

# Nagar Kirtan taken out in Poonch

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: A Grand Procession to commemorate the 350th Shaheedi Gurpurab of Guru Tegh Bahdur ji was taken out in Poonch today with great devotion. To mark the 350th Shaheedi Gurpurab of 9th Sikh Guru Tegh Bahdur ji, Akhand Path were initiated at Gurudwara Singh Sabha Poonch after which a grand procession was taken out from Gurudwara Sahib.

The holy Guru Grant Sahib were placed in a palanquin during the procession. People sang hymns in groups, played traditional musical instruments and Sikh Swordsmen displayed their martial art skills. The joyful procession started from historic Gurdwara Singh Sabha Poonch and



Panj Piyaare leading the Nagar Kirtan in Poonch.

passed through Main Bazar, Fort bazar, Bus stand and halted at ITI ground briefly. Stalls distributing Eatables (Parshad) were also deployed at various locations which served people with great dedication. Afterwards, The Procession culminated at Singh Sabha, passing through Parade

bazar. Pradhan Gurudwara Prabandhak committee, S. Narinder Singh addressed the sangat near Historic Poonch Fort where he shed light on the inspirational life of Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib who gave Martyrdom for upholding religious Integrity in the country. Famous Sikh Scholar Giani

Balwinder Singh from Amritsar also spoke on the occasion and apprised the sangat about supreme sacrifice performed by Guru Sahib also affectionately called as 'Hind ki Chadar'. Also present on the occasion included S Harcharan Singh, Seett DGPC, S Gurcharan Singh amongst others.

# Army organises Child Rights Awareness Programme



Army official educating students.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Army conducted a comprehensive Child Rights Awareness Programme at Batsiyala, aimed at educating children, teachers and local villagers about essential child rights and key measures for their safety, development and wellbeing. The initiative covered

crucial topics such as the right to education, child protection laws, healthcare awareness, prevention of child labour, early marriage and safeguarding children from online exploitation. The session emphasised the collective responsibility of the community in ensuring that every child grows in a safe

and nurturing environment. The event received active participation from the local community, with attendees engaging in interactive discussions, learning modules and awareness activities. This involvement significantly strengthened the understanding of child rights and reinforced the shared commitment toward protecting children from any form of abuse or exploitation. The Indian Army reiterated its resolve to continue empowering remote and underserved regions through such initiatives. By fostering awareness and community involvement, the Indian Army aims to ensure a secure, supportive and promising future for every child in the region.

# Army, SOH Foundation support families during Poonch Link-Up Day

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: The Indian Army, in collaboration with the Support Our Heroes (SOH) Foundation, extended meaningful financial assistance during Poonch Link-Up Day 2025, marking the culmination of a month-long series of celebrations honouring the historic 1948 link-up between the Indian Army and the resilient people of Poonch. The final event was held at the Natu Auditorium and presided over by senior Army leadership, reinforcing the enduring bond between the Army and Awaam.

As part of the humanitarian outreach undertaken during the celebrations, the Indian Army and SOH Foundation jointly supported 17 beneficiaries affected by Operation Sindoor and cross-border firing in the Poonch region. A total of



Army official presenting cheque to needy.

₹4,70,000 was disbursed, including financial aid to 13 civilians (₹10,000 each) and four ex-soldiers, of whom two received ₹1,00,000 each and two received ₹70,000 each. This timely assistance offered relief and recognition to families who have demonstrated immense courage while living along the Line of Control.

The Poonch Link-Up Day

2025 celebrations featured extensive humanitarian and community-centric initiatives across the district. Medical camps provided essential healthcare, district-wide Drug Awareness rallies reinforced the message of a drug-free society, and ration distribution drives supported underprivileged families. Additionally, tree plantation campaigns promoted environmental conservation and a greener Poonch. A major highlight was a large-scale Blood Donation Drive, which saw active participation from both Army personnel and civilians.

