

Mata Kheer Bhawani yatra fagged off amid record participation

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, JUNE 21

The maiden two-day Sarazi Mela, showcasing the cultural heritage, traditions, sports and artistic excellence of the Sarazi region, concluded today at Bajkote, Dhandrath, with strong public participation.

The concluding ceremony was graced by MLA Ramban Arjun Singh Raju and Deputy Commissioner Ramban Mohammad Alyas Khan, with Special Secretary (Health and Medical Education Department) Dhananther Singh attending as Special Guest.

Organised by the District Administration Ramban and Directorate of Tourism Jammu in collaboration with the Sarazi Mela Committee Bajkote Dhandrath, the mela served as a platform to showcase and preserve the cultural identity of the Sarazi-speaking belt. The event highlighted the region's traditions, folk music, dances, handicrafts, indigenous sports and community values under the theme "Preserving Culture, Promoting Heritage, Inspiring Youth". Winners and outstanding performers were felicitated during the concluding function.

The cultural segment remained the major attraction of the mela, featuring performances by local artists. Folk songs and dances reflected the cultural legacy of the region. The Kud dance performance drew strong applause from the audience.

An Art and Craft Exhibition (Pradarshini) displayed locally made handi-



crafts, traditional artefacts and indigenous products, providing a platform for local artisans to exhibit their talent and promote the region's artistic heritage.

The MLA appreciated the organisers for preserving and promoting Sarazi culture through such events and called for safeguarding local traditions and encouraging youth participation in cultural and sports activities. He announced ₹10 lakh from his Constituency Development Fund for construction and improvement of the Dhandrath-Bajkote road.

The Deputy Commissioner lauded the organisers and participants for the

event and reiterated the District Administration's commitment to preserving local culture and promoting tourism and rural development. He assured that the Dhandrath-Bajkote road project would be taken up for inclusion under the PMGSY to improve connectivity and facilitate socio-economic growth in the area.

The dignitaries also appreciated the contribution of local artists, artisans and youth.

Among those present were SSP Ramban Arun Gupta, Additional Deputy Commissioner Varunjeet Singh Charak, Assistant Commissioner (Revenue) Shokat Hayat Mattoo,

Tehsildar Ramban Deep Kumar, senior officers from various departments, prominent citizens, social activists, local artists, artisans and a large number of people from across the district.

Prominent members of the Sarazi Mela Committee Bajkote Dhandrath present on the occasion included Parshotam Singh, Gandharb Singh, Davinder Singh, Hari Lal Nag, Raj Dev Manhas, Charan Singh Manhas, Charan Dass Manhas, Rajesh Singh, Des Raj Gouria, Balwant Singh Nag, Imtiaz Ahmed Malik and Pooja Thakur, besides several other members of the committee and the locals.

MLA Mankotia holds public darbar at Thildu, resolves grievances on spot

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MLA Chenani-Ghordi Balwant Singh Mankotia today organised a public darbar at Thildu, Panchode Latti to address concerns and grievances of the local population.

Officers from various government departments attended the programme to hear and resolve public issues.

People raised several issues and demands before the MLA and departmental officers. Taking immediate cognisance of the grievances, the MLA directed the officers concerned to resolve the issues on priority and ensure prompt action wherever possible.

On the occasion, the people thanked MLA Mankotia for initiating the long-pending Pattangarh-Latti road from his Constituency Development Fund, with an allocation of ₹10 lakh. Residents said the project would improve connectivity and reduce travel distance and time for the local population.



The locals also thanked the MLA for developmental initiatives in the area, including installation of new hand pumps, strengthening of electricity infrastructure, construction and upgradation of PMGSY roads, sanctioning of PMAY houses, strengthening of healthcare and approval of new school buildings. Speaking on the occasion, the MLA said the

objective of organising public darbars was to ensure people do not have to run from one office to another to get their issues addressed; instead, government officers should come directly to the doorsteps of the people and listen to their concerns. He reaffirmed his commitment to continue holding such darbars so that governance remains accessible, trans-

parent and people-centric. The MLA expressed gratitude to the Narendra Modi-led Union Government for its focus on the development of J&K. The darbar saw participation of a large number of locals along with former PRI representatives, former DDC members, former Sarpanches, former Panchs and other prominent citizens of the area.

Int'l Day of Yoga celebrated at Rajouri

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The 12th International Day of Yoga was celebrated at Sports Stadium Kheora where participants watched the live telecast of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address from Kolkata.

The Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma highlighted Yoga's role in promoting physical fitness and mental well-being and urged youth to adopt it daily. Yoga Day was also celebrated in all eight Vibrant Villages of the district, including Sariah, besides



sub-divisions and panchayats across Rajouri.

