

Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks



The Valley of Flowers National Park, with its gentler landscape, breath-taking beautiful meadows of alpine flowers and ease of access, complements the rugged, inaccessible, high mountain wilderness of Nanda Devi.

The Valley of Flowers is internationally important on account of its diverse alpine flora, representative of the West Himalaya biogeography zone. The National Parks are exceptionally beautiful high-altitude West Himalayan landscapes with outstanding biodiversity.

This richly diverse area is also home to rare and endangered animals, including the Asiatic black bear, snow leopard, brown bear and blue sheep. Nanda Devi National Park is home to a wide variety of flora. Some 312 floral species that include 17 rare species have been found here. Fir, birch, rhododendron and juniper are the main flora.

This park was declared as world heritage by UNESCO in the year 1988. It was later expanded and renamed as Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks in 2005. The Nanda Devi National Park or Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve, established in 1982 is a national park situated around the peak of Nanda Devi 7816 mt. in Chamoli Garhwal district of Uttarakhand, in northern India.

The area of park is 630.33 sq. km and the entire park lies at an elevation of more than 3,500 mt. above mean sea level. This entire area, located within the Western Himalayas Endemic Bird Area (EBA), supports significant populations of mountain ungulates and galliformes that are prey to carnivores such as the snow leopard.

One of the most spectacular wilderness areas in the Himalayas, Nanda Devi National Park is dominated by the 7,817 m peak of Nanda

Devi, India's second highest mountain which is approached through the Rishi Ganga gorge, one of the deepest in the world. The Nanda Devi National Park, with its wide range of high altitude habitats, holds significant populations of flora and fauna including a number of threatened mammals, notably snow leopard and Himalayan musk deer, as well as a large population of bharal, or blue sheep. The rich diversity of species reflects the valley's location within a transition zone between the Zaskar and Great Himalaya ranges to the north and south, respectively, and between the Eastern and Western Himalaya flora.

A number of plant species are globally threatened, several have not been recorded from elsewhere in Uttarakhand and two have not been recorded in Nanda Devi National Park. The diversity of threatened species of medicinal plants is higher than has been recorded in other Indian

Himalayan protected areas. The entire Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve lies within the Western Himalayas Endemic Bird Area (EBA). Seven restricted-range bird species are endemic to this part of the EBA.

The Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks are naturally well protected due to their remoteness and limited access. Both the parks were unexplored until the 1930s and have not been subjected to anthropogenic pressures since 1983 with the exception of some well regulated community-based ecotourism to small portions of the parks. The local communities residing in the buffer zones of the Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve actively participate in the conservation programmes of the Forest Department.

The first British climber Frank S. Smith and his partner R. Ale. Holdsworth in 1931 when he was returning from his expedition to Mount Kamet.

Smith was so impressed by its beauty that he returned to this valley in 1937 and wrote a book called "Valley of Flowers" which he got published in 1938. Tourists enjoy a lot of trekking while enjoying the magical sight of different varieties of flowers adorning the valley.

For those who love nature and flowers and are interested in gardening, about 500 types of flowers are found here. Along with flowers, 250 species of birds and 70 species of butterflies and other animals are found here.

The months of May and June are the most favorable time of the year to visit Nanda Devi National Sanctuary. The nearest airport is Jolly Grant located at Dehradun at a distance of 295 kms. There are regular flights from Delhi to here. Haridwar nearest railway station is 202 kms. It is also connected by road to all the major places.

-Dr. Prabhat Singh, Anuj Kuchhal, Shikha Agrawal

DealShare raises \$165 million in a fresh round of financing, valuing the company at \$1.6bn+

Udaipur. 3-year-old social e-commerce start-up DealShare today announced that it has raised \$165 million in the first close of its Series E fund raise. The Company welcomed Dragonair Investments Group, Kora Capital and Unilever Ventures, along with continued commitments from existing investors Tiger Global and Alpha Wave Global (Falcon Edge).

