

Poonch Labour Department hosts workshop on New Labour Codes for educators

STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: In a significant move to streamline the transition toward modernized labor regulations, the Department of Labour, Poonch, organized a comprehensive one-day workshop-capacity building programme today. The session focused on the nuances of the four New Labour Codes slated for implementation.

The event, held at the District Conference Hall, primarily targeted the education sector. Participants included School Principals, Zonal Education Officers (ZEOs), teachers, and administrative representatives from both government and private educational institutions across the district.



The workshop aimed to bridge the information gap regarding the shifting legal landscape of employment. Key areas of discussion included:

The Four Pillars: Detailed briefings on the Code on Wages, Social Security, Industrial Relations, and Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (OSH).

Compliance for Schools: Specific focus on how these codes affect non-teaching staff, contractual employees, and the administrative responsibilities of school heads.

Digital Integration: Insights into the new digital portals designed for easier registration and grievance redressal for workers.

Rights and Welfare: Emphasis on enhanced social security benefits, including gratuity and insurance reforms that protect employees in the unorganized sector.

The programme emphasized that educational institutions are vital stakeholders in the labor ecosystem. By

training principals and teachers, the department aims to ensure that the workforce within the education sector-ranging from support staff to specialized educators-is well-protected under the new statutory provisions.

The session concluded with an interactive Q&A segment, where school representatives raised queries regarding the "Definition of Wages" and the impact of the new codes on existing employment contracts and seasonal staff.

The Labour Department announced plans to continue this outreach by holding similar sessions for the construction sector and local trade unions in the coming weeks to ensure district-wide readiness and compliance.

Disaster management exercise conducted

STATE TIMES NEWS
RAMBAN: The 84 Battalion of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and 02 Battalion of the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) today conducted a joint Disaster Management Exercise at former's Tactical Headquarters located at Boom Chanderkote.

The exercise, aimed to enhance preparedness, coordination and response during emergency situations, was attended by Officiating Commandant 84 Bn CRPF Arvind Kumar Dixit, Assistant Commandants Roop Ram Meena and Shree Ram Meena, along with the CRPF personnel and the SDRF team. The drill aimed at strengthening inter-agency cooperation and improving operational readiness in disaster-prone areas.



During the exercise, different simulated scenarios were enacted, including flood, earthquake and fire emergencies. The teams demonstrated evacuation procedures, search and rescue operations, first aid and medical response, as well as relief and rehabilitation management, reflecting a comprehensive approach to disaster response.

Speaking to the media, the Officiating Commandant stated that Ramban is high-

ly vulnerable to natural calamities and has witnessed severe incidents in the recent past, including flash floods and landslides. He recalled the swift response of CRPF, Army, Police and SDRF during the Rajgarh landslide. Emphasizing the importance of preparedness, he said that such joint exercises must be conducted regularly to ensure better coordination, quicker response and saving of precious lives during disasters.

SWD Reasi organises series of events under BBBP, Bal Vivah Mukh Bharat



STATE TIMES NEWS
REASI: Department of Social Welfare Reasi organised a series of events under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme and ongoing 100 day Bal Vivah

Course in Computer Applications.

He congratulated the trainee girls for gaining digital skills and encouraged them to utilize the acquired skills for higher education, employment and entrepreneurship.

He further sensitized the participants of grave social consequences of Child marriage. "It is a critical social issue in the country that affects millions of young girls and boys, despite being legally prohibited," he noted.

Earlier, the students participated in a Slogan writing competition.

Mukt Bharat campaign. District Social Welfare Officer Sachin Sharma felicitated girl students of Government ITI with certificates on successful completion of Advance

SKUAST-J organises two days training programme on Crop Diversification

STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: Under the dynamic leadership of Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu, Prof. (Dr.) B.N. Tripathi and systematic guidance of Prof. (Dr.) S.K. Gupta, Director Research, SKUAST-Jammu, two days training programme on Crop Diversification was organised for farmers at Kisan Khidmat Ghar, Kirmoo, Ramnagar, district Udhampur w.e.f 08-09 January, 2026. The training was organised under Pilot Project for Crop Diversification, All India Coordinated Research Project on Integrated Farming System, On-Farm Research, Farming System



Seeds being distributed to farmers.

Research Centre, SKUAST-J.

