

## Jyeshtha Day & Night Purnima Vrat to be observed on 29 June: Mahant Rohit Shastri

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**JAMMU:** In Sanatan Dharma, every Purnima holds great spiritual and religious significance, but Jyeshtha Purnima is regarded as especially auspicious and spiritually rewarding.

Mahant Rohit Shastri, President of the Shri Kailakh Jyotish avim Vedic Sansthan Trust (Registered) and renowned astrologer, stated that this year Jyeshtha Day and Night Purnima will be observed on Monday, 29 June 2026.

On this sacred occasion, devotees who perform the proper worship of Lord Vishnu in His Shri Satyanarayan form, observe the fast, and listen to or recite the Satyanarayan Katha are blessed with peace, prosperity, happiness, and the fulfillment of their wishes.

According to Mahant Rohit Shastri, the Purnima Tithi will commence at 3:06 a.m. on 29 June and conclude at 5:26 a.m. on 30 June 2026. As per the Udaya Tithi and traditional Hindu customs, both the Day and Night Purnima will be observed on 29 June, while the fast (Vrat) will be concluded on Tuesday, 30 June 2026.

He said that worshipping Lord Satyanarayan, Lord Shiva, Goddess Parvati, Lord Ganesha, and Chandra Dev (the Moon God) on this day holds special religious significance.

Devotees who observe the fast with faith and perform or listen to the Satyanarayan Katha are believed



to overcome obstacles in life while inviting happiness, prosperity, and positive energy into their homes.

Mahant Rohit Shastri further explained that the scriptures prescribe following a pure and sattvic lifestyle on Jyeshtha Purnima. Consumption of non-vegetarian food, alcohol, and other intoxicants is considered strictly prohibited on this day.

Observing celibacy and maintaining purity in thought, speech, and action are also regarded as highly auspicious.

He added that taking a holy bath in the River Ganga or any sacred river on this day is believed to wash

away the sins of many lifetimes. If visiting a pilgrimage site or holy river is not possible, devotees may add a few drops of Gangajal to their bath water at home to attain similar spiritual merit.

Highlighting the importance of charity, he said that donating a water-filled earthen pot, food grains, clothes, fruits, sweets, jaggery, and other essential items to a deserving Brahmin or a needy person on Jyeshtha Purnima is considered highly auspicious. Those who are able may also perform donation of gold, which is regarded as especially meritorious.

Worshipping the full moon at night by offering a lamp, incense, flowers, rice grains (Akshat), jaggery, and water is believed to invoke the blessings of Chandra Dev, helping to alleviate mental stress, financial difficulties, and family-related problems.

Special Remedy for Financial Prosperity

Mahant Rohit Shastri advised that those facing persistent financial difficulties should offer 11 cowrie shells before the idol of Goddess Mahalakshmi on Jyeshtha Purnima. After applying a turmeric tilak to the cowries and worshipping them with devotion, they should be wrapped in a red cloth and placed in the household safe or wherever money is kept on Tuesday, 30 June 2026. According to traditional belief, this remedy helps attract wealth and strengthens financial stability.

## Samvedna hosts Creator Excellence Awards 2026, Calls on Digital Creators to fight substance abuse

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**JAMMU:** The Creator Excellence Awards 2026, organised by Samvedna Society, brought together digital creators, government officials and social leaders in Jammu on Friday, combining recognition of creative talent with a renewed call to strengthen the campaign against drug abuse in the Union Territory.

The event, organised by Samvedna Society Chairman Keshav Chopra at the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), Jammu and Kashmir Regional Branch, served as a platform to encourage YouTubers, bloggers, influencers and content creators to use their online presence to spread awareness under the Nasha Mukh Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyaan.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Ansuya Jamwal, JKAS, who attended as the chief guest, highlighted the measures being taken by the district administration and the Jammu and Kashmir Police to dismantle drug trafficking networks. Referring to official data and a presentation on enforcement action, she appealed to citizens to actively support the administration and law



enforcement agencies in eliminating drug abuse from society. She also appreciated Samvedna Society for organising the awareness initiative.

Addressing the gathering, Keshav Chopra urged young content creators to become ambassadors of the anti-drug movement by producing awareness-driven digital content. Launching the slogan, "Say No to Drugs and Yes to Talent," he said social media platforms should be used to inspire positive social change and announced that Samvedna Society would continue organising similar programmes to engage youth in constructive activities. The programme

featured an emotional account by a recovered drug survivor, who shared personal experiences of addiction and rehabilitation. The testimony underscored the consequences of substance abuse while encouraging young people to seek help and embrace a healthier future.