The company has been growing its consumer and revenue base strongly and expects to hit \$1bn revenues in the near term. The funds raised in this round will be utilized to invest in technology and data science, as well as a ten-fold expansion in its logistics infrastructure and to increase geographic reach. In addition, it will establish a siz-

able offline store franchise network. DealShare has built a new disruptive retail model for India focusing on affordability for mass consumers. It offers high-quality, low-priced essentials coupled with a gamified, fun-filled, and virality-driven shopping experience, making it easy for first-time internet users to experience online shopping. Commenting on the latest funding round, Vineet Rao, Founder & CEO of DealShare, said: "DealShare is one of the fastest growing e-commerce companies in India. Our revenues and customer base have grown 13 times in the last year with improving profitability. With a strong customer base of over 10 million, we have expanded our geographical presence to over 100 cities across 10

states. Our company has created job opportunities for over 5,000 persons across the country." We have created a network of over 1,000 community leaders under our flagship program DealShareDost enabling an efficient and highly scalable supply chain. We will be utilizing the proceeds from the round to invest heavily into technology, improving the supply chain and expanding our footprint throughout the country. We will also invest in acquiring best-in-class technologies and marquee brands that are focused on the mass market", Rao added.

Griffin Schroeder, Partner, Tiger Global said "DealShare is growing rapidly and has built an impressive customer base with a strong leadership team executing on its innova-

tive social commerce strategy. As it expands into Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities, DealShare is well positioned to power a new wave of e-commerce growth in India."

Sharing his vision for the company's growth trajectory, Sourjyendu Medda, Founder, Chief Business Officer, DealShare, said: "We are witnessing very high growth in our business. This year, we will be expanding our presence to well over 200 cities across 20 states and are setting an audacious goal to increase our annual revenue run rate to \$3 billion while becoming operationally profitable. We also aim to add close to 50 million new consumers in the next 12 months." "Our mission is to increase affordability and accessibility of high-quality

products at low prices for mass consumers. We have created a unique network of more than 1000 small and medium manufacturers in the grocery and essential space which allow us to enable our mission. Majority of our consumers are first to e-commerce because of us. Not only are we spearheading e-commerce adoption in the country but we are also doing that with 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' as the key focus.", Sourjyendu Medda added.

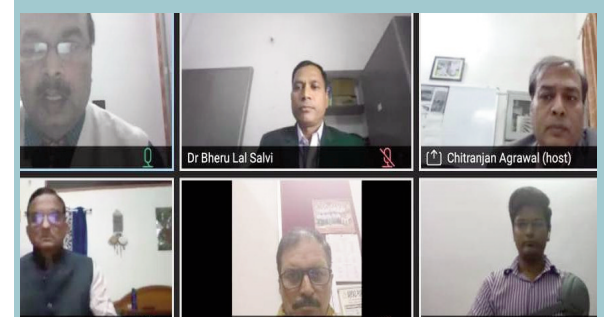
DealShare operates over 100 warehouses in the 10 states it operates in, and plans to expand its warehousing from 2 million square feet today to 20 million square feet over the next 12 months.

Navroz D. Udawadia, Co-Founder and Partner, Alpha Wave Global, added "We are

pleased to invest in this round and continue our support of DealShare. DealShare delivers a compelling value proposition to its customers, who are value-conscious middle Indians in Tier 2 and 3 cities who crave local / regional products."

Founded by Vineet Rao, Sourjyendu Medda, Sankar Bora, and Rajat Shikhar in 2018, DealShare provides a sharp and curated assortment at highly competitive prices and has built an innovative community leader driven ultra-low-cost delivery mechanism collectively leading to best-in-class unit economics. DealShare has boosted its senior leadership by recruiting top industry leaders with deep experience in retail and consumer technology.

Rebuild the future with new technologies of engineering - Dr. Rathore



Udaipur: A two-day national workshop on the topic "Rebuilding the future with new technology" was started by the Mechanical Engineering Department at CTAE College, Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology Udaipur. Conducting the inaugural session, Organizing Secretary Dr. Chittaranjan Agrawal welcomed all the visitors and participants. Head of Department Professor B.L. Salvi, while giving brief information about the workshop, highlighted the usefulness of mechatronics and automation.

Dean Dr. P.K. Singh Welcoming all the members shared brief information about the use of artificial intelligence, robotics, mechanization, and machine learning in intelligent agriculture on the future re-creation with new technology about the potential possibilities of employment in engineering.

On this occasion, the chief guest of the program, Professor Narendra Singh Rathore, Vice-Chancellor, Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology Udaipur, appreciated the theme of the workshop and thanked all the organizers for organizing more than 200 web seminars by the university during the Covid period.

