

SGWF celebrates Green Janmashtami with extensive plantation drives across J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS
R S PURA: The Synergetic Green Warriors Foundation (SGWF) marked the holy festival of Janmashtami by organizing a series of plantation drives across the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. These initiatives, conducted under the themes of "Adopt a Tree" and "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam," reflect SGWF's dedication to fostering environmental sustainability while honoring cultural traditions. SGWF's Green Janmashtami celebrations saw active participation from volunteers and community leaders across various districts of J&K, with significant tree planting activities taking place in multiple locations: R.S. Pura: The plantation drive was led by Rakesh Verma, accompanied by Nisha Kumari, Dhriti Dasgotta, Madensh Dasgotta, and Rahul Changotra. Udhampur: Under the leadership of Chandar Mohan Jandial, participants including Raj Kumar Jandial, Vijay Inder, Rishan, Anisha Gupta, and Rakesh Kumar contributed



Foundation members during the plantation drive.

to the greening efforts. Sunderbani, Rajouri: The drive was led by Dogar Nath, Office Secretary of SGWF, with the support of Capt. Madan Lal, Numderdar Tilak Raj, and Daksh Sharma, who planted trees as part of the "Green Janmashtami" initiative. Kathua: Naresh Sharma and Narinder Verma spearheaded the plantation activities, emphasizing the importance of environmental conservation during the festive season. Reasi: A dedicated team led by Sugam Bral conducted the plantation drive, contributing to the region's ecological balance. Kashmir Wing: Under the leadership of Malik Noor

Ali, the Kashmir Wing of SGWF observed Green Janmashtami with enthusiasm, planting trees to promote environmental awareness. Chowki Chora: Makhani Devi and a number of volunteers participated in the plantation drive, making a meaningful contribution to the Green Janmashtami celebrations. These plantation drives were part of SGWF's ongoing "Adopt a Tree" and "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaigns, which aim to encourage communities to integrate tree planting into their cultural and religious practices. By adopting a tree during Janmashtami, individuals

"The widespread participation in our Green Janmashtami initiative shows the deep connection our communities have with both their cultural heritage and their natural surroundings," he stated. SGWF plans to continue its "Adopt a Tree" campaign throughout the year, with a focus on engaging more communities in tree planting during festivals and other significant occasions. SGWF has planted 9000 plants in one single day at different places with the active participation of visionaries and think-tank of the NGO. SGWF is a leading environmental organization dedicated to promoting sustainable practices, ecological balance, and community development. The foundation's innovative initiatives aim to connect cultural traditions with environmental stewardship, creating a more sustainable future for all. NGO planned to adopt 25000 plants in the monsoon season in addition to its Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam theme in which NGO will plant 25000 plants.

Akhnoor resonates with chants of Lord Krishna, devotees celebrate with enthusiasm

STATE TIMES NEWS
Akhnoor: On Monday, the town of Akhnoor reverberated with the joyous chants of Lord Krishna as the Ram Leela Club of Akhnoor organized a grand and vibrant procession to celebrate Shri Krishna Janmashtami. The entire town came alive as devotees filled the streets, dancing and celebrating the occasion. The procession was warmly welcomed with flower showers at various points along its route. The event saw the participation of former MLA Rajeev Sharma, former SSP Mohan Lal Bhagat, and many members of the Ram Leela Club, alongside several Sarpanches,

Panches, Councillors and local residents. The procession featured captivating tableaux of Shri Radha Krishna from various temples across Akhnoor, which were the highlight of the event. The atmosphere was infused with devotion as bands led the procession, with devotees seen dancing to their tunes. The procession commenced from the Shri Radha Krishna Temple in the main market of Akhnoor and followed a route through Akhnoor Bus Stand, Nirdosh Chowk, Radha Chowk, Raja Bazaar, Pakka Danga, and Arya Samaj, before returning to the temple for the conclu-

sion. Throughout the procession, arrangements for prasad and community meals (langar) were made at various locations by the devotees. The successful organization of the event was made possible through the significant contributions of Ram Leela Club President Brij Mehta, General Secretary Mohan Singh Jamwal, Treasurer Tarsem Gupta, Rajeev Gupta, Mohini Pandit, D.N. Abrol, Aman Mishra, Vinay Sapolia, Suresh Gupta, Kamal Mehta, Deepak Sharma, Pandit Ganesh, Rakesh Gupta, Ajit Singh, and others.