To encourage creativity and youth engagement, the district also witnessed a Talent Hunt Competition, an Arts & Science Exhibition, and several cultural performances by schoolchildren, reflecting unity, shared aspirations, and collective pride. Young performers expressed gratitude for the platform created by the Army, acknowledging the sacrifices of soldiers who safeguarded the region during challenging operations.

A significant humanitarian milestone this year was the Artificial Limb Fitment Camp organised from 13-15 November by partnering organisations in collabora-

tion with the Indian Army, providing mobility aids-including artificial limbs, wheelchairs, crutches, and walking devices-to over 200 differently-abled individuals, offering renewed independence and hope.

The Indian Army expressed heartfelt gratitude to the SOH Foundation for standing shoulder-to-shoulder in supporting affected families and strengthening the spirit of civil-military cooperation. The joint initiative reflects a shared commitment to honouring sacrifice, nurturing community resilience, and upholding the values of unity, peace, and national service.

The Indian Army reaffirms its resolve to continue standing with the people of Poonch and with every family that has served, suffered, or sacrificed in the service of the nation.

# JKTJAC organises convention On NEP, Drug De-addiction

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: Jammu Kashmir Teachers'Joint Action Committee Organised one day convention of teachers on the theme, " NEP 2020 and Drug De addiction at Nowshera, Rajouri today on 23.11.2025 under the leadership of UT Senior leader Naresh Sharma, District President Rajouri Manzoor Khan and Senior leader Shabir Chowdhary.

On the occasion UT President JKTJAC Vinod Sharma was the Chief Guest, CEO Rajouri Mohd Hafiz was the Guest of Honour, while UT General Secretary Najam Jafri, Provincial President Jammu Rajesh Jamwal and UT Senior leader Sukesh Khajuria and Khazan Singh were the special invitees.

The convention was attended by a large number of teachers from Nowshera.

Speaking on the occasion CEO Rajouri stressed for implementation of New Education Policy in Government Schools as per



JKTJAC members after the convention.

laid norms. He also asked all the presenters to make the society Drug free by taking this abhyan door to door.

While speaking on the occasion Mr Vinod Sharma stressed for Improving education system in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir as per NEP 2020.

He said that for Improving the quality Education the government needs to focus on elementary education. For this each Primary school should be provided with two teachers and each Middle school school have atleast six teachers. He also demanded

incentives to Teachers working in far-flung areas.

On the occasion he raised the genuine and burning issues of the teaching fraternity and appealed the government for their early resolution.

He raised the issue of allocation of substantive posts to TeachersGrade II/ III in Jammu Province as the process of same has already been done in Kashmir Province.

He also demanded the DPC of all cadres in the department including much awaited DPC of teachers to mas-

ters. Raising the Issue of transfer policy in favour of teachers appointed under ReT scheme he appealed the Education Minister and the Secretary School Education to frame the comprehensive transfer policy as these teachers have been working in the same schools for last more than two decades.

UT General Secretary Najam demanded sanction of posts of masters in Middle schools upgraded under SSA.

He also appealed the Govt to implement old Pension Scheme in favour of employees appointed on or after 01.01.2010.

Provincial President Jammu Rajesh Jamwal while speaking demanded the release of pending Mid Day Meals dues which the teachers have managed for their own pockets as no grants have been released for 2025-26.

Senior UT leader Naresh Sharma demanded regularisation of left out ReTs and

conversion of RRETs to Teachers Grade II/III,

District President Manzoor Khan while speaking on the occasion demanded release of GP Fund bills of the employees as they are suffering badly.

Others who also spoke on the occasion were Mohd Yousuf Shah, Bhushan Khajuria Mangat Chowdhury, Leet Pardeep, Inderjit Singh, Gulzar, Ashwani, Shameem Malik, Suresh Choudhary Nowshera, Naresh Choudhary, Arun Lower Hathal, Rattan Sunderbani, Sheetal Kalakote, Zuber Darhal Jogesh Moghla, Bachan Khawas, Farroq Mirja Thanamandi, Shah Peri, Ashfaq Mughal Manjakote, Abdul Qnoon Doongi, Neetu Sharma Dandesar, Neetu Sharma, Monika Magotra, Sachin Chandan, Rakesh Choudry, Sat Nam Singh, Sunny Dutta, Manoj Kumar, Yash Paul, Urmila Devi, Trishla Choudhary, Sushma Kumari, Shail Singh, Sohan Lal Zulfkar and others.

