

# KVK Reasi gets 'Best KVK Award'

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

REASI: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Reasi under the aegis of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology-Jammu (SKUAST-J) has been conferred with the prestigious 'Best KVK of J&K Award-2024' during the Zonal Workshop of KVKs of Zone-1 which was held recently at Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (GADVASU), Ludhiana and enthusiastically attended by the agricultural scientists from the states/UTs of Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. KVK Reasi is working under the dynamic stewardship of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. B.N. Tripathi and able guidance of Director Extension, Prof. Amrish Vaid of SKUAST-J. During the workshop scientists of different Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) from distinguished agricultural universities of



Dr. Banarsi Lal, Chief Scientist & Head, KVK Reasi receiving the Best KVK Award from the dignitaries during the Zonal Workshop of KVKs held at GADVASU, Ludhiana

Zone-1 presented their On Farm Trials/Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs) and action plans in the different technical sessions. Overview of the workshop was presented by the Director, ATARI (Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute), Ludhiana, Dr. Parvender Sheoran.

Chief Scientist & Head of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Reasi, of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology-Jammu (SKUAST-J), Dr. Banarsi Lal presented the

Action Plan (2024-25) of KVK, Reasi. He also highlighted the other extension activities of KVK, Reasi. He explained about the farmers, vocational and in service training programmes, Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs), On Farm Trials (OFTs), campaigns, Kisan Ghosties, farmer-scientists interactions, field days, important days etc. of KVK, Reasi. Two publications of KVK Reasi on millets production and lemongrass farming were also released during the event. KVK Reasi is working on natural and organic

farming, commercial floriculture, Self Help Groups (SHGs)/Farmers Producer Organisations (FPOs), scientific poultry farming, vegetables and fruits etc.

KVK is emphasizing on the cluster approach to have the maximum impact of KVK interventions. KVK is endeavouring to minimize the effect of monkey menace by the promotion of lemongrass, floriculture, turmeric, ginger etc. crops in the district. KVK has also made remarkable efforts for hybrid maize cultivation, advance horticulture, mush-

room cultivation, balanced nutrition for the animals etc. KVK regularly provides the agricultural extension literature to the farmers and also organises the electronic video shows on scientific farming for the farmers. KVK is stressing on the commodity villages which are having direct impact on the adjoining villages for the adoption of new agricultural technologies. KVK has established demonstrations units such as hydroponics unit, vermicompost unit, natural farming unit, nano kitchen garden, backyard poultry unit, crop cafeteria, high density orchard, low cost greenshade net house unit etc. at its campus. KVK, Reasi is developing the agri-entrepreneurship among the farmers of hilly areas and endeavouring to increase their income and employment. Many scientists from within J&K and out of J&K congratulated Dr. Banarsi Lal, Chief Scientist & Head, KVK Reasi for receiving the coveted award.

# Army conducts skill development courses to empowering local women

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

POONCH/RAJOURI: Army has recently culminated a significant stitching and tailoring course aimed at empowering women in the remote South of Pir Panjal region, specifically in the Sandot, Manjakote of Poonch & Rajouri District. This initiative reflects the Army's commitment to improving the socio-economic status of local women by providing them with essential skills for self-reliance and economic independence.

The course, inaugurated on 28 Aug 2024, welcomed 40 participants and 02 instructors, highlighting the community's eagerness for such development opportunities. The training centre is equipped with sewing machines and raw materials, allowing participants to learn various tailoring techniques from basic stitching to advanced garment design. Local women with established skills are serving as instructors, ensuring that the training is relevant and supportive of the local economy. This initiative is part of broader community development efforts by the Indian Army to uplift the



An army official delivering lecture.

lives of residents in border regions, addressing the challenges of isolation and lack of resources. The successful completion of the course not only provides the women with practical skills but also aims to foster a sense of community and partnership between the local population and the Indian Army.

