



JAMMU UNIVERSITY Times

"Education is the key to unlocking the world, a passport to freedom." -Oprah Winfrey

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



JU-ACCA MoU to help students align with I'ntl standards in finance, accounting: VC
...Pg 3



GDC Kathua, PG Deptt. JU clinch Inter-collegiate Badminton titles
...Pg 6

Over 70 students attend Neurotech, AI innovation workshop
...Pg 8



Patel's life teaches value of clarity of purpose, courage rooted in empathy: JU VC



JAMMU:

The Department of Students Welfare in collaboration with the Office of DIG, Jammu Samba Kathua Range, J&K Police, organized a seminar to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on the theme "Strong Leadership in Modern India: Sardar Patel's Legacy" and "Sardar Patel's Policy of

National Integration and its Continued Relevance" here this morning at Brig. Rajinder Singh Auditorium.

Prof. Umesh Rai, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor speaking on the occasion, said that commemorating the birth anniversary of Sardar Patel offers an important opportunity to reflect on the foundations of modern India.

He noted that Patel's leadership spanned both the freedom struggle

and the complex task of nation-building immediately after Independence—whether it was the Kera and Bardoli Satyagrahas, which protected the dignity of farmers, or the historic integration of more than 565 princely states that ensured India emerged as a united and sovereign nation. Prof. Rai remarked that Sardar Patel's life teaches us the

CONTD ON PG 10

VC releases multidisciplinary research journal 'Researcher'



JAMMU:

Prof Umesh Rai, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor released Volume XXI, No. 1 (2025) of "Researcher: A Multidisciplinary Journal", published through the University's Publication Cell.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice Chancellor Prof. Umesh Rai appreciated the efforts of the Publication Cell in maintaining academic rigor and consistency.

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Open-Air Theatre is now 'Padma Sachdev Sur Sanwad Rangsthal'

JAMMU:

Jammu: The Literary Club under the aegis of UTSAAH, organized an inspiring literary event titled "Echoed in Verse: Literary Tribute to Jammu's Monuments" at the Open-Air-Theatre (Amphitheatre).

The event was a creative endeavour to celebrate the rich heritage of Jammu through the power of literature—encompassing storytelling, poetry, and prose.

Themed "Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future," the program sought to deepen appreciation for the city's historic landmarks and cultural legacy among the student community.

Prof Umesh Rai, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The event was further enriched by the presence of distinguished Guests of Honour – Prof. Sham Narayan, and Special Guests – Arun Joshi (Editor-in-Chief, JK News) and Khalid Husain (Eminent Punjabi and Urdu Writer).

Prof. Rai, Vice Chancellor, commended the Literary Club for conceptualising an event that beautifully merges literature with monuments and history, calling it "a remarkable experiment in dissolving boundaries and evolving



education."

He noted that the essence of the National Education Policy 2020 lies in integrating diverse disciplines to create a more holistic learning environment.

"Whether it is mathematics, history, or literature—every field carries a rhythm and pattern that connect us to a shared pursuit of knowledge," he remarked, appreciating the Club's creative effort in translating this vision into action.

Prof. Rai further proposed that such interdisciplinary initiatives be extended to heritage where the region's history, culture, and literature intersect vividly.

He assured complete institutional support for holding literary and research-based activities at historical locations, with plans for

documentation and publication in collaboration with reputed publishers.

Marking a milestone in the University's cultural odyssey, Prof. Rai unveiled the new name of the Open-Air Theatre as "Padma Sachdev Sur Sanwad Rangsthal," dedicated to the legendary Dogri poetess and writer Padma Sachdev.

The renaming stands as a heartfelt tribute to her timeless contribution to Dogri literature and her role in shaping the cultural soul of Jammu, whose voice and verses continue to inspire generations.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Shyam Narayan lauded the Literary Club for introducing Jammu to a fresh intellectual lens through

CONTD ON PG 10

Moot Court competitions enable students to understand drafting, argumentation: Prof Rai



JAMMU:

The Department of Law in collaboration with Surana and Surana International Attorneys, Chennai, organized the Surana and Surana Trial Advocacy Moot Court Competition, North Round 2025-26 at the Brigadier Rajinder Singh Auditorium.

As many as 19 Universities across North India including NLUs, Central Universities and State Universities competed for the championship title.

The event commenced with registration of the participating teams at the Department of Law, followed by the Orientation and Draw of Lots, where teams were briefed about the competition format and rules.

Justice Tashi Rabstan, Former Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, also an alumnus of the Department of Law, was the Chief Guest of the event. Justice Tashi, in his address at the inaugural session of the National Moot Court Competition, expressed deep appreciation for the University and its Department of Law for organizing such an enriching academic exercise in collaboration with Surana and Surana International Attorneys. He shared his delight at the event coinciding with a personal milestone—his recent designation as a Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court of India—making the occasion especially memorable.

CONTD ON PG 10

Centre for Distance and Online Education hosts financial awareness, consumer training

JAMMU:

The Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE) organized a two-day Financial Awareness and Consumer Training (FACT) Session for the students of the M.Com and B.Com. programmes under the convenership of Prof. Pankaj K. Srivastva, Director, CDOE.

The event was organised as a continuing activity in the series of programmes being held to celebrate the 50th Golden Jubilee of the Centre for Distance and Online Education.

The session commenced with a welcome address by Dr. Sumita Sharma, Joint Registrar, CDOE, who introduced the resource person, Sandeep Gupta, Former Senior Manager, Canara Bank and Financial Education Trainer empanelled by the National Centre for Financial Education (NCFE), as well as a PFRDA-certified Retirement Advisor.

She underscored the importance of organising such initiatives aimed at equipping students with essential financial knowledge and practical insights relevant to their academic and professional journeys.

She also emphasized that, in an era marked by digital transformation and growing financial complexities, financial literacy has become an indispensable



skill for every individual.

In his address, the Director, CDOE, highlighted the significance of financial literacy in the modern era, emphasising that a sound understanding of financial concepts is essential for students to make informed and responsible financial decisions.

The expert speaker, Sandeep Gupta, delivered an informative

and interactive session covering a wide spectrum of topics related to personal and public finance. He elaborated on the judicious use of credit cards, awareness about fraudulent calls and messages, and provided detailed insights into the National Pension System (NPS)—including aspects of income tax deductions, calculations, and withdrawal

procedures.

He further encouraged students to pursue e-Certificate Courses in financial education to strengthen their understanding of financial systems and enhance their employability prospects.

In his concluding remarks, the Director, CDOE, extended his appreciation to the expert

for conducting a highly insightful and practical session, which provided students with valuable knowledge applicable to real-life financial situations.

The sessions were also attended by Dr. Sumeet Kour, Teacher In-Charge, B.Com., Dr. Deepti Abrol, Teacher In-Charge, M.Com., and staff members of the CDOE.

ICccR-HRM conduct Industry Immersion Programme for MBA (IB) students



JAMMU:

The International Centre for Cross Cultural Research and Human Resource Management (ICccR & HRM) organized a three-day Industry Immersion Programme for Semesters I and III MBA students (International Business). This initiative, under the leadership of Professor Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, reaffirms the University's commitment to experiential learning and strong industry-academia collaboration, preparing its students to excel in the global business landscape.

The industry immersion visit aimed to bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world industrial experience, providing students with an in-depth understanding of manufacturing, logistics, and international business practices through visits to prominent industries in Ludhiana, Punjab.

Day 1: Industry Interaction and Export Insights

Interactive session was held at the Chamber of Industrial and Commercial Undertakings (CICU), Ludhiana. Students interacted with Upkar Singh Ahuja, President, CICU, and Honey Sethi, General Secretary, CICU, who elaborated on India's export ecosystem,

competitiveness, and the importance of maintaining Quality, Cost, and Delivery (QCD) standards in international business. A specialized session on export documentation and trade procedures followed, conducted by the CICU management team, offering students valuable insights into international trade operations.

Day 2: Exploring Logistics and Manufacturing Excellence

On the second day, students visited Hind Terminals Pvt. Ltd., an inland container depot (dry port) in Ludhiana. The visit provided firsthand exposure to the processes involved in export-import logistics, including container handling, documentation, cost structures, and multimodal transport operations.

Later, students toured Vardhman Spinning and General Mills, the flagship manufacturing unit of the Vardhman Group, established in 1962.

Day 3: Learning from Market Leaders

The third day featured a visit to Hero Cycles, one of India's oldest and most reputed cycle manufacturers. Established in 1956, the plant has an annual production capacity of 7.5 million cycles.

Students gained exposure to advanced manufacturing techniques such as forging, welding, electroplating, and powder coating, and learned about Hero's international expansion through acquisitions like Avocet Sports (UK), HNF (Germany), and Firefox Bikes (India).

Bridging Academia and Industry

The immersion programme proved to be a highly enriching experience, enabling students to gain a practical understanding of modern industrial systems and management practices.

The exposure to multiple sectors—textiles, manufacturing, logistics, and food processing—helped students connect their academic learning with on-ground realities of global business operations.

Prof. Hardeep Chahal, Director, ICccR & HRM, expressed heartfelt gratitude to all hosting organizations for their collaboration and hospitality.

"We are deeply thankful to all the industries that welcomed our students and provided them with invaluable learning experiences. The visit has greatly enhanced their understanding of industrial operations and will contribute significantly to their professional development," said Prof. Chahal.

DLL organizes career awareness programme



SAMBA:

In the new world order, communication and computers are the backbone and essential for any career, amongst many other skills. The New Education Policy (NEP), Design Your Degree (DYD) and other initiatives are efforts undertaken by the University to equip students with such skills under the leadership of our eminent leader, Prof. Umesh Rai. Employment Information cum Advisory Bureau (EIAB), Department of Lifelong Learning (DLL), in collaboration with Govt. Degree College, Ghagwal, organised a workshop on "Communication Skills and Artificial Intelligence" for the students of the college. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Priyanka Sharma, Director, Department of Lifelong Learning and Dr. Sujata Slathia, Principal of the college.

Dr. Sujata Slathia, in her welcome address, said that her college is always keen to organize activities which are for the benefit of the students, and this collaboration would definitely help them at this crucial stage.

In her inaugural address, Dr. Priyanka Sharma shared and inspired the students, stating that learning is not a one-way discourse, especially in the present dynamic world. She also highlighted the importance of experiential learning and the urge in oneself to continuously upgrade their skills as per the requirements and needs of the newly emerging world. Neetu Dhar, Chief Coordinator and Master Trainer (JKDCUL- Jammu Kashmir Dairy Producers, Processors and Marketing Cooperative Ltd), Jammu, and Dr. Malvika Ashok, Assistant Professor, Department of IT and Computer Sciences were the resource persons. Dr. Rewa Khajuria, Counsellor, Department of Lifelong Learning, explained the objectives behind the conduct of such workshops. Dr. Neetu Dhar apprised the students about formal and non-formal communication skills, body language and conversation starters with activities. Dr. Malvika Ashok, in her presentation, explained in detail to the students the various tools of Artificial Intelligence. She also explained how these AI tools would make our lives easier by doing tasks in seconds.

About 70 students of different semesters of the college registered for the workshop.

JU-ACCA MoU to help students align with I'ntl standards in finance, accounting: VC

JAMMU:

The University in collaboration with the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at strengthening academic excellence and promoting global professional education in commerce and finance.

The initiative was led by the Department of Commerce.

The MoU was formally signed by Dr. Neeraj Sharma, Registrar and Prabhanshu Mittal, Head of Education Partner Relationship (India), ACCA, in the esteemed presence of Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor. Congratulating both ACCA and the Department of Commerce on this collaboration, Prof. Rai described it as forward-looking initiatives that will help students align with international standards in finance and accounting.

He stressed the importance of incorporating project-based and experiential learning into academic programs to ensure students are prepared for the demands of a rapidly evolving global workforce.

During his interaction with the faculty and ACCA team, he also emphasized the need to strengthen industry-academia linkages and en-



courage practical exposure alongside theoretical learning.

As part of the collaboration, the Department of Commerce, in association with ACCA, organized a one-day workshop on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS).

The event aimed to bridge the gap between traditional accounting practices and modern international standards, equipping participants with the skills needed to navigate

complex financial reporting systems. With Indian companies increasingly engaged in cross-border trade, mergers, acquisitions, and global investments, understanding IFRS and Ind AS has become vital for accountants, auditors, financial analysts, and educators training future business leaders.

Prof J.P. Singh Joorel, Dean Academic Affairs delivered presidential remarks that emphasized the institution's strategic vision of aligning academic programs with

contemporary industry requirements.

He stressed on proactively organizing this capacity-building initiative and highlighted how such collaborations between academia and professional bodies strengthen the university's ability to prepare job-ready graduates.

Prof Alka Sharma, Dean, Faculty of Business Studies and Prof Hardeep Chahal, Director, ICCCR & HRM also graced the occasion.

Delivering the keynote address,

Prabhanshu Mittal, Head of Education Partner Relationship India, ACCA, delivered an insightful keynote address that set the tone for the day's technical sessions.

The technical sessions were conducted by Maithreyi Swaminathan, an expert in international accounting standards and professional training. Through interactive discussions and real-world case examples, she made complex accounting concepts accessible to participants with varied levels of prior exposure.

Earlier in her opening remarks, Prof. Jeevan Jyoti, Head, Department of Commerce, highlighted the department's commitment to academic excellence and professional skill development.

The workshop concluded with closing remarks by Arjun Kukreja, Senior Business Relationship Manager, ACCA, who summarized the key learning outcomes and commended participants for their active involvement.

Prof. Tarsem Lal, Workshop Coordinator, delivered the vote of thanks, acknowledging the support of the University administration, the collaborative efforts of the organizing team, and the enthusiasm of all participants.

