ward No 1 Panjthirithi, Mr Arun Thothla Ward No 2 Jhullaka Mohalla, Mr Sanjay Suri Ward No 4 Bhabriani Kali Jani, Mr Moshin Salaria Ward No 5 Talab

Khatikan, Mr Haji Umar Din Ward No 6 Gujjar Nagar, Mr Sanjeev Kumar Ward No 7 Kanji House, Mr Narinder Bhagat Ward No 8 Dogra Hall, Mr Shukar Ahmad Ward No 9 Ustaad Mohalla, Mr Prabhat Kapai Ward No 11 Mohalla Malhotrian, Mr Rakesh Kumar Ward No 14 Bhagwati Nagar, Mr Iqbal Khullar Ward No 15 Partapgarh, Mrs Veena Ward No 16 New Plot, Mr Rajan Kumar Ward No 17 Ambphalla, Mr Yash Kumar Ward No 18 Sarwal Colony, Mr Tarseem Mehra Ward No 19 Chand Nagar and Mr Jamat Ali Ward No 71 Tawi Vihar as Ward Presidents.

Mr Ayudhya Sharma Ward No 1 Panjthirithi, Mr Arun Thothla Ward No 2 Jhullaka Mohalla, Mr San-

jay Suri Ward No 4 Bhabriani Kali Jani, Mr Raja Naveed Ward No 5 Talab Khatikan, Mr Haji Umar Din Ward No 6 Gujjar Nagar, Mrs Sapna Gill Ward No 7 Kanji House, Dr. Gorav Ward No 8 Dogra Hall, Mr Ashwani Charak Ward No 9 Ustaad Mohalla, Mr Prabhat Kapai Ward No 11 Mohalla Malhotrian, Mr Rakesh Kumar Ward No 14 Bhagwati Nagar, Mr Parshant Sharma Ward No 15 Partapgarh, Mr Som Raj Taroch Ward No 16 New Plot, Mr Rajan Kumar Ward No 17 Ambphalla, Dr. Vikas Ward No 18 Sarwal Colony, Mr Tarseem Mehra Ward No 19 Chand Nagar and Mrs Shama Akthar Ward No 71 Tawi Vihar as Ward Incharges.

Mr Rattan Lal Gupta ex-

pressed full confidence that the newly nominated Ward Presidents and Ward Incharges will deliver their best performance in their respected wards in the forthcoming Urban Local Bodies elections of Jammu Municipal Corporation. He hoped that each ward President shall work tirelessly to connect with the people, address local issues, and convey the achievements and welfare initiatives of the Omar led Government to every household. He urged all party workers to support the Ward Presidents, Ward Incharges and ensure the party's message of good governance and development reaches every corner of the Jammu city which shall be made as modern and beautiful city.

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 17

Jammu & Kashmir Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) State General Secretary (Organization) Ashok Koul chaired a review meeting of the BJP's Nari Shakti especially BJP Mahila Morcha leaders to assess the progress of the ongoing week-long programme dedicated to the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam.

J&K BJP Vice-President Priya Sethi and Mahila Morcha President Adv. Neha Mahajan, also accompanied Ashok Koul on the dais.

The meeting focused on evaluating the outreach activities being conducted across districts to raise awareness about the landmark legislation aimed at enhancing women's political participation. Detailed discussions were held on the execution of programmes at the grassroots level and strategies to further strengthen public engagement during the remaining days of the campaign.

Ashok Koul, while seeking a detailed overview of



the activities conducted so far under the week-long programme, emphasized the historic significance of the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam.

He stated that it reflects the firm commitment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government towards women empowerment and inclusive governance.

He said that the Act marks a transformative step in ensuring adequate representation of women in legislative bodies and urged party workers to take this message to every house-

hold. He further stressed the importance of effective coordination and dedicated efforts by the Mahila Morcha and other women leaders of party to maximize the impact of the ongoing campaign. He appreciated the enthusiastic participation of women across Jammu & Kashmir in the programmes conducted by the BJP Mahila Morcha and other organizations.

Priya Sethi highlighted that the initiative is not merely about awareness but also about inspiring women to actively engage in the democratic process. She called

upon Mahila Morcha members to connect with women from all sections of society and make them aware of the opportunities created through this progressive legislation.