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# Skill Development Programme for Youth held at GDC Kishtwar



Officials during the programme at Kishtwar.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

KISHTWAR: During the second day of the Skill Development training programme for youth being conducted by Krishi Vigyan Kendra Kishtwar on Mushroom Cultivation at Govt. Degree College Kishtwar, the participants were trained regarding the different entrepreneurial opportunities of Mushroom cultivation.

The programme is being conducted under the guidance of Dr. Amrish Vaid Director Extension SKUAST Jammu. Dr. Narinder Paul Head KVK Kishtwar and Prof. Satish Thakur Head Department of Botany GDC Kishtwar coordinated the programme. The programme was attended by 50 youth. Principal GDC Kishtwar Prof. Basharat Iqbal was the Chief Guest during the session. Prof. Asma Javed carried out proceedings of the programme.

The Skill Development Programme aims to educate the students regarding the utilization of agri-wastes for production of protein rich food besides developing do-hom skills of different steps of mushroom cultivation, entrepreneurship and self-reliance. The five-day programme includes expert talks, demonstrations and hands on training for the participants.

Prof. Basharat Iqbal Principal of GDC Kishtwar lauded the efforts of KVK Kishtwar for planning and organizing a significant and need based programme for youth that will promote skill-based education. He highlighted that youth can opt mushroom cultivation, spawn production and value addition as viable enterprises. Prof. Waseem Rashid also spoke on the occasion. Sessions of second day ended with the vote of thanks by Prof. Asma Javed.

# GDC Udhampur organises Intra-collegiate competitions, cleanliness drive

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

UDHAMPUR: In connection with the celebration of Gandhi Jayanti, Govt. Degree College Udhampur organised a series of intra college events today to shortlist the candidates who shall be representing the college in inter college competitions at the district level colleges.

In this series the first competition was of Bhajan singing Competition which was held by Cultural committee and Department of Music of the college, the event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, with a total of 16 participants.

The jury panel comprised the esteemed faculty members: Prof. Samosh Kumar and Prof. Pooja from Department of Music. The competition concluded with the following winners: 1st position went to Laksh Dogra of semester 5th, whereas 2nd



Students participating in contest.

In the series of the next event was essay writing as Essay writing competition, in which the on the spot topic, "Relevance of Gandhian thought in modern society", was given to student. A total of six students participated in the event and Anjali Sambyal of Sem Vth got the first spot while Mosena of Sem IIIrd claimed second spot. In the segment of Seminar the students delivered their thoughts on the themes 'Gandhiji's vision for the sustainable Future' con-

ducted in the department of Chemistry in which almost 18 students participated.

Akhil Brahmannu of sem Vth Secured first and Parshotam of Sem V secured second position.

Principal of the College Dr. Sanjay Verma congratulated the students and wished them with his blessings for the next round of competition.

The cleanliness Drive was coordinated by POs NSS, Prof. Gurpreet Kour and Prof. Sanjit Singh, after that a slogan writing competition on the theme "truth and Non Violence" was organised in the lab B of zoology department of the college in which almost 20 students from different stream participated they were given 1 hour for the same and after that the slogans were adjudged by Prof. Babu Lal Thakur, HoD Education, Dr. Mohinder Pal, HoD Statistics and Prof. Shobna

Sambyal HoD Zoology, where they judged slogans on basis of theme and presentation, Mosena of Semester 3rd, Anjali of semester 5th and Rupali of semester 3rd were adjudged as 1st, second and third but judges appreciated efforts of all the students.

The events were organised under the supervision of Dr. Gurpreet Kour, Dr. Jagjeet Singh and Prof. Sanjeet Singh. These events not only celebrated Gandhi Jayanti but also reinforced the college's commitment to fostering a sense of responsibility and active participation in creating a better and cleaner society.

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# 'BJP pledges to form Govt in J&K, aims to make akhnoor district'



BJP candidate Mohan Lal Bhagat addressing gathering at Akhnoor.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

AKHNOOR: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is ramping up its campaign efforts with a strong commitment to bring transformative changes to Jammu & Kashmir, with a special focus on Akhnoor. BJP Candidate and former Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Mohan Lal Bhagat conducted an extensive door-to-door outreach program in Jourian Bazar, engaging directly with local residents. Alongside this, Bhagat held public meetings in Charada Gran, Partap Kot, Bangti, and Gandarwan, where hundreds of enthusiastic supporters gathered to show their backing for the BJP candidate.