He also gave detailed information about the importance of Mechatronics, Robotics, Automation, Artificial Intelligence (A.I.), the Internet of Things (IoT), Augmented Reality (A.R.), Virtual Reality (V.R.), and Digital Technology in the agriculture sector. While explaining the 6 points in modern smart agriculture, Professor Rathore emphasized the importance of collecting and analyzing various data of soil, water, manure, seed, and numerology.

He also provided information on the utility of robots, sensors, and new technologies in agriculture. According to Professor Rathore, using Artificial Intelligence in agriculture can reduce the cost of production and increase the farmer's income and the quality of output.

The keynote speaker in the first technical session of the workshop, Dr. N. R. Chauhan Professor & Head of Department, Mechanical & Automation Engineering, Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women (IGDTUW), Delhi, explained on Applications of Robotics in Automation. In the second technical session, E. Prince Jain threw light on the detailed description of Artificial Intelligence and its utility in various fields and gave detailed information about Remote Data Analysis, Blockchain technology, explaining its contribution. In the third technical session, E. Mohit Jagetia gave detailed information about Electric Mobility Adoption and Challenges and the importance of Electric Means in the present context.

In the end, Organizing Secretary Dr. Chittaranjan Agrawal thanked the Vice-Chancellor, Dean, Head of the Department, participants, visitors, and all the employees of the department and cordially invited for the future workshop.

The Bunkar honored the blood donor Khaturia

Udaipur: Additional District Collector O. P. Bunkar today honored blood donor Ajay Khaturia.

He said that Ajay Khaturia is a social worker and blood donor, and he has donated blood more than 70 times, which is commendable. Khaturia inspires his friends, society, and relatives to cooperate with blood donation by donating blood. He also contributes a specific part of their marble business profit, in food, clothes & Vidyadana, which is commendable. It also inspires others. Ajay Khaturia is also associated with many social organizations. Given his noble deeds, many leaders and high officials honored him for his remarkable contributions to society.

'Child scientists of D.P.S. brought laurels at the state level'

Udaipur: The students of Delhi Public School, Udaipur, have brought laurels to the institution with their unparalleled talent and interest in science by participating in the 29th National Children's Science Congress organized by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

The 29th NCSC this year was Science for Sustainable Living, intending to develop the creativity and thought the potential of the young minds of the future generation by teaching their inclination towards scientific principles, technology, and sustainability.

In this out of the two teams of D.P.S., Meher Soni and Hiral Singhvi in the senior group team under the guidance of Mrs. Shweta Soni on the topic of Restore, Revive and Recuperate Diya Lex and in the junior group team Zahra Attari and Akshita Singh under the direction of Mrs. Anshu Kalra. Using solar-powered technology on the topic of Use of Biochar for Sustainable Agriculture gave a concrete shape to the project and achieved success at the state level. On this remarkable achievement of the students and teachers, the School's Pro-Vice Chairman Govind Agarwal, Principal Sanjay Narwaria, Principal Rajesh Dhabhai, and Principal Smt. Shalini Singh congratulated and wished for a bright future.

English champion in the children

Udaipur: The results of this session's English Champ were declared, and prizes were distributed to the winners at Central Public Secondary School located in New Bhupalpura.

The first phase of the competition starts from the very beginning of the session. English Champion event LSRW is a simple way to impart English language skills to girls through various skill-based competitions like Reading Passage, Spell Bee, Elocution, Role Play, Twisted Tales, Listening Table, etc.

The English Champs reached their culmination with a felicitation ceremony for students

who excelled in all competitions and finally won the champ trophy. The names of the winners are as follows -

1. Paridhi Rathod (Grade 3) 2. Rudra Vyas (Grade 4) 3. Sahil Nayyar (Grade 5)
4. Om Pranab (Grade 6) 5. Girisha Shaktiweep (Grade 6) 6. Anshuman Sharma (Grade 7)
7. Pratik Chaudhary (Grade 8) 8. Swasti Shah (Grade 8) 9. Devraj Singh (Grade 9)
10. Dhara Gurjar (Grade 9) 11. Yomin Dangi (Grade 10)

The winners were honored with illustrious trophies and certificates by the chairperson of the School - Mrs. Alka Sharma. Principal - Smt. Poonam Rathore congratulated the students and wished them all the best for their bright future.