Super bike rally from Udhampur to Patnitop promotes electoral awareness

STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: In a commendable initiative under the aegis of the Systematic Voter Education and Electoral Participation program, a grand Super Bike Rally was organized from Udhampur to Patnitop, here today.

This event was held under the supervision of District Election Officer Udhampur, Saloni Rai, and supervised by

District Youth Services and Sports Officer, Romesh Chander Mishra. As many as 60 super bikes, adorned with SVEEP banners, embarked on the mission of disseminating crucial electoral awareness. The rally proceeded to Patnitop, actively engaging the local populace in informative outreach regarding electoral processes and the significance of voter participation.

Induction Program held for new MBA students at SMVDU's School of Business



Dignitaries being honoured during the programme.

STATE TIMES NEWS
KATRA: The School of Business at SMVD University held an induction program to welcome its new MBA students. Prof. Jyoti Sharma, Head of the School of Business, greeted the students and highlighted the importance of developing both managerial skills and being responsible citizens. Prof. Ashutosh Vashisht, Dean of the Faculty of Management, encouraged the students to uphold traditional values and contribute

to society. Prof. Suparn Sharma commended the students on embarking on their professional MBA journey, emphasizing the importance of managing themselves, and making a positive impact on the development of Indian business economy. The program included a special session with Sanjesh Sharma, a corporate expert from IBM with over 10 years of experience. He shared his knowledge about the importance of competence, networking,

and the need to improve both hard and soft skills to succeed in the corporate world. Afterward, the new students had the chance to interact with faculty and senior students, learning about academics, extracurricular activities, and how to become successful managers. The day also featured games and ice-breaking activities. The event was organized by Dr. Shazia Bukhari and Dr. Divya Singh Jamwal, faculty members of the School of Business.

Two day 'Training cum Awareness Program organized by SKUAST-Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS
R S PURA: Under the patronage of Dr Bhupendra Nath Tripathi, Honorable Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu, and the direction of Dr S. K. Gupta, Director Research, SKUAST-Jammu, the division of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology, F.V.Sc& A.H, R. S. Pura, Jammu organized two day 'Training cum Awareness Program/ camp' at Village Said and Loukhali in the Panchayat Ghar (Lokuhali) and Badoli of District Kathua. The program was conducted under the DBT GOI project entitled "Socio-Economic Upliftment of Poor Farmers through Animal Husbandry using Scientific Interventions in Jammu Province" under the purview of SKUAST-Jammu. The PI, Dr Nrip Kishore Pankaj introduced about the program first and stated that the villages



SKUAST-J officials along with farmers during programme.

Loukhali-Said, and Badoli have been endorsed under the project, and two units of goat and five poultry have been distributed in each village during last year. The attempt has been made to facilitate the animals & birds to the needy, along with the expert advice and treatment to mitigate with the problem of birds and animals including other livestock. Many a times local VAS/VO have also supported the events. In consequence, the program was to sensitize the locals

about the entrepreneurship avenues by goaty and other livestock. Dr Neelsh Sharma, Professor and Head, Veterinary Medicine, F.V.Sc& A.H, SKUAST-J, R. S. Pura, interacted with the farmers of Loukhali-Said and spoke about various ways and means to prevent mastitis among cattle. He also narrated many managerial issue to be taken care of, during the upkeep of the livestock. He underlined the importance of prevention of many dis-

eases by using cold chain-maintained vaccine and antiparasitic drugs at the right time. Dr. A. K. Pathak, Associate Professor, Animal Nutrition, F.V.Sc& A.H, SKUAST-J, R. S. Pura, talked to the local farmers of Loukhali-Said and Badoli during the program and discussed about nutrition management for the animals. He stated that it takes as much as 2/3rd of the cost of rearing the animals in its feed and fodder. He underlined the importance of balanced nutrition from locally available resources in continuing the animals' productive for longer and therefore profitable to the animal owners. He further narrated its importance in keeping the animal's, reproduction wise sound. Dr. N. K. Pankaj, PI & Professor & Head, Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology F.V.Sc& A.H, SKUAST-J, R. S.