Induction program for integrated UG-PG program in Mathematical Sciences organized

JAMMU:

The Faculty of Mathematical Science organized an Induction Program for the newly admitted students of the Five-Year Integrated UG- PG Program in Mathematical Science.

The program, which marks the beginning of an exciting academic journey for the first batch of this newly launched interdisciplinary course, was held in the presence of distinguished academicians and university officials.

The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Umesh Rai, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. In his inaugural address, Prof. Rai congratulated the students for being part of this pioneering initiative under the Faculty of Mathematical Sciences. Prof. Rai complimented the faculty for launching an innovative and forward-looking initiative that truly reflects the spirit of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

Addressing the newly admitted students, he said that the programme embodies the essence of experiential and problem-solving education, encouraging learners to move beyond rote learning towards knowledge that emerges through practice and observation.

Quoting Acharya Vinoba Bhave, Prof. Rai underlined that true education begins when curiosity replaces conditioning and learning extends beyond textbooks.

He emphasized that knowledge must translate into meaningful work and innovation, and that students should cultivate a mindset of exploration rather than memorization.

Prof. Rai urged the faculty to design an activity-based, dynamic curriculum that adapts with student feedback and remains relevant to evolving challenges. He noted that the programme's inter-



disciplinary approach—spanning mathematics, statistics, computer science, and allied areas—will equip students with computational, analytical, and communication skills essential for employability and holistic development.

Stressing that education should be an enjoyable pursuit rather than a burden, he encouraged students to discover their passion, develop problem-solving abilities, and engage actively in initiatives that celebrate the region's cultural diversity.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. J. P. Singh Joorel, Dean Academic Affairs highlighted the academic rigor and interdisciplinary approach of the program, emphasizing

ing that the Faculty of Mathematical Science is committed to providing an intellectually stimulating environment that encourages innovation and collaboration. He advised students to focus on building analytical and computational skills that are essential for navigating the complexities of the modern world.

Prof. Sangeeta Gupta, Dean Planning and Development, in her address described the newly introduced five-year Integrated Programme in Mathematical Sciences as more than an academic initiative, calling it a "model for higher education" that blends Mathematics, Computer Science, and Statistics into a unified learning experi-

ence. She noted that this integration would enable students to understand the relationship among the three disciplines and move beyond the conventional view of Mathematics as merely numbers and equations.

Prof. Vibhakar Mansotra, Head Department of Computer Sciences and IT addressed the students on the growing importance of computational methods, programming skills, and data analytics in solving real-world problems.

Earlier, welcoming the newly admitted students, Prof. Romesh Sharma, Head, Department of Mathematics and Dean, Faculty of Mathematical Science, briefed them about the objectives, struc-

ture, and curriculum of the program.

He explained that the Five-Year Integrated Master's Degree Program aims to provide a seamless blend of theoretical and applied knowledge across mathematical disciplines, ensuring that students gain both depth and breadth in their understanding of mathematical sciences.

The formal vote of thanks was delivered by Prof K. S. Charak.

The orientation helped the students understand the academic ecosystem of the University and the support mechanisms available to them throughout their studies.

In today's data-driven world, the integration of mathematical modeling, statistical inference, and computational techniques is crucial for addressing complex real-world problems.

From fintech and bioinformatics to climate modeling and social network analysis, Mathematical Sciences form the backbone of modern technologies.

The rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), Big Data, and Data Analytics has created an urgent demand for professionals who possess both domain-specific coding skills and a deep conceptual understanding of core mathematical and computational techniques.

To meet this demand, the University introduced a Five-Year Integrated Master's Programme in Mathematical Sciences, offering a robust foundation in Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science.

The Programme aims to bridge the gap between theory and application, fostering a new generation of scholars and professionals equipped with mathematical and computational abilities and critical thinking to tackle future challenges in academia, research, and industry.

EDITORIAL

PM’s Mission Education, Skilled Youth

India’s journey toward becoming a developed nation by 2047 rests on one central idea: empowering its young people through meaningful education and real-world skills. At the heart of this national effort is Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s call for a future where every student has access to quality learning and practical opportunities that help them grow, contribute, and lead.

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 remains the backbone of this vision. It pushes India toward a system that blends Indian values with modern demands, nurturing students who can think critically, work across disciplines, and adapt to a rapidly changing world. From foundational learning to cutting-edge research, the NEP sets the tone for a more confident and capable generation.

A closer look at the Prime Minister’s recent initiatives shows how deeply this commitment is being shaped into action. The launch of the Pradhan Mantri Vidyalaxmi (PM-Vidyalaxmi) scheme is a major step forward. By ensuring that financial hardship does not come in the way of higher education, the scheme widens access and strengthens the promise of equal opportunity for every meritorious student. Equally significant is the push to expand skill development across the country. Projects worth over ₹62,000 crore—including the PM-SETU scheme—demonstrate the scale at which the government aims to build a skilled and future-ready workforce. The setting up of 1,200 Vocational Skill Labs in areas like IT, automotive, and agriculture shows a clear shift toward hands-on, industry-relevant training. New facilities across Bihar’s universities, the inauguration of the new NIT Patna campus in Bihta, and the establishment of the Jan Nayak Karpoori Thakur Skill University further add to this growing ecosystem.

The #ViksitBharatBuildathon2025 has been another encouraging moment. By inviting school students from classes 6 to 12 to propose ideas for an Atmanirbhar Bharat, the initiative recognises young minds as creators, not just learners. Their interaction with the Prime Minister offered a glimpse of how India’s next generation is being encouraged to innovate early.

In several of his recent addresses, including the International Aryan Summit on October 31, 2025, the Prime Minister underlined the relevance of Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati’s teachings. His emphasis on an education system rooted in Indian principles and cultural confidence echoes a broader national aspiration: development that is modern in approach but Indian at heart.

The announcement of 85 new Kendriya Vidyalayas also reflects a sincere push to widen access, especially in areas where quality schooling is still limited. Together, these initiatives speak of a government that sees education and skill-building not as isolated sectors, but as the foundation for a stronger, self-reliant India.

As universities across the country—including ours—work to align programmes with national goals, the message is clear. The road to Viksit Bharat will be shaped by how well we educate, inspire, and equip our youth today. PM Modi’s vision challenges us to rethink the way we learn and teach, and to ensure that every student—whether in a village, a small town, or a university campus—feels included in India’s growth story. The future belongs to nations that invest in their young people. India has chosen that path with conviction. Now, it is upon all of us—educators, institutions, students, and citizens—to walk it with purpose.

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BEYOND THE TEXTBOOK: THE URGENT NEED FOR A MORAL CURRICULUM

DR. AJAY SHARMA
JKPS, SP South, Jammu

In an age where technological advancement and information access have reached unprecedented heights, one would expect humanity to be at its moral zenith. Yet, amidst this progress, the headlines of leading news reports tell a different tale—rising violence, apathy, corruption, greed, addiction and a growing disconnect between personal success and social responsibility. This moral vacuum, particularly evident among sections of the younger generation commonly referred as Gen Z, compels us to pause and question the efficacy of our current substance and pedagogy of instructions at schools, colleges and university level.

Education, once envisioned as the sacred process of nurturing both intellect, health and character, It was enrichment of mind, soul and body all together. On the contrary, in present times, it has increasingly been re-sulted and viewed as a mechanical exercise aimed at producing employable graduates. Marks have superseded morals, and competition has eclipsed empathy. The consequence is an alarming erosion of ethical sensitivity, character and civic duty among our youth. It is, therefore, imperative that we revisit our educational philosophy—not merely to reform it, but to realign it with the timeless values of human dignity, morality, cooperation and ethical reasoning.

Beyond Law: From Deterrence to Con-science

It is commonly believed that in a civilised society a robust legal and regulatory frame-work is the ultimate safeguard against de-viance. While such systems are undoubtedly necessary, they are reactive by design. Laws can punish transgressions but rarely culti-vate conscience. True integrity is not born from the fear of external punishment, but from an internal moral compass. A legalistic approach can set the floor for human behav-ior, but it cannot inspire us to reach for the ceiling of our humanity. New forms of pun-ishment like community service and several new offences have been introduced under BNS which marks the shift from deterrence to civic responsibility.

Thus, a deeper, more enduring transfor-mation must begin much earlier—in class-rooms, playgrounds, and homes. We must equip young minds not just with the knowl-edge of what is right, but with the wisdom to understand why Without this ethical grounding, even the most educated individu-als may succumb to corruption, deceit, greed or apathy when faced with moral ambiguity.

Ethical Dimension of Learning:

Moral and ethical education should not be confined to a single discipline or a moral sci-ence period tucked away in the weekly timetable. Instead, it must become the invis-ible thread woven through every aspect of learning—whether in mathematics, law, lit-erature, or science. A physics experiment can teach honesty and precision; a lesson on constitution can provoke reflection on jus-tice and human rights; a group project can cultivate respect and teamwork.

At the heart of this transformation is the teacher—not merely as conveyors of infor-mation, but living exemplars who model in-tegrity, empathy, and respect. Their words and interactions, both inside and outside the

classroom, shape young hearts more power-fully than any textbook ever could.

Embracing Experiential Learning: NEP 2020 as a Guiding Light:

National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 offers a promising framework to infuse values and ethics into mainstream educa-tion through experiential learning. It envi-sions classrooms where students “learn by doing,” reflecting the real-world complexi-ties of cooperation, decision-making, and problem-solving. But to truly realize this vision, we must go beyond superficial adop-tion of activities and projects.

Experiential learning, in its truest sense, is about engagement with life and environ-ment. When students participate in commu-nity service, environmental conservation drives, or visit to prisons, old age homes and Child Care Institutions, they learn empathy not from lectures but from lived experience surrounding environment. They begin to un-derstand the interdependence of human ex-istence—the realization that one’s well-being is inextricably linked with that of others.

Similarly, problem-solving exercises can be framed to include ethical considerations. For instance, a science project on water pu-rification can simultaneously explore equi-table access to clean water. Decision-making simulations can help students understand the moral consequences of choices, fostering accountability and foresight.

School, Society, and the Digital World:

Revisiting the education system does not absolve society of its role. Children absorb values not only from lessons but from the en-vironments they inhabit. A holistic moral education, therefore, requires coherence be-tween what schools teach and the models presented at home and in the community.

Media, too, must shoulder responsibility. As the first generation of digital natives, our youths are constantly influenced by what they see online. The glorification of material success, instant gratification, and moral re-lativism can undo years of moral instruction. Hence, value-based education must also in-clude digital ethics—teaching our children to use technology responsibly, to respect pri-vacy, to engage with information critically, and to combat online toxicity with courage and kindness.

Towards a Future Anchored in Values:

The call to revisit the education system is not a nostalgic plea to return to the past; it is a pragmatic imperative for the future we are building. In a rapidly changing world marked by artificial intelligence, automa-tion, and global crises, technical skills alone will not suffice. What will truly distinguish future citizens is their ability to act with in-tegrity, empathy, and wisdom in an ethically complex socio-cultural landscape.

If education is the tool with which a nation shapes its destiny, then moral and ethical education is the hand that guides it. Let us, therefore, reimagine our schools as sanctuaries for both intellect and con-science—where success is measured not only in grades but in goodness, and where purpose of knowledge lies in the service of humanity, not merely ambition.

Only then can we hope to build a genera-tion that not only excels in innovation and intellect but also upholds the values that make us truly human.

Youth- The Torch Bearer of Culture

Introduction
Culture is the collective consciousness of humanity. It reflects our shared heritage, values, creativity, and identity. It is through culture that societies understand their past, express their present, and envision their future. In an era defined by rapid globalization, technological transformation, and shifting social dynamics, the preservation and reinvigoration of cultural heritage depend fundamentally on the involvement of youth.

Youth are not merely participants in cultural life—they are its innovators, interpreters, and transmitters. Their energy, imagination, and adaptability make them essential agents in the renewal of traditions and the creation of new cultural expressions.

For the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, a region celebrated for its pluralistic ethos and civilizational depth, the participation of youth in cultural development holds profound significance. Under the visionary initiatives of the Department of Culture, Government of Jammu & Kashmir, and the Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL), a comprehensive framework is being shaped to empower youth as ambassadors of heritage and champions of cultural innovation.

2. The Strategic Importance of Youth in Cultural Development.
Youth engagement in culture strengthens both individual identity and national cohesion. Their involvement ensures that culture remains dynamic, inclusive, and responsive to contemporary realities. The following dimensions illustrate the strategic importance of this engagement:

a. Custodians of Continuity
Youth serve as living links between past and future. By learning and practicing traditional art forms, dialects, and rituals, they ensure the transmission of intangible cultural heritage.

b. Catalysts of Innovation
With their openness to technology and new ideas, young people transform conventional cultural practices into modern expressions, creating fusion art, digital performances, and new aesthetics.

c. Engines of Social Harmony
Cultural participation fosters mutual respect and understanding, strengthening unity in diversity and countering divisive tendencies.

d. Drivers of Creative Economy
Cultural industries—including crafts, film, music, and design—are among the world’s fastest-growing economic sectors. Empowering youth in these fields creates employment and enhances economic resilience.

e. Nurturers of Identity and Belonging
Cultural engagement instills a sense of pride and belonging, reinforcing emotional attachment to heritage, language, and land.

In essence, youth participation ensures that culture remains both timeless and timely.

3. Present Landscape of Youth Participation
Across India and in Jammu & Kashmir in particular, youth participation in cultural activities has expanded significantly through government initiatives, educational reforms, and civil society engagement.

• Institutional Ecosystem:
JKAACL, Sangeet Natak Akademi, Lalit Kala Akademi, and Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) conduct youth-centric workshops, fellowships, and folk festivals across the country.

• Educational Integration:
Schools and universities increasingly embed cultural education through clubs, theatre societies, and heritage projects aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

• Digital Empowerment:
Young creators now use YouTube, Instagram, and other digital platforms to revive and reimagine regional art, music, and language.

