

## Army organises medical and veterinary camp

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**RAJOURI** : In a significant outreach effort, the Indian Army recently conducted a medical and veterinary camp for the Gujjar and Bakarwal communities residing at Bhata Durian Rajouri in remote areas south of the Pir Panjal mountain range. This initiative reflects the Indian Army's commitment to enhancing the well-being of these pastoral communities, which often face challenges in accessing essential health-care services. The camp provided comprehensive medical and veterinary care to hundreds of individuals and their livestock.



Army doctor examining patient.

The operation featured a dedicated team of Indian Army medical officers and veterinary doctors who offered consultations, treatments, and preventive health measures. Community members received screenings for various ailments, while their animals were examined for common health issues, ensuring that both people and livestock were cared for. One of the primary goals of this camp was to address the unique healthcare needs of the Gujjar and Bakarwal

populations, who often live in isolated areas with limited access to medical facilities. The Indian Army initiative aimed to bridge this gap, bringing necessary health-care directly to their doorsteps. Participants expressed gratitude for the attention and care received, highlighting the importance of such initiatives in their daily lives. In addition to treating immediate health concerns, the camp emphasized the importance of preventive healthcare. Educational sessions were conducted to inform community members about hygiene practices, nutrition, and animal

husbandry, empowering them to take proactive steps in maintaining their health and the health of their livestock. The impact of the Indian Army outreach extended beyond physical health. By fostering trust and cooperation between Indian Army personnel and local communities, the camp helped strengthen ties in a region that has historically faced challenges related to security and development. This initiative is a testament to the Indian Army's role not only as a protector of the nation but also as a facilitator of social development.

## Army organises motivational lecture for youth empowerment



Army officials along with students during the programme.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**RAJOURI** : In the on-going efforts to bring the local youth into the mainstream and to motivate the students to join the defence forces, Indian Army organised a Motivational talk on "Live a life less ordinary: Join Indian Army" at Modern High School, Sehla. The aim of the lecture was to motivate students to join the Armed Forces and also apprise them of the various entry schemes and qualification requirements to join the Indian Army through various entries. Students were shown snippets

of a "Life less Ordinary". The lecture centred on showcasing the wondrous opportunities of job satisfaction as well as the adventurous life of armed forces. The students were informed about the required educational qualifications for each entry, including officer entry and the Agnipath Entry scheme. Special schemes, such as permanent and short service commissions, were also discussed. The participants' queries were addressed by the Indian Army representative.

## KVK Reasi begins vocational training programme on organic vegetables cultivation



KVK scientist delivering lecture.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**REASI** : Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Reasi under the aegis of Directorate of Extension, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology-Jammu (SKUAST-J) began five days vocational training programme on "Entrepreneurship development in organic vegetables cultivation" here today at Kotli village in Reasi district of J&K. The programme was actively attended by a number of farmers of the area.

The programme was organised under the guidance of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. BN Tripathi and Director Extension, Prof. Amrith Vaid of SKUAST-J. Dr. Banarsi Lal, Chief Scientist and Head of KVK Reasi guided

the farm women on organic vegetables production and explained the use of organic inputs required in the organic vegetables production. He also explained the principles of organic farming. He urged the trainees for the commercial organic vegetables by which they can fetch more farm returns and reduce the cost of cultivation.

He discussed on the nursery raising techniques in vegetables cultivation and elaborated the preparation of organic formulations such as Panehgavya, Cow Urine, Jeevamrit, Beejamrit, Neemastra etc. by using the locally available inputs. He also suggested the organic management of insect-pests, diseases and weeds in the organic vegetables production. He also guided the participants

on the low cost vermicompost units by which the nutritional requirements of the soil can be mitigated. He narrated that organic vegetables production can play a significant role in increasing the income of the farmers. During the training programme many queries were raised by the trainees which were answered satisfactorily by the KVK scientist. The programme was also attended by a progressive farm woman, Smt. Pooja Devi who shared her farming experiences on progressive farming with the other farm women of the area. The programme was assisted by Sh. Manohar Lal and concluded by Dr. Banarsi Lal, Chief Scientist & Head of KVK, Reasi with formal vote of thanks.

## SPPND GDC Samba organises industrial visit

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**SAMBA** : Department of Environmental Sciences of SPPND GDC Samba, embarked on an insightful field visit to M/s Berger Paints, SIDCO Complex Samba. The visit aimed to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application, allowing students to explore real-world industrial treatment technologies. This visit was organized under the patronship of Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri who emphasized upon importance of such visits for students to understand



College students during visit to Berger Paints, SIDCO Complex.

the modern remediation technologies that are making a significant impact on environmental sustainability. During the visit, students

toured effluent and air treatment plants of the industry and engaged with industry professionals about the innovations and challenges in waste water

management. Further, in a presentation Mr. Gourav Kumar, Incharge EHS (Environment, Health and Safety) and Lokesh Kumar (Incharge Resin produc-

tion) provided an overview of the company's commitment in implementing innovative solutions to minimize waste production and importance of compliance with environmental regulations. The students participated in discussions on advanced treatment methods, regulatory standards, and the importance of sustainable practices in the industry. The knowledge gained from this experience will enhance their academic learning and prepare them for future careers in environmental management.

