

## Jammu Aníversity POST



#### **BRINGING CHANGE BEAT BY BEAT**

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## LG Sinha Inaugurates 'Goonj-2024' at Jammu University, Promotes Educational Change



**JAMMU** 

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated 'Goonj-2024,' a large festival at the University of Jammu aimed at celebrating the region's vibrant culture while also improving students' educational experiences. The festival provided a stage for schools and colleges to show off their strengths, encourage teamwork, and contribute to the overall growth of education in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Lieutenant Governor spoke to a large crowd at the opening ceremony, highlighting how important 'Goonj-2024' is, not only as a cultural event but also as a spark for educational change. He congratulated the University of Jammu for organizing the festival and creating a place where students can share their creativity and show their talents. "This festival is a great chance for students

to participate in a lively learning environment," he said. LG Sinha urged other universities and educational institutions in Jammu and Kashmir to follow the creative steps taken by Jammu University. He pointed to programs like "Design Your Degree," "College on Wheels," and the "Goonj" initiative itself as examples that could be copied to promote lifelong learning and creativity among students.

CONTD ON PG 3

### Jammu University lays foundation stone for Faculty of Journalism

JAMML

The grand groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of the new building of the Department of Journalism and Media Studies at Jammu University, which started with its first batch two years ago, took place on February 24, 2024, at the campus. On this auspicious occasion, the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Umesh Rai, and Chief Guest Shri Santosh Vaidya, IAS. Laid the foundation stone of the building by performing Bhoomi Poojan.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Vaidya stressed the importance of providing comprehensive facilities to all universities and assured the government of full cooperation in all these development initiatives. He emphasized the need to equip educational institutions with indispensable resources to nurture young minds and empower them to make significant contributions to the nation's development. Mr. Vaidya spoke about the role of the Department of Journalism and Media Studies in shaping the future of aspiring media professionals. He highlighted the importance of fostering a good learning environment that encourages courage and transparency with a creative and progressive vision to ensure the overall development of the nation.

Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor of Jammu University, graced

Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor of Jammu University, graced the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, the Vice Chancellor expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the Honorable Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir UT and the Chancellor of Jammu University, Mr. Manoj Sinha for extending unwavering support in realizing this important initiative. In his welcome address, Dean of Planning and Development, Prof. Meena Sharma gave a comprehensive description of the project, highlighting its positive impact on the educational scenario of the university. She informed that the total area of the G+2 building designated for the Department of Journalism and Media Studies is 17719 sq ft (1646. 74 sq m) and the estimated cost of the building is Rs 4. 26 crores.

On the occasion, Professor Neelu Rohmetra, Dean, of Research Studies, Jammu University, paid tribute to her father Shri S.D. Rohemtra and announced the institution a gold medal in his memory. Jammu University Registrar Prof. Rahul Gupta formally thanked all the participants. The proceedings of the **CONTD ON PG 3** 

## LG Sinha Inaugurates J&K Women Science Congress 2024: Empowering Women in STEM and Leadership Roles

R SHUBHAM KOTWAL

Jammu: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha inaugurated the three-day 'J&K Women Science Congress 2024' at the University of Jammu, praising the initiative as a pivotal step toward transforming leadership roles for women in science, technology, and innovation. This Congress aims to empower women researchers and promote gender equity across STEM disciplines, resonating with the ongoing efforts of the J&K Administration to bridge the gender gap.

In his keynote address, the Lt Governor highlighted the remarkable achievements of women in various scientific fields, stating, "Today, I am proud to see our daughter's driving innovation and change." He emphasized the importance of women in advancing India's stature as a global innovation powerhouse and reiterated the administration's commitment to fostering womenled development in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Active participation of women in research can position India as a global innovation powerhouse. Women-led development in J&K is our prime objective, and it is our collective responsibility to achieve this goal," he asserted, urging educational institutions to implement policies that enhance women's participation in science and re-



lated disciplines.

The Lt Governor also announced the establishment of a special cell within the J&K Science and Technology Department, integrated with the Women Entrepreneurship Platform of NITI Aayog. This initiative aims to provide a structured approach to support

women in scientific endeavors and entrepreneurship. Additionally, he encouraged universities to create dedicated publications and films that celebrate the contributions of women scientists, urging increased female participation in PhD programs and special research projects. As part of the inaugural ceremony, the Lt Governor released the abstract booklet for the Congress, a significant milestone in promoting research and innovation across discipled in the event was attended by distinguished figures, including Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor of Jammu University, and Prof. Vibha Tandon, Director of CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, alongside other notable officials and scientists.