• Mass Cultural Events:
Initiatives such as Yuva Utsav, Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, and Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav have inspired thousands of youth to contribute creatively to national celebrations.

Despite progress, systemic challenges—ranging from resource constraints to limited visibility—still restrict the full potential of youth participation in the cultural domain.

4. Key Challenges

- Awareness Deficit: Many young citizens remain unaware of cultural opportunities, scholarships, and institutional support.
- Infrastructure Gaps: Rural and semi-urban areas often lack adequate cultural centres, theatres, and exhibition spaces.
- Financial Barriers: Access to grants and sponsorships remains limited for emerging artists.
- Educational Pressures: Academic and economic concerns often overshadow cultural pursuits.
- Digital Distraction: Excessive engagement with entertainment media can weaken appreciation for authentic cultural forms.
- Migration and Urbanization: Youth moving to urban centres risk losing touch with their regional roots.
- Social and Gender Constraints: In certain areas, restrictive norms discourage equal participation by young women and marginalized communities.

Addressing these challenges requires a holistic policy response that integrates education, technology, community engagement, and sustained institutional support.

5. Institutional and Governmental Framework
The Ministry of Culture, Government of India, along with the Union Territory administration of Jammu & Kashmir,

has developed a strong policy framework to engage youth in culture:

- Ministry of Culture Initiatives:**
Fellowships for young artists, financial assistance to cultural NGOs, and projects on intangible heritage preservation.
- Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS):**
Mobilizes rural youth for folk festivals, workshops, and volunteer cultural service.
- National Service Scheme (NSS):**
Encourages cultural outreach and community heritage projects.
- JKAACL Programmes:**
Conducts interstate UT-level, divisional, and district-level cultural festivals, seminars, literary meets, and art residencies dedicated to youth engagement.
- Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM):**
Inspired nationwide participation through creative competitions, heritage exhibitions, and youth-led performances.
- Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat:**
Facilitates cultural exchange between different states and UTs, reinforcing the message of unity in diversity. These initiatives form a robust foundation for participatory cultural governance driven by youth leadership.

6. Case Study: Jammu & Kashmir – A Living Laboratory of Cultural Participation
Jammu and Kashmir epitomizes India’s pluralistic heritage—a confluence of Dogra, Kashmiri, Punjabi, Sheena, Bhadrawhi, Pahari, and Gujar traditions. Youth participation here has witnessed notable expansion in recent years:

- District Cultural Festivals:**
JKAACL’s district-level youth festivals and inter-district competitions draw thousands of participants, nurturing emerging talent.
- Educational Partnerships:**
Colleges and universities host debates, theatre workshops, and painting competitions under cultural clubs and literary societies.
- Revival of Folk Traditions:**
Youth collectives have revitalized Bhand Pather, Rouf, Dogri Theatre, Kud, and Bach Nagma, integrating them with contemporary performance formats.
- Digital Storytelling:**
Young filmmakers and musicians document vanishing traditions through documentaries, podcasts, and online exhibitions.
- Inter-State Exchanges:**
Cultural collaborations with other regions strengthen national integration and intercultural learning.

This resurgence underscores how empowered youth can transform cultural preservation into a vehicle for peace-building and identity consolidation.

7. Role of Educational Institutions
Educational institutions are the most effective incubators for cultural literacy and creative growth. They can play a transformative role through:

- Curricular Integration:** Embedding local heritage and folk art in academic syllabi.
- Cultural Clubs and Societies:** Encouraging regular artistic expression and creative dialogue.
- Annual Cultural Weeks:** Providing platforms for inter-school and inter-college performances.
- Artist-in-Residence Programmes:** Inviting traditional masters and contemporary experts for hands-on learning.
- Recognition Mechanisms:** Instituting awards, scholarships, and academic credits for cultural excellence.

By aligning with the NEP 2020 vision of holistic development, educational institutions can nurture culturally grounded yet globally competent citizens.

8. Cultural Entrepreneurship and Creative Economy
Culture today is also a driver of sustainable development. The creative economy—spanning arts, media, heritage, and design—offers vast opportunities for youth:

- Creative Industries:** Expanding opportunities in film, digital content, fashion, and design inspired by cultural motifs.
- Cultural Tourism:** Youth acting as heritage guides, event managers, and curators, linking tourism with authentic local experiences.
- Performing Arts Careers:** Professional training leading to viable careers in music, theatre, and dance.
- Digital Cultural Ventures:** Online platforms for cultural learning, collaboration, and monetization. Linking schemes like Skill India Mission, Startup India, and PM Vishwakarma Yojana with the cultural sector can transform creativity into sustainable livelihoods.

9. Media and Technology as Enablers
Technology has revolutionized the way culture is produced, preserved, and shared. When strategically applied, it can multiply the impact of youth engagement:

- Digital Archives:** Systematic preservation of folk songs, oral histories, and crafts in virtual libraries.
- Virtual Workshops:** Online learning modules connecting rural artists and global audiences.
- Cultural Mobile Apps:** Interactive platforms linking youth with mentors, institutions, and audiences.
- Social Media Advocacy:** Use of short-form content to promote cultural awareness and inclusivity.
- E-Cultural Diplomacy:** Virtual collaborations and international youth exchanges for cultural dialogue.

Harnessing digital technology democratizes access to culture and empowers youth to become global cultural communicators.

10. Community Engagement and Volunteerism
Youth-led community cultural initiatives strengthen

civic values, solidarity, and shared identity. Volunteerism in cultural life can include:

- Participation in state and national events like Vande Mataram Celebrations, Republic Day Tableaux, and Heritage Walks.
- Partnership with NGOs for outreach in remote and border areas.
- Heritage conservation drives and awareness campaigns on intangible heritage.
- Youth Peacebuilding initiatives using art, theatre, and storytelling as mediums of dialogue.

When youth participate voluntarily in cultural life, culture itself becomes a medium of empowerment, inclusion, and resilience.

11. Policy Recommendations and Future Roadmap
To institutionalize and scale up youth participation in culture, the following recommendations are proposed:

- Establish District-Level Cultural Resource Centres equipped with training halls, studios, and digital facilities.
- Launch Youth Cultural Fellowship and Internship Schemes to promote research and field engagement.
- Integrate Cultural Education under NEP 2020, emphasizing experiential learning and heritage studies.
- Create a Digital Cultural Network (DCN) linking artists, scholars, and youth organizations.
- Institutionalize Annual “Youth in Culture” Awards recognizing exemplary contribution at UT and national levels.
- Strengthen University-Cultural Institution Partnerships for collaborative projects and student residencies.
- Ensure Gender Parity and Social Inclusion in all cultural initiatives.
- Form a Cultural Volunteer Corps (CVC) to engage trained youth in documentation, event coordination, and awareness.
- Promote Cultural Entrepreneurship Incubators through Startup India and MSME support.

These interventions will create an integrated ecosystem where culture becomes a pillar of youth development and nation-building.

12. Conclusion
The future of any civilization rests upon how effectively it inspires its youth to cherish and contribute to its cultural legacy. In the journey of India’s renaissance as a knowledge and cultural power, the role of young citizens is decisive. They are the torchbearers of continuity, the innovators of tradition, and the architects of a new cultural order rooted in diversity and inclusivity.

For Jammu and Kashmir, the involvement of youth in culture is not only a developmental priority but a moral and emotional necessity. It symbolizes resilience, hope, and unity. When culture flows through the creativity of youth, it transcends boundaries and becomes the universal language of peace and progress.

In keeping with this vision, the Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL) has undertaken a diverse range of cultural initiatives and programmes during the years 2024–25 and 2025–26 across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, aimed at nurturing young talent and promoting the region’s vibrant cultural heritage.

A) Events Conducted in the Year 2024-25

- No. of Cultural Activities organized across J&K during the year 2024-25 = 173
- No. of literary Activities organized across J&K during the year 2024-25 = 51
- Total No. of Activities organized across J&K during the year 2024-25 = 224
- No of poets/Writers/Paper readers Participated =1000
- No of artists participated =7000
- Total Participation =8000
- No of Audience Witnessed the events =5,10,000

Out of this 02 Major activities, which includes Five Days Bhad Jashn-e & Har Ghar Tirangra Yatra in connection with the

Independence Day Celebrations 2024 was organized in collaboration with NZCC, Patiala, Punjab.

B) Events Conducted in the Year 2025-26 (till date)

- No. of Cultural Activities organized across J&K during the year 2025-26 =247 (up to till date)
- No. of literary Activities organized across J&K during the year 2025-26 =51
- Total No. of Activities organized across J&K during the year 2025-26 = 298
- No of poets/Writers/Paper readers Participated =885
- No of artists participated =7978
- Total Participation =8863
- No of Audience Witnessed the events =2,90,000

Among the above activities, three major events were organized by the Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL), which included a Five-Day Folk Play Festival, Sanskritik Yatra, and Har Ghar Tiranga Yatra held in connection with the Independence Day Celebrations – 2025, as well as an On-the-Spot Painting Competition organized on the eve of Gandhi Jayanti in collaboration with the North Zone Cultural Centre (NZCC), Patiala, Punjab.

In addition, the Academy successfully organized a grand commemorative programme titled “Vande Mataram @150” in November 2025, celebrating 150 years of the national song Vande Mataram.

A large segment of the audience and participants comprised students and youth from schools, colleges, and educational institutions, reflecting the Academy’s consistent efforts to engage young minds in cultural awareness and creative expression.

GDC Kathua, PG Deptt. JU clinch Inter-collegiate Badminton titles

JAMMU:

The Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu, organized the Inter-Collegiate Badminton (Men & Women) Tournament 2025-26 at the Gymnasium Hall, University of Jammu.

The championship witnessed thrilling rallies and impressive participation from students across affiliated colleges.

The tournament emphasized physical fitness, disciplined sportsmanship, and competitive excellence among young shuttlers.

In Men's Section: ASCOMS Jammu defeated GDC Reasi by 2-1, GDC Sunderbani defeated GMC Doda by 2-1, GDC Udhampur defeated MIET Jammu by 2-0, JAIR Jammu defeated GDC Samba by 2-1, MIER Jammu defeated GDC Jourian by 2-0.

Women's Section: GCET Jammu defeated KC Law College by 2-0, GMC Doda defeated GDC Reasi by



2-0, Dogra Degree College defeated GDC Jourian by 2-0.

Final Results: Men's Category: GDC Kathua defeated PG Deptt. JU by 2-0,

The final showcased exceptional pace and tactical play. GDC Kathua demonstrated strong court control to lift the Men's title.

Women's Category: PG Deptt. JU defeated GCW Parade by 2-1. The thrilling three-set contest highlighted top-class coordination and resilience from PG Deptt. JU to secure the championship.

The tournament was conducted under the overall supervision of Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba, Director, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu.

The matches were officiated by Jeevan Lal, Arjun Sharma, Davinder Singh, Ravish Vaid and Vikas Karlopia, who ensured smooth and fair conduct throughout the tournament.

GCW Udhampur, GDC Akhnoor lift Inter-Collegiate Kho-Kho titles

JAMMU:

The Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu, organized the Inter-Collegiate Kho-Kho (Men & Women) Tournament 2025-26 at the University Kho-Kho Ground.

The event witnessed energetic performances, spirited competition, and exceptional teamwork from participating teams representing various affiliated colleges.

The tournament reaffirmed the University's commitment to promoting indigenous games, physical fitness, and competitive excellence among student athletes.

GDC Akhnoor defeated PG Department by 5 points in the final match that showcased an intense contest in which GDC Akhnoor demonstrated superior coordination and defensive strategy, enabling them to secure a well-earned victory over the PG Department.

In Women's Category, GCW Udhampur defeated PG Department JU by 02 points in the final that witnessed exceptional per-

formance by GCW Udhampur, whose brilliant speed, tactical precision, and coordinated attacks led them to secure the championship trophy after a close contest with PG Department JU. The tournament was conducted under the overall supervision of Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba, Director, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu. The matches were officiated by Anil Sharma, Ajay Gupta, Dheeraj Sharma, Palbinder Singh, Pooja Sharma and Gagan Kumar, who ensured smooth, rule-bound conduct of the tournament.

The Kho-Kho (Men & Women) Tournament 2025-26 concluded successfully with impressive participation and a vibrant display of skill from the competing colleges.

Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba congratulated the winners and commended all participating teams for their dedication, sportsmanship, and cooperative spirit.

The Directorate remains committed to fostering traditional sports and strengthening the competitive ecosystem within the University.



JU hosts Inter-Collegiate Cricket Tournament



JAMMU:

The Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu, organized the Inter-Collegiate Cricket (Men) Tournament 2025-26 at the University Cricket Ground.

The tournament witnessed enthusiastic participation from affiliated colleges, with players displaying exceptional batting, bowling, and fielding abilities.

The event underscored the University's ongoing commitment to promoting competitive sports, nurturing young cricketing talent, and encouraging discipline, teamwork, and sporting excellence among student-athletes.

PG (Arts), University of Jammu registered a massive 157-run victory over PHL College. In another fixture, MIET defeated GDC Ramgarh by 10 wickets. GDC Ramnagar defeated KC Law College by 6 wickets.

The tournament was held under the supervision of Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba, Director, Directorate of Sports & Physical Education, University of Jammu.

The matches were officiated by Danish Kumar, Raj Kumar Bakshi, and Mohd. Saleem, who ensured smooth and fair conduct throughout the event.

PG Department emerges champion in Inter-Collegiate Hockey Tournament



JAMMU:

The Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu, organized the Inter-Collegiate Hockey (Men) Tournament 2025-26 at the University Hockey Ground.

The event featured spirited participation from affiliated colleges, with teams displaying remarkable stick work, coordination, and speed throughout the competition. T

The tournament highlighted the University's continued efforts toward strengthening the sporting culture and providing a platform for young hockey players to excel in the sport. The matches were officiated by Harvinder Singh, Rajinder Singh, and Ramesh Chander, who ensured fair and smooth conduct of the event.