## NSS volunteers spread joy on Daan Utsav; distribute stationery, eatables to Govt Middle School students

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**R S PURA** : As a part of Daan Utsav Celebrations, NSS unit of GDC RS Pura distributed Stationery and Eatables to Govt. Middle School Students today on 8th of October, 2024. The event aimed at promoting the spirit of giving and community service, saw enthusiastic participation from NSS Volunteers who distributed essential stationery items, including notebooks, pencils, eraser, and sharpeners to the students. Additionally, eatables were also provided to them to bring



NSS volunteers along with students and faculty members of school.

smiles to their faces. The Programme was organized under the guidance of Principal of the College Prof.

(Dr.) Preetpal Kour and Coordinated by Dr. Chanchal Angral (NSS, PO). Speaking on the occasion

Principal of the College said, "Daan Utsav is a wonderful initiative that encourages us to give back to society. NSS

PO Dr. Chanchal Angral also encouraged the Volunteers to engage in acts of kindness, charity, and giving back to society and such event is a testament to their dedication. School Incharge, Gurvinder Kour expressed gratitude to the NSS team and Principal of the college and appreciated the efforts of NSS team members and NSS Volunteers, Dr. Sunil Kumar Mangoch and Dr. Savleen Kour for their active engagement in this programme. Prof. Shifali abrol was instrumental in coordinating the event.

## GDC Ramnagar initiates celebration of International Girl Child Week

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**RAMNAGAR** : Women development cell of GDC Ramnagar initiated the celebration of international Girl child week 2024 from 7-10-2024 to 11-10-2024 under the able patron ship of Dr Bhavnai Chand Anthal, Principal GDC Ramnagar. The events were organized under the Sankalp Hub for Empowerment of women (Shakti) Udhampur. The International Day of the girl

child aligns with the mandate of the scheme Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP), reinforcing the commitment to the survival, protection and empowerment of the girls. The first event started with oath taking ceremony on the theme Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) on 07-10-24. Around 50 students took pledge to prevent female foeticide and to spread awareness regarding the

rights of girl child in the society. On 08-10-24, a talk show was organized in which Prof Eisha Gohil, convener Women Development Cell, aware the students on the title "Girls vision for the Future". Around 35 students attended the talk show and interacted with the resource person after the event. (Prof.) Dr Bhavnai Chand Anthal, Principal GDC Ramnagar opined that

the issue of decline in Child Sex Ratio all over the country is the matter of concern. He also emphasized the importance of educating women and improving their stand in the community and family. The formal vote of thanks was delivered by Prof Tanmeet Kour. Prof Ritika Mahajan, NSS P.O., Prof Sonia Raj and Prof Parminder Kumar also graced the event with their presence.

## Army conducts lecture on career opportunity for women

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**RAJOURI** : As a measure towards women empowerment Indian Army organized a 'Lecture on Career Opportunity for Women' in order to spread awareness amongst females to inspire and educate about better job opportunities. The lecture was also addressed to local populace about gender equality and empower women to join Armed Forces, highlighting the various career paths, including medical, engineering and administrative roles. Refreshments were also offered to the invitees. A total strength of 60 including (ten

Women, ten Men and 40 Children) attended the event. Aim of the event was to interact & educate girls, women and local populace about the various educational and career opportunity schemes of Central Government/ State Government to address the problems of unemployment in our country. Representative of Indian Army addressed locals and gave

an insight on various initiatives and scholarships that have opened doors for women to pursue higher education and careers in male dominated industries. Women are excelling in non-traditional careers like aviation, defence, sports, showcasing their versatility and talent. Various initiatives have been launched by Government to boost employment with the following schemes. National

Career Service (NCS), Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), National Skill Development Mission (NSDM). This gesture and effort by Indian Army was highly appreciated by local population. The event also served as a platform to strengthen the bond between Indian Army and the people of this region. It showcased commitment towards service to the nation.

## Army organizes stitching, tailoring course



Participants during the programme.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**KISHTWAR** : In its continued effort to contribute to the welfare of the local community and promote women empowerment the Indian Army, successfully inaugurated one month long 'Stitching & Tailoring Course' at Tandar. The course has been specifically designed to support unemployed women of the village, with an aim to empower them.

only enables these women to contribute financially to their families but also provides them with renewed confidence to lead independent lives. The inauguration witnessed an overwhelming response from local populace, with 55 women registering for the course. During the course, they will be trained in the fundamentals of using sewing machines, learning various threads and fabrics, taking measurements,

stitching patterns and producing a wide range of items. Upon successful completion of the course, participants will be awarded a certificate of excellence and sewing kits. The locals expressed their appreciation for this initiative, which promises to foster an environment of entrepreneurship, where unemployed women can pursue meaningful employment and better opportunities.

