

# Students, city residents join hands against drug abuse

By **PURBASHA BHATTACHARJEE**

SHILLONG, JUNE 23: It was not the usual glamour and celebrities stealing the show but children, thousands of them, and students from different schools and from different localities of Shillong who came together at the State Central Library on Saturday morning to create awareness against drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

This is the first time ever in the recent times that students and partici-

pants from different walks of life walked together through the main thoroughfares of the city to spread awareness about the ills of drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

The Kripa Foundation organised the programme with support from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MSJE) as part of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.



Deputy Commissioner B. Dhar flagging of a rally organised on the occasion of the International Day against Drug Abuse in the city on Saturday. MG photo

Significantly, the event, which is spread over a week, received overwhelming support from the denizens of the city. "At least students, a large number of them, and grassroots people are involved, and it is not about glitz and glamour which has been the case with many organizations," said Dorothy Mawlong, a resident who participated in the mass rally.

Incidentally, a number of NGOs who claim to be

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