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Celebrating Dhanteras: Honoring Tradition, Wealth, and the Divine Blessings of Lord Dhanvantari

Introduction to **Dhanteras**

Dhanteras, the auspicious festival celebrated on the thirteenth day of the dark fortnight in the Hindu month of Kartik, heralds the beginning of Diwali. This day is dedicated to the blessings of wealth, prosperity, and health, drawing its significance from the mythological appearance of Lord Dhanvantari, the divine physician and deity of Ayurveda. According to Hindu mythology, Lord Dhanvantari emerged during the Samudra Manthan, the churning of the ocean, carrying a pot of amrit (nectar), symbolizing health and the preservation of life.

Historical Significance of **Dhanteras**

Dhanteras' historical roots lie in the reverence for Lord Dhanvantari, who represents medicine and healing, with a tradition of invoking blessings of wealth and good fortune through the purchase of valuable items. Gold, silver, and new utensils are commonly bought on this day as symbols of prosperity. These purchases aren't just a modern trend; they reflect an ancient tradition, rooted in attracting abundance and auspiciousness into

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Jewellers stands out as a trust- ing to bring home auspicious gold and silver items. Such

enhance the festival experi-

select ornaments and items that carry spiritual as well as material value, reinforcing the significance of prosperity and renewal.

Prayers and Rituals

Dhanteras is observed with reverent prayers and rituals, beginning with an early morning cleaning of the home to prepare for the arrival of wealth and good fortune. Devotees perform the "Dhanteras Puja," decorating their homes with vibrant rangolis and flowers, and lighting oil lamps to invoke blessings. Families chant the Dhanvantari Mantra, seeking blessings for health and pros-

"Om Namo Bhagavate Dhanvantari Aushadhipate

Swaha." Offerings of sweets, fruits, and coins are made to Lord Dhanvantari, symbolizing a

connection to the divine and the blessings he bestows.

Shopping **Traditions**

One of Dhanteras' defining features is the tradition of shopping for gold, silver, and other household items, marking a fresh start and enhancing household wealth. Jewelers experience a peak in business as families invest in gold and silver ornaments, and Sojatia Jewellers, among others,

these sacred purchases. New utensils and household goods are also favored, as they signify renewal, welcoming prosperity into the home.

Conclusion

Dhanteras is a vibrant celebration, rich with historical and spiritual significance. The prayers offered to Lord Dhanvantari, the careful rituals, and the practice of shopping all symbolize a commitment to health, prosperity, and gratitude. Through the combined observance of these traditions, families come together to celebrate values of unity and well-being, making Dhanteras a cherished part of the Diwali season.

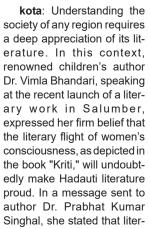
Voices of the Nation's Writers: The Future of Hadauti Literature Will Be Proud Dr. Vimla Bhandari











ature serves as a mirror to soci-

it would prove significant in many respects and act as a milestone in revealing factual accounts in an authentic manner.

The launch event in Kota marked a significant occasion as it was the first of its kind. directly connecting eminent authors from across the nation and Rajasthan. Many literary figures participated through messages, thereby granting the ceremony a national char-

Dinesh Kumar Mali, a writer from Odisha, remarked that this book, highlighting the contri-

butions of female authors from of inspiration and guidance. He the Hadauti region, will meaningfully express not just the regional but also the global conany given sciousness, sensitivity, and beauty, and goodness.

cultural nuances of women. Kolkata stated that the book introduces the creative roles of Hadauti women writers and will be a valuable addition to Hindi literature. It is expected to inspire female authors in related languages, contributing to the richness of the linguistic corpus and enhancing recognition for the Rajasthani language, while fostering literary exchanges between Hindi and Raiasthani.

BLAachha from Perambur, Chennai, described the book as a unique offering at a national level, being the first compilation of its kind showcasing the vibrant expressions and resilience of so many female

Delhi-based author and columnist Lalit Garg noted that this is a remarkable first in literature, offering credible and factual insights about both emerging and established female writers from Hadauti, which will serve as a source affirmed that the women connected with this work are indeed worshippers of truth,

Rajendra Kedia from the Sahitya Akademi in Bhopal, commended the invaluable contributions of these women in enriching the literary field, emphasizing that Dr. Singhal's efforts to highlight their work were commendable. He pointed out that the themes selected by these writers would captivate readers, addressing a common complaint among authors today about the challenge of reaching an appreciative audience. He expressed optimism that this book might help bridge that

Jyotipunj from Udaipur highlighted that a book exclusively featuring regional female writers is undoubtedly a blessing for them. He added that it will serve as a significant encouragement for new writers, marking a vital step in recognizing their contributions.

Literary figure Manju Chaturvedi stated that when a self-aware woman engages in writing, her intentions

embody equality, freedom, and self-realization. She emphasized that this book would redefine the purpose and direction of women's writing, illu-Dr. Vikas Dave, Director of minating many facets of women's lives.Ragini Prasad echoed this sentiment, noting that encouraging others expands our consciousness and boosts the enthusiasm of those who are motivated. She commended the author for

taking such an initiative. Editor Virendra Srivastava asserted that this work will become a significant document in the history of Hindi literature, serving as a source of inspiration and reference for future researchers and literature enthusiasts, thereby enhancing literary prosperity.

