

Comprehensive SVEEP Activity from village of flowers in Bhaderwah

STATE TIMES NEWS
BHADERWAH: In a concerted effort to enhance voter awareness and encourage electoral participation ahead of the 2024 Assembly Elections, District Administration of Doda under the leadership of District Election Officer (DEO) Harvinder Singh organized a series of informative events across the district.

These initiatives were part of the ongoing Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) program, aimed at educating and empowering voters, ensuring that every eligible citizen exercises their right to vote.

In an unique initiative to aware public about their role in electoral process and its importance, District SVEEP team led



by DEO Doda Harvinder Singh in collaboration with Anganwadi workers and progressive farmers organised an innovative awareness programme in the fields of famous Marigold flowers in Gajoth area of JK's Bhaderwah. The event saw enthusiastic participation from a diverse

cross-section of the community, including voters, teachers, Anganwadi workers, flower growers and locals. DC Doda Harvinder Singh said that the program was focused on educating first-time voters, newly married couples, highlighting the importance of their participation in the democratic

process.

"Through interactive sessions and informative materials, participants were made aware of electoral procedures, the significance of their vote, and the power they hold in shaping the future of their community," DC added.

DC Doda Harvinder Singh also delivered a compelling message about the significance of every single vote in a democracy. He urged all eligible voters to exercise their democratic right, calling it a vital step towards shaping the future of the region.

The event also featured the contribution from the Program Officer ICDS Doda, Child Development Project Officer (CDPO) Bhaderwah Farhat Shamim Khan, Nodal Officer Media Cell/MCMC Nasir Ahmed along with

SVEEP Nodal Officer.

Together, they appealed to the residents of the Gajoth Panchayat to turn out in large numbers on Election Day and contribute to a robust democratic process.

Despite Gajoth's remote location, the event witnessed a positive reception from the locals, who expressed appreciation for the information provided through the SVEEP program. Many community members remarked on how the initiative gave them valuable knowledge about the electoral process and the power of their vote.

The SVEEP program continues to play an instrumental role in fostering voter education and encouraging active participation in the democratic process across the Doda District.

GDC Khour Organizes Signature Campaign



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KHOUR: Under the aegis of SVEEP (Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation) Electoral Literacy Club of GDC Khour organized a signature campaign on "Democracy Wall" on voters education and electoral participation. The signature campaign aimed to promote democratic values and increase voters' participation in the forthcoming Assembly election 2024. The event began with esteemed Principal Prof. (Dr.) T.K. Sharma signing the Democracy Wall, who

is also the Nodal Officer SVEEP. Assembly Constitution 82-Chhamb followed by all the faculty members and students of the College. The Democracy Wall served as a platform where all the faculty members and students expressed their commitment to democracy and pledged to participate in electoral process. Prof. (Dr.) T.K. Sharma encouraged the participants by saying, "Voting is the foundation of democracy and it is our responsibility to participate in the electoral process." He also emphasized

the significance of voting rights and highlighted the importance of voting as a responsibility and privilege. He, further, urged the students to cast their vote, and actively participate in the elections at all levels of government. The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of GDC Khour played a pivotal role in organizing the event, ensuring quality and effectiveness. The whole event was organized by Electoral Literacy Club of GDC Khour under the patronage of principal Prof. (Dr.) T.K. Sharma.

Lieut. Dr. Pankaj Mehta delivers inspiring talk on role of youth in Nation Building at SMVDU



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KATRA: In a significant session of the ongoing student induction program for first-year students at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Lieut. Dr. Pankaj Mehta, Associate NCC Officer, 4 J&K Battalion NCC, delivered an inspiring lecture on "Role of Youth in Nation Building." The talk underscored the vital contributions that young people can make towards the development and progress of the nation. Prof. Balbir Singh, Dean of Academic Affairs at SMVDU, welcomed Lieut. Mehta and highlighted the importance of this lecture for the youth.

Prof. Singh noted that understanding their role in nation-building is crucial for the students as they begin their academic journey. Lieut. Dr. Mehta's talk focused on motivating students to become disciplined and responsible citizens.

