

17 jail inmates complete TCS literacy as service programme in Hindi

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
BHADERWAH: District Jail Bhaderwah organized literacy as service programme in collaboration with Tata Consultancy Services (TCS).
17 inmates in District Jail Bhaderwah completed literacy as service program in Hindi language. These 17 inmates who completed the programme were awarded certificates in a small function presided over by Dr. Neeraj Sharma Head Institute of Mountain Environment Bhaderwah Campus, University of Jammu.
The programme aimed to impart basic literacy skills to incarcerated individuals who had not received formal education in their earlier years. This initiative aimed to provide fundamental reading and writing skills to inmates, thereby facilitating their reintegration into society upon release.
The program basically was



Jail authorities along with inmates at Bhadarwah.

software-based literacy program in Hindi. Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) Literacy Programme is about educating individuals who were unable to complete their basic education.
This initiative focuses on empowering underprivileged sections of society by providing them with essential reading and writing skills. The programme seeks to enhance the quality of life and open up new opportunities for personal and professional growth for the participants.
The program follows a train-the-trainer approach

address, lauded the efforts of the jail authorities and TCS in facilitating this educational program.
He highlighted the transformative power of education and encouraged the inmates to continue their pursuit of knowledge and personal growth.
"Education is a powerful tool that can break the cycle of crime and lead to a brighter future," Dr. Sharma remarked. "I commend the inmates for their hard work and dedication, and I urge them to make the most of this opportunity."
The inmates expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to participate in the educational program. One of the inmates, while receiving his certificate, shared, "This program has given us hope and a chance to change our lives. We are grateful to the jail authorities and TCS for believing in us and providing us with this valuable opportunity."
Dr. Neeraj Sharma, in his

KPS felicitates meritorious specially abled Agamdeep Singh of APS Janglot

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
KATHUA: Kartar Public School (KPS) Barnoti held a special felicitation function to honour Agamdeep Singh, a specially abled student from Army Public School (APS) Janglot, who secured 80% marks in his CBSE class 10th exams. Agamdeep, hailing from Rajbagh, Kathua, is the son of Ajitpal Singh and Virender Kour.
The event was graced by several dignitaries, including Naresh Kumar Sharma, Chairman of Learning Temple School Kathua, who served as the Chief Guest. Other notable attendees included Navjot Singh, President of KPS Parents Association, Manju, Coordinator, and Komal, a teacher from APS Janglot, as well as Dr. Sheetal Sharma and Dr. Nikita, who were special guests. The presidium also featured Engineer Nirmaljit Singh, Chairman of KPS, and Harpreet Kaur, Principal of KPS.
In his address, Naresh Kumar Sharma praised KPS for recognizing and celebrating the achievements of students beyond their institution. He highlighted the extraordinary accomplishment of Agamdeep Singh, who despite his inability to write, achieved remarkable results.
Sharma commended the dedication of KPS Chairman Nirmaljit Singh towards the youth of Kathua district. Navjot Singh expressed his appreciation for the collaborative efforts of the KPS team in fostering the overall development of students in the



Faculty members felicitating meritorious student.

region. He emphasized the school's commitment to maintaining strong ties with parents and the community to address social challenges.
Engineer Nirmaljit Singh, in his speech, stressed the importance of selflessness and high aspirations for the betterment of society. He reaffirmed KPS's dedication to the youth of Kathua district and their broader societal responsibilities.
Manju, Coordinator of APS Janglot, thanked KPS for the felicitation and congratulated all the students for their achievements.
The event also saw the recognition of Saksham from class 9th of APS, who assisted Agamdeep as a writer during the exams, adhering to CBSE norms.
The event commenced with a warm welcome address by Neeraj Thakur, Vice Principal of KPS, who greeted the dignitaries, Agamdeep Singh, his parents, teachers, Dr. Sheetal Sharma, Dr. Nikita, and other attendees.
The proceedings were conducted smoothly by Dhamanpreet, and the event concluded with a vote of thanks by Subhlata.

DDC Reasi reviews performance of Panchayats on Development Index

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
REASI: District Development Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan on Friday assessed the performance of Panchayats on the parameters of Panchayat development index here at a meeting. The focus was on progress of data validation as per the data collection forms of the Panchayat Development Index. The meeting further included a detailed discussion on the indicators of the PDI, which evaluates the performance of Panchayats based on various development parameters.
The DDC emphasized the importance of ensuring that the data submitted by field staff was endorsed by the concerned officers. He highlighted the need for removal of bottlenecks and stressed



District Development Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan chairing a meeting.

the importance of close coordination among departments to ensure the timely updating of all indicators on the PDI portal of the District.
The DDC directed the officers to complete the pending details of the DCF format within one day to facilitate prompt and accurate data