## 1.48 pc J&K voters opt for NOTA against 0.38 pc in Haryana

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**NEW DELHI** : More voters in Jammu and Kashmir used the NOTA button against those in Haryana, latest Election Commission data shows. In elections to the 90-member Haryana assembly, out of over two crore electors, 67.90 per cent had exercised their franchise. Out of these, 0.38 per cent used the none of the above (NOTA) option on the voting machine. In the three-phased Jammu and Kashmir assembly polls to 90 seats, 63.88 per cent of the total electorate voted. Out of these, 1.48 per cent opted for the NOTA option. According to trends, not more than two per cent of the voters have opted for the NOTA option, indicating continued reluctance of electors in choosing the option.

Before the apex court order, those not inclined to vote for any candidate had the option of filling what is popularly called form 49-O. But filling out the form at the polling station under Rule 49-O of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961, compromised the secrecy of the voter. The Supreme Court had, however, refused to direct the EC to hold fresh polls if the majority of the electorate exercised the NOTA option while voting. Recently, former chief election commissioner O P Rawat had said, "In the present situation, NOTA has only symbolic significance and it cannot have an impact on the election result of any seat." "More than 50 per cent electors will have to once opt for NOTA in a seat to show the political community that they do not consider candidates with criminal background or other undeserving ones worthy of their votes. Only after this, pressure on Parliament and the Election Commission will increase and they will have to think about changing laws to make NOTA effective on the election results," he had said.



SWD officials along with students during the rally.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**KATHUA** : On the occasion of the International Day of the Girl Child 2024, the Department of Social Welfare Kathua organized an inspiring rally at Government Girls Middle School Chack Sardar Desa Sing. The event was held under the supervision of District Social Welfare Officer Mr. Varun Kumar Chaudhary.

The rally featured a vibrant march led by enthusiastic students from the school, showcasing their empowerment and unity. To celebrate the day, the team from Sankalp: HEW, Mission Shakti, Kathua distributed T-shirts to the participants, symbolizing support for girls' rights and education. In addition to the T-shirt distribution, refreshments were

provided, fostering a sense of community and celebration among the students. "This event highlights our commitment to empowering girls and promoting gender equality in our community," The Department of Social Welfare remains dedicated to creating opportunities for girls and ensuring their voices are heard.

## BJP puts up best-ever show, retains its dominance in Jammu region

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**JAMMU** : The BJP has emerged the second largest party by winning 29 constituencies in the maiden assembly polls post abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir; improving its all-time high tally of 25 seats recorded in 2014 elections. However, the saffron party's biggest setback was the loss suffered by its Union Territory president Ravinder Raina from Nowshera constituency at the hands of National Conference. Besides, the party also failed to secure a win from any seat in Kashmir where most of its nearly two dozen candidates lost their security deposit. The pre-poll alliance between the National Conference and Congress managed to cross the half-way mark by securing 48 seats with the regional party getting the lion's share of 42 seats. The BJP had fielded 62 candidates this time with major focus on its strong bastion of Jammu region. However, it failed in its attempt to make inroads in Pir Panjal region of Rajouri and Poonch districts by

fielding several turncoats from Gujjar and Pahari community including two former ministers - Choudhary Zulfikar Ali (Budhal) and Syed Mushtaq Bukhari (Surankote) - who lost by a huge margin of 18,908 votes and 10,428 votes, respectively. Incidentally, 75-year-old Bukhari passed away on October 2. Besides the two former ministers, four ex-legislators, including Raina, lost to their rivals. However, 12 former-legislators, including seven ministers, successfully contested the elections and mostly retained their seats. The rest of the party winners are new faces including a former police officer; a university professor and a former bureaucrat who have taken retirement recently to fight the elections besides a lone woman who had lost her father and uncle to a terror attack in November 2018. J&K BJP chief Raina lost to National Conference nominee Surinder Choudhary from Nowshera seat by a margin of 7,819 votes. Raina had won the seat in 2014 assembly elections.

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## Power shutdown

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**JAMMU** : Superintending Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, O&M Circle Kathua has informed that the power supply to Smailpur, Ansal and adjoining areas will remain affected on October 10 from 7 am to 10 am. Similarly, the power supply to Meen, Birpur and adjoining areas will remain affected on October 09 and 13 from 7 am to 10 am. Likewise, the power supply to Utterbehni-I and adjoining areas will remain affected on October 09 and 11 from 8 am to 1 pm.