He emphasized the importance of values such as integrity, dedication, and commitment to the nation's welfare, inspiring the students to actively participate in societal development. The expert talk was preceded by an introductory session on National Cadet Corps (NCC) by Dr. Varun Dutta, NCC Coordinator at SMVDU. Dr. Dutta pro-

vided an overview of the NCC's objectives and its role in instilling leadership and discipline among youth. The student induction program is being jointly coordinated by a dedicated team of faculty members: Dr. Pooja Sharma, Dr. Anil Bhardwaj, Dr. Madhu Mangal Chaturvedi, Dr. Varun Dutta, Dr. Bharat Bhushan Jindal, Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Dr. Amit Sinha, and Dr. Kamaldeep.

Their collective efforts are aimed at providing newly admitted students with valuable insights and guidance as they embark on their academic and personal journeys.

SPPND GDC Samba organizes nutritious culinary event commemorating Rashtriya Poshan Saptah

STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBA: To celebrate Rashtriya Poshan Saptah, the Ananda Happiness Centre, in collaboration with the Department of Home Science, organized an Intra College Cooking and Salad Making Competition on the theme "Swaad, Sehat aur Khushiyon ka Sangam." This exciting event was held to promote healthy eating habits and highlight the importance of nutrition among students under the supervision of Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri, Principal of the college.

A total of 18 dishes were prepared by the participants, which included 11 nutritious snacks and 7 refreshing salads. The competition provided a platform for students to showcase their culinary skills while emphasizing the significance of combining taste, health and happiness in food preparation.

The competition was divided into two categories:



healthy snack making and salad making. The creativity, presentation and nutritional value of each dish were judged by a panel of senior faculty of the college. The winners of the Healthy Snack Making Competition were Prachi Sambyal for her delicious and nutritious Jowar Upma-1st Prize, Sonali Sharma for her innovative Stuffed Idlies-2nd Prize and Kasak Gupta for her classic and healthy Dhokla-3rd Prize. The winners of the Salad Making Competition were Kousar Bibi for her unique and flavorful salad 2nd Prize and Kamini for her

refreshing and well-presented salad 3rd Prize.

The event was a grand success, highlighting the creativity and enthusiasm of the participants in creating nutritious and delightful dishes. The initiative aimed to encourage students to embrace healthy eating habits and understand the value of balanced nutrition in their daily lives.

The Department of English and the Department of Psychology, Government Degree College, Kathua under the guidance of Principal Professor Seema Mir organized an informative lecture on "Mental Health and Happiness" in collaboration

with 'The Art of Living Program,' a global educational and humanitarian organization on 6th September, 2024. The lecture aimed to promote mental well-being, stress management, and overall personal development among students, faculty and staff. A formal welcome address was delivered by Prof. Supreet Kour.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Seema Mir, Principal, GDC, Kathua laid stress on the need of good physical and mental health in today's fast-paced world where stress and mental health are key concerns, especially for students. She also emphasized the growing impor-

tance of mental health in academic settings and overall physical well-being of an individual.

The key speakers for the event were Dr. Sulakshna Mengi, Chandini Arora, Anjani, Vinod Saini, and Dr. Anuja Jasrotia. The lecture featured engaging sessions on breathing techniques, meditation, yoga, and mindfulness, offering participants tools to manage stress and anxiety while enhancing focus and productivity.

Led by expert instructors from The Art of Living, the lecture helped attendees experience relaxation and inner peace. Participants expressed their enthusiasm for the workshop with a question and answer session and guidance on how to continue these practices in daily life for long-term benefits.

A galaxy of senior faculty members, staff from various departments of the College and students attended the lecture with zeal.

Jashn E Jamhurriyat celebrated with enthusiasm at GGHSS Nowshera

STATE TIMES NEWS
NOWSHERA: In a vibrant celebration of democracy and cultural heritage, the Government Girls Higher Secondary School (GGHSS) Nowshera hosted the event Jashn E Jamhurriyat under the Systematic Voter Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) initiative. The event was organized on the directions of District Election Officer, Rajouri Abhishek Sharma (DC RAJOURI). The event was successfully conducted by the Nodal Officer AC-84 Nowshera, Sh. J.P. Singh, under the guidance of District Nodal Officer SVEEP, Sh. Bishamber Dass. Where Cluster Head Kalsian, Seri, Lamberi and HOIs of different schools also participated. The high-



light of the occasion was a captivating Mushaira, featuring an esteemed lineup of poets. The poetic performance was graced by Sachin Chandan, Bhola Ram, Gorakh Nath, and Mushtaq Ahmed, who enthralled the audience with

their evocative verses and soulful expressions. Abdul Hamid Fani, a distinguished member of the District SVEEP team, also participated, contributing to the event's success. Moreover worthy Principal GGHSS Nowshera, Smt. Anita Sharma was the host of the entire programme and also graced the occasion with her special performance.