A signature campaign under the 100-Day Nasha Mukt Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan was also held

at the venue to generate awareness against drug abuse. Among those present were DIG Rajouri-Poonch Range Sandeep Wazir, SSP Gaurav Sikar-

war, ADDC Malikzada Sheraz ul Haq and ADC Ravi Kumar Sihag, who joined officers, students, sports persons and citizens in the celebrations.

Pulwama celebrates 12th International Day of Yoga with Enthusiasm

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JAMMU, JUNE 21

District Administration Pulwama, in collaboration with the District Ayush Office Pulwama, today organised a mega event at Hockey Turf, Boys Higher Secondary School Pulwama to commemorate the 12th International Day of Yoga under the theme "Yoga for Healthy Ageing." The programme was held in sync with the nationwide celebrations and featured the live streaming of the address of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, from Kolkata.

A large number of participants, including officers, officials, students, youth, and members of civil society, took part in the event and performed the Common Yoga Protocol under the guidance of a yoga instructor. Various yoga asanas were demonstrated during the session, highlighting the role of yoga in promoting physical fitness, mental well-being, stress management and a healthy lifestyle.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom, high-



lighted the importance of yoga as a holistic approach to health and wellness. He urged people to adopt yoga as a regular part of their daily routine for achieving better physical and mental health and encouraged them to avail the preventive and wellness services being provided by the AYUSH and Health Departments in the district.

The event was attended by Senior Superintendent of Police Pulwama,

Tanushree; Additional Deputy Commissioner Pulwama; Chief Planning Officer, Pulwama; General Manager, DIC Pulwama; Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Pulwama; Assistant Commissioner Development Pulwama; Chief Education Officer Pulwama; District Ayush Officer Pulwama; Chief Medical Officer Pulwama; besides officers and officials from various departments. Political represen-

tatives, students, social activists, youth club members and local residents also participated enthusiastically in the programme.

On similar lines, a mega yoga session was organised at the iconic heritage site of Avantismwami Temple, Awantipora, which witnessed participation of the Senior Superintendent of Police Awantipora, Sajad Ahmad Shah; Additional Deputy Commissioner Awantipora, officers and officials of various departments, students and members of the local community. Likewise, a yoga session was held at Sports Stadium Bajwani, Tral, which was attended by the Additional Deputy Commissioner Tral, officers of various departments, students and youth participants. Meanwhile, yoga sessions were also organised across the district at Ayushman Arogya Mandirs, Amrit Sarovars, educational institutions including schools and colleges, and health facilities.

These programmes aimed at creating awareness regarding the importance of yoga and encouraging its adoption as a daily practice among people of all age groups.

HC J&K and Ladakh celebrate Int'l Yoga Day

SRINAGAR, JUNE 21:

High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh today celebrated the International Yoga Day at High Court Complex, Srinagar, under the directions of the Chief Justice (A), with fervor and enthusiasm.

The event was graced by Justice Sanjay Dhar, Judge, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, who led the Yoga Sessons. The event was also graced by the presence of the Registrar General, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Member/Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority, Director, J&K Judicial Academy, Registrar Judicial Srinagar, Registrar IT, Joint Registrar (Judicial), Secretary, High Court Legal Services Committee, CPC (e-courts), besides other judicial officers/officers of the Registry and large number of the officials who actively participated in the event.

During the programme, common Yoga protocol session were conducted by trained Yoga Instructors from the Directorate of AYUSH led by Dr. Peerzada



Altaf Ahmad Shah. The participants performed various Asanas, Pranayama and meditation techniques in accordance with the theme of this year.

Addressing the gathering, Justice Sanjay Dhar emphasized the importance of Yoga in managing stress and maintaining work life balance, especially for the members of the legal fraternity. He stated that regular

practice of Yoga enhances concentration, discipline and mental clarity—the qualities essential for effective dispensation of justice. He also appreciated the efforts of the Registry in organizing the event and urged all to make Yoga an integral part of their daily life.

The event concluded with a pledge to adopt Yoga for personal and community well-being.

DC Kulgam visits Mata Tripur Sundari Khanbarni Devsar; reviews arrangements for Mela Kheer Bhawani

KULGAM, JUNE 21: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Shahzad Alam today visited Mata Tripur Sundari Khanbarni Devsar and reviewed arrangements put in place for celebration of Annual Kheer Bhawani Mela. Officials from KPDCCL,

Jal Shakti, Municipal Committee, Health, Fire & Emergency Services, CAPD, Revenue, Police and other line departments briefed the DC about the arrangements put in place for smooth conduct of the celebrations. The DC instructed the concerned offi-



cers to synergize efforts to ensure smooth celebration of Mela Kheer Bhawani and extend all requisite facilities to the devotees.

He directed all the officers to ensure appropriate arrangements are put in place for the smooth conduct of Mela.

He also interacted with the management Committee members and devotees and extended his greetings to them. Among others, the DC was accompanied by ADC, Viqar Ahmed Giri, Tehsildar Devsar, EO MC Devsar, SHO Devsar, BDO and other officers.

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