The Congress featured a vibrant lineup of sessions, flash talks, and presentations, showcasing the significant contributions of women researchers in science and technology. The day commenced with inspiring flash talks by young women researchers from the University of Jammu and the University of Kashmir. These presentations, spanning a range of scientific domains, encouraged lively discussions and engagement among attendees. Prof. Arun Bharti, th.O.D. of Physics at Jammu University, chaired this session, with co-chair Prof. Veenu Kaul from the Department of Botany.

One of the highlights of the Congress was a session led by Prof. Farooq A. Masoodi, Dean of Academic Affairs at the University of Kashmir. Dr. Kanchan Kour, Senior Director of Breast Surgery at Medanta, presented an enlightening talk on the topic "Women in Medicine: To Be or Not to Be." She emphasized CONTD ON PG 3

# Dr. Basheer Ahmed Lone: A Journey of Excellence at Jammu University

**JAMMU** 

In a thought-provoking dialogue with Senior Scientist Dr. Basheer Ahmed Lone on "The Role of Jammu University and the Wadia Museum in Advancing Archaeological and Natural History Research, students of Journalism and Media Studies interacted with Senior Scientist Dr. Basheer Ahmed Lone, a key figure in the scientific community at Jammu University. The discussion delved into the remarkable contributions of Jammu University under the leadership of Vice Chancellor Prof. Umesh Rai, the invaluable role of the Wadia Museum of Natural History in preserving the region's geological and biological history, and the significant academic strides the university continues to make in fields such as archaeology, anthropology, and paleontol-

Question: What are the new contributions of Jammu University under the leadership of Vice Chancellor Umesh Rai?

Mr. Kotwal initiated the conversation by asking Dr. Lone about the impact of Vice Chancellor Umesh Rai's leadership at Jammu University. Dr. Lone emphasized the profound strides the university has made in both research and academic excellence. "Under Prof. Umesh Rai's leadership, Jammu University has created an environment that encourages innovation, academic inquiry, and interdisciplinary research, especially in areas like archaeology and natural history," Dr. Lone stated. This environment has not only fostered collaborations but also aligned with the region's rich cultural and natural heritage.

Question: What is the Role of the Wadia Museum in Academic Research?

When asked about the Wadia Museum of Natural History's contribution to the academic ecosystem, Dr. Lone highlighted its essential role as a research and educational institution. The museum, known for its extensive collection of fossils, minerals, and geological specimens, serves as an important resource for students and researchers alike. "The Wadia



Museum houses a variety of specimens, including fossils from the Shivalik hills, offering a glimpse into the prehistoric era of the region," Dr. Lone explained. The museum's collection includes remarkable exhibits such as fossilized elephants, early hippopotamuses, and prehistoric horses, all of which contribute to understanding the evolution of life on Earth.

Question: What are some of the unique exhibits at the Wadia Museum?

Dr. Lone also described some of the unique exhibits at the museum, including an 11-foot-long tusk from the Shivalik hills that provides insight into the ancient ancestors of elephants. The museum is also home to rare fossilized plants, insects, and marine life forms, some of which date back millions of years. One of the most exceptional items is a fossilized shark tooth from Cambridge, England, which has been beau-

tifully preserved. "These specimens not only serve as historical artifacts but are also crucial for advancing academic research in natural history," he added.

Question: How Does Advancing Research Help through the Museum's Collections?

Kotwal inquired about how the museum's collections contribute to ongoing academic research. Dr. Lone elaborated on how the specimens serve as key resources for understanding the geological and evolutionary history of the region. "The fossils and geological samples provide vital data for studying the evolution of life forms, the changing environments, and the history of the Earth," Dr. Lone said. The museum's research has proven essential for studying the Shivalik formations and offers students the chance to engage in hands-on learning, enriching their academic experience.

Question: What are your Insights into ancient human practices?

A particularly fascinating part of the conversation revolved around recent archaeological findings that highlight early human practices. Dr. Lone shared details about the discovery of evidence related to ancient butchery practices. Tools used for carving bone marrow, believed to have been used by early humans, were found at excavation sites. "These discoveries not only reveal the evolution of human tools but also shed light on the dietary habits of early civilizations," Dr. Lone remarked.

Question: What is the future of research at Jammu University and beyond?