Moot Court competition highlights participants' advocacy skills, legal acumen

JAMMU:

The final day of the competition, began with the Judges' Orientation Session at the Moot Court Room, Department of Law, followed by the Semi-Final Rounds wherein the top teams presented their arguments before eminent Serving District and Session Judges Yash Paul Bournay, Rajiv Gupta, Khem Raj Sharma, Haq Nawaz Zargar, Sonia Gupta and Ajay Sharma out of four teams, two teams were selected for finals. The Final Round commenced at the General Zorawar Singh Auditorium and witnessed an intense legal battle between the finalist teams who demonstrated exceptional advocacy skills, courtroom manners, and a deep understanding of trial procedure.

The Final Rounds were adjudged by the illustrious judges of the Department of Law, Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal, Justice Sanjay Parihar and Justice Mohd Yusuf Wani.

Following the Final Round, a Cultural Event added vibrancy to the occasion where scintillating performances were made by students of Department of Law.

The Valedictory Function began with floral felicitation of dignitaries. Prof. (Dr.) Manju Jamwal, Head and Dean, Department of Law delivered the Welcome Address, highlighting the Department's commitment to promoting experiential learning through moot court and trial advocacy exercises.

Preetam Surana, Partner (Dis-



pute & Head, Academic Initiative), Surana & Surana International Attorneys, Chennai, delivered the Presidential Remarks, commending the Department of Law for its dedication in nurturing young legal minds and perfect execution of event.

Guests of Honour, Hon'ble Justice Mohd Yusuf Wani, High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, in his address, highlighted the role of Department of Law and Moot Court competitions in shaping the future advocates.

ing the future advocates.

The Guests of Honour, Justice Sanjay Parihar, High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, in his address, emphasized the importance of practical training in developing future advocates of integrity and competence.

Prof. (Dr.) Neelu Rohmetra, Dean Research Studies graced the event as the Special Guest and in her address, appreciated the Department's efforts in organizing a competition of such scale, reiterat-

ing the University's vision to promote legal education that integrates theory and practice.

The Chief Guest, Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal, Judge, High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, in his address, congratulated all participating teams and underscored the significance of moot court in building confidence and ethical professionalism among law students. The Vote of Thanks was presented by Prof. Sanjay Gupta, Department of Law who expressed

gratitude to the dignitaries, judges, faculty members, students, and the organizing partner, Surana & Surana International Attorneys, for their invaluable contributions towards the success of the event.

The programme was conducted by Dr Navdeep Kour Sasan, Faculty Co-coordinator of the event and Assistant Professor, Department of Law.

Earlier in the second day of the Surana and Surana National Trial Advocacy Moot Court Competition (North Rounds) 2025-26, witnessed an eventful and intellectually stimulating series of rounds, highlighting participants' advocacy skills and legal acumen.

The day commenced with the Witness Briefing for Preliminary Round 1 and Judges' Orientation Session at the Department of Law.

Quarter-Final Rounds were conducted following Witness Briefing and Judges' Orientation, with teams displaying exceptional courtroom decorum and strategic advocacy.

The day concluded with the Witness Briefing for the Semi-Final Rounds, setting the stage for the high-stakes Semi-Finals on the following day.

The event witnessed the significant performance of the witnesses and courtroom masters and supervisors, who were performed by the students of the Department of Law and The Law School, as well as scholars of the Department of Law.

Bhaderwah Campus, SKUAST-J organize boot camp

BHADERWAH:

The School of Management Studies, Bhaderwah Campus in collaboration with Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) Jammu, organized a one-day Boot Camp on Innovative Business Ideas to promote youth entrepreneurship and startup development in the agriculture sector.

Prof. Rahul Gupta, Rector, Bhaderwah Campus, addressed the gathering online and lauded the initiative for fostering innovation and entrepreneurship among students.

The event was coordinated by



Dr. Umesh Choudhary, Incharge Head, SOMS, who welcomed dele-

gates Dr. Hidayatullah Mir, Senior Scientist, KVK Research Centre,

and Sahil Gupta, Manager, Incubation, JKCIP SKUAST Jammu.

Dr. Choudhary emphasized the importance of linking management education with agricultural innovation, while Dr. Mir and Gupta motivated students to explore agripreneurship through incubation and government-supported programs.

Students from MBA, BBA, and B.Com streams presented innovative ideas such as jam manufacturing, organic mushroom drying, walnut processing, Rajma branding, and sustainable farming ventures, which were highly appreciated by the experts.

The event began with a welcome by Asma Jamil, Faculty, SOMS, and anchoring by Riya, MBA student. A vote of thanks was presented by Mohammed Avais, Assistant Professor, SOMS. Faculty members including Dr. Rohit Bhagat, Dr. Ashok, Dr. Subash Chander, Dr. Umar Sadeeq, Dr. Alyas, Surbi Langeh, Amit Kumar, . Bhumeeka, and Mujeeb Sheikh (Assistant Registrar) contributed to the event's success. The Boot Camp concluded on an inspiring note, encouraging students to innovate in the agri-sector and contribute to the vision of a self-reliant and sustainable India.

National Unity Day: NSS Campus Unit-VI, Kathua Campus (JU) celebrate

JAMMU:

The NSS Campus Unit-VI, Kathua Campus celebrated National Unity Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India.

The event was organized to promote the spirit of unity, integrity, and national integration among students and staff.

As part of the celebration, NSS volunteers and students delivered speeches, poems, and messages on the theme of national integration, highlighting the importance of unity in diversity.

The event created an atmosphere of patriotism and collective pride, reflecting the true essence of Rashtriya Ekta Diwas.

Prof. Arvind Jasrotia, Rector, Kathua Campus in his message



highlighted the vision and leadership of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

in unifying the nation.

He emphasized that the youth

must draw inspiration from Patel's life and work collectively

to uphold national integrity and harmony.

Prof. Vishav Raksha, Convener, NSS Campus Units in her message lauded the efforts of NSS volunteers for actively participating in national events that foster patriotism and social awareness.

She remarked that such celebrations remind students of their responsibility toward nation-building and community service.

Dr. Hema Gandotra, Programme Coordinator, NSS Campus Units in her message appreciated the enthusiasm of NSS volunteers and underscored the importance of youth involvement in promoting unity and inclusivity.

The programme was coordinated by NSS volunteers Deepanshu Uttam and Abhilasha Gupta.

Over 70 students attend Neurotech, AI innovation workshop



JAMMU:

The University launched Neurotech and AI Innovation Workshop, a pioneering initiative under its flagship Design Your Degree programme aimed at promoting interdisciplinary, innovation-based learning.

Organized by the Skill Incubation Innovation Entrepreneurship Development Centre (SIIEDC), the workshop brings together students from engineering, neuroscience, computer science, and design to develop prototypes in brain-computer interfaces, virtual reality therapy, and sustainable systems.

Over 70 students are participating in the programme, which culminated under IDEA Forge Hackathon.

The initiative reflected the visionary leadership of Prof. Umesh Rai, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, who has made Design Your Degree a cornerstone of the University's academic transformation.

Prof. Rai believes that the challenges of the modern world—whether in health, climate, or technology—can only be addressed through collaboration across disciplines. Under his guidance, the University has adopted the spirit of NEP-2020, promoting experiential and problem-based learning.

"Education today must prepare students not just to earn degrees but to innovate and make a difference," Prof. Rai has often emphasized, highlighting his focus on turning the University into a hub of creativity and enterprise.

The workshop was inaugurated by Prof. Alka Sharma, Director, SIIEDC, who described it as a "culture shift" in how students learn and innovate.

She said the event embodies the essence of Design Your Degree by encouraging students to move beyond traditional boundaries. Appreciating the collaboration with BALDMANN, an industry leader in neurotechnology and AI innovation,

Prof. Sharma said, "By working with professional-grade tools like EEG hardware, drones, and VR systems, our students are experiencing the real-world process of innovation."

The technical sessions cover EEG/EMG signal processing, circuit board design using KiCad, Unity-based VR environment creation, and drone flight operations, before teams develop functional prototypes for social impact. Projects span five domains—Health Tech, Green Innovation, AI & Human Experience, Smart Cities, and Creative Technology—and will be judged on innovation, feasibility, and societal relevance.

Dr. Jatinder Manhas, Associate Director, SIIEDC and Workshop Coordinator, thanked the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Director, and BALDMANN experts for their guidance. "The energy and collaboration among students prove that we're successfully translating the Vice Chancellor's vision into action," he said.

36 students attend DLL's Career Counseling Workshop



JAMMU:

The Employment Information-cum-Advisory Bureau (EIAB), Department of Lifelong Learning (DLL) in collaboration with Govt. Degree College, Bhagwati Nagar organized a career counseling workshop for the students of the college. The workshop was one among the series of counseling workshops being organized by the Employment Information-cum-Advisory Bureau, DLL.

The purpose of the workshop was to carry forward the vision of Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Umesh Rai, to enhance the skills of youth and make them employable in the dynamic world of work.

The workshop was conducted under the guidance of Dr. Priyanka Sharma, Director, DLL, and Prof. Naveen Anand, Principal of the College. The inaugural address was given by Dr. Priyanka Sharma, Director, DLL.

She briefed the gathering about the range of activities being conducted under the aegis of the Department of Lifelong Learning. She also emphasized the

importance of new generic skills, which are essential for today's youth to meet the demands of the global market.

Neetu Dhar, Chief Coordinator and Master Trainer (JKDCUL, Jammu Kashmir Dairy Producers, Processors and Marketing Cooperative Ltd), Jammu, and Dr. Anshu Gupta, Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences were the resource persons. Dr. Rewa Khajuria, Counsellor, Department of Lifelong Learning, explained the objective behind conducting such workshops.

Neetu Dhar apprised the students about formal and non-formal communication skills, body language, and conversation starters through interactive activities. Dr. Anshu Gupta, in her presentation, explained career options in Environmental Sciences, new and emerging areas in the field, major environmental issues of the present day, and pollution control.

Thirty-six students of the 1st Semester actively participated in the workshop.

CDOE organises induction programme

JAMMU:

The Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE) organised an Induction Programme for newly enrolled students of B.A. and B.Com. 1st Semester at the Brigadier Rajinder Singh Auditorium.

The programme aimed to familiarise learners with the ethos, structure, and functioning of the Centre and to motivate them as they embark on their academic journey through the distance mode.

The event began with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by dignitaries and students, symbolising the spread of knowledge and the spirit of enlightenment that marks the beginning of every academic endeavour.

Prof. Neelu Rohmetra, Dean, Research Studies and former Director of CDOE, delivered the keynote address as the Chief Guest. Drawing from her rich academic and administrative experience, she spoke about the purpose and power of education, emphasizing that universities are not only centres of knowledge but also spaces that shape character, competence, and contribution.

She underlined the need to strengthen the teacher-student bond and encouraged learners to embrace flexibility, creativity, and innovation—values that distance education naturally fosters. Prof. Rohmetra urged students to make wise choices, remain dedicated and disciplined, and maintain a positive outlook throughout their studies.

Sharing her own journey as an alumna of the University, she inspired learners to work with commitment and institutional pride, reminding them to "Think institutional, work institutional." She also commended the CDOE faculty and staff for their continued efforts toward academic innovation



and learner welfare.

Prof. Pankaj K. Srivastava, Director, CDOE, welcomed the newly admitted students and assured them of the Centre's full academic and administrative support.

He shared that CDOE is celebrating its Golden Jubilee year, marking fifty years of excellence in distance education. As part of this milestone, a series of academic, cultural, and developmental events are being organized to foster holistic growth among learners.

Prof. Srivastava also highlighted that all CDOE programmes are recognised by UGC-DEB and that the Self-Learning Materials (SLMs) have been designed in line with UGC Regulations 2020. Speaking about ongoing community collaborations, workshops, Dr. Deepti Abrol, Teacher Incharge, B.Com. 1st Semester, presented a detailed overview of the B.Com. programme.

She explained the credit system, course structure, and evaluation pattern, and guided students about the Personal Contact Programme (PCP) and Self-Learning Materials.

She emphasized that distance education is learner-centric and flexible, allowing students to pursue knowledge at their own pace while balancing personal and professional responsibilities.

Dr. Sumita Sharma, Joint Registrar, CDOE, appreciated the growing participation of distance learners in co-curricular and extracurricular activities. She reflected on the new opportunities presented by the National Education Policy (NEP 2020) and

encouraged students to make full use of the diverse learning resources and support mechanisms offered by CDOE.

Earlier, Dr. Jaspal Singh, Organising Secretary and Coordinator, B.A. 1st Semester, delivered the welcome address. He greeted the students warmly and expressed pride in the University's NAAC A++ ranking, a testimony to its dedication to academic excellence.

He highlighted that the programmes offered by CDOE are UGC-DEB recognised, ensuring credibility, quality, and national-level opportunities for learners across India. To celebrate student participation, surprise gifts were presented to Sushank Kapoor (B.Com. 1st Semester) and Ajay Kumar, a special-needs student of B.A. 1st Semester, for their enthusiasm and active engagement. Dr. Sumeet Kour, Teacher Incharge, B.Com. 1st Semester, proposed the Vote of Thanks, expressing gratitude to all dignitaries, faculty members, staff, and students for their contribution to the success of the event.

The programme concluded on a warm note with the distribution of refreshments among the participants.

The Induction Programme was a resounding success, leaving the newly enrolled learners inspired, confident, and well-oriented toward their academic journey. It reaffirmed CDOE's enduring commitment to academic excellence, inclusivity, innovation, and lifelong learning within the University's distance education framework.