538 polling parties dispatched to 4 ACs of Rajouri

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
RAJOURI: As many as 538 polling parties along with polling material were on Friday dispatched to different polling stations across Rajouri, Thanamandi, Nowshera and Budhal Assembly Constituencies of 3 - A n a n t n a g - R a j o u r i Parliamentary Constituency where polling is being held tomorrow.
Amidst tight security, the polling staff and other logistics left from their respective dispatch centres marking a crucial step in the polling process for Lok Sabha Elections 2024 in the Rajouri, Thanamandi, Nowshera and Budhal Assembly Constituencies.
District Election Officer, Om Prakash Bhagat personally supervised the dispatch process, marking a significant logistical feat of the



Poling parties leaving for respective polling stations.

district administration, security personnel, and election officials.
District Election Officer, expressed satisfaction over the arrangements made for the Lok Sabha Elections 2024.
To ensure the safety and security of the polling parties and the polling material, stringent security measures have been put in place. The

have been identified as sensitive.
Meanwhile, the District Election Officer undertook a comprehensive visit to review the election preparations in Nowshera subdivision. He was accompanied by the Additional Deputy Commissioner Nowshera, Babu Ram Tandan.
The visit of the District Election Officer encompassed multiple polling stations. Among the notable highlights of the visit was the inspection of the pink polling station at Nowshera, staffed exclusively by women.
The DEO meticulously reviewed the preparations undertaken thus far and provided directives to the election staff to ensure the smooth, free, and fair conduct of elections across the district.
DEO said that the deployment of adequate security personnel will ensure a secure environment for the polling parties to carry out their duties without any hindrance.
The 4 Assembly Constituencies have 389721 voters, including 202809 males, 186905 females and 07 transgender. Of the total of 542 polling stations, 278

GDC Akhnoor organizes awareness Program on "First Aid"

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
AKHNOOR: Red Ribbon Club (RRC) of GDC Akhnoor in collaboration with RED Cross Society Jammu organized an awareness programme on the theme "First Aid".
The Programme was organised under the supervision of worthy Principal GDC Akhnoor, Prof. (Dr.) Romilla Malla Bhat. Prof. Gopal Singh, Convenor Red Ribbon Club initiated the Proceedings of the program.
Dr. Kavita Nijhon, Medical officer and Vironica Marwah, field officer were the resource persons of the event.
They gave an extensive lecture on how to provide first aid in wounds, bleeding, musculoskeletal injury, burns, heatstroke, poisoning bites, drowning, fainting, seizures and unconsciousness. They also demonstrated how and in what conditions CPR should be administered. The students also practiced hands on training of CPR on CPR dummy.
In the awareness program, 70 students and faculty members of the GDC Akhnoor participated and got benefited.
The vote of thanks was given by Dr. Amit Kumar, Assistant Professor in Physics.
While throwing light on importance of first aid in her address, Principal, GDC Akhnoor appreciated the initiative taken by Red Ribbon Club and impressed that every student must have the knowledge about the process of providing first aid as it can save many lives if provided in the golden period.

Farmers imparted training to promote organic farming

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
RAMBAN: To introduce and promote organic farming, the Agriculture Department, under the aegis of Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, conducted a one-day training session for farmers in Tatarsu village of the district.
This initiative taken under the supervision of Chief Agriculture Officer, Ram Gopal Sharma, was executed by a team of experts including Agriculture Extension Officer Jagdish Bali, assisted by Junior Agriculture Extension Officer, Arun Kumar.
The training event was aimed to educate the farmers of the newly formed Organic Cluster, "Golden Organic



Farmers during the training programme at Ramban.

Farm," on various organic farming techniques. The experts provided detailed instructions on the preparation of organic manure and organic insecticides and pesticides. They also demonstrated the use of pheromone insect traps, specifically to combat the White Fly pest, and discussed the benefits of using

traps, and other essential items.
The AEO emphasized the government's goal of transforming Tatarsu village into a fully organic farming village within the next three years. He highlighted the advantages of organic farming, including the prevention of diseases caused by chemical fertilizers and pesticides, improved soil fertility, and higher market prices for organic produce.
The Agriculture Department's efforts in Tatarsu village represent a significant step towards healthier, more sustainable farming and improved economic prospects for local farmers.

SMVDU research scholar qualifies CSIR-SRF

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
KATRA: Rajeshwer Singh Jamwal, a research scholar from the School of Biotechnology working under the Supervision of Dr. Rakesh Kumar in the School of Biotechnology, SMVDU, has qualified for the Senior Research Fellowship (SRF) awarded by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) at the national level.
This prestigious recognition is a testament to Jamwal's hard work and dedication to his field of study.
Jamwal is working on the

topic entitled "Characterisation of DNA Damage Associated Genes in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer in Jammu and Kashmir, India".
His work delves into the genetic factors influencing Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer susceptibility within this specific regional context.
Publications across journals such as Cancer Epidemiology, Molecular Biology Reports, and BMC Cancer highlight significant findings, including the impact of single nucleotide variants in genes like

REV3L on lung cancer risk, and the role of telomere attrition in Lung cancer development.
These studies underscore the importance of targeted genetic research and pave the way for personalized medicine approaches, potentially revolutionizing prevention, and treatment strategies for cancer in genetically diverse populations like that of Jammu and Kashmir.
Jamwal extends his heartfelt gratitude to his Supervisor, Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Head, SoBT, Dr. Ratna Chandra, and Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Pragati Kumar for their unwavering infrastructural and administrative support.