As the discussion progressed, Kotwal asked Dr. Lone about the future direction of academic research in Jammu, especially about archaeology and natural history. Dr. Lone expressed optimism, stating

that the ongoing collaboration between Jammu University and the Wadia Museum will continue to push the boundaries of research in these fields. "With growing interest and ongoing research, Jammu is poised to become a hub for archaeological discoveries that could reshape our understanding of ancient civilizations," Dr. Lone concluded.

Question: How are they going to Preserving Natural History for Future Generations?

The conversation ended with a reflection on the importance of preserving and studying natural history. Dr. Lone urged the public, especially students and young researchers, to visit the Wadia Museum and immerse themselves in the history of the natural world. "Our fossils and geological collections are not just remnants of the past; they are keys to understanding our evolution and the environment that shaped us," he stated. He emphasized that preserving this knowledge is crucial for future generations of scholars and researchers.

The exchange between Er. Shubham Kotwal and Dr. Basheer Ahmed Lone underscore the critical role that Jammu University and the Wadia Museum play in advancing scientific research and preserving the region's rich natural heritage. With the continued support of academic institutions and the expertise of dedicated researchers like Dr. Lone, the future of archaeology and natural history research in Jammu and beyond looks bright.

About the Wadia Museum of Natural History

The Wadia Museum of Natural History, located in Jammu, is a leading institution dedicated to the preservation and study of natural history. The museum's extensive collection of fossils, rocks, minerals, and geological specimens serves as both an educational resource and a research hub for scholars and students. Through its exhibits and research initiatives, the museum plays a crucial role in advancing scientific understanding of the Earth's geological and biological history.

## Shepherd turned into a filmmaker: Our Alumni

BY RIGZIN AND HIMANI

Stanzin Dorjai Gya was born in the village of Gya, one of the oldest villages of Ladakh. He was a shepherd surrounded by people of semi-nomadic life, looking after barley fields, yak, sheep, and goats whom he considered his classmates.

For his education, he got the opportunity to attend secondary school, but could not pass the 10th standard, SECMOL (students, educational, and cultural movement of Ladakh) emerged as a new hope where learning took place through a visual medium. Then he joined the University of Jammu which

turned out to be a turning point in his life due to the change of environment along with the faculty of the library which gave him the environment for studying and expanding his knowledge along with the presence of diverse students. He completed his degree in Bachelor of Arts in 2005.

Stanzin Dorjai's first interaction with films occurred when he was 19. Few people on the Ladakh-Manali highway were watching films, and he sat along with them. That is when he understood the impact of visual media. One year later, in 1994, a big educational movement took place all over Ladakh to change the medium of

instruction. Later, he started making small film clips in the Ladakhi language and showed them to the people of the village, ranging from 80-year-olds to small children. Everyone watched in full packs.

Stanzin Dorjai shared that while volunteers came from all over the world to support and travel, he used to show them his films and they used to appreciate my visuals and compliments. Once a French director watched his movie and appreciated his work and asked him to display these films in Europe as they were original stories and would be appreciated by the audience

there. His first movie called Behind the Mirror and he got the opportunity to visit France along with 27 students. Some of his other films are Happy Days of the Glacier, The Broken Down, and his most popular award-winning film The Shepherdess of the Glacier.

The Shepherdess of the Glacier was recognized for his original thought and portrayal of a shepherdess living in India's high Himalayas who tended her herd of goats throughout the harsh winter months and the ever-present threat of predators. Some of the awards that this film won were the Grand Prize at the Banff

Mountain Film and Book Festival 2016, Best Nature and Environment award, USHUAIS TV, Mountain International Film Festival, 2016, Autrans, France, Grand Prix, Le Grand Bivouac Film Festival, 2016, Albertville, France, and many more.

In 2000, Stanzin Dorjai Gya established the Himalayan film house in Leh, his intention was to set up a place, and platform to work forward for future generations. A person might die someday but the films and visuals will pass on from generation to generation leaving a legacy for the future. Helping people to capture the sole essence of the Ladakh.

