

FICCI FLO JKL launches digital literacy programme at Govt. GLDM Degree College Hiranagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
HIRANAGAR: FICCI FLO JKL in a significant step towards empowering women students, launched a Digital Literacy Program in Financial Awareness at Govt. Girdhari Lal Dogra Memorial (GLDM) Degree College, Hiranagar. This initiative is part of FICCI FLO's ongoing efforts to promote financial literacy and digital skills among young women, helping them prepare for the future. The program enrolled its first batch of 30 girls with the support of Dr. Pragya Khanna, Principal Govt. GLDM Degree College, Hiranagar. Students will receive training and certification through a designed curriculum provided by NIIT. Ruchika Gupta, Chairperson FICCI FLO JKL, initiated the program in the college's computer lab. Speaking to the students,



FICCI FLO JKL members along with faculty and students during the programme.

Ruchika Gupta, Chairperson FICCI FLO JKL, underscored the importance of financial literacy in today's digital era. She emphasized how this program will empower the students by equipping them with essential skills to manage their finances effectively as they enter the workforce. Highlighting the significance of the certification they will receive upon completing the course, Mrs. Gupta motivated the stu-

dents to take full advantage of this opportunity to build a strong foundation for their financial independence. She appreciated the support extended by Dr. Pragya Khanna in the initiation of the program. Dr. Pragya Khanna, Principal Govt. GLDM Degree College, Hiranagar, expressed her gratitude towards FICCI FLO JKL for bringing this valuable initiative to the college. She emphasized the importance

of such programs in enhancing the overall skill set of the students, making them more prepared for the challenges of the modern world. Dr. Khanna also reaffirmed her commitment to supporting all future initiatives by FICCI FLO JKL aimed at the holistic development of the students. The course content shall cover key topics such as an introduction to financial concepts, the basics of savings, banking, insurance,

financial planning, and mobile banking. This knowledge will enable the students to navigate the complexities of the financial world with confidence. To ensure effective delivery, the program will be facilitated by resource persons Prof. Rajesh Sharma, Prof. Rupali Jamwal, and Prof. Amit Singh, who have undergone specialized training by NIIT. FICCI FLO JKL plans to continue this initiative with subsequent batches, ensuring that more women students benefit from this program. The presence of core team members, including Immediate Past Chairperson Varuna Anand and Joint Executive Secretary Nandita Bajaj, at the event further highlighted FICCI FLO JKL's dedication to women empowerment through education and skills development.

GDC Khour hosts SVEEP rally to promote voter education



Students along with faculty members during the event.

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KHOUR: In a spirited initiative under the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) program, NCC Cadets and NSS volunteers from GDC Khour organized a rally to promote voter education and electoral participation. The event saw enthusiastic participation from NCC cadets, NSS volunteers, BLO's Supervisors and SVEEP team, who were joined by the esteemed Principal of the college, Prof. Dr. T.K. Sharma, along with faculty members. The rally began from the

college's main gate, where Principal (Nodal Officer SVEEP, AC-82 Chhamb) Prof. Dr. T. K Sharma delivered an inspiring address. He underscored the importance of voting as both a right and a responsibility, highlighting how voting is essential for shaping the future of society. Prof. Dr. T. K Sharma urged students to actively participate in elections and to exercise their voting rights. Participants carried placards and banners with impactful messages about the significance of

voting and chanted slogans such as "Matdaan Humara Adikaar Hai, Banti Esse Se Sarkar Hai; Ghar Ghar Shaksharta Ley Jaayegay, Matdaata Jaagruk Banaayegay." These messages were aimed at encouraging Khour residents to contribute in the democratic process. The rally was coordinated by Lt. Shivani Sharma (ANO Boys Senior Division), along with Prof. Anil Kumar Dogra (HoD Botany) & Prof. Sunil Kumar (PTI) under the guidance of Principal Prof. Dr. T.K. Sharma.

Army organises medical camp



Medicines being distributed among patients.

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POONCH: With the aim of providing basic medical facilities to the people and their cattle residing in remote areas of village Bafliaz, Indian Army organized a free Medical Camp at village Bafliaz. Indian Army doctor's along with local civil health workers from the village were present to assist the patients. The Medical Camp was organized to help the local

populace in leading a normal and healthy life, which is otherwise challenging considering the terrain and weather conditions. Free health check up & medicines were provided to the patients by specialist civil & military doctor. Requisite consultation, vaccination and medicines were provided by Medical Staff for the people to help the invitees avail medical treatment benefits. Requisite consultation,

vaccination and medicines were provided for a total strength of 94 (Five Health worker, 37 Female, 39 Males and 13 Children) from Bafliaz, who availed medical treatment benefits. During this event, food items were also distributed amongst children and locals. Additionally, a lecture on immunization, family planning & health care of children was also organized during this medical camp to spread awareness amongst the people in remote regions regarding preventive measures of common diseases, hygiene & sanitation and their symptoms along with pro-active measures to stem the tide and also emphasize on importance of good eating habits, balanced diet plan and maintaining personal hygiene and sanitation to increase happiness quotient amongst the gathering. This gesture and effort by the Indian Army was highly appreciated by the AWAM.