Neeraj Daiya from Bikaner stated that such works mark the dawn of a new era in lit-

He praised the author's literary journey as an inspiring effort to elevate Hadauti writers to larger platforms, and noted that their editorial work has guided the new generation of writers.

Sandeep Awasthi from Ajmer emphasized that this

book narrates not only the story of Hadauti's literary contributions but also represents a unique initiative for uplifting all women. He highlighted how it encourages female writers. portraying their pain, joys, constraints and the journey liberation, thereby advancing the continuum of women's literature. He expressed that the extension of women's consciousness addressed in this work is crucial in today's con-

Dr. Madhu Khandelwal. founder of the Ajmer Lekhika Manch, stated that this work would become a robust effort not only for women's consciousness but also for ascending to remarkable heights of success in the future.

Renowned writers including Kusum Khemani from Kolkata. Kiran Kheruka from Mumbai, Rajendra Rao from Kanpur, and Ved Vyas, Nand Bhardwaj, Prabhat Goswami, Bal Mukund Ojha from Jaipur, Dr. Devdutt Sharma from Alwar, and Shyam Prakash Devpura from Nathdwara also extended their heartfelt congratulations on this significant

Salumber By-Election 2024

BJP and Congress Candidates File Nominations Amid Public Rallies and Political Tensions



election approaches, the political landscape in Udaipur intensifies with candidates from both the BJP and Congress filing their nominations. On Thursday, the BJP

candidate Shanta Devi widow of late Amrit Lal Meena, submitted her papers amidst a public meeting where the Chief Minister urged voters to support the BJP for continued development under a "doubleengine" government. Claiming that 50% of the BJP's promises have been fulfilled, the Chief Minister highlighted the importance of alignment between state and central governments to accelerate regional growth, encouraging voters to strengthen this synergy in the upcoming election.



Meanwhile, Congress candidate Reshma Meena also filed her nomination, receiving enthusiastic support from party leaders and local representatives. Congress leaders, including former minister Ashok Chandna, emphasized Congress's historical role in safeguarding India's democratic principles, questioning the BJP's commitment

to these ideals. Udaipur District Congress President Kachru Lal Chaudhary criticized the BJP-led state government, labeling it a "Slip Government" for its delays in fulfilling development promises, including the granting of district status to Salumber. Former Congress MP candidate Tarachand Meena described the by-election as a crucial referendum on the BJP's governance, asserting that voters have a chance to advocate for regional welfare over central directives.

Congress's nomination day witnessed notable dissent within its ranks, with former MP Raghuveer Meena voicing concerns over internal party factionalism and the sidelining of

Meena warned that this division could weaken Congress's local influence, urging party leadership to address the issues affecting the unity and representation of tribal areas.

The by-election in Salumber is emerging as a pivotal contest, with both major parties vying to prove their commitment to local aspirations and regional development.

Vedanta to invest Rs 1 Lakh Crores in Rajasthan

Udaipur: Vedanta has announced investments exceeding Rs 1 lakh crore in Rajasthan during the Rising Rajasthan Roadshow in the UK, led by Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma. The group's investments will span across zinc, oil and gas, and renewable energy, supporting Rajasthan's vision of becoming a US\$350 billion economy by 2030. This initiative is expected to create over 2 lakh jobs and boost over 500 downstream industries, contributing to import substitution and the state's industrial growth.

Expansion of Hindustan Zinc and New Industrial

Hindustan Zinc will invest Rs 30,000 crores to double its zinc production from 1.2 MTPA to 2 MTPA, while increasing

silver output from 800 tons to 2.000 tons

A1MTPA fertilizer plant will also be established. Additionally, Vedanta plans to develop a non-profit industrial park in Udaipur for small and medium-scale industries with investments starting from Rs 5 crores, encouraging the development of downstream industries linked to zinc and silver applications in various sectors.

Cairn Oil and Gas, **Serentica Renewables Set**

to Boost Energy Sector

Cairn Oil and Gas will invest Rs 35,000 crores to increase production capacity to 3 lakh barrels per day. Serentica Renewables is set to invest Rs 50,000 crores in establishing 10,000 MW of renewable energy capacity, supporting Vedanta's industrial projects



and driving Rajasthan's green energy transition. **Focus on Religious Tourism Development**

Discussions during the roadshow also addressed Govardhan development and the Krishna Bhoomi Vikas project, aimed at enhancing pilgrimage sites such as Poonchhari Ka Lautha. Vedanta will play a role in these developments, strengthening the state's cultural tourism infrastructure.

CM Bhajan Lal Sharma's Commitment to Growth

Rajasthan's Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma emphasized the state's commitment to the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of a Viksit Bharat by 2047, inviting global investors to partner with Rajasthan. The Chief Minister highlighted the state's pro-business policies and expressed gratitude to Vedanta Chairman Anil Agarwal for doubling the group's investments in Raiasthan.

Vedanta Chairman's Vision for Rajasthan

Anil Agarwal, Chairman of

Vedanta Ltd., acknowledged Rajasthan's wealth of critical minerals, hydrocarbons, and renewable energy potential. He announced that Hindustan Zinc and Cairn Oil and Gas will spearhead exploration and production activities, contributing to long-term growth for the state. With this commitment, Vedanta aims to support Rajasthan's journey toward becoming a global hub for metals, minerals, oil and gas, and green energy innovation.

Vedanta's Role in Rajasthan's Development

This investment reinforces Vedanta's position as a key player in Rajasthan's development, contributing to the state's transformation into a leading center for industrial innovation and sustainable