# A one-day workshop on fact-checking, in collaboration with the Google News Initiative (GNI)

#### ANAMIKA

Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at Jammu University organized a one-day workshop on fact-checking, in collaboration with the Google News Initiative (GNI) India Training Network, here today. The workshop aimed to support budding journalists and media educators to counter the spread of misinformation. Dr. Aditya Kumar Shukla, GNI India Training Network Training Assistance and Professor of Media Studies at Amity University, Madhya Pradesh, was the resource person of the workshop. Dr. Vinit Utpal, Assistant Professor, IIMC Jammu was the guest of honour during the workshop. The event highlighted the importance of fact-checking in today's digital age, where misinformation can significantly impact public opinion and decisionmaking.Dr Garima Gupta, Head of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, em-



phasized the need of such a workshop to better equip the media students to deal with the present crisis of misinformation, disinformation in the age of fake news. She appreciated the resource person for sharing "red

flags" to spot misinformation and combat deep fakes with the use of apt tools and techniques to verify misinformation.

During the workshop, participants were informed regarding different types of misinforma-

tion and various strategies as well as tools to identify and counter online misinformation, particularly in the context of electoral processes. They were also given hands-on training to verify the authenticity of photos, videos, and content by using tools such as Google Lens, Yandex, TinEye, and InVid. The resource person cautioned the participants to step back from obvious messaging and posts that trigger extreme emotions. Also, they were told to be careful of the social media handles that do not always provide credible information.

Further, the attendees engaged in discussion on how to effectively handle memes that can often be used to spread propaganda or misinformation. They also learned about monitoring Telegram profiles and groups using third-party tools like Google CSEs, TGStat, and Telegram DB search Bot. Participants were urged to "think of intent" of the posts or messages circulated through social media and especially WhatsApp and beware of forwarded messages. They were encouraged to search for the original source, check the language and verify statistics

#### FROM PG 1

#### LG Sinha Inaugurates

He stressed that such programs have become key tools for discovery and personal growth. In his speech, the Lieutenant Governor emphasized that in the 21st century, ideas will be the new wealth of nations. He explained that the role of universities and college campuses should grow beyond just traditional academic functions. 'These institutions should be viewed as a foundation for developing young minds who will change the world," he insisted. He urged educational leaders to prioritize useful subjects, research, and innovation to positively impact villages and towns. The Lieutenant Governor stressed that the university campus should serve as a center for teamwork and encourage creativity among students. He asked teachers to rethink how they teach in classrooms and guide students effectively to help them reach their true potential. "Education should spark the creativity within students and make their minds clear, simple, easy, and independent," he said. When talking about the goals of education, LG Sinha highlighted the importance of building a future-oriented mindset among students. He encouraged teachers to inspire adventurous exploration and a passion for generating new ideas, research, and innovations. The focus on creativity and practical skills is vital for preparing students to meet the challenges of a quickly changing world. Furthermore, the Lieutenant Governor emphasized the need to implement the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. He mentioned that this policy aims to connect the younger generation with India's rich cultural heritage. By mixing traditional knowledge with modern education, he believes students can be better prepared to help society. At the event, LG Sinha took time to visit a photo exhibition of the "College on Wheels" initiative. This program aims to help students find their unique identities and reach their full potential. The Lieutenant Governor remarked that the initiative gives students valuable opportunities to learn through experiences that emphasize teamwork and creativity. The "College on Wheels" program is particularly special as it takes education beyond the regular classroom. It reaches out to students in remote areas, bringing learning resources and opportunities directly to them. This initiative not only helps close the gap between city and rural education but also encourages students to engage actively in their learning processes. During the ceremony, the Lieutenant Governor released a souvenir to celebrate the festival, along with publications related to the "College on Wheels" initiative and a project report from the University of Jammu. A documentary showing the achievements and impact of the "College on Wheels" initiative was also presented, highlighting the program's role in changing the educational experience for students in the region. The event attracted a significant turnout, including important guests from various higher education institutions, teachers, senior officials, and eager students. Prof. Dinesh Singh, Vice Chairman of the Higher Education Council of Jammu and Kashmir, also spoke during the ceremony. He echoed the Lieutenant Governor's thoughts, urging higher education institutions to ensure that their activities and initiatives positively affect society. Prof. Singh stressed the importance of aligning educational programs with the needs of the community. He suggested that universities should engage more with local issues and help solve them through research and innovation. This approach not only enhances the importance of education but also fosters a sense of responsi-

The festival featured various cultural performances, art displays, and workshops, allowing students to connect with peers from different fields and showcase their skills. It served as a reminder of the rich cultural heritage of Jammu and Kashmir, celebrating diversity through music, dance, and art. Earlier in the day, LG Sinha took a salute at an impressive march past by a group of students, showing their discipline and spirit. He also paid tribute to General Zorawar Singh, a respected figure in the region's history, recognizing the importance of honouring those who have contributed to the state's legacy.