In his addresses, Mohan Lal Bhagat emphasized his dedication to fulfilling the 25 key promises outlined in the BJP's Sankalp Patra. Among these, he announced a major uplift in social welfare schemes, including the enhancement of old age, widow, and disability pensions from ₹1,000 to ₹3,000. Furthermore, he declared an increase in the coverage limit of the Ayushman Bharat Yojana from ₹5 lakh to ₹7 lakh per person.

Bhagat underscored his vision of transforming Akhnoor into a model constituency with improved infrastructure and development projects. He reiterated his commitment to making Akhnoor a district, a move he believes will generate jobs, boost local businesses, and strengthen the overall economy of the region.

"We will work tirelessly to ensure Akhnoor's development, and making it a district will be my top priority. This step will open new avenues for growth, provide employment opportunities, and enhance the economic stature of the constituency," said Bhagat. Accompanying Bhagat on his campaign trail were prominent BJP leaders and supporters, including Jagdish Bhagat, In-charge of the SC Moreha, Ex-BDC Kiran Pawar, Ex-Sarpanch Devinder Singh, Rocky Mahajan, and Ashok Choudhary. Their united efforts aim to solidify the party's vision of a prosperous Akhnoor within a vibrant Jammu & Kashmir under BJP governance.

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# KVK Kathua organises Field Day on Maize crop

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

KATHUA: Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kathua under the aegis of Directorate of Extension, SKUAST-Jammu organized field day on maize crop at village Maha. The main objective of this programme was to aware the rural youth/farmer's about the high yielding varieties of maize crop and its scientific cultivation practices to get maximum yield and enhance the income of farmers. The programme was attended by more than 50 number of farmer's of the area. The programme was organised under the dynamic leadership of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. B. N. Tripathi and able guidance of Director Extension, Prof. Amrish Vaid of SKUAST-Jammu.

The programme was led by Dr. Vishal Sharma, Scientist (Agronomy) and



KVK scientists along with farmers during the programme.

nodal officer of the CFLD's on Maize and Dr. Berjesh Ajrawat, Chief Scientist (Agril. Extn.) under the directions of Dr. Vishal Mahajan, Chief Scientist & Head of KVK, Kathua. While interacting with the farmers, Dr. Vishal Sharma said that KVK Kathua has conducted Cluster Front Line Demonstration (CFLD's) of maize crop on around 6 hectares land of more than 30 farmers of Maha village. The weedicides/

insecticides were also provided to the farmers free of cost under CFLD maize to farmers for weed management and insect control. He told that the main aim of the demonstration was to make farmers aware about the potential of new high yielding variety (DKC-9144) of maize. The farmers were shown the difference in performance of traditional varieties and high yielding varieties supplied by KVK. He emphasized on the use of inte-

grated nutrient management (INM) for higher yield of wheat crop and maintaining soil health. He informed the reporter that complete package of practice was demonstrated at farmer's field which led to enormous increase in yield of the crop.

Importance of Leaf Colour Charts (LCC) in maize crop was also discussed for nutrient and soil health management.

Dr. Berjesh Ajrawat also motivated the farmers to

shift from traditional to improved varieties so that their income can be enhanced. He discussed the nutritional value of maize crop in their diet. He also stressed on the formation of Self Help Groups and FPOs to solve their marketing problems.

Lalit Khajuria (AEA, Maha) Department of Agriculture was also present during the programme. He briefed the farmers about KVK role in conducting CFLDs on maize crop. Sushant Sharma (SRF) also contributed in making the programme successful.

Progressive farmers along with other elders of village urged the scientists to regularly conduct such demonstrations and awareness camps in the villages so that farmers can get up to date knowledge of scientific cultivation of crops.