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SAMBHA: The newly appointed Deputy Commissioner of Samba, Rajesh Sharma, conducted a visit to the historic Shri Narsingh Dham Ghagwal shortly after assuming office. The temple, with its 1737-year-old history, is set to host the grand celebrations for Shri Krishna Janmashtami, and the DC reviewed the preparations for the religious events scheduled to take place. During his inspection, DC Rajesh Sharma engaged with the temple management committee and concerned officials, receiving detailed updates on the ongoing arrangements. He emphasized the importance of security, cleanliness, traffic management, and crowd control measures to ensure a smooth and safe event. The DC instructed all departments



DC Rajesh Sharma during visit to historic Shri Narsingh Dham Ghagwal.

involved to complete the necessary arrangements on time, ensuring that devotees face no inconveniences. DC Rajesh Sharma announced that a grand procession will be taken out from Shri Narsingh Temple on August 25th, followed by the main Janmashtami celebrations on August 26th. He briefed on the traffic management plan, stating that vehicles will be completely

restricted from passing through the main Ghagwal market on Janmashtami

day. Vehicles heading towards Rajpura will be allowed only up to Ravi Tawi Canal. Special parking arrangements have been made at the Government Girls High School Ghagwal to accommodate the influx of visitors. Regarding power and water supply, the DC assured that all preparations have been finalized and instructed officials to ensure everything is in place before the event. The district administration of Samba, along with local youth, plays

a crucial role in making the Shri Krishna Janmashtami celebrations a success each year. Several youth groups met with DC Samba to discuss their preparations for the event. On this occasion, DC Rajesh Sharma also offered prayers and received blessings at the Shri Narsingh Temple. He was accompanied by SSP Samba Vinay Sharma, SDM Ghagwal Sunaina Saini, Tehsildar Ghagwal Shakeel Ahmed, SHO Sikander Singh Chauhan, and other officials.

Bharatiya Vidya Mandir Higher Secondary School Udhampur holds two-day science lab workshop



Faculty members along with students during the workshop.

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UDHAMPUR: Two-day science lab workshop was organized at Bharatiya Vidya Mandir Higher Secondary School Udhampur Nainsoo. The chief guest of the program was Jayant Pitre (Senior scientist/Hum charitable trust), Dr. Ravi Kant Altekar, (senior scientist / Baba atomic research centre Arunachal Pradesh), Dr. Jayant Jyoshi (BARC / senior scientist) and Dr. Dhananjay Muljkar (head of the Deptt physics, College Thana). E-inaugural flag hoisting was done by Mridul Khajuria and Sulaksha Thakur; students of Bharatiya Vidya Mandir High School Udhampur Nainsoo. The program was inaugurated with Saraswati Vandana. The Principal of the school, Renu Sharma introduced everyone to the guests. After that, the chief guest gave his blessings to the children and said that today we all have got the opportunity to come here because

of you students and we all hope that in these two days we will tell and explain to you all about science as much as possible through practicals. And we hope that all of you will also learn wholeheartedly. After that, students from class IX to XI were taken to the labs of physics, chemistry and biology and various kinds of practicals were conducted and they were told how in today's time students are using new technology in the field of education. The coordinators of this two-day workshop were Mrs. Tania Mahajan and Mrs. Sonali Sharma. In the end, the Principal of the school, Mrs. Renu Sharma, thanked the scientists who came to the school on behalf of the students, teachers and management committee and said that we thank you that you gave such valuable time to our children and we hope that Hum charitable trust will continue to organize such workshops in our school in the future as well.

KVK Reasi imparts awareness on Parthenium management



Chief Scientist & Head of KVK, Reasi, Dr. Banarsi Lal delivering lecture.

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REASI: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Reasi of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology - Jammu (SKUAST-J) organised awareness programme on Parthenium management here today at Govt. Middle School, Seela in Reasi distt. of J&K which was enthusiastically attended by a large number of school children and teachers. The programme was organized under the dynamic stewardship of Vice Chancellor, Prof. B.N. Tripathi and able guidance of Director Extension (DE), Prof. Amrisha Vaid of SKUAST-J. Chief Scientist & Head of KVK, Reasi, Dr. Banarsi Lal while briefing the significance of the programme said that Parthenium management has become a menace for

the agricultural and non-agricultural areas as well as for the human beings, livestock, environment and biodiversity. He further said that the Parthenium hysterophorus is an allergic, poisonous, pernicious, problematic, aggressive and deadly weed which is posing a serious threat to human beings, livestock, environment and biodiversity. He narrated that this dreaded weed is spreading in an alarming rate throughout the nation and collaborative efforts are needed to eradicate it. He expressed that the weed causes huge economic losses to the farmers as the weed affects up to 40 per cent of crops yields. He informed the participants about the introduction of weed in India and J&K, its biology, propagation, dispersal and status in the country and J&K. He stressed