Dr. A.K. Gupta, Chief Scientist & Head, AICRP-IFS, SKUAST-J, welcomed the resource persons and more than 40 farmers (trainees). Discussing on the significance of the two days training programme, he gave an overview of the Project and emphasized on growing more profitable

diversified crops such as Soybean, Millets, Pulses, Oilseeds, etc. instead of traditional Rice-Wheat crops. Dr. Dileep Kachroo, Professor (Retd.) Agronomy, SKUAST-J encourage the farmers on adopting Integrated Farming System approach in their farm by adding enterprises such as Dairy, Vermicomposting, Mushroom cultivation,

Goatry, Poultry, Apiary, Rain water harvesting structures etc. in order to get the year around income and thus could avoid the risk of sole crop failure. Dr. N.P. Thakur, Professor (Retd.) Soil Science, AICRP-IFS, SKUAST-J informed trainees about how soil testing improves Physical, chemical & biological properties of soil which in turn results in sustainable crop production under various crop diversification modules.

Dr. P. Kumar, TA, FSR Centre, SKUAST-J gave lecture to the trainees on how Crop Diversification through vegetables can enhance farm income. Dr. Vishal Khajuria, Mr. Rakesh Sharma, Mr. Vekal Gupta and Mr. Arun Dubey, SMS Ramnagar also gave lectures to the trainees on Nutrient

management of diversified crops, Crop Diversification through Millets, Pest management approaches in new crops and Natural & Organic farming practices in new crops under crop diversification for improving the overall farm productivity and profitability, respectively. Ritika Gupta, Dr. Arjun Singh & Mohd. Saleem, staff of On-Farm Research, also attended the programme. Certificates were distributed among the trainees at the end of the two days training programme. The training ended with the vote of thanks by Sh. Dheeraj Rajwal. Special thanks accorded to Sh. Ashwani Kumar Abrol, Sub Divisional Agriculture Officer, Ramnagar for his kind Cooperation and making the training programme successful.

DCPO Poonch conducts comprehensive review meeting of District Child Protection Unit Poonch

STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: The District Child Protection Officer (DCPO) Poonch Khalil Ahmed Bandy JKAS convened a detailed review meeting of the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) Poonch today to assess the implementation of child protection schemes and the overall performance of the department.

During the meeting, the DCPO took a comprehensive review of various centrally and UT-sponsored child protection schemes being implemented in the district. The progress of ongoing activities, case management, outreach programmes, and coordination with allied departments was discussed in detail. The DCPO issued clear directions to further



Officials during the programme.

strengthen the functioning of the DCPU and ensure effective service delivery for the welfare, care, and protection of children.

The DCPO emphasized the need for enhanced field-level interventions, proper documentation, timely reporting, and proactive identification of children in need of care

and protection. Special focus was laid on strengthening preventive measures, community awareness, and ensuring that benefits of government schemes reach the intended beneficiaries without delay.

All staff members of the DCPU Unit Poonch were present in the meeting.

Officials briefed the DCPO about the achievements of the department, including ongoing interventions, successful cases, and challenges faced during implementation. Detailed discussions were also held on upcoming programmes, action plans, and strategies aimed at making child protection mechanisms in the district more effective and responsive.

The meeting concluded on a positive note with the DCPO appreciating the efforts of the DCPU staff and encouraging them to work with renewed commitment and coordination. The review meeting ended with a group photograph, symbolizing collective responsibility towards strengthening child protection services in District Poonch.

Principal PTTI Vijaypur inaugurates course on drone training

STATE TIMES NEWS
VIJAYPUR: "One week Specialized course on Drone training" commenced at Police Technical Training Institute (PTTI) Vijaypur in which about (23) Police personnel of GRP J&K are participating. The course being conducted for the first time at the Institute was formally inaugurated by Ranjit Singh Sambyal-IPS, Principal PTTI Vijaypur who in his inaugural address briefed the participating trainees about the basic concept of the course and highlighted that the trainees will be acquainted with the knowledge of handling/operating of



Ranjit Singh Sambyal Principal PTTI Vijaypur along with trainee officers.

Drones so that they could be utilized to their optimum usage. Special trainer has been arranged by the Police J&K who shall impart basic training to the trainees to handle the system safely and effectively.

The Principal emphasized upon trainees to take keen interest in their training which will definitely help them to execute their drone operating skills wherever required by the Police. The officers

included Pawan Kumar Sharma-JKPS, (SP), Vice Principal, Raj Kumar SrPO, Inspr. Ram Lal-CLI, Inspr. Surrinder Singh-CDI of the Institute were present on the occasion.

