



Raj Bhawan Information Wing, Uttarakhand  
Press Note

## **GOVERNOR INAUGURATED THE TWO-DAY ARMY MELA.**

**Dehradun, 24 March, 2012**

Uttarakhand Governor, Smt Margaret Alva, inaugurated the two-day “Know Your Army” Mela organised by the Dehradun sub-area authorities in the cantonment area this morning.

In her inaugural address, the governor said that the Indian army was one of the finest in the world, with soldiers “well educated, aware and equipped.” She said the mela was a good way to showcase army to young boys and girls to motivate and inspire them to join the forces. “The displays of weapon systems, equipment and other operations of the army, will help create among the visitors, awareness and understanding of the role played by the army. It also provides an overview of the career opportunities available for youth, highlighting the unique lifestyle the army offers,” she said.

The governor said life in the defence forces had its unique thrills and challenges which were healthy and enjoyable. “It is an organization that has the required resources to give a person a complete life, in which glory and fame come naturally,”

“However, this brings with it a unique set of responsibilities which demand your heart, head, and soul; your sweat, and at times, even your blood.”

The governor said that in this era of multifarious challenges, the army must ensure not only the security of the country, but also help in nation building efforts. Talking about the IMA and RIMC, she said it was a matter of great pride for Dehradun that it was home to these two important and prestigious institutions, through the portals of which pass out most of our country’s army officers.

She said that in the present scenario, high quality training, good quality equipment and the ability to strategise and act are essential for the success of the armed forces. “In the modern world, the army is a knowledge based force. This implies better educated and better trained soldiers. We need more and more well educated youngsters to join the army, to carry on the Indian Army tradition of “valour and wisdom”. The governor said Uttarakhand had a great tradition of valour with roughly one member of every third family serving in the armed forces. “I call upon the youth of our hill state to make the best of this opportunity,” she concluded.

Veteran army officers were honoured on the occasion. Maj Gen Ranvir Yadav, GOC, Uttarakhand Sub-Area, delivered the welcome address on the occasion.

The governor released a telephone directory of retired army personnel and a handbook on benefits to veterans on the occasion.

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