Adding a notable dimension to the event, Vinod Sharma PWD icon, District Rajouri also participated in the programme.

The Mushaira not only cel-

ebrated the rich literary traditions but also underscored the importance of voter participation and democratic values. The event drew enthusiastic participation from students, Staff members of GGHSS where the committee members SVEEP AC-84 Nowshera viz Madan Lal, Ashish Kumar, Rakesh Kumar and Shakti Sharma were also present for the management of the programme.

The Nodal Officer AC-84 Nowshera expressed gratitude to all the poets and participants for their valuable contributions, and to GGHSS Nowshera for hosting the event.

The success of *JASHN E JAMHURRIYAT* is a testament to the ongoing efforts to enhance voter awareness and promote a vibrant democratic process.

CEO reviews election preparedness in Kishtwar Distt



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KISHTWAR: To ensure the free, fair, transparent and smooth conduct of Assembly elections, Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Pandurang K Pole on Friday visited Kishtwar and chaired a meeting with Nodal officers to review overall Election preparedness for 48-Indervial, 49-Kishtwar and 50-Paddar-Nagseni Assembly Constituencies of the district.

District Election Officer (DEO) Kishtwar Rajesh Kumar Shavan; Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kishtwar Abdul Qayoom; Additional Secretary Sandish Gupta; Returning Officers of all Assembly Constituencies; Deputy District Election Officer, Idrees Lone and the Nodal Officers monitoring/overseeing election related activities also attended the meeting. During the meeting, detailed discussions were held on key aspects of election management, including manpower deployment, EVM randomization and transportation, polling staff arrangements, strong rooms, security protocols, functioning of Control Room and other arrangements for smooth conduct of elections.

The DEO through PPT presentation provided an overview of District Election Profile including electorate count, number of polling stations and polling locations, model polling stations, home voting facilities, SVEEP activities and the district's election management.

Addressing the officers in the meeting, the CEO said that the aim of the visit is to see that there is no deficiency

of any kind and to redress deficits at an earliest to make the electoral process successful.

He emphasized on the continuation of SVEEP initiatives to educate and engage voters effectively and urged all stakeholders to maximize voter turnout through door-to-door campaigns by roping in the BAGs, BLOs, AWWs, Teachers, Youths and Students of Colleges and Schools under SVEEP initiative. The CEO instructed for widespread publicity of all SVEEP programs and prepare engaging social media contents by Youth Icons and other media influencers of society to ensure maximum voter awareness.

He also stressed for distribution of voter slips among the voters by using the services of BLOs, so that everyone is able to cast his/her vote on the poll day.

The CEO also emphasized on transparency measures for home voting for the elderly and disabled. He also asked all stakeholders that plantation drives shall be organised at all polling stations of the district on scheduled dates, expressing the significance of environmental responsibility.

The DEO apprised the CEO that with an aim to improve voter turnout in the district, micro-level planning has been done for better voter turnout in assembly elections.

The DEO assured that the district is fully equipped with an adequate supply of EVMs and VVPATs, including sufficient buffer stock, to ensure the smooth and efficient conduct of the upcoming Assembly Elections, adding

that the preparations are in place to facilitate seamless electoral operations across all polling stations.

Meanwhile, SSP presented the law and order arrangements, manpower distribution and the security grid for the district.

During the visit, the CEO also inspected MCMC, receipt and dispatch sections, Counting Centres and Strong Rooms at the district headquarters and gave necessary instructions to the concerned Nodal Officer to ensure free, fair and smooth conduct of elections. The DEO assured the CEO of the Administration's full preparedness to ensure free, fair, and peaceful elections.

The CEO passed strict directions to the Nodal officers and ROs to follow and implement the Model Code of Conduct and keep vigil on violations, if any, in the district. Later, the CEO also visited the Daehnan area of district Kishtwar to inspect the intermediate strong rooms and polling stations established for smooth conduct of Assembly Elections. He interacted with students and participated in SVEEP Programme there.