Veterans' Day celebrations in Sunderbani: Ex-Servicemen honoured through Dhruva Motorcycle rally



STATE TIMES NEWS
NEWSHERA: The Veteran's Day celebrations at Sunderbani were marked by solemnity and deep patriotism, bringing together veterans, serving personnel and civil dignitaries to honour the indomitable spirit and selfless service of India's Ex-servicemen. Continuing its purposeful journey of honour, unity and national pride, the Dhruva

Motorcycle Rally progressed to Day 5 on 09 Jan 2026, reaffirming the deep bond between the Armed Forces, veterans and the local people. The rally is accompanied by the Eternal Mashal symbolising the everlasting glory of the fallen heroes arrived at Sunderbani from Reasi on 08 Jan 2026. A solemn wreath-laying ceremony and tribute to Eternal Flame were organised at war memorial Sunderbani, paying homage to brave hearts who made supreme sacrifice in the service of the nation. The bike rally was ceremoniously flagged off from the War Memorial, Sunderbani by Randhir Singh, MLA, Sunderbani, in the presence of civil dignitaries, veterans and members of the local community. The War Memorial provided a fitting backdrop, symbolising sacrifice, valour and the timeless legacy of India's brave sol-

diers. Covering an approximate distance of 55 km, the rally traversed through Sunderbani - Naushera spreading the message of patriotism, unity and respect for the Armed Forces. The riders, embodying discipline and determination, received warm support and admiration from the local populace along the route. The Dhruva Motorcycle Rally was flagged in at Naushera, marking the successful completion of Day 5 of the ride. The event reflected the collective commitment to honouring the sacrifices of soldiers and strengthening the enduring connect between the Armed Forces and the citizens. The rally continues to stand as a powerful symbol of remembrance, resilience and national integration, carrying forward the values of service before self across regions.

Ranvijay visits Mantlai, Sudhmahadev, Sagoon Temples; reviews facilities

STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: Ranvijay Singh, Trustee of the J&K Dharmarth Trust, visited the revered Mantlai and Sudhmahadev temples and reviewed the arrangements and facilities for the visiting devotees.

Ranvijay Singh was accompanied by President of the J&K Dharmarth Trust, Dr P.S Pathania, and Trust's Council Member Vishal Abrol, besides other officials of the Trust.

During the visit, the Trustee paid obeisance at both the holy shrines and took stock of the overall maintenance, cleanliness, drinking water, sanitation and other amenities being extended to pilgrims. He interacted with temple staff and local management com-



Ranvijay Singh, Trustee of J&K Dharmarth Trust during visit to Mantlai.

mittees and issued necessary directions for further improvement of facilities, particularly in view of the forthcoming religious occasions and increased footfall of devotees.

At Sudhmahadev, the Trustee emphasized the importance of preserving the sanctity and historical significance of the ancient shrine while ensuring that

devotees face no inconvenience. He reiterated that the Dharmarth Trust remains committed to the upkeep, development and efficient management of all temples and religious institutions under its care.

Earlier, the Trustee had visited the Ramnagar Temple, historic Ramnagar Fort and Qila yesterday, where he reviewed the condi-

tion of religious and heritage properties managed by the Trust and discussed measures for their conservation and promotion.

Meanwhile, Shri Ranvijay Singh also visited the Sagoon Temple, accompanied by Ashok Sharma (IPS Retd, Secretary of the Trust and the Land Record Officer. He reviewed the arrangements and function-

ing of the Shrine. He directed the concerned officials to promptly address any shortcomings and ensure smooth conduct of religious activities.

Interacting with devotees and local representatives at various places, the Trustee highlighted the commitment of the Trust to the preservation and promotion of the region's rich religious heritage and assured that all possible steps are being taken to improve facilities and services at shrines under its management. He further stated that the Dharmarth Trust remains dedicated to ensuring proper upkeep of temple properties, maintaining their sanctity and addressing the genuine concerns of devotees on priority.

DISCLAIMER
 "STATE TIMES" does not take responsibility for the contents of the advertisements (Display/Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting there upon."



Resource person educating participants.

participated actively in the awareness sessions.

Protection Officer-NIC Touseef Iqbal Butt

explained the provisions regulating the marriage age, the importance of education for children and the mediums to report child related cases to district offices like Child helpline number 1098. "Religious institutions play a crucial role in shaping social values and can act as effective platforms to discourage Bal Vivah and promote child rights," he noted.

The religious leaders and community members assured full cooperation in

spreading the message against child marriage.

At the end, the participants took a pledge to oppose Bal Vivah in all forms and to work collectively for the protection of child rights.

Among others present included Vikey Sharma (Project Coordinator CHL), Kajal Parihar (Case Worker OSC), Swati Sharma (Counsellor CHL), Vibah Sharma, Sheetal Rana and Aqib Qazi (ORWs DCPU), Shashi Kumar (MPS OSC).