ICccR, HRM students undertake industrial visit to Ludhiana



JAMMU

The students of the International Centre for Cross-Cultural Research and Human Resource Management (ICccR & HRM) have embarked on a three-day industrial visit to Ludhiana as part of their experiential learning initiative aimed at enhancing industry-academia interface and providing practical exposure to real-world business operations.

The visit is structured to familiarize students with the functioning of major industrial establishments in Ludhiana — a key hub of manufacturing, exports, and trade in Northern India.

During the visit interactive session was held at the Chamber of Exports, Ludhiana, where students were apprised of the export ecosystem, trade facilitation mechanisms, and emerging global business trends.

The students also visited the Ludhiana Dry Port and Vardhman Group, a leading textile conglomerate, to gain insights into logistics operations, supply chain management, and large-scale textile manufacturing processes.

The final leg of the visit included industrial visits to Hero Cycles, Cremica Industries, and Star Foods, where students will observe modern production techniques, quality assurance practices, and marketing operations in globally recognized organizations.

The day visit aimed to strengthen the students' understanding of industrial dynamics and business competitiveness, complementing their classroom learning with practical exposure. The initiative reflects ICccR & HRM's continuous efforts to integrate academic excellence with hands-on industry experience, thereby preparing students for leadership roles in international business and human resource management.

Speaking on the occasion, Professor Hardeep Chahal, Director, ICccR and HRM, stated that the visit reflects the Centre's commitment to promoting industry-academia linkages. "Industrial visits are an integral part of management education. They enable students to connect theoretical learning with practical applications and develop a deeper understanding of business realities," she noted.

The visit will be coordinated by faculty members of ICccR and HRM including Dr. Bhanu Pratap Singh, Dr. Swati Sharma and Dr. Shivani Rana and is expected to enhance the students' managerial acumen and readiness for global business challenges.

‘Buildathon’: Institution’s Innovation Council engages young minds at KV

JAMMU

The Institution’s Innovation Council (IIC) conducted an inspiring and interactive session with students of Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 1, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu under the Buildathon initiative of the Ministry of Education, Government of India.

The event aimed to ignite creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving skills among students by introducing them to the concepts of innovation, design thinking and entrepreneurship at an early age.

Representatives from IIC engaged with the students through hands-on activities, interactive



demonstrations and motivational discussions focused on

fostering a culture of innovation.

Members of IIC, highlighted the importance of introducing innovation frameworks to school students, saying, “Early exposure to innovation and entrepreneurship helps build a generation that is not only job-ready but also job-creators. This interaction is a step towards shaping a visionary and empowered youth.”

The session witnessed enthusiastic participation from students of various classes, who showcased their creativity and presented problem-solving ideas relevant to their surroundings.

The IIC team guided them through the basics of ideation, prototyping and the value of re-

search and development.

The Buildathon initiative, under which this outreach was conducted, is part of a nationwide effort by the Ministry of Education to instill a mindset of innovation and invention among school and college students, in line with the goals of the National Innovation and Startup Policy (NISP). The event concluded with a group activity where students brainstormed innovative ideas for addressing real-world issues like water conservation, clean energy and smart education tools, leaving the IIC team impressed by their enthusiasm and ingenuity.

“From Qualitative to Mixed Method Research in Social Sciences” workshop held



JAMMU:

RIG-Comparative Education, Comparative Education Society of India (CESI), in collaboration with the P.G. Department of Education organized a one-day hands-on workshop on the theme “From Qualitative to Mixed Method Research in Social Sciences” at the Committee Room, VC Secretariat.

The workshop witnessed active participation from research scholars, educators, and postgraduate students from across disciplines and institutions, including Government College for Women Parade, Government PG College of Education Canal Road, MAM College, and several departments of the University such as Education, Economics, Commerce, Sociology, Home Science, Psychology, Library Science, Strategic & Regional Studies, and Political Science.

In her welcome address, Kajal Kalsi, Co-convenor of the workshop from the Department of Sociology, emphasized the growing importance of sound methodological training in social science research and how such platforms help nurture the next generation of researchers.

The session was introduced and moderated by Aditi Sharma, who set the tone for the day’s academic deliberations.

The technical sessions were led by Dr. Sayantan Mandal, Associate Professor, Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies (ZHCES), Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

— a leading scholar in educational research methodologies.

In the first session on Qualitative Research Methods, Dr. Mandal discussed the philosophical and epistemological foundations of qualitative research and elaborated on various data collection techniques such as interviews, field observations, and narrative analysis.

He also underlined the significance of reflexivity and contextual interpretation in qualitative inquiry. In the second session, focusing on Mixed Methods Research, he explained how qualitative and quantitative approaches can be effectively integrated. He presented various research designs, discussed real-world challenges, and suggested strategies for applying mixed methods in doctoral and interdisciplinary research. The workshop also included interactive activities, group discussions, and a lively Q&A session, giving participants the opportunity to share insights, clarify methodological doubts, and engage with contemporary research perspectives. Delivering the concluding remarks, Prof. (Dr.) Renu Nanda, Convener of the workshop and Dean, Faculty of Education appreciated the participants’ enthusiasm and highlighted the need to blend theoretical understanding with methodological precision.

She also emphasized that such workshops play a crucial role in building a vibrant and research-oriented academic ecosystem.

JU research scholars win best presentation awards at GEH

JAMMU:

Two research scholars from the Department of Geology — Sumeet Singh and Shifali Chib — have brought laurels to the institution by winning the Best Oral Presentation Award, securing first and third positions, respectively, at the International Conference on Geodynamic Evolution of Himalaya: Crustal Architecture, Climate, Resources and Disaster (GEH-2025).

The conference, held at Kumaun University, Nainital, brought together leading geoscientists, researchers, and academicians from across India and abroad to deliberate on the complex and evolving geology of the Himalayan region.

Sumeet Singh’s award-winning presentation focused on the geodynamics of forearc sediments in Ladakh during the Late Cretaceous, while Shifali Chib’s study explored the geotechnical and geophysical aspects of the Sukha Nala landslide in Kathua district.

Both papers showcased in-depth analysis, innovative



methodologies, and a clear understanding of the geodynamic and hazard processes shaping the Himalaya.

The expert panel commended their work for its scientific rigour, clarity, and contemporary relevance.

The scholars credited their mentors — Prof. Sundeep Pandita (supervisor of Sumeet Singh) and Dr. Yudhbir Singh (supervisor of Shifali Chib) — for their invaluable guidance, encouragement, and insightful suggestions that shaped their research.

Expressing gratitude, the duo

said, “We’re deeply honoured to represent the University on such a significant platform. This recognition motivates us to continue our research in Himalayan geodynamics with even greater dedication. We are deeply thankful to our parents, mentors and department faculty for their unwavering support throughout our journey.”

GEH-2025 provided a multidisciplinary platform for discussions on tectonics, climate change, natural hazards, and resource management in the Himalayas — a region of immense geological and geopolitical importance.

Calico printing workshop organised

JAMMU:

The Centre for Studies in Museology and Sheikh Noor-ud-din Noorani Museum of Heritage inaugurated a workshop on Calico Printing with the theme “From Fabric to Fashion Industry” aligning with the vision of Honourable Vice-Chancellor Prof. Umesh Rai on “Atmanirbhar Bharat” and Skill India.

The workshop would continue for 4 days consisting of practical sessions on Calico Printing. Through the workshop, the Centre for Studies in Museology aims to bring together artisans as well as craft enthusiasts to revive this traditional art form.

The event highlighted the rich cultural heritage of calico printing of Samba (popularly known as Sheeta aala shehar). The workshop focuses on sustainable practices as well as its modern applications to make it relevant to fashion industry.

The workshop started with an interesting inaugural session, where Prof. Poonam Chaudhary, the Director of Centre for Studies in Museology, narrated the significance of Calico printing as a vital craft which embodies cultural identity and sustainability.

She highlighted the need to preserve this art for supporting local artisans and promoting eco-friendly textile production. Further, Tarun Sudan, the Assistant Director, Department of Handloom and Handicrafts, Government of Jammu and Kashmir, who was also present on the occasion highlighted the con-



temporary relevance of Calico printing also emphasized on the required collaborative initiatives between the University and concerned Department of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

Over the course of workshop, the participants will be engaging in hands-on sessions covering Calico printing techniques by the state awardees artisans Sushma Devi and her team.

The Centre is optimistic that such an initiative would serve as a catalyst for those interested in Calico Printing. Dr. Malay Dey, the Assistant Professor in the Centre presented the vote of thanks.

FROM PG 1

Patel's life teaches

value of clarity of purpose, steadfastness, and courage rooted in empathy. He said that Patel's foresight in shaping India's administrative and security framework continues to guide the nation today, especially in a changing geopolitical landscape involving our neighboring regions. Referring to the insightful presentations made by the speakers, he emphasized the importance of engaging with authentic historical records and correspondence so that students can understand Patel's decisions in their real historical context. Prof. Rai also announced that the University will introduce a monthly student-led lecture and discussion series under the Department of Students Welfare, where students will speak and the leadership will listen and respond.

This initiative, he said, is aimed at encouraging debate, critical thinking, and civic awareness among the youth, ensuring that the ideals of national unity, integrity, and responsible citizenship remain living values rather than distant memories. Sanjay Sharma, SSP, Staff officer to DIG extended warm greetings on behalf of the Jammu and Kashmir Police. He noted that this seminar, organized under the Civic Action Programme in collaboration with the University reflects the commitment of the police to connect meaningfully with students and youth through education, dialogue, and cultural exchange. Sharma also reflected on Patel's role as the architect of India's administrative and police framework. Patel believed that a strong and impartial civil service is the backbone of a stable nation. He encouraged officers to remain honest, disciplined, and devoted to the Constitution—values that continue to guide the Indian Police and civil administration even today. The resource persons for the seminar were Prof. Virender Koundal, Head, Department of Strategic and Regional Studies and Prof. Baljit Singh Mann, Head Department of Political Science. Prof. Virender Koundal spoke about the remarkable role played by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in uniting India during one of the most crucial phases in the nation's history.

He explained that while Mahatma Gandhi inspired the dream of freedom and Jawaharlal Nehru envisioned a modern India, it was Sardar Patel who turned the idea of a united nation into reality. Prof. Baljit Singh Mann reflected on Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's journey by placing him in the historical context of his time. He explained that to understand any leader, one must understand the world that shaped him. Patel lived through the peak of the anti-colonial struggle, alongside Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, and other stalwarts. Prof. Mann concluded by noting that although Patel lived only a short while after Independence, his contributions continue to define the

idea of India we inherit today—firm, united, and democratic.

Earlier, Prof Monika Chadha Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee, welcomed the dignitaries and participants, highlighting the significance of revisiting Patel's ideas in contemporary times. Prof. Sarika Manhas, Co-Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee, presented the formal vote of thanks. Among others present on the occasion included Prof.Prakash Antahal, Dean Students Welfare, Prof. Vinay Chauhan, Director, The Business School, faculty members, members of Campus Cultural Committee, staff, scholars and students. The proceedings of the event were conducted by Anshika Gandhi. The seminar drew active participation from students, research scholars, and faculty members, who engaged in thoughtful discussions on the relevance of Sardar Patel's vision in shaping a cohesive and progressive. The events of DSW are conceived, planned and organized by the team consisting of Prof. Prakash Antahal (Dean Students Welfare), Prof. Monika Chadha (Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee), Prof. Sarika Manhas (Co-Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee), Dr. Pritam Singh (Associate Dean SW), Dr. Shallu Sharma and Dr. A.R. Manhas (Deputy Chief Proctors), Dr. Harleen Kaur & Dr. Ripudaman Parihar (Assistant Dean, SW), members of Campus Cultural Committee, Mansi Mantoo (Media Officer), Sumeet Sharma (Drama Instructor). Hall management was looked after by Enamika Sharma. The sound was looked after by Kulbhushan Thakur.

VC releases

He emphasized that such publications strengthen the research culture of the University and encourage faculty and scholars to pursue meaningful, interdisciplinary work. Researcher is a bi-annual, double-blind peer-reviewed journal that provides a platform for scholars to share high-quality research across disciplines such as Science and Technology, Social Sciences, Business Studies, and Humanities. The latest edition carries fourteen research papers—three under Science and Technology, four in Social Sciences, two in Business Studies, and five in Arts and Humanities. The publication was coordinated by Dr. Shashi Prabha, Convener, Publication Cell. The release event was attended by Prof. J. P. Singh Joorel, Dean Academic Affairs; Dr. Neeraj Sharma, Registrar; Prof. Namrata Sharma; Prof. Komal Nagar; Dr. Shashi Prabha; Dr. Shallu Sehgal; and Dr. Harleen Kour. Researcher continues to serve as a valuable academic resource, reflecting the University's commitment to promoting innovation, collaboration, and the advancement of knowledge.

Moot Court

Commending the initiative, he remarked that moot court competitions hold immense significance in bridging classroom learning with real-life courtroom experience, allowing law students to gain practical exposure, confidence, and an understanding of legal procedures. Drawing from his vast experience of over two decades as an advocate and thirteen years as a judge, Justice Tashi offered candid advice to aspiring lawyers.

He emphasized that a good advocate must be thorough with the facts of the case, understand the relevant legal provisions, and cite only the most applicable and authoritative judgments. Prof. Rai, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Guest of Honour of the event, congratulated former Chief Justice of the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court, Justice Tashi Rabstan, on being designated as a Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court of India—a moment he described as a matter of pride for the entire University, as Justice Tashi is an esteemed alumnus.