Meanwhile at district Headquarter, CEO participated in SVEEP Electoral Awareness programme at Chowgan ground. The awareness programme included the unveiling of Lok-Sabha Election 2024 Coffee Table Book, Plantation Drive, SVEEP cultural Skit, Voters Pledge. A SVEEP Van was also flagged off on the occasion by CEO J&K in presence DEO Kishtwar, SSP Kishtwar and other officers.

JKTJAC representatives visit ZEO Office Chenani, show resentment against non drawal of CEA

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CHENANI: A large number of Representatives from all the eight clusters of zone Chenani visited ZEO Office Chenani under the leadership of District President Udhampur Lekh Raj Parihar and Zonal President Ajaz Ahmed Wani regarding the various burning issues including non drawal of Children Education Allowance (CEA) of more than three hundred teachers of the zone.

While interacting with the ZEO, ZEPO and Headmaster Mr Lekh Raj Parihar showed strong resentment against the callous attitude of the ZEO office for failing to draw the

CEA of hundreds of teachers. He retreated that the dealing assistant holding the charge of account section has made suffer these teachers by not releasing their dues including CEA despite the availability of grants for the same for last more than 4 months. Matter of unnecessary delay in releasing the salary was also discussed on the occasion. He said that due to non seriousness of the dealing assistant towards his assigned work has created a sense of distress among the teachers and forced them to show their resentment.

Other issues raised by the district President included: timely release of salary, adoption of impartial approach in sanctioning of CCL, release insitu and other arrears of the teachers. Meanwhile JKTJAC leadership on the occasion gave ultimatum upto 14th of September 2024 for release of CEA and threatened to adopt path of agitation there after.

Principal HSS Chenani Sh Anchal Singh who is holding charge of ZEO assured to get released the CEA before 14th of September at any cost. He

also said that the salary of erring dealing assistant holding charge of account section has been withheld beside keeping aside the bills of whole ZEO office till this issue of release of CEA is resolved. He also instructed the other clerical staff to calculate all the dues of the teachers in time bound manner. ZEPO Sh Om Parkash assured to redress all other issues of the teachers. Headmaster Sh Kuldip Singh Dharal also assured his full support for the genuine cause of the teachers.

Others who also spoke on the occasion were: Rajinder Katoch, Shankar Singh, Ashok Mathur, Bashir Ahmed, Kuldip Singh, Ravi Kumar, Vishamber Singh, Ashok Singh, Subash Singh, Vabal Singh, Satish Kumar, Subash Chander, Ram Lal, Ashok Anthal, Sushil Singh, Atul Bharti, Maan Singh, Jai Parkash, Narinder Dogra, Mohd Ashraf, Jeevan Kumar, Gopal Krishan, Girdhari Lal Sharma, Pritam Singh, Katar Sharma, Darshan Kumar, Rakesh Tripathi, Joginder Tripathi, Niku Ram, Ganesh Dass and others.

Mega Mashal rally organised under SVEEP at Reasi



STATE TIMES NEWS
REASI: A Mega SVEEP Mashal rally was held today here, in the DC Office Complex.

The highlight of the program was attendance of first time voters, students, staff and women led by the District Election Officer (DEO) Vishesh Mahajan, who pledged to exercise their right and vote on 25th September.

Displaying the visual message, thousands of people carrying mashal (flame Torch) with the message "I am a Voter, Vote on 25th September" gathered to be part of the event. The DEO lit the main mashal and emphasised that it represents 'The Light of Democracy which stands strong and bright by the efforts of each citizen and symbolises a sense of pride.'

From there all the people

enthusiastically marched across the complex and pledged to exercise their vote holding sacred fire.

The main focus of the event was to underscore the crucial significance of informed and responsible voting among the citizens. The rally gave a visual representation to every voter of district Reasi to unite and vote on the polling day.

The DEO highlighted the importance of electoral literacy and urged the voters to actively participate in the election process.

Others present during the event were ADDC Reasi Sukhdev Singh Sanyal, ADC Reasi Kulbushan Khajuria, ACR Anshumali Sharma, ACD Pradeep Kumar, DIO (Info) Ujwal Sambayal and other officials.

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