Worshipped Veena Vadini Divyang Girl on Basant Panchami

Udaipur: On the day of Basant Panchami, the holy festival of the beginning of the spring, the girl who underwent the operation of disability in Narayan Seva Sansthan was worshipped in a Vedic manner. Did successful surgery of 11 innocent disabled girls as done in the institute today. Out of these, one girl was worshipped by dedicating Veena, the form of Mother Saraswati. During this, the poor girls and director of Narayan Children Academy, Vandana Aggarwal, while worshipping Saraswati, the goddess of learning, wished for knowledge science, happiness-prosperity, Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah, and development in the country and society. Prashant Agarwal, President of the Institute, said that with Basant Panchami, nature flourishes, and an atmosphere of laughter and positivity starts being created all around.

Online Survivor Meet organized on World Cancer Day at Geetanjali Medical College

Udaipur: World Cancer Day is celebrated

worldwide on 4th February every year by the International Cancer Control Association. This year the theme of World Cancer Day has been kept as Close the Care Gap, i.e., to eliminate all the gaps and lack in the treatment of this disease. Cancer Survivor Meet is organized every year on this special day at Geetanjali Cancer Center. Due to the Corona epidemic, this year Cancer Survivor Meet was organized through an online platform. Under this, doctors of Geetanjali Cancer Center and doctors of other departments, cancer survivors, CEO of Geetanjali Medical College and Hospital, Mr. Pratibha Tamboli, HOD of all departments staff and common people joined from all over the country. Actively participated in the program.

The chief guest of the program, CEO Mr. Prateem Tamboli, while addressing all the audience, said that cancer is a disease that can be fought with two things, the patient should believe that he can be cured of this disease. Therefore, people must be aware of the disease and all possible preventive information and treatments available. And such a high center where each patient can get a multidisciplinary approach led by tumor board leading to proper treatment, Geetanjali Cancer Center has world-class facilities to make the most of the complex treatment of the patients coming here. It is being done successfully through the tumor board. Cancer surgeons Dr. Ashish Jakhetia and Dr. Arun Pandey shared detailed information about this year's theme and timely diagnosis and treatment of cancer and cancer surgery. Cancer specialist Dr. Ankit Agarwal provided information on the role of immunotherapy in medical oncology and tumor board. In contrast, Dr. Renu Mishra provided awareness about women's cancer and targeted hormonal therapy. Dr. Ramesh Purohit made everyone aware of the recent advances in radiation brachytherapy, IGRT, and radiosurgery. Pediatric surgeon Dr. Nilesh Tank on cancer in children and Dr. Manish Doodmani of the Gastroenterology department apprised the audience about GI cancer. Dr. Seema Partani and Dr. Naveen Patidar from Pain and Palliative Care discussed how palliative care is effective in treating cancer and the facilities related to it in Geetanjali Hospital. The program was conducted by the Cancer Coordinator Mrs. Mamta Purohit.

Cancer survivors shared their experiences and gave colorful presentations through videos in the program. There was also a quiz round by the experts of Geetanjali Cancer Center. The audience asked the doctors gave questions related to cancer and their answers.

In the end, the vote of thanks was given by Dr. Renu Mishra.

Basant Panchami festival at BNPS

Udaipur: Basant Panchami was celebrated with great pomp on Saturday at Bhupal Nobles Public School. School Principal Dr. Seema Naruka said she worshipped Maa Saraswati on this auspicious occasion. The teacher Mrs. Gurminder Kaur explained the importance of Basant Panchami, and the students presented songs and poetry. The teachers wore yellow clothes.

Secretary of Bhupal Nobles Institute, Dr. Mahendra Singh Agaria, and Managing Director, Shri Mohabbat Singh Rathore, sent good wishes to everyone on Basant Panchami. They distributed Yellow fruits oranges to the students as prasad—teacher Smt. Sangeeta Sharma conducted the program and gave a vote of thanks at the end.

C.P.S. Basant Panchami was celebrated with pomp in

Udaipur: In New Bhupalpura Central Public school, the Basant Panchami festival was celebrated with enthusiasm. The program started with Saraswati Puja. The stage and the school premises spread their shade with the decoration based on yellow color. A student of class VI lit the program. After that, the song was introduced by Anjali Jain, a student of class XI. On this occasion, S. T.S. E. Students who excelled in Bhavishya Agarwal, Deep Mundda, and Meenakshi Meena were awarded. Along with this, Annapurna Krishnavat and Parikshit Sharma, selected in Teen Parliament, were felicitated. The School's chairperson - Mrs. Alka Sharma, while explaining the importance of Basant Panchami, gave a message to celebrate it according to its culture.