Pura, while interacting with the local farmers of Loukhali-Said and Badoli during the program mentioned the local toxic plants that grows wild as well as fodder that may be toxic to the animals. He also expressed the concerns over ownness among few of the beneficiaries, but reaffirmed for support from SKUAST-Jammu. The locals were very happy about the 'Training cum Awareness Program/ camp' and appreciated the regular visit and the approach of the scientists of SKUAST-Jammu towards the farmers of all three villages. Kamal Singh, public representative at Badoli acknowledged for the event and requested for more such events in future. After the program, the PI along with the staff moved to village Charwarh under revenue village Loukhali, panchayat Badoli for distribution of one unit of goat.

SVEEP Cell, Sports Association Rajouri collaborate to host T20 Cricket Tournament

STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: The District SVEEP Cell Rajouri, in collaboration with the Sports Association Rajouri, organized the inaugural edition of the Peer Panjal Super League today, here under the supervision of District Election Officer, Abhishek Sharma and SVEEP Nodal Officer, Bishamber Dass. The event, themed "Chunav ka Parv, Desh ka Garv," aimed to promote electoral literacy among the youth through the popular sport of cricket. The tournament was inaugurated by District Nodal Officer SVEEP, Bishamber Dass, in the presence of Manager Sports



A section of dignitaries during the event.

Council Rajouri, Bashir Ahmed Bakshi; Chairman Sports Association Rajouri, Shaqfat Mir; members Bilal Khan and Yasir Malik and the District SVEEP Team Rajouri. In his address, DNO SVEEP emphasized the importance of informed and responsible vot-

ing. He encouraged participants to spread the message of electoral literacy within their communities and motivate others to exercise their democratic rights. The tournament featured twenty teams from across the district, providing a platform for young people to show-

case their cricketing skills while learning about the electoral process. District SVEEP Team Member, Mohammad Ayaz Raina highlighted that the tournament not only promotes the sport of cricket but also serves as an excellent opportunity to engage with the youth and raise awareness about electoral literacy. Raina also led a voting pledge, which was enthusiastically responded to by all players and the audience, reinforcing the community's commitment to active participation in the electoral process. The inaugural match saw Amir Eleven Darhal triumph over Danyal Super Kings by

three wickets, with Azar Malik being named Man of the Match for his outstanding performance. The initiative received widespread appreciation from participants and local residents, who commended the District SVEEP Team and the Organizing Team of Sports Association Rajouri for their innovative approach to voter education. Army distributes blankets at Budhal

Army celebrates Women's Equality Day



Students participating in the event.

STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: Army, on the occasion of Women's Equality Day, which is celebrated annually on August 26, conducted an celebration event based on the theme 'Gender equality today for sustainable tomorrow', to promote the agenda of women

equality and women empowerment, at Khanetar. In the view of the event a lecture was conducted for students to promote gender equality, women empowerment and to raise awareness about the importance of women's participation in all aspects of society includ-

ing Armed forces. It is also a time to acknowledge the contributions of women throughout history and in contemporary society. During the lecture impetus was also given to women entry in Armed Forces and CAPF via various schemes. Girl students were motivated to enroll for competing in the entrance exams for the same. The girls students have appreciated the efforts of the Indian Army to educate them on these relevant schemes and conveyed their gratitude for the same. They added that these lectures are their source of learning things of which they are mostly ignorant. Same will help them in long term in improving their vision and standard of living.