The opening of 'Goonj-2024' was not just a celebration of culture; it was a call for educational institutions to grow and adapt to the changing needs of society. The Lieutenant Governor's vision for the future of education in Jammu and Kashmir shows a growing awareness of the importance of creativity, innovation, and teamwork in shaping a better future. As the festival wrapped up, the excitement and inspiration among students were clear. Many expressed their eagerness about the opportunities for growth and learning that initiatives like "College on Wheels" and "Goonj" offer. The impact of such programs is expected to resonate for years to come, inspiring a new generation of thinkers, innovators, and leaders dedicated to making positive changes in their communities. The opening ceremony of 'Goonj-2024' at Jammu University was an important step in promoting educational reform and cultural celebration in the region. With a strong focus on creativity, teamwork, and community engagement, the festival highlighted the critical role that education plays in shaping the future of Jammu and Kashmir By fostering an environment that nurtures talent and innovation, Jammu University and its partners are paving the way for a brighter future for the youth of the region.

Jammu University lays
programme were conducted by Dr. Garima Gupta, Head of the Department of

programme were conducted by Dr. Garima Gupta, Head of the Department of Journalism and Media Studies. Deans, Directors, Rectors, Heads of Teaching Departments, and several other officials of the Department of Construction, representatives of various associations of the University, department officials, employees, faculty and students, as well as journalism and media studies students, marked their presence in the occasion.

### Lt Governor Addresses J&K the importance of work-life balance and the need for equal opportunities for

women in the medical field, challenging stereotypes that often limit their potential. In another session, Prof. Bindu A. Bambah from the University of Hyderabad addressed "Factors Affecting Gender Equality in the Sciences," calling for societal changes to eliminate barriers faced by women in physical sciences. Following this, Prof. Gautam Menon from Ashoka University highlighted the urgency of climate change awareness and introduced the SWATI portal, aimed at addressing the gender gap in science. Further enriching the agenda, Prof. Paramjeet Khurana from the University of Delhi discussed "Plant Genomics for Climate Resilient Crops," stressing the significance of continuous learning in addressing agricultural challenges. The Congress also featured a session with Prof. Karoline Faust from Bel-

Prof. Neelu Jain Gupta from Chaudhary Charan Singh University explored ancient knowledge systems in her talk on "Molecular Underpinnings of Circadian Lifestyle," advocating for the integration of traditional practices into modern lifestyles.

the scope of discussions around health and biology.

gium, who presented insights into the human gut microbiome, further broadening

In addition to these expert talks, the Congress included poster presentations evaluated by eminent researchers, fostering an environment of collaboration and innovation among young scientists. Various oral talk sessions allowed emerging researchers to showcase their work, emphasizing the Congress's commitment to nurturing new talent in the scientific community.

Culturally enriching the event, the evening concluded with a musical perform-

Culturally enriching the event, the evening concluded with a musical performance by local artists, orchestrated by Prof. Sanjana Koul, Convener of the Cultural Committee, which underscored the importance of arts in fostering creativity within the scientific discourse. The J&K Women Science Congress 2024 stands as a testament to the dedication of the J&K Administration and academic institutions in empowering women in science, paving the way for a more inclusive and innovative future.

# Insightful industrial visit to Daily State Samachar



#### DILJEET

Aiming to enhance practical knowledge and industry exposure of its students, the Department of Journalism and Media Studies, University of Jammu under the supervision of its head, Dr Garima Gupta today organised an insightful industrial visit to the printing press and office of the popular publication, the Daily State Samachar. Led by faculty members, the visit provided students with an invaluable opportunity to witness the inner workings of the media outlet.

From observing the intricacies of the printing process to gaining insights into editorial decision-making and newsroom dynamics, the experience was enriching and educational.

While interacting with the students, Managing Director of Daily State Samachar, Shamsher Singh Charak emphasized the importance of such initiatives in bridging the gap between theoretical learning and real-world application.

and real-world application.