Adv. Neha Mahajan She assured the leadership that the Mahila Morcha is committed to reaching the grassroots and ensuring maximum participation. She also emphasized the need to sustain this momentum beyond the campaign and continue working towards empowering women socially, politically, and economically.

Ramakrishna Mission holds Free Neurology Medical Camp

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 17

The Ramakrishna Mission Medical Centre Jammu successfully organized a one-day Free Neurology Medical Camp at the Mission Hospital in Udheywala Jammu. The camp featured Dr. Susheel Razdan, Neurologist; Dr. K.K. Pandita, Physician and Dr. Rajni Razdan, Gynaecologist.

The health camp provided a comprehensive range of free medical services, including consultations with Neurologist, Gynecologist, Dental Surgeons, Allopathy Physicians and Physiotherapist. A total of 112 patients benefited from the expertise of 11 doctors at this camp. 52 no. of patients were benefited with Various Services including ECG, X-ray, Dental, Physiotherapy, Ultrasound, pathology Etc.

A Full Body Check-up covering 65 parameters, in-



cluding CBC, LFT, KFT, Lipid profile, BSF, Urine tests, and thyroid function tests (T3, T4, TSH), was available for a nominal fee of Rs. 1200, a substantial discount from the usual price of Rs. 2300.

This camp was a part of Ramakrishna Mission Medical Centre's ongoing commitment to serving the community and providing accessible healthcare ser-

VICES to all. Swami Yajnadarhananda Ji, Secretary of Ramakrishna Mission, Jammu, highlighted the organization's commitment to the ideals of Sri Ramakrishna Dev, Maa Sarada, and Swami Vivekananda, emphasizing service to humanity as a form of divine worship. He also announced plans to organize such free camps monthly. Addition-

ally, he asked everyone to benefit from the spiritual activities offered by the Ramakrishna Mission.

For other information the Organisation can be contacted at 9596984032. Ramakrishna Mission, Jammu provides cultural, educational and medical services following the ideals of Sri Ramakrishna Dev, Maa Sarada Devi and Swami Vivekananda.

Divine Satsang highlights essence of Sanatan Dharma and spiritual living

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 17

A deeply spiritual and uplifting atmosphere enveloped Ward No. 7, Kathua, where Smt. Savita Jamwal and Shri Balram Singh Jamwal organized a grand Divya Satsang Darbar at their residence on the auspicious occasion of the wedding celebrations of their beloved son, Aditya Singh Jamwal.

The sacred event was graced by revered Swami Shri Umeshanand Ji Maharaj of Raghunath Dham, Bhojpur, whose divine presence and soulful discourses captivated the gathering. Devotees from Kathua and adjoining areas gathered in large numbers to partake in the spiritual congregation, immersing themselves in devotional bhajans and enlightening teachings.

In his profound address, Swami Ji elaborated extensively on the significance of Sanatan Dharma, describing it as the eternal path that upholds truth (satya),



righteousness (dharma), compassion (karuna), and self-realization. He emphasized that Sanatan Dharma is not merely a religion but a way of life that guides humanity towards harmony with nature, society, and the divine.

Highlighting the importance of satsang within Sanatan Dharma, Swami Ji stated that satsang acts as a powerful medium to connect individuals with higher consciousness and divine wisdom. He explained that in today's era of material distractions and moral chal-

lenges, satsang serves as a guiding light, helping individuals cultivate inner peace, discipline, and spiritual awareness. It fosters positive thinking, ethical conduct, and strengthens faith in divine principles.

Swami Ji further emphasized that Sanatan Dharma teaches universal values of unity, tolerance, and service to humanity. Through satsang, individuals are reminded of their duties towards family, society, and nation, while also striving for spiritual upliftment. He urged the younger genera-

tion to remain rooted in their cultural and spiritual heritage, and to embrace the teachings of the Vedas, scriptures, and saints to lead a purposeful and balanced life.

The discourse also highlighted how regular participation in satsang helps in cleansing negative tendencies, reducing stress, and instilling a sense of devotion and gratitude. It encourages collective harmony and strengthens social bonds, making society more compassionate and value-driven.