He also commended Prof Manju Jamwal, Head and Dean of the Department of Law, for her leadership under which the Faculty of Law has strengthened its academic and professional standing. Prof. Rai extended appreciation to the organizing team, students, and partners from Surana & Surana International Attorneys for successfully hosting the North Rounds of the 2025 Trial Advocacy Moot Court Competition. Prof. Rai emphasized that the University remains committed to fostering practical legal education and nurturing young talent through experiential learning. He noted that Moot Court competitions and advocacy exercises enable students to sharpen their understanding of drafting, argumentation, and courtroom conduct—key elements of a professional legal career. He further underlined the need to align legal pedagogy with the evolving demands of the profession, stating that while the Bar Council of India may guide curricular content, the approach to teaching and delivery lies within the University's academic innovation. Prof. Neelu Rohmetra, Dean Research Studies was the Special Guest of the event. She said it was a proud moment to witness young law students embodying the spirit of the profession—dressed in their black coats, exuding confidence, and ready to demonstrate their understanding of law and justice. Prof. Rohmetra remarked that such platforms do far more than test legal knowledge; they shape intellect, sharpen reasoning, and nurture the poise and presence that define great advocates. These simulations, she noted, instill in students the discipline, ethics, and clarity essential to the pursuit of justice. Prof. J. P. Singh Joorel,

Dean Academic Affairs and Special Guest of the event, underscored the value of active participation in moot court exercises, emphasizing that such experiences build the foundation for legal reasoning and confidence. The gathering was addressed by Preetam Surana, Partner, Surana & Surana International Attorneys, who highlighted that every advocate has an ethical duty towards their clients. The formal vote of thanks was delivered by Prof Satinder Kumar, Former Head and Dean, Faculty of Law. The programme was conducted by Dr Navdeep Kour Sasan, Faculty Co-coordinator of the event and Assistant Professor, Department of Law.

Open-Air Theatre

the theme "Monument and Literature: A Symbiotic Relationship." He observed that while monuments are often studied for their architecture or material form, their true essence lies in the cultural, emotional, and literary memories they carry.

He noted that literature—both written and oral—preserves the soul of monuments by capturing what history books overlook: the voices, myths, and sentiments tied to place. Citing writers like Padma Sachdev and Shiv Nirmohi, he remarked that their works have reimagined sites such as Bahu Fort and the Tawi River, transforming nostalgia into cultural activism. Senior journalist and author Arun Joshi described literature as the true custodian of monuments, saying that "stones remain silent until words give them life." He noted that history is not a collection of cold facts but a living form of literature that preserves the emotions, struggles, and spirit of an era. Praising the University's evolving academic culture, he recalled how spaces once meant for protest have now transformed into vibrant centres of art, dialogue, and education. Eminent writer Khalid Hussain captivated the audience with his reflections on Jammu's rich yet often overlooked cultural heritage.

He spoke of ancient temples, timeless legends, and the artistry of local craftsmen whose creations continue to tell silent stories of devotion and skill. Emphasising the need to revive and preserve such heritage, he urged for better access to historical sites and greater efforts to integrate them into the region's tourism and cultural identity.

Under the guidance of Prof. Meena Sharma, Convenor UTSAAH, and Prof. Sadaf Shah, Coordinator of the Literary Club, the event brought together students from various departments who presented literary compositions inspired by Jammu's monuments such as Mubarak Mandi Palace, Bahu Fort and Raghunath Temple.

GDC Reasi wins men's overall wrestling championship



JAMMU:

The Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu, successfully organized the Inter-Collegiate Wrestling (Men & Women) Tournament 2025-26, which featured strong participation from affiliated colleges. Wrestlers demonstrated admirable physical strength, technical skill, and discipline while competing across different weight categories. The championship further reflected the University's dedication to encouraging in-

digenous sports and providing a competitive platform for emerging wrestling talents.

Men's Category: The Men's events witnessed a series of closely contested bouts, where wrestlers displayed controlled grappling techniques, defensive resilience, and effective holds.

GDC Reasi performed consistently across weight divisions, earning the highest scores overall and securing the Men's title through disciplined execution and tactical superiority.

Women's Category: GDC Doda emerged overall champion

JAMMU:

The Women's competition was equally dynamic, with participants exhibiting strength, balance, and impressive mat awareness. GDC Doda led across multiple bouts, securing decisive victories that established their dominance in the championship and earned them the top position.

Inter-Collegiate Football Tournament held

JAMMU:

The Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu, organized the Inter-Collegiate Football (Men & Women) Tournament at the University Football Ground. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from affiliated colleges, where players demonstrated excellent ball control, tactical coordination, and resilience throughout the competition. The tournament reaffirmed the University's commitment to nurturing sporting talent and promoting football as a major competitive sport among students. Men's Category: GDC Kathua, GDC Samba, and GDC



Hiranagar delivered strong performances, advancing through competitive fixtures marked by disciplined defending and counter-attacking play. Their consistent teamwork and structured formations enabled them to secure important wins and progress confidently in the tournament. Women's Category: In the Women's section, the competition

reflected remarkable enthusiasm and adapting tactics. Participating colleges showed promising technical play and strong determination across the fixtures. Teams demonstrated growing capabilities in defensive structure, mid-field coordination, and finishing, making the competition engaging and encouraging for upcoming football talent.

Inter-Collegiate TT events organized

JAMMU:

The Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu, organized the Inter-Collegiate Table Tennis (Men & Women) Tournament 2025-26 at the University Indoor Sports Complex. The championship brought together top paddlers from affiliated colleges, who displayed excellent agility, precision, and tactical awareness. The event highlighted the University's continued efforts toward fostering competitive spirit, discipline, and excellence in racket-based sports.

Matches:-The tournament com-



menced with competitive matches as participating colleges battled for qualification. Both Men's and Women's categories observed high-intensity fixtures, with players exhibiting remarkable control and sharp reflexes.

Day-2: The second day witnessed commendable perform-

ances from MIET Jammu, PG Department JU and GCET Jammu, who advanced with strong court presence and consistent table play. The tournament was organized under the supervision of Dr Daud Iqbal Baba, Director, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu.

Expert talk organized on “Industrial Ecosystem in J&K and Career Counseling”

JAMMU:

The International Centre for Cross Cultural Research and Human Resource Management (ICcCR & HRM) organized an expert talk on the topic “Industrial Ecosystem in J&K and Career Counseling” for the students of MBA (IB) Semester I and Semester III.

The session aimed to provide a deeper understanding of the startup and industrial landscape of Jammu and Kashmir and to guide students on emerging career opportunities in the region's evolving business environment.

The resource person for the session was Arshad Noomani, Functional Manager, Directorate of Industries and Commerce, Jammu.

He shared his expertise on in-



dustrial development policies, startup initiatives, and the support mechanisms available for entrepreneurs in J&K.

Noomani highlighted the government's focus on fostering innovation and entrepreneurship through schemes such as the J&K Startup Policy, industrial incentives, and incubation support systems.

He encouraged students to explore expanding opportunities in export promotion, manufacturing, and service sectors, emphasizing how management graduates can contribute to the local economy by engaging in entrepreneurial ventures or policy-oriented careers.

The session also featured a career counseling segment, where students were guided on skill en-

hancement, industry expectations, and career pathways within the industrial and trade ecosystem.

Prof. Hardeep Chahal, Director, ICcCR & HRM appreciated the initiative and expressed gratitude to Arshad Noomani for sharing his valuable insights and motivating the students to align their careers with the emerging industrial opportunities in Jammu and Kashmir.

The event was coordinated by Dr. Parul Mahajan, Dr. Swati Sharma, and other faculty members of the department. It concluded with a lively Q&A session, during which participants had the opportunity to ask questions and gain deeper insights into the interconnections between industry, economic development, and business practices.

Viksit Bharat: IIC organizes lecture on Cyber Security

JAMMU:

The Institution Innovation Council (IIC) in collaboration with the Department of Botany, organized a lecture on “Cyber Security” under the Viksit Bharat initiative.

The lecture was delivered by Mohd Yaseen Kichloo, SSP, Cyber Crime Investigation Centre for Excellence (CICE), Jammu and Kashmir.

Kichloo introduced the participants to the fundamentals of cyber security and highlighted various measures to safeguard mobile phones and electronic devices from cyber threats.

He discussed several case studies of cyber frauds from Jammu and Kashmir as



well as other regions of the country. Highlighting the importance of online safety, he urged participants to adopt two-step authentication for their social media accounts



such as Instagram, Facebook, and WhatsApp. He also informed the gathering about the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal, a platform through which individuals can

report cyber-related offenses. The session included a hands-on practical component, in which participants were guided to check their mobile phones for potential vulnerabilities, such as call forwarding status, the number of SIM cards issued in their name, and whether their email addresses had been compromised.

The event commenced with a welcome address by Prof. Veenu Kaul, President, IIC who introduced the objectives of the IIC and provided a brief profile of the resource person. The lecture concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session, followed by a vote of thanks delivered by Prof. Susheel Verma, Head, Department of Botany.

Centre for Women's Studies holds gender sensitization workshop

JAMMU:

The Centre for Women's Studies successfully conducted a Gender Sensitisation Workshop at Government Girls Model Higher Secondary School, Mubarak Mandi, Jammu.

Neelam Sharma, Principal Govt. Girls Higher Secondary School, Mubarak Mandi in her address emphasized the importance of initiating dialogue on gender equality at the grassroots level, particularly among young girls who are the future change-makers of the society.

Further, she also applauded the efforts of the Centre to conduct such workshops on relevant topic. The keynote speaker for the event was Prof. Savita Nayyar Director, Centre for Women's Studies.

She began her presentation by explaining the meaning of gender sensitization and its importance. She said gender sensitization means, recognizing and respecting differences without discrimination.

It's not just about women's rights but also about fairness, respect and dignity of all irrespective of gender. She deliberated that sex and gender are often used interchangeably, but they refer to different concepts that are important to distinguish in both academic as well as everyday discussions.

Further, she added understanding the distinction between sex and gender is essential for analyzing how societal norms shape individual identities, influence power dynamics and affect access to rights and resources.

Prof. Nayyar also explained that concepts like “masculinity” and “femininity” are gender oriented and influence the discriminations resulting violence.

She also gave insights on critical issues re-



lated to gender roles, societal expectations, and the importance of creating inclusive spaces both in schools and in society.

Additionally, she gave detailed presentation regarding different constitutional provisions and legal protections under specific laws that are available to women and stressed upon the awareness regarding these laws and their stronger enforcement.

She encouraged students to reflect on their personal experiences and question traditional norms that perpetuate inequality.

Prof. Nayyar highlighted the role of education in challenging gender biases and urged both teachers and students to become active participants in promoting gender justice.

“Gender sensitization is not a one-time conversation, but a continuous process of learning, unlearning, and advocating for equity,” she said.

The workshop witnessed large number of faculty members and students from the school. Various questions were asked by the participants which, were answered to their satisfaction by the resource person.

Dr. Saranjit Kaur, faculty member from Centre for Women's Studies and Senior Lecturer, Sarika Bhatti from the Govt. Girls Hr. Sec. School Mubarak Mandi, coordinated the program.

The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Disha Sharma.

JU- DLSA organize awareness program on ADR techniques

JAMMU:

The Law School in collaboration with District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Jammu, successfully conducted an awareness program on “Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)”. The program aimed to educate participants about the benefits and mechanisms of ADR, a crucial aspect of accessing justice. The event was held under the guidance of Prof. Seema Rohmetra, Director, The Law School. Advocate Uma Kapahi, Panel Lawyer DLSA was the resource person who delivered insightful sessions on ADR.

She was accompanied by PLV Ravinder Sharma.

Advocate Uma Kapahi dwelled on the practical aspects of ADR, highlighting its significance in resolving disputes through alternative methods such as mediation, arbitration, and negotiation.

She shared valuable insights on how ADR can be used to resolve disputes in a cost-effective and time-efficient manner, while also preserving relationships. Dr. Monica Narang, Associate Professor delivered the welcome address. Dr. Kartika Bakshi coordinated the program, ensuring its smooth execution. The event underscores the commitment of DLSA and The Law School to promote access to justice and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms. By organizing such programs, DLSA and The Law School aim to empower students with knowledge about their rights and the various dispute resolution options available to them.

Community Radio hosts conversation to spread awareness on “Human and Wildlife Coexistence”

JAMMU:

Marking the 71st Wildlife Week, the Science Club organized an engaging radio talk show titled ‘A Conversation for Spreading Awareness on the theme “Human and Wildlife Coexistence” of Wildlife Week’ on Community Radio 91.2 FM Dhwani JU.

The programme aimed to spread awareness about the importance of preserving biodiversity and understanding the intricate relationship between humans and wildlife.

The interactive session featured expert Om Prakash Sharma Vidyarthi, a former senior Indian Forest Officer, Retd PCCF, and Sahitya Akademy award winner for his creative writings, Member J&K Wildlife Board, and Member J&K Biodiversity Council, who shared his insight on how animals and plants are culturally and integrally associated with Indian



culture and cited interesting examples from Jammu and other places in India.

Prof. Parmil Kumar, Department of Statistics, and Coordinator of Nature and Wildlife Club is a noted birder who

shared valuable insights with specific species known to coexist in nature, and wildlife is paramount for human survival.

The discussion on local wildlife, conservation strategies, sustainable coexistence practices,

and engaging local communities in conservation efforts.

Dr Chinmoyee Maharana, Coordinator, Science Club and Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology.

She shared the information

about five initiatives taken up at national level: Project Dolphin, Project Sloth Bear, Project Gharial, a Centre of Excellence for Human-Wildlife Conflict Management at the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON), Tamilnadu, and Project Tigers Outside Tiger Reserves that will address conflicts beyond protected areas.

Also shared about four national action plans, including the 2nd Cycle of Population Estimation of River Dolphins and Other Cetaceans, All India Tiger Estimation Cycle-6, Action Plan for the 2nd Cycle of Snow Leopard Population Estimation, and the Progress Report on Population Estimation of Great Indian Bustard and Lesser Florican.

The talk show highlighted the need for environmental education and participatory approaches for preserving the delicate balance of ecosystems.