474 polling parties deployed across Poonch

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
POONCH: In a significant development, 474 polling parties have been dispatched from the SKC College ground Poonch to various polling stations in the Surankote, Mendhar and Haveli constituencies, here for the polling being held tomorrow under the sixth phase Lok Sabha Elections 2024.
Deputy Commissioner, Yasin M. Choudhary on Friday flagged off the polling parties, accompanied by the necessary polling materials.
Senior Superintendent of Police, Yougal Manhas, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Tahir Mustafa Malik, ACR(ARO), Qadeer Ur Rehman, District

Information Officer, Vishaldeep Chandan and other officers were present on the occasion.
The Deputy Commissioner thoroughly checked the vehicles, polling parties and the arrangements made for refreshments and lunch. He also reviewed the security measures put in place to ensure the safety and security of the polling parties and the polling material.
Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner expressed confidence in the arrangements made for the Lok Sabha Elections 2024. He emphasized the commitment

ment of the district administration to ensuring transparency, impartiality, and efficiency in the electoral process.
To maintain the integrity of the elections, stringent security measures have been implemented. The deployment of adequate security personnel will create a secure environment for the polling parties to carry out their duties without any hindrance.
The District Election Officer reiterated the administration's dedication to upholding the democratic principles and ensuring a fair and peaceful electoral process in the region.

DC inspects progress of work on GMC Udhampur

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
UDHAMPUR: Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai on Friday visited the construction site of the new Government Medical College in Bailly to inspect the ongoing work.
During the visit, the DC reviewed each component of the construction, assessed the current progress and emphasized resolving bottlenecks, if any, affecting the project's execution. The DC urged the executing agency to work in double-shift to meet the project's completion within the stipulated timeframe.
Additionally, the DC instructed the Principal GMC to closely coordinate with the executing agency to

accelerate the pace of the construction work.
Principal GMC Udhampur, CMO and Executive Engineers from PWD and PHE besides other concerned officers accompanied the DC.
The PHE department was directed to keep inventory of pumpsets, Transformers and List of technical persons



Summer preparedness; water, power supply scenario reviewed

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SAMBA: District Development Commissioner Samba, Abhishek Sharma on Friday reviewed summer preparedness in respect of water and power supply, besides progress and functioning of completed Water Supply Schemes.
After threadbare discussions on varied issues, strict instructions were passed to maintain power and water supply during forthcoming Shri Amarnath yatra, day to day supplies of water in rural areas as well as in towns of the District.
The PHE department was directed to keep inventory of pumpsets, Transformers and List of technical persons



District Development Commissioner Samba, Abhishek Sharma chairing a meeting.

required for immediate repairs of machinery. Stress was laid on completion and functioning of JJM schemes, installation of FHTCs, geo tagging and HGJ certification in a time bound manner.
The DC asked the officers to widely circulate the time schedule of water and electricity supply in the public domain and strictly follow the timings so that the general public may not suffer.
Executive Engineer PDD was directed to enhance buffer stocks of Transformers and stick to the electricity schedule and ensure no unscheduled power cuts.
Among others, Additional District Development Commissioner, Champa Devi, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Suresh Kumar Sharma, SE Hydraulic circle/Rural Mech Circle Jammu, Manish Bhat Consultant civil Jammu, ACR Samba, Xen GWD Division Jammu, Xen PHE, PDD, SDMs, district officers, EOS, AEE, JEs and TPI A, ISAs and contractors attended the meeting.

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Dignitaries being felicitated during the programme at Chinta.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
DODA: A Training Workshop for School Children themed "School Activities" was on Friday organised by Vishwagram Trust Gujarat here at Government Higher Secondary School Chinta in Zone Bhaderwah. The team of Vishwagram was warmly welcomed by Raj Mohammad (Incharge Principal), staff and students of the Institution.
A number of activities like Origami, Card Making, Painting Art, Singing, Charkha spinning, Paper Bag making, Toy making and Games were conducted by the team

members to benefit the students.
More than 110 Students of Class Ist to Class 8th from across the Chinta Cluster participated in the training programme.
The programme was coordinated by Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Koul (Associate NCC Officer, Zonal Cultural/Counselling Incharge) and Manjeet Singh (Zonal incharge of CWSN & Samikhsha).
The Head of the Institution and staff of the host school provided all possible support and cooperation for successful completion of the event.