on community approach to eradicate this harmful weed. He informed the participants that this weed is causing lot of ailments like dermatitis, asthma, nasal-dermal to both the human beings and animals. He explained the mechanical, chemical and biological control measures of the Parthenium. He informed that this weed has the ability to grow throughout the year in one or other vegetative or reproductive phases but maximum growth occurs during monsoon season. He explained the vermicompost making technique from Parthenium. He emphasized on the Parthenium eradication on mass scale and said that it is the responsibility of whole community to eradicate this cosmopolitan weed. KVK scientist demonstrated the eradication techniques of Parthenium and also distributed the extension literature on Parthenium management among the participants. The school teachers expressed their happiness for organizing such types of awareness programmes. The participants asked some queries which the KVK scientists in a satisfactorily way. The programme was concluded successfully by Sh. Manohar Lal with formal vote of thanks.

Col Mahan urges immediate resolution of JPDCL Employees' wage crisis

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
PLAKH (Basohli): A delegation of employees from the STD Sub Division Phinter (Pillawar) of the Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDCL) met Col Mahan Singh (Retd), Chairman District Development Council (DDC) Kathua, today at Plakh (Basohli) to voice their concerns regarding the non-payment of their wages for the past four months.



Delegation members meeting Chairman DDC Kathua Col Mahan Singh (Retd).

The employees, primarily linemen (SBA) responsible for maintaining the electricity supply to remote areas such as Tandi, Gurakalya, Dhar Mahanpur, Bhoond, and Bani, shared their grievances, citing an ongoing intra-departmental conflict between the Executive Engineer PDD

(Maintenance) Division Kathua, Er. Surinder Kumar, and the Executive Engineer (STD) Division Kathua, Er. Madan Lal. As a result, these employees have not received their wages since April 2024, despite working tirelessly to ensure uninterrupted power supply in these far-flung regions. According to the

delegation, they have been working under the STD Sub Division Phinter for the past 30 years, with their salaries regularly paid by the JPDCL (Maintenance) Division Kathua. However, the current Executive Engineer, Er. Surinder Kumar, has stopped their salaries, insisting that they should report to his office

ly contacted the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kathua, urging for a swift resolution to the stalemate between the two divisional officers. He emphasized the need for a prompt and amicable solution, stating that the well-being of the employees and their families must be prioritized, and no worker should suffer due to departmental inefficiencies. "The JPDCL employees have been working day and night to ensure uninterrupted electricity supply in some of the most remote areas of Kathua. It is unacceptable that they are left unpaid for months due to an internal tussle. I have spoken to the Deputy Commissioner and will ensure that this issue is resolved at the earliest," Col Mahan Singh added.

Skill Internship empowers students of SPPND GDC Samba

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBHA: 430 students of Sem-5 of SPPND GDC Samba successfully pursued a comprehensive Internship Programme of 30 Hrs w.e.f 05-08-2024 at 18 renowned Institutes/Departments across Samba District and Jammu region which culminated today. This maiden initiative, a primary requisite of NEP-2020 aimed to provide students with practical exposure to cutting-edge technologies and insight into industry best practices along with devel-



Students and faculty members during the programme.

oping critical skills such as teamwork, problem-solving and efficient communication. A total of 24 groups of students were immersed in a dynamic learning and hands-on training at JKEDI, Bari Brahmana for entrepreneurship and start-up awareness, Govt. District Hospital Samba for First-Aid Training, GGHSS Samba for Macro teaching, ITI for Sewing Technology, Social Welfare Department for Mission Shakti and Mission Vatsalya schemes, Polytechnic Samba for

learning basic Computer Course, Cyber Crime Awareness at Police Head Quarters Samba, knowledge of Electoral and Judicial process at District Election Cell, Samba and District Court Samba, Production & Processing at Berger Paints, SIDCO Samba, Techniques of Sericulture at SKUAST & Krishi Vigyan Kendra Samba and Patrakarita at Institute of Mass Communication and Skill Development, Sarore. Another group of interned students were also in Content writing and varied

aspects of News, Editing and Anchoring at Media house- Greater Jammu giving them a comprehensive practical exposure to the working of Media houses. As the District caters to an agrarian economy, a group of students made a comprehensive survey of agricultural farming and related techniques. Another group of History students in collaboration with Department of Archaeology, Samba also made a historical, cultural and archaeological survey of historical sites of Samba including the local heritage

forts for enhancing tourism and economic benefits. Students were also engaged in Internship course on different Chemistry softwares - Chem Draw & Origin, Fabric Painting (Spray painting, Stencil work) and Bhartiya Jyotish Shastra at GDC Samba. This Internship programme was designed to bridge the gap between academic theories and practical applications, fostering skill development, employability and career prospects. The Internship programme was conducted successfully under the mentorship of the Principal Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri with the unyielding support of District Administration Samba, where the students had the opportunity to network with industry experts, professionals and peers, expanding their horizons and future prospects. The feedback of the students has been overwhelmingly positive followed by the submission of a Project report.

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