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SANT NIRANKARI MANDAL (Regd)

SANT NIRANKARI SATSANG BHAWAN, MAHUL ROAD, CHEMBUR Mumbai – 400 074 (INDIA)

Press Release:

MAMMOTH TURNOUT OF NIRANKARI DEVOTEES HUE THE BLOOD DONATION DRIVE WITH DEVOTION

79 NATIONWIDE CAMPS HELD ON APRIL 24

IN A SINGLE CAMP AT CHEMBUR, MUMBAI, 632 UNITS WERE DONATED.

MUMBAI, 25TH APRIL 2016: April 24, every year, witnesses countrywide conduction of blood donation camps as a part of *Manav Ekta Diwas* (Human Unity Day) to commemorate the supreme sacrifice of Baba Gurbachan Singh Ji who laid down his life on this day in 1980 while crusading for truth, love, peace and unity.

Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj, Head of the Sant Nirankari Mission said that 'blood should flow in veins and not in drains'. Ever since, the devotees of the Mission have been participating in these blood donation camps with great enthusiasm and spirit of devotion considering the noble gesture as a part of their tribute to Baba Gurbachan Singh Ji, Chacha Partap Singh Ji and hundreds of other martyrs of the Mission.

In Mumbai, a single camp was held at their Satsang Bhavan at Chembur, with the participation of JJ Metro blood bank (261), L.T Sion Hospital Blood bank (191), Sant Nirankari Blood bank (69), and Triumph Blood bank (111) with a total collection of 632 units of blood.

Noteworthy were a couple of features viz: Sant Nirankari Blood bank, Mission's first blood bank made its first participation in such a camp, and the Triumph blood bank of Thane, an initiative by the Rotary club, which collected blood specially for use for the children suffering with Thalassemia and other related diseases. The camp was conducted with the help of the local unit of the Nirankari Sewa Dal, volunteers of the SNCF, the medical team headed by Dr.R.S.Yadav, Maruti Kasare and others. Amongst other dignitaries of the Mission who were present at the occasion were, Shri Babubhai, Shri Laljt Dalvi, Sjhri Shankar Sonawane and J P Upadhyay.

Earlier in the morning Dr R S Yadav, In-charge of the Medical Department of SNM, Mumbai inaugurated the camp.

Nationwide, besides Mumbai, other camps that were held include: 1 in Delhi, 12 in Uttar Pradesh; 10 in Maharashtra; 6 in Rajasthan; 5 each in Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana; 4 each in Gujarat, Bihar and Himachal Pradesh; 3 each in West Bengal, Jharkhand and Uttarakhand; 2 each in Odisha and Jammu and Kashmir; and one each in Chandigarh, Assam, Andaman, Goa, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

The series which will continue throughout the year was inaugurated by His Holiness Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj in Delhi, yesterday. For the first time, the proceedings of the camp were publicized over social media as a part of International Humanness Blood Drive of the Mission.

With a peep into the past, since 2009, these blood donation camps are held throughout the year starting from Manav Ekta Diwas on April 24, of course.

In 2009 the Mission organized 306 blood donation camps at different centres in the country, followed by 371 camps in 2010 and 423 in 2011. In 2012, the Mission organized 429 camps and in 2013 and 2014 the number was 446 each. The number of camps organized in 2015 is 494.

With 4,567 camps and the donation of 788601 units of blood in India so far, since 1986, the Mission has already emerged as one of the leading blood donating voluntary organizations in the county.

Since April, 2010 all major social welfare activities of the Mission are looked after by the Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation with close cooperation from the Social Welfare Department and the Mission's branches.

On this day, spiritual congregations are held to remember the teachings of Baba Gurbachan Singh, former Head of the Sant Nirankari Mission, and to rededicate themselves to the upliftment of the humanity.

In Mumbai and neighbouring areas 13 such congregations were held.

For favour of publication in your esteemed newspaper/news bulletin, please.

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