Janamasthi celebrated with religious fervour across Poonch District

STATE TIMES NEWS
Poonch: Janamasthi marking birth of Lord Shri Krishna, was celebrated with religious fervour and gaiety amidst chanting of Bhajans and hymns in praise of Shri Krishna. A large number of people from Poonch and adjoining at least ten villages including Jhallas, Khari Karmara, Magnad, Gulpur, Degwar etc. assembled at Geeta Bhawan Poonch and then took out a large procession/



Shobha Yatra being taken out at Poonch.

Shobha Yatra around the city. The programme was organised under the supervision of President Sanatan Dharam Sabha Poonch, Sh Khetarpal sharma and other

members of the SD Sabha in coordination with other social, youth, trade and religious organizations of Poonch. Devotees participated in

the Shobha Yatra with great enthusiasm which included a large number of women and children. The religious procession after passing through various markets, Bazaars, Mohallas and Historic temples finally culminated at Khakha Nawan. SSP Poonch, Mumtaz Mir, DGPC President S Narinder Singh and Senior officers of the District Administration were also accompanying the Shobha Yatra.

The novel initiative taken by Indian Army for Gujjar-Bakarwal will not only alleviate their hardship in severe cold weather but also represent a step towards their welfare. Sarpanchs, Panches & prominent locals have thanked and expressed their profound gratitude towards the Indian Army for Provision of Blankets to Below poverty line people. This initiative of Indian Army will go a long way in overall development of the society and further cementing the existing strong bond between Indian Army and the Awam.

General, Police Observers Review Election Preparedness in Ramban for General Election Legislative Assembly 2024

STATE TIMES NEWS
Ramban: The General Observer for AC-54 Ramban and AC-55 Banihal, Himanshu Kumar Rai, along with Police Observer Kunal Aggarwal, today reviewed the preparedness of the District Administration for conducting free, fair, and transparent General Legislative Assembly Elections 2024 in district Ramban. The Observers inspected key locations, including the Strong Room and the 24x7 Election Control Room established within the District Administrative Complex, Maitra Ramban, to gain firsthand insights into the election arrangements. During the meeting, the Observers stressed the importance of close coordination and teamwork to enhance election preparedness across the district.

Present at the meeting were District Election Officer Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary; Senior Superintendent of Police, Kulbir Singh; ADDC, Roshan Lal; RO AC-54 Ramban, S. Harpal Singh, along with other officers and officials. The Observers assured the officers of full cooperation and guidance throughout the election process, emphasizing the need to promptly address complaints and issues to ensure smooth operations in both Assembly constituencies, AC-54 Ramban and AC-55 Banihal. Commending the efforts of the District Administration, the General Observer highlighted the critical importance of conducting free, fair, and transparent elections, ensuring a level playing field for all contestants. He urged the officers to

strive for excellence in making the democratic process a success in the district. Earlier, the DEO presented a comprehensive PowerPoint Presentation outlining the district's geography, challenges, and the extensive preparations undertaken by the District Administration and Police Department to ensure a smooth electoral process. He provided detailed insights into the setup of Strong Rooms, 24x7 Election Control Room, the establishment and management of Polling Stations, the Transport Plan, the randomization of EVMs and staff, and the management of Service Voters and Postal Ballots. The Observers also reviewed the district's security scenario, ensuring that all necessary measures are in place for a secure and orderly election process.

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EVMs transported to Strong Rooms across three Poonch Constituencies amid tight security

STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: Ahead of the upcoming assembly elections, Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) have been securely transported from the Mini Secretariat, Poonch, to the strong rooms of Surankote, Mendhar, and Haveli constituencies here today. The movement was

conducted under a heavy security blanket, with Returning Officers and representatives from various political parties present to oversee the process and ensure that all protocols were strictly followed. The EVMs are now housed in secure facilities, monitored by CCTV cameras and pro-

TECTED by round-the-clock security personnel to maintain the integrity of the election process. The elections in these constituencies will be held on the 25th of September 2024, with vote counting scheduled for the 4th of October 2024. The official election notification will be issued on

the 29th of August, with the last date for filing nominations being the 5th of September. The last date of withdrawal is 9th of September. The district administration has taken extensive measures to ensure the election is conducted in a free, fair, and transparent manner.