JU celebrates wildlife week at Gharana Wetland

JAMMU:

As part of the annual Wildlife Week celebrations, the Department of Environmental Sciences in collaboration with the Department of Wildlife Protection, Government of Jammu and Kashmir, organized a series of activities aimed at promoting awareness about wildlife conservation and the significance of biodiversity protection in and around Gharana Wetland Conservation Reserve.

Around thirty-five postgraduate students along from the department participated in three major events - a cleanliness drive around the wetland, nature walk and bird watching, and a short speech competition.

During the visit, Dr. Neeraj Sharma, Associate Professor, provided insights into the history and development of the Gharana Wetland, explaining its designation as an Important Bird Area and illustrating its ecological importance through facts about the trans boundary and elevational bird visitors.

Situated along the Central Asian Flyway, this 80-acre wetland provides critical habitat for over 35 species of water birds and an equal number of wetland-associated species.

The adjoining agricultural mosaic further supports more than 160 bird species, including a variety of raptors, he added.

The students identified the bird species based on their morphological features and uploaded the checklists to e-Bird, an online citizen science database.

Following the bird observation activity, the students undertook a cleanliness drive across the wetland to



reinforce the message of conservation through action.

A short speech competition on this year's theme ‘Wildlife conservation finance: Investing in people and planet’ was held among the postgraduate students.

Displaying excellent articulation and understanding of the theme, Haspreet Kour won the first prize, followed by Ankita Shan, and Mohd. Ayub Jaan, who secured the second and third positions, respectively.

The field activities and the speech contest were coordinated by Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Dr. Anshu

Gupta and Dr. Suresh Kumar.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Deepika Slathia, Head, Department of Environmental Sciences, emphasized the importance of research and scientific outreach in driving the conservation initiatives.

She emphasized that meaningful conservation cannot be achieved without the participation of local communities and stressed the essential role of community awareness in promoting such initiatives.

Prof. Slathia encouraged students to actively

participate in education and outreach programmes related to wildlife conservation, noting that sites like the Gharana Wetland Conservation Reserve serve as ideal destinations for such experiential learning and community-based conservation actions.

She appreciated the efforts of the Department of Wildlife Protection, with a special mention of Sh. Vijay Kumar, Wildlife Warden, Jammu, and Range Officers Sh. Dheeraj Rampaul and Roshan Lal, for organizing the meaningful

event, and conveyed her gratitude for their continued partnership and support.

Following the activities at Gharana, the students visited the Octroi Post at Suchetgarh, which evoked a wave of enthusiasm and patriotism during their first-ever visit to this landmark of national pride.

Such activities are an integral part of the departmental curriculum, aimed at promoting comprehensive learning through hands-on engagement and real-world experiences.

Department of Commerce organizes Outreach Programme at Old Age Home

JAMMU:

The Department of Commerce organized an outreach programme at the Home for The Aged and Infirm, Ambphalla, as part of its social responsibility initiative. The program aimed to foster intergenerational connection, provide essential material support, and share moments of companionship with the senior residents. The initiative and a coordinated effort to collect and distribute essential supplies, led entirely by the Commerce Department's scholars and faculty members. The visit was conducted under the guidance of Prof. Jeevan Jyoti, Head of the Department, and Prof. Tarsem Lal, departmental coordinator of extension and outreach pro-



grammes. During the visit, the scholars interacted with the residents of the old age home, shared moments of warmth and care.

As part of the outreach activity, ration items and winter essentials such as thermals, caps, socks, and mufflers were donated to support the elderly

during the upcoming winter season. Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Jeevan Jyoti emphasized the importance of community

engagement and social sensitivity among students, highlighting that such initiatives help in nurturing empathy and responsibility towards society. Our scholars gain invaluable lessons in empathy and service, which are crucial components of holistic education and future leadership. The programme reflected the Department's commitment to contributing to social welfare and promoting human values beyond the classroom. The management of Home for The Aged and Infirm expressed profound gratitude for the effort. The enthusiasm of the Jammu University students was infectious. Their visit provided not just physical relief through donations, but also significant emotional warmth, which is priceless.

DLL organizes one-day career counselling workshop



JAMMU:

Taking forward the vision of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Umesh Rai, to extend educational opportunities beyond the campus of JU, the Employment Information cum Advisory Bureau, the Career Counseling Cell of the Department of Lifelong Learning organized a one-day career counselling workshop on "Self-Employment as a Career" and "Careers in Artificial Intelligence" for the students of Govt. Degree College, Paloura. This workshop was conducted under the guidance of Dr. Priyanka Sharma, Director, Department of Lifelong Learning and Dr. Kulvinder Kour, Principal of GDC Paloura. The special resource persons from the University were

Dr. Harleen Kour, Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce, and Rahul Sharma, Department of IT and Computer Sciences. Dr. Rewa Khajuria was the coordinator of the workshop. In her welcome address, Dr. Kulvinder Kour, Principal, GDC Paloura, highlighted the importance and necessity of such programmes for the students. She motivated the students to become employers rather than employees. She also apprised them that artificial intelligence is a new skill which everyone should learn. She further advised students to take advantage of such activities, as these programmes can shape their careers in a better way and lead them to the path of success. Dr. Harleen Kour, in her presentation, apprised the stu-

dents about the characteristics of self-employed individuals and self-employment opportunities with various government schemes available for students. Rahul Sharma, in his presentation, explained in detail the various tools of Artificial Intelligence which can make our lives easier by performing tasks in seconds. Dr. Rewa Khajuria, Counsellor, EIAB, DLL, JU, highlighted the importance of Career Counselling to the students and motivated them to choose career paths in which they feel happy and satisfied. The faculty members of the college, along with 57 students, attended the programme. The whole programme was conducted by Dr. Vishal Magotra, HOD History, GDC Paloura. He also presented the formal vote of thanks.

GCW Parade lifted the overall championship trophy



JAMMU:

Inter-Collegiate Judo: The Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu, successfully conducted the Inter-Collegiate Judo (Men & Women) Tournament 2025-26, which featured spirited participation from affiliated colleges. The event showcased commendable technique, balance, and determination among judokas, promoting the University's mission of nurturing discipline, skill, and sporting excellence through martial arts. Trikuta Degree College lifts men's overall championship trophy. In women's category: The Women's contests featured weight classes from below 48 kg to above 78 kg. Participants performed with remarkable agility and defensive awareness, highlighting their commitment to the art of judo. GCW Parade achieved top honours, registering victories across several categories and demonstrating fine technique and discipline. GCW Parade lifted the overall championship trophy.

Inter-Collegiate Powerlifting Tournament organized

JAMMU:

The Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, University of Jammu, organized the Inter-Collegiate Powerlifting (Men & Women) Tournament 2025-26, featuring strong participation from affiliated colleges. The competition highlighted exceptional displays of strength, endurance, and discipline among students. By providing a platform to showcase their dedication to fitness and competitive spirit, the University reaffirmed its commitment to promoting power sports and encouraging athletes to pursue excellence in weight-based disciplines. Highlights The tournament featured contests across multiple weight categories, including 59 kg, 66 kg, and 74 kg divisions. Lifters showcased impressive strength, controlled lifting techniques, and determination throughout the competition. Athletes from MIET, Dogra Degree College, and other institutions secured notable performances by registering strong totals and maintaining consistent form in squat, bench press, and dead-lift events. Both Men's and Women's categories witnessed inspiring participation, with emerging athletes demonstrating potential and experienced lifters reinforcing their dominance through their technique and confidence on the platform.

Reasi Campus celebrates “Rashtriya Ekta Diwas”

REASI:

The Reasi Campus has celebrated “Rashtriya Ekta Diwas” (National Unity Day) to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

On this occasion Director, Reasi Campus, Prof. Sushil K. Pandey virtually joined event and threw light on the important contributions of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel-The Iron Man of India. Prof. Pandey recalls Patel’s decisive role in the historic integration of more than 565 Princely States which cemented India’s unity and sovereignty.

He described Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel as the architect of Indian Administrative and Police framework.



Prof. Pandey highlighted the efforts by the Government of India to make India as “Viksit Bharat” by 2047 while completing 100th year of impendence.

He has also motivated to the students to read the biographies of such nationalist personalities to know and understand the vision and contributions made by such great personalities to the society and country. Dr. Nisha Sharma has presided over the function by highlighting the great contributions of Sardar Patel and the importance of National Unity Day.

On the occasion, students of the Semesters Ist & IIIrd have participated with full enthusiasm and also presented speeches and poetry related to the role of Sardar Patel in uniting and integrating the Nation.

Talk on “Nature Inspired Computing: Algorithms, Performance, and Applications” held

BHADERWAH:

The Department of Computer Science and IT, Kathua Campus, organized an Invited Talk on “Nature Inspired Computing: Algorithms, Performance, and Applications” by Dr. Rohit Salgotra, Assistant Professor, AGH University of Krakow, Poland.

The event was organized to provide students and faculty with insights into the rapidly evolving field of Nature-Inspired Computing and its diverse real-world applications.

Dr. Salgotra is an eminent researcher working in the field of Nature-Inspired Computing and has published over 60 Science Citation Indexed papers with a Google Scholar citation count of 2,785 and an h-index of 29.

His name has been included in Stanford University’s list of Top 2% Most Influential Scientists for the years 2020, 2021, 2024, and 2025.

In his address, Dr. Salgotra provided a detailed overview of nature-inspired optimization algorithms, including their performance, advantages, and diverse applications in solving complex computational problems.

In his message, Prof. Arvind Jasrotia, Rector, Kathua Campus, lauded the initiative and high-



lighted the importance of organizing such expert lectures that expose students to global research trends and interdisciplinary learning opportunities.

He appreciated the academic contribution of Dr. Salgotra and encouraged students to pursue innovative research in emerging do-

maines like computational intelligence.

Dr. Sourabh Shastri, In-Charge Head, MCA Department welcomed the speaker and expressed that such interactions bridge the gap between theoretical learning and research-based applications.

Bhaderwah Campus organizes Annual Sports Meet

BHADERWAH:

The Bhaderwah Campus organized a vibrant Sports Meet for students, teaching, and non-teaching staff, showcasing the spirit of teamwork, enthusiasm, and sportsmanship.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation across multiple disciplines, fostering a healthy competitive spirit and camaraderie among all sections of the campus community.

The Department of Computer Science and IT emerged as the overall winner with an impressive total of 16 points, clinching the Overall Trophy for their outstanding performance. Rector Bhaderwah Campus, Prof. Rahul Gupta, distributed trophies and medals among the winners in different categories and lauded the participants for their energy and commitment. Event was witnessed by all the faculty members, Students and Non teaching staff

In his address, Prof. Rahul Gupta appreciated the efforts of the organizing team for successfully conducting the event and emphasized the importance of sports in holistic personality development.

He said that sports not only promote physical fitness but also inculcate discipline, leadership, and team spirit among the youth, which are essential qualities for success in life.

Earlier, Dr. Kuljit Singh, Academic Coordinator and Incharge Sports, presented the formal welcome address, highlighting the objectives of the sports meet and expressing gratitude to the campus administration for their continuous encouragement and support in promoting extracurricular activities.

The prize distribution ceremony was conducted by Arif Haleem Khateeb, External Relations Officer, who also presented the formal vote of thanks, extending appreciation to all participants, faculty members, and volunteers for making the event a grand success.



Bhaderwah Campus organizes freshers cum farewell party

BHADERWAH:

Bhaderwah Campus came alive with colors, laughter and emotions as the Department of Computer Science and IT organized a grand Freshers cum Farewell Party.

The event blended the joy of welcoming the new batch of students with the heartfelt farewell to the outgoing postgraduate students, creating an atmosphere of celebration and nostalgia.

In his message, Prof. Rahul Gupta, Rector, Bhaderwah Campus, extended his heartfelt greetings to both the incoming and outgoing students, emphasizing the role of such events in building lifelong friendships and nurturing leadership qualities. He congratulated the faculty and students of the Department of Computer Science & IT for their efforts in organizing a vibrant and meaningful celebration that re-



flects the true spirit of Bhaderwah Campus.

Prof. Gupta encouraged students to carry forward the values of dedication, creativity, and integrity in all their future endeavors while contributing positively

to society.

The program commenced with a warm welcome address by Dr. Ashok Sharma, Head, Department of Computer Science and IT, who congratulated the new entrants for becoming a part of the Bhader-

wah Campus family and extended his best wishes to the outgoing students for their future endeavors.

He encouraged the students to make the best use of their time at the campus by focusing on academic excellence, innovation, and personal growth.

The program also witnessed active participation of the faculty members of the Department of Computer Science and IT, including Ajay Lakhnotra, Dr. Neeraj Kumar, Bablu Sharma, Diksha, Waseem Akram, Abhay, Jhanvi, Arham Saba, Chanderdeep, Yasser Ali, and Parvesh Singh.

The cultural segment of the event featured a variety of captivating performances, including songs, dances, skits, and motivational speeches.

The energy and creativity displayed by the students were met with loud applause, reflecting their enthusiasm and talent.

An exciting highlight of the event was the Award and Title Ceremony, where students were recognized for their outstanding performances and stage presence.

Titles such as Mr. Fresher, Miss Fresher, Mr. Farewell, Miss Farewell, Mr. Personality, Miss Personality, Mr. Model, Miss Model, Mr. Best Performance, and Miss Best Performance were conferred upon the deserving participants after an engaging series of rounds and performances.

The event was graced by the presence of Kuljeet Singh (Academic Coordinator & I/c Head, Education) along with faculty members from various departments, including Dr. Rakesh (HOD, English), Dr. Chhering Tandup (HOD, Geography), Dr. Umesh Choudhary (HOD, School of Business Studies), Dr. Shayan Javed, Assistant Registrar Muneeb Sheikh, and Akhilesh Sharma (B.Ed Department).