Guests of honour Gagan Sharma and Shakti Dutt Sharma also stressed the importance of collective social responsibility in combating addiction. Gagan Sharma advocated stronger family engagement, open communication and traditional family values as preventive measures against substance abuse, while Shakti Dutt Sharma

called upon the youth to contribute towards nation-building by rejecting drug addiction and other social evils.

The event concluded with a collective pledge by participants to support a drug-free society through sustained awareness campaigns and community participation.

Waqf Board Member Sohail Kazmi and Padma Shri awardee Romalo Ram attended as special guests. The proceedings were conducted by Kusum Tikoo, while Suhana Sharma proposed the vote of thanks. Several social workers, media personalities, educationists and content creators from across Jammu also participated in the programme.

## Police solve theft case, Three accused arrested

**JAMMU:** Jammu Police have solved a theft case registered at Police Station Channi Himmat by arresting three accused and recovering stolen cash and other property during the course of the investigation.

The arrested accused have been identified as Manish Kumar, Sagar Kumar and Dharminder Kumar, who was employed as a worker at the shop where the theft was reported.

According to police, the breakthrough was achieved following a sustained investigation conducted under the supervision of the Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO) East and the Station House Officer (SHO), Police Station Channi Himmat.

During questioning, the accused allegedly admitted their involvement in the theft. Acting on the information provided by them, the investigating team recovered ₹1.10 lakh in cash and five LED lights, which police said had been stolen from the premises.

Police said further investigation is underway to ascertain whether the arrested individuals were involved in any other criminal cases.

Officials stated that the prompt detection of the case reflects the ongoing efforts of Jammu Police to curb criminal activities and ensure the safety and security of citizens.

## NC calls for stronger coordination to eliminate Drug Abuse

### Parents, institutions must join fight against drug menace: Babu Rampal

**JAMMU:** Former Minister and Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Zonal President Babu Rampal on Friday called for a united campaign against drug addiction, urging the government, educational institutions, community organisations and citizens to work together to curb substance abuse and protect the younger generation.

Addressing a meeting on the occasion of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, Rampal described drug addiction as a major challenge confronting society and said combating the menace requires collective responsibility rather than government intervention alone.

He said the increasing incidence of substance abuse was adversely affecting young people, weakening families and posing a challenge to the social fabric of Jammu and Kashmir. Stressing the role of parents, Rampal urged them to maintain regular communication with their children, remain alert to behavioural changes and encourage participation in education, sports, cultural activities and other constructive pursuits.

The National Conference leader also called for sustained awareness campaigns in schools, colleges and communities to educate young people about the physical, psychological, social and economic consequences of drug addiction. He emphasised the need to support individuals undergoing rehabilitation and facilitate their reintegration into society.

Advocating stronger coordination among government agencies, law enforcement authorities, educational institutions and civil society organisations, Rampal said a comprehensive strategy based on prevention, awareness, counselling, rehabilitation and strict action against narcotics traffickers was essential to address the problem.

He also appreciated the efforts of the Jammu and Kashmir Police and the civil administration in acting against drug peddlers and urged them to intensify measures to dismantle narcotics networks operating across the region.

Appealing directly to young people, Rampal urged them to reject drugs, adopt healthy lifestyles and contribute positively to society, asserting that sustained public participation would be essential in achieving the goal of a drug-free Jammu and Kashmir.

Among those present at the meeting were Dr Vikas Sharma, Adv. Rajinder Chanyal, Rahul Mahajan, Sham Lal Mehra, Bharat Bhushan, B.D. Dalotra (Retd. SP), S. Surjeet Singh Sasan, Adv. Lovish Bharat, Naved Raja, Manohar Lal, Rajinder Kumar, Amar Nath Bhagat and other National Conference functionaries.

## Ganotra and Deygal Brahmin community to hold Bi-Annual congregation at Purmandal on June 29

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**JAMMU:** The Ganotra and Deygal Brahmin Biradari will organise its Bi-Annual Congregation on Monday, June 29, at the revered Devassthan Kharha Madana in Purmandal, bringing together community members from across the region and outside for a day of religious observance and cultural fellowship.

According to a communiqué issued by the organisers, the congregation will begin with traditional religious rituals and a sacred fire ceremony to invoke divine blessings for peace, prosperity and the well-being of the community. Devotees are expected to assemble early in the morning to participate in the spiritual proceedings at the historic shrine.

Following the religious ceremonies,

a community feast will be served to devotees and visiting members during the afternoon. The management committee has made arrangements for seating, sanitation and other essential facilities to ensure the smooth conduct of the congregation.

The organisers have extended an invitation to members of the Ganotra and Deygal Brahmin Biradari, including those residing outside Jammu and Kashmir, to attend the congregation with their families and offer prayers at the shrine of Bua Dati, the community's revered deity.

The organisers said the congregation serves not only as a religious occasion but also as an opportunity to reinforce social bonds, preserve the community's cultural traditions and promote unity among members across generations.