# SPPND GDC Samba organizes lecture on 'Women's Health and Hygiene'

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

SAMBA: The Viksit Bharat Committee, in collaboration with the Department of Chemistry and the Women Development Cell, SPPND GDC Samba successfully organized a thought-provoking lecture on Women's Health and Hygiene for the female students and faculty of the college.

The event was graced by the distinguished speaker Dr. Amita Gupta, former Professor and Head of the

Postgraduate Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at SMGS Hospital, Government Medical College (GMC), Jammu. The objective of the lecture was to raise awareness, educate and promote the well-being of women by addressing various aspects of their physical health as well as personal hygiene.

In her lecture Dr. Amita provided valuable insights into the common gynecological issues faced by women.

She addressed key concerns such as reproductive health, menstrual hygiene, maternal care, and general well-being. She provided in-depth information about PCOS, its symptoms, treatment, and its effect on reproductive health. Dr. Gupta further advised on the diet and lifestyle changes necessary to manage PCOS and maintain overall health.

While addressing the gathering, Dr. Gupta emphasized the importance of early diagnosis, proper hygiene practices, and proper healthcare services as key factors in promoting women's overall health and well-being. She emphasized the need for society to break the taboos surrounding women's health, engaging in open conversations on these topics, and promoting education that empowers women to take control of their health and well-being.

During the interactive session, the Resource Person enthusiastically responded to numerous questions posed by the students.

The proceedings of the function were conducted by Prof. Ritika. The event saw an enthusiastic participation by students and faculty members. Overall, the lecture was highly informative and impactful.

# Army holds beautician course



Participants displaying course completion certificates.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

POONCH: In a significant step towards empowering women in the remote Pir Panjal region, the Indian Army recently concluded a beautician course at Sanjot, Poonch, aimed at enhancing the skills and livelihoods of local women. This initiative, part of the Indian Army's broader effort to support and uplift communities in the area, provided participants with practical training in various aspects of beauty care. Over the course of several weeks, the program offered hands-on instruction in makeup application, skin-care routines, hair styling,

and other beauty techniques. The training was designed not only to impart valuable skills but also to foster self-confidence and entrepreneurship among the participants. By equipping these women with the tools, they need to start their own businesses, the Indian Army hopes to inspire financial independence and create sustainable livelihoods. The Indian Army's commitment to social development in the region goes beyond this beautician course. Previous initiatives have included educational programs, health camps, and vocational training, all aimed at improving the quality of

life for the residents of Pir Panjal. By focusing on women's empowerment, the Indian Army is contributing to a more inclusive society where women can actively participate in economic and social spheres. As these women take their first steps into the beauty industry, they carry with them not just skills but also the hope of a brighter future for themselves and their communities. The success of this beautician course serves as a testament to the transformative power of education and skill development, paving the way for further initiatives in the region.

# General Observer Bani inspects Assured Minimum Facilities in Polling Stations

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

KATHUA: General Observer for 63-Bani Assembly Constituency A.N Khanum on Wednesday visited two key polling stations, PS Gatti and PS Neka to review preparations for the upcoming elections scheduled for 1st October 2024. The Observer's visit focused on reviewing the Assured Minimum Facilities (AMFs) at these polling stations and ensuring they are equipped to facilitate a smooth voting process.

During the visit, the Observer assessed the readiness of polling infrastructure and emphasized the importance of ensuring accessibility for all voters, including senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups. The Observer interacted with local officials and polling staff to ensure all arrangements are in place for a free, fair, and transparent electoral process.

The Observer made an earnest appeal to the residents of the 63-Bani Assembly Constituency to exercise their democratic right by casting their votes on 1st October 2024.

"Voting is not only a right but a responsibility. I encourage all eligible voters in the constituency to come out in large numbers and make their voices heard. Every vote counts," the Observer remarked.

The visit to PS Gatti and PS Neka comes as part of the General Observer's broader efforts to ensure all polling stations within the constituency adhere to the required standards of preparedness and accessibility. The Election Commission has taken extensive measures to ensure a secure and convenient voting process, including enhanced facilities at polling stations, security arrangements, and provisions for voters' safety and comfort.

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