# JKAACL, GDC Akhnoor commemorate Martyrdom Day of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AKHNOOR: Government Degree College (GDC) Akhnoor, in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, Jammu, solemnly observed the Martyrdom Day of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji on 22nd November, 2025. The event highlighted the supreme sacrifice, universal message of peace, and humanitarian values of the Ninth Sikh Guru, reverently remembered as



Academy officials along with college faculty and students during the event.

'Hind Di Chaadar'. Renowned literary personality and Editor, Sheeraza Punjabi, Sh. Popinder Singh Paras, graced the occasion as the chief guest and shared insightful reflections on the Guru's unmatched martyrdom. The programme was attended by senior faculty members including Dr. Deepika Gupta, Dr. Neeru Dhalla, Dr. Savita Jamwal and Dr. Sandhya Rani, and the students of different departments.

Prof. Jagmohan Singh, Head of Department of Punjabi welcomed the

guests to this one day seminar.

The programme commenced with a floral tributes followed by speeches and poems delivered by students in Punjabi, Hindi, English and Dogri, expressing the Guru's teachings of courage, righteousness, and protection of human dignity. Students of GDC Akhnoor who actively participated in the event included Dalbir Kour, Harneet Kour, Ritika Sharma, Sakshi Sharma, Ankhildeep Singh, Sharanjeet Kour, Monika Devi, Kusham Singh,

Janvi Sharma, Jasbinder Singh, Saniya and Santeesh Kour. Their presentations enriched the programme and showed deep reverence for the legacy of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji.

The seminar was conducted under the visionary guidance of the Principal, GDC Akhnoor Prof. (Dr.) Romilla Malla Bhat. Her commitment for enrichment of the college continues to elevate the institution's standards. She applauded the joint efforts of the Punjabi Department, Cultural Committee and

Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages for organizing such meaningful events thereby spurring the minds of the students. She also highlighted that the teachings of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji still continue to inspire humanity toward truth, compassion and communal harmony.

Dr. Anju Bala, senior faculty member also shared her views on this occasion. Addressing the gathering, she emphasized the enduring relevance of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji's message in society in the present time.

As a gesture of encouragement, participant speakers were felicitated by the Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, Jammu. The proceedings were conducted by Prof. Jagmohan Singh, Head of Department, Punjabi. Prof. Gopal Singh, Department of Dogri extended formal vote of thanks.

# Brahmin Gramin Sangathan formed in Akhnoor

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AKHNOOR: A new community organisation titled "Brahmin Gramin Sangathan" was formally founded today during a large public gathering held at VK Resort Akhnoor. Hundreds of people participated in the one-day sammelan, which emphasised unity, community upliftment and employment opportunities for Brahmin youth.

The event was primarily organised by Ganesh Sharma, Tilak Raj Sharma, Kishori Sharma (Ex-Sarpanch Kaik Jagir), Rajni Sharma, Ram Pal Sharma, Rattan Lal Sharma, Subhash Chander, Vijay Khajuria, Vijay Sharma (Ex-Sarpanch), Manga Ram (Ex-Sarpanch), Prashant Sharma (Ex-Sarpanch), Babloo Sharma (Ex-Sarpanch),



Newly elected members of Sangathan at Akhnoor.

Anju Sharma (Ex-Sarpanch), Advocate Karan Sharma (President, Bar Association Akhnoor), Rameshwar Sharma and Sham Sharma.

Pandit Suresh Shastri, who was the chief guest, felicitated all organisers and welcomed the formation of the Sangathan. He said the Brahmin community has historically played the role of Jagadguru, responsible for guiding society on the path of

progress. He appealed to all members to unite and strengthen the organisation for the welfare of not only Brahmins but the entire Hindu society.