He stated, "Experiential learning is fundamental in journalism education. This industrial visit will allow students to contextualize their classroom learning and gain practical insights that will undoubtedly benefit them in their future careers."He further impressed upon the students to adopt objective and fearless Journalism, so that their work can bring change in the society. The visit also included interactive sessions with senior journalists and printing press operators, which provided students with a comprehen-

sive understanding of the challenges and opportunities inherent in the field of journalism. Daily State Samachar's editorial team shared their experiences and of-fered practical advice to aspiring journalists, highlighting the importance of integrity and accuracy in reporting. Students also had the chance to engage in discussions on media ethics, news gathering techniques, and the evolving landscape of digital journalism. Students also expressed their satisfaction with the visit, stating that this visit was eye-opening. They said witnessing the entire process of news production - from conception to dissemination - has deepened their appreciation for the profession and inspired them to pursue excellence in journalistic

#### Republic Day Celebration Celebrated by Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu in collaboration with NSS

JAVED

The Directorate of Sports and Physical Education & NSS Unit-IV, University of Jammu Celebrated 26th January 2024 with the theme of Badalta Bharat. The Celebration Program was conducted the mentorship HON'BLE Vice- Chancellor Prof. Umesh Rai and Chairman, NSS, University of Jammu. Dr. Hema Gandotra, Program Coordinator NSS, University of Jammu was the guiding hand in the organization of this program. Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba Director Sports was the Chief Guest of the occasion. Mr Vimal Kishore and Mr Ravish Vaid were the special guests. More than 80 volunteers assembled in the Athletic track, Directorate of sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu under the supervision of Dr. Mandeep Singh PO of UNIT IV of University of Jammu and Proceeded for the sequence of program which involved National Anthem, Cultural Activities and Pledge for the honest work towards Nation. Dr. Daud Igbal Baba congratulated the students and motivated them to work hard for the development of sports.



Mr. Ashish from BPEd 1st Sem, University of Jammu was the prime host volunteer of the Program. Ms. Lakshika jamwal from BPED Sem III and Ms. Ankita from MPED Sem I, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education sung patriotic song, University of Jammu hosted the program through vocabulary Anchoring and Effective talk on the repub

lic day Volunteers among others who worked for the success of the this program were Ms Palve boloria and Ms. Shakshi Gouria from BPED Sem I, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu. Ms Palve boloria and Ms. Ishima verma from BPED Sem I and Ms Ankita and Ms. Shallu from MPED Sem I Dir

### Literary Club, JU organises a one-day Workshop on "Storytelling through Puppets"



#### JAMMU

In a delightful fusion of artistry and imagination, enthusiasts from across the different faculties of the Main Campus congregated for a one-day workshop on "Storytelling through Puppets," organized by the Literary Club under the aegis of Utsaah, the Clubs, University of Jammu on April 24, 2024. This event captivated participants, offering a journey into the enchanting world of puppetry, seamlessly blending artistry and imagination to illuminate the timeless craft of storytelling.

In her welcome address, Prof. Satnam Kour Raina, chairperson, Utsaah applauded the efforts of the Literary Club and its Coordinator, Prof Sadaf Shah, for organising such an event. She described such an exercise as a celebration of creativity, imagination, and the timeless art of storytelling. She further expressed that with puppetry as their medium, participants could embark on a handson journey to bring their stories to life.

Prof. Sadaf Shah, Coordinator of the Literary Club introduced Mr. Jaswinder Singh, the resource person for the workshop who is an art expert from Sangrur, Punjab. She emphasized that the workshop aimed not only to teach but also to reconnect participants with their cultural roots and foster pride in their heritage. Through puppetry, participants were encouraged to explore and appreciate an integral aspect of their culture, enriching their understanding of artistic traditions. Mr. Jaswinder Singh, in his address, highlighted puppetry as a powerful medium for communica-tion, enabling individuals to share their stories and perspectives with confidence and creativity. The workshop commenced with an engaging delves into the art of narrative. Participants were introduced to the fundamentals of storytelling and were guided in crafting their own puppets from various materials, infusing each creation with personality and flair. Later, Prof. Sadaf Shah offered the official vote of thanks for the occasion and expressed her happiness in seeing the fruition of the one-day workshop as participants departed armed with transformative power.

#### **EDITORIAL TEAM**

CHIEF EDITOR: Prof Shyam Narayan Lal MANAGING EDITOR: Dr. Garima Gupta NEWS EDITOR: Dr. Ravia Gupta SENIOR SUB-EDITORS: Alina Shapoo, Hemani Kandhari SUB EDITORS: Vishali, Janvi, Khalid, Sakshi, Masooma, Students of semester 2nd at Department of Journalism and Media studies, University of Jammu