## DC Kishtwar leads awareness programme on International Day against Drug Abuse

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**KISHTWAR:** The District Administration Kishtwar organised an awareness programme at the GDC Auditorium, Kishtwar, to observe the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on the theme "World drug problem: Persisting issues, new challenges, innovative responses."

Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pankaj Kumar Sharma attended as Chief Guest and Additional Deputy Commissioner Pawan Kotwal as Guest of Honour.

Dr Imtiaz Mansur, Senior Consultant Psychiatry and former Nodal Officer, Mental Health, Kashmir Division, DHS Kashmir, attended as Special Guest and delivered a presentation on drug abuse covering its causes,

symptoms, harmful effects and treatment options.

The programme featured a signature campaign against drug abuse launched by the DC, alongside a painting competition, awareness skits and speeches on drug prevention.

The Deputy Commissioner highlighted the administration's 100-day anti-drug campaign launched UT-wide on April 11 by the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, covering awareness, enforcement and rehabilitation. Extensive awareness drives were conducted across the district, followed by strict action against drug peddlers, including confiscation of movable and immovable properties and legal action under relevant laws. On rehabilitation, the DC said persons affected by

## Kathua Police trace 4 missing Women, reunite them with Families in Billawar

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**KATHUA:** Jammu and Kashmir Police have traced four women reported missing from different villages in Kathua district and reunited them with their respective families following a coordinated search operation carried out in the Billawar subdivision, officials said on Friday.

The women, whose disappearances had been reported on different dates at Police Station Billawar, were located after a search operation involving technical surveillance and field investigation. After completing the prescribed legal formalities, the police handed them over to their legal heirs.

The operation was conducted by a team led by the Station House Officer of Police Station Billawar under the supervision of the Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO), Billawar, and the overall supervision of Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kathua, Mohita Sharma, IPS.



According to the police, separate missing reports had been registered after complaints were lodged by the families of Bushar Bano (23) of Machhedhi in Lohai Malhar tehsil, Pinki Devi (18) of Machhedhi, Sunita Devi (20) of Dhar Dugnoo in Billawar tehsil and Mameta Devi (26) of Kishanpur in Billawar.

Following the registration of the missing reports, the investigating team launched searches across multiple locations. Officials said the women were eventually traced

through a combination of technical assistance and sustained field efforts before being produced for the requisite legal proceedings.

Police said all four women were reunited with their families after the completion of the legal process.

Officials added that members of the public appreciated the efforts of the Kathua Police in tracing the missing women within a short span of time and ensuring their safe return.

## Trauma Hospital Khellani holds Blood Donation Camp

**ASSAR:** A voluntary blood donation camp was organised at Trauma Hospital Khellani in collaboration with Government Medical College Doda.

The camp was inaugurated by Block Medical Officer Assar Dr Syed Mohd Ismail in the presence of the Blood Bank team from GMC Doda and the staff of Trauma Hospital Khellani.

The drive collected 19 units of blood from donors drawn from the public, healthcare workers and volunteers.

Dr Syed Mohd Ismail appreciated the contribution of all blood donors and thanked the Blood Bank team and hospital staff for their support.

He urged people to donate blood regularly.

## MCCC Trust donates fully equipped Hearse Van to Swarg Ashram Cremation Ground



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**JAMMU:** In a move aimed at strengthening community support services, the M C Chopra Charitable Trust (MCCCCT) on Friday donated a fully equipped hearse van to Swarg Ashram Cremation Ground in Shastri Nagar, enhancing facilities for the dignified transportation of mortal remains in Jammu.

The vehicle was donated by Chetan Chopra and Kunal Chopra, Trustees of the M C Chopra Charitable Trust, as part of the Trust's philanthropic initiatives. The hearse van is expected to improve the cremation ground's

capacity to provide timely transportation services to bereaved families during funeral arrangements.

The keys of the vehicle were formally handed over by the Chopra family to S. Balvinder Singh, Chairman, Bharat Kumar Sharma, Secretary, and Suresh Sethi, Treasurer of Swarg Ashram Cremation Ground, during a function attended by members of the cremation ground management committee and local residents.

Among those present were Chander Udhay Sharma, President of the Resident Welfare Association, Gandhi Nagar, and Arun Sharma, General Secretary of the association, along with

other distinguished guests. Speaking on the occasion, S. Balvinder Singh expressed gratitude to the M C Chopra Charitable Trust and its trustees for the donation, stating that the addition of the hearse van would strengthen the cremation ground's ability to provide essential transportation services with dignity and efficiency to families during times of loss.

The trustees reaffirmed their commitment to undertaking welfare initiatives aimed at serving society and said the Trust would continue supporting projects focused on community well-being and humanitarian assistance.