Speaking on the occasion, Kishori Sharma said that the official general body of the Sangathan will be announced later after consultations across all panchayats.

Rajni Sharma stated that there was a long-felt need for a platform dedicated to rais-

ing the voice of Brahmins, ensuring upliftment and helping youth secure employment.

Ganesh Sharma announced that the Sangathan will provide financial aid for the marriages of underprivileged Brahmin girls and extend financial relief to poor widows. Ram Pal Sharma urged everyone to unite, stating that the Brahmin community has always played a leading role in taking society forward.

# Jasrotia inaugurates key PWD Roads in Barnoti



MLA Jasrota Rajiv Jasrotia inaugurating dev work at Barnoti.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BARNOTI: In a significant boost to the region's infrastructure, BJP MLA Jasrota Rajiv Jasrotia inaugurated three crucial PWD roads, underscoring his unwavering commitment to the development of Barnoti. The inaugurated roads include the Barnoti Link Road (₹22 lakh), Black Topping of Link Road Pandrar to Jagti Pandrar Morh SC and Shamshan Ghat Circular Road Mata Bala Sundri and Mohalla Pandita (₹22 lakh) under Cities & Town.

The event was graced by DDC Barnoti Sushma Devi, AEE PWD Mahesh Sharma, BDO Barnoti Suraj Singh, and prominent public figures, including Sarpanch Kamal Kishore, Sarpanch Om Parkash, Sarpanch Angrez, Sarpanch Swarna, Deepak, Panch Kamal Singh, Sarpanch Kumar Manglam, Sarpanch Prithpal Singh Niku, Sarpanch

Happy, Kanav Sharma, Sarpanch Jagdish Poonia, Naib Sarpanch Makhan, Shibu Bhadwal, Jeeta Mehta, Malkeet Singh, Randeep Sharma, Satish Gupta, Varinder, Vipin, and Randeep.

Addressing the gathering, MLA Jasrotia reaffirmed his dedication to resolving the people's problems, stating, "I am fully committed to the development of every section of society, irrespective of caste, color, or religion. My mission is to ensure holistic progress across all corners of my constituency, and your trust fuels my determination."

Echoing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas, Jasrotia emphasized his aim to replicate the nation's progress in Jasrota constituency, ensuring every individual benefits from the Modi government's welfare initiatives. Highlighting the

transformative impact of Central Government schemes, Jasrotia urged the public to participate in the development process, providing suggestions and monitoring progress. "Development is not a one-way street. Your suggestions, support, and involvement will strengthen our resolve and ensure effective governance," he added.

Assuring priority attention to the issues raised, MLA Jasrotia's efforts to develop Barnoti's infrastructure have been widely appreciated. The people of Barnoti have expressed their gratitude for his tireless work in bringing development to their doorstep. MLA Jasrotia's vision is to make Jasrota a model constituency, focusing on infrastructure development and community welfare, improving connectivity, healthcare, and overall quality of life. "Development of Jasrota is our responsibility, and we're dedicated to it," he affirmed.

# 78th NCC Raising Day celebrated by 5 J&K Battalion, Poonch



Army officials along with NCC cadets during the event.

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POONCH: The 78th NCC Raising Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm by the 5 J&K Battalion, Poonch. On this occasion, Senior Division (SD) and Junior Division (JD) NCC cadets actively participated in various activities. A wreath-laying ceremony

was organized at the Ajot War Memorial, in which the Commanding Officer of NCC, Shri Ajay Kumar Dhill, Subedar Avinash, ANO Kuldeep Sharma, and Syed Ashaq Bukhari were present.

The programme was coordinated and organised by ANO Dr. Sayed Nusrat

Shah, who served as the Nodal Officer for the event.

On this occasion, the youth were motivated to engage in social service and contribute proactively to nation-building. Emphasis was also laid on strengthening the spirit of patriotism and dedication towards the country.

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