JU's Bhaderwah Campus, JKEDI host inspiring Boot Camp

BHADERWAH:

The School of Management Studies, Bhaderwah Campus in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), organized a one-day Boot Camp on Startup Idea Challenge – The Biggest Idea Challenge in J&K, aimed at fostering innovation and entrepreneurial spirit among students.

Prof. Rahul Gupta, Rector, Bhaderwah Campus, joined the event online and appreciated the efforts of the School of Management Studies for organizing such a meaningful and interactive initiative. He urged students to seize every opportunity to innovate, ideate, and engage in entrepreneurial pursuits.

The program commenced with a warm welcome address by Asma Jamil, Faculty, School of Manage-



ment Studies, who also anchored the event with enthusiasm.

The Boot Camp was organized and coordinated under the guidance of Dr. Umesh Choudhary, In-charge Head, School of Management Studies, Bhaderwah Campus.

In his inaugural address, Dr.

Choudhary highlighted the significance of integrating management education with innovation and entrepreneurship.

He emphasized that the Boot Camp served as a vibrant platform for MBA, BBA, and B.Com students to showcase their creative business ideas, adding that JKEDI's mentorship and financial assistance can help young innovators transform their concepts into sustainable ventures, thereby contributing to Atmanirbhar Bharat through self-reliance and employment generation.

Shabir Majeed, District Nodal Officer, JKEDI, delivered an insightful session on the Role of Startups in Nurturing Entrepreneurial Talent.

He explained the objectives, eligibility criteria, and operational guidelines of JKEDI's Startup Policy, elaborating on various stages including idea validation, mentoring, financial assistance, and market linkage. Majeed also expressed willingness to formalize collaboration with Bhaderwah Campus through an MoU to strengthen startup culture among youth.

Vivek Sagar, ITI Superintendent, in his address, stressed the importance of developing a robust ecosystem to support startups in rural and semi-urban regions.

During the Boot Camp, students from MBA, BBA, and B.Com streams presented a range of innovative business ideas before an expert panel from JKEDI. Some of the notable ideas included Bhaderwahi Heritage, Pahadi Pure Bhaderwahi Ghee, Eco Reborn – Bag Products from Waste, Honey-Fit, Walnut Butter, and Vegan Leather. The panel praised the participants for their creativity, innovation, and potential for incubation and funding under the Startup Policy.

The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Alyas, Faculty Member, who expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Rector, JKEDI delegates, participating faculty, and students for making the event a grand success.

UIET, Kathua Campus hold session on “Entrepreneurship: J&K start-up policy 2024–2027”

KATHUA:

The Institution's Innovation Council (IIC), University Institute of Engineering and Technology (UIET), Kathua Campus organized an informative and interactive session on “Entrepreneurship: Jammu & Kashmir Start-Up Policy 2024–2027” on October 15, 2025.

The event aimed to create awareness among students about entrepreneurship opportunities and the various provisions available under the J&K Start-Up Policy. Dheeraj Handoo, District Nodal Officer, JKEDI (Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute), Kathua, was the esteemed resource person for the session.

Prof. Arvind Jasrotia, Rector and Coordinator of UIET, Kathua Campus addressed the gathering and emphasized the importance of entrepreneurship in today's dynamic economy. He encouraged students to develop innovative ideas and contribute to the growth of society by becoming job creators rather than job seekers.

Dr. Rockey Gupta, I/c Principal, UIET, Kathua Campus highlighted the core principles of vision, passion, resilience, and calculated risk-taking. His address provided a strong motivational launchpad for the session. The speech effectively set the tone for the event, inspiring students to view challenges as opportunities and to embrace the role of change-makers.

Dr. Mahesh Koul, President of IIC, UIET Kathua Campus intro-



duced the resource person and highlighted the importance of innovation and entrepreneurship in today's academic and industrial ecosystem.

During his talk, Dheeraj Handoo elaborated on the Jammu and Kashmir Start-Up Policy 2024–2027, discussing its vision, objectives, eligibility criteria, funding mechanisms, and support infrastructure for budding entrepreneurs.

He also shared real-life success stories of young entrepreneurs from the region, motivating the students to think creatively and pursue their entrepreneurial aspirations.

The session concluded with an engaging interactive segment, where students asked insightful questions regarding start-up registration, government support, and incubation facilities.

Kathua Campus celebrates Deepawali Festive Fiesta



KATHUA:

In a vibrant celebration of culture and tradition, The Management School in collaboration with Department of Computer Science and Department of English at Kathua Campus organized the Deepawali Festive Fiesta. The event featured a lively Diwali exhibition showcasing a variety of handicraft stalls, decorative items, and an array of delicious eatery options. In addition, students and visitors enjoyed a range of interactive games and activities, adding fun and excitement to the festive spirit.

Professor Arvind Jasrotia, Rector, Kathua Campus highlighted that events like the Deepawali Festive Fiesta provide an excellent platform for students to display their creativity, teamwork, and innovative spirit. He added that such celebrations play a vital role in enriching campus life and fostering a strong sense of community among students and faculty.

Dr. Sourabh Shastri, Head, Department of Computer Science, Kathua Campus also appreciated the initiative, emphasizing that such collaborative events foster interdisciplinary learning, creativity and unity among students.

Dr. Rajani Kumari Sarangal, Head of The Management School, Kathua Campus expressed pride amongst the students for organizing a vibrant event that beautifully blended cultural heritage with entrepreneurial spirit. She remarked that the enthusiasm and active participation of all involved made the celebration truly memorable. The fiesta served as a dynamic platform for students to showcase their creativity, entrepreneurial talents and collaborative spirit, while celebrating one of India's most cherished festivals.

The event drew enthusiastic participation from students, faculty and local community members, fostering a vibrant, inclusive and joyous atmosphere.

Reasi Campus organize free medical camp

REASI:

The Reasi Campus successfully organized a Free Medical Health Check-up Camp with the support of experienced medical professionals from the Government Hospital, Reasi, under the aegis of the Chief Medical Officer, Reasi.

The primary objective of this camp was to provide students and employees with convenient and complimentary access to basic medical screening and professional health consultations.

Prof. Sushil K. Pandey, Director, Reasi Campus, appreciated the support extended by the Chief Medical Officer, District Reasi, for



deputing a team of expert doctors and technical staff to the Reasi Campus at Village Jadh.

Dr. Rajni Langhay (Medical Officer) and Dr. Monika Kotwal (MLHP) conducted comprehensive health check-ups, including vital sign monitoring, physical examinations, and health counseling for all the students of Semesters I and III, as well as for the teaching and non-teaching staff.

Dr. Rajni Lang-

hay also advised all the students to take care of their personal hygiene, maintain a balanced and healthy diet, and practice yoga on a daily basis.

M P Singh (Pharmacist) and Anjana Kumari (FMPHW) accompanied the team and provided medicines to the students and employees as prescribed by the doctors.

Dr. Monika Kotwal conducted haemoglobin (Hb) tests for each student and provided medicines and advice accordingly. Furthermore, the medical team assured to visit the campus periodically for follow-up diagnoses and future medical check-ups.

Environmental Sciences, Green Campus Task Force launches 'Save Tawi Campaign'



JAMMU:

Department of Environmental Sciences and Green Campus Task Force (GCTF-JU), in collaboration with Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) organized its two-day flagship initiative, "Save Tawi Campaign", on the banks of River Tawi during the Navratri festival.

The objective of this drive was to raise awareness among the public regarding the significance of preserving the cleanliness of River Tawi, along with highlighting the causes and consequences of immersing plastic and other non-biodegradable materials during the ritual of 'Saakh Visarjan'.

As part of the campaign, the students and the volunteers actively engaged with the devotees and motivated them to immerse only the traditional 'Saakh' into the river. They also collected offerings like chunris, coconuts, earthen pots, and polythene bags

from the devotees at the entry point and ensured their proper segregation.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Deepika Slathia, Head, Department of Environmental Sciences, and Convener, GCTF-JU, underscored the need for adopting effective measures and sustainable practices for the preservation and safeguarding the Tawi River, which serves as the lifeline of Jammu. She further highlighted the significance of nurturing a sense of ecological responsibility among the masses, particularly during festive celebrations.

Dr. Neeraj Sharma, Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences, stressed that student participation in such initiatives cultivates in them a strong sense of environmental stewardship and offers a hands-on, interactive approach to understanding the sources of water pollution, and identifying sustainable solutions

for protecting our aquatic resources. Later, Dr Vinodh Sharma, Health Officer, JMC interacted with the volunteers and lauded their efforts in maintaining the river cleanliness.

The devotees also appreciated the initiative of the department and extended full cooperation in ensuring the success of the campaign. The program culminated with an effective cleanliness drive along the riverbanks.

At the end, Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Associate professor, expressed his gratitude to JMC for providing the necessary facilities for the event. He also commended the JMC staff for their prompt and efficient collection and disposal of the segregated waste. The event also witnessed the active participation of other faculty members of the department, including Dr. Anshu Gupta, and Dr. Suresh Kumar, along with the volunteers and research scholars.

Law School observes World Mental Health Day



JAMMU:

The Law School organized an interactive session to commemorate World Mental Health Day 2025, focusing on the critical intersection of mental health and law. The event, held under the guidance of Prof. Seema Rohmetra, Director, The Law School, aimed to inculcate empathy and understanding among first-semester students. The session began with a formal welcome address by Dr. Monika Bhardwaj, who introduced Subash Gupta, Former Judge and Member of the J&K Public Service Commission, as the keynote speaker. He delivered an insightful address emphasizing the relevance of the 2025 theme to recent humanitarian crises in Jammu and Kashmir. He highlighted the importance of supporting mental well-being, particularly in the face of natural disasters, conflicts, and public health emergencies.

Gupta's discussion encompassed the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017, and its alignment with international human rights standards, including the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. He also explored various civil and criminal laws protecting persons of unsound mind. The session concluded with a call to build a more empathetic legal system by translating statutory provisions into tangible support mechanisms. A dynamic Q&A session and active faculty participation enriched the discussion. Dr. Nitán Sharma, Assistant Professor, coordinated the session and presented the vote of thanks.

Library and Information Science organize extension lectures



JAMMU:

The Department of Library and Information Science organized two enriching extension lectures by Dr. Nishat Fatima, Professor and Librarian, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, and D V Singh, Librarian (Retd.), University of Delhi, Delhi.

Dr. Nishat Fatima spoke on the topic "Digital Services in Maulana Azad Library, AMU, Aligarh."

She highlighted One Nation One Subscription initiative and how digital resources are transforming the learning landscape and are playing a pivotal role in enhancing accessibility and quality of information services. The second lecture was delivered by D V Singh on the theme "Change Management in Libraries." Drawing upon his extensive experience, he discussed the principles and practices of effective change management within libraries, emphasizing adaptability, innovation, and leadership in the dynamic information environment.

He also motivated the students to cultivate strong reading habits and intellectual curiosity among young learners entering the field, underlining the librarian's vital role in promoting a culture of lifelong learning.

Prof. Sangita Gupta, Dr. Meghna Dhar, Prof. P.K. Singh, Dr. Bindu Sharma, Ashwin Kumar Kushwaha and Dr. Reenu Arti Thakur, Research scholars and students of B.Lib.I.Sc. and M.Lib.I.Sc. attended the lectures and actively interacted with the speakers.

The lectures were moderated by Nikhal Parihar and Kaushal. Finally Prof. Sangita Gupta extended special thanks to both esteemed professionals for their valuable contributions and sharing their enriching experiences with the academic community.

Gandhian Centre marks Gandhi Jayanti with SKUAST morning walkers

JAMMU:

Under the patronage of Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, the Gandhian Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies in collaboration with the SKUAST Jammu Morning Walkers Association, celebrated Mahatma Gandhi's birthday (Gandhi Jayanti) with great enthusiasm and fervor.

The program was attended by around 100 prominent members of Civil Society from R.S. Pura, who gathered to pay tribute to the Father of the Nation.

Raj Kumar Gupta, President of the SKUAST Jammu Morning Walkers Association, expressed his appreciation for the Gandhian Centre's efforts in organizing the event, highlighting the importance of Gandhian values in contemporary society. Other notable attendees included Dr. Ankur Rastogi, Vikram Gupta, Vinod Aggarwal, Sh. Varun Sharma, Mohit Chowdhary, Rakesh Sharma, and Suneet Kumar.

The event provided a platform for participants to reflect on Mahatma Gandhi's teachings and their relevance in today's world.

The program was well-coordinated by the staff of the Dhanvantri library and members of the Gandhian Committee for Peace and Conflict Studies.

This celebration is part of the Gandhian Centre's ongoing efforts under the "Seva" program, which aims to promote social responsibility and community engagement. In the recent past, the Centre has or-



ganized several programs, including:

A visit to the children's home in Ambphala, promoting care and support for underprivileged children.

An Anemia Camp, inaugurated by Additional Chief Secretary, UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Shant Manu, highlighting the importance of health and wellness.

A donation drive in collaboration with the NSS unit fostering a spirit of giving and community service.

An exhibition of books, inaugurated by Pramod Jain, Former Senior IAS Officer, UT of Jammu and Kashmir and currently Chairman of the Arunachal Pradesh Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC), promoting literary appreciation and knowledge.

Interaction with the morning walkers of Gandhinagar, encouraging community engagement and dialogue.

A Plantation Drive, emphasizing the importance of environmental conservation.

The collaboration between the Gandhian Centre and the SKUAST Jammu Morning Walkers Association demonstrates the power of community engagement and the importance of promoting Gandhian values in our daily lives.

The event concluded with a renewed commitment to uphold the principles of truth, non-violence, and compassion, as espoused by Mahatma Gandhi.

The Gandhian Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies further plans to take a series of key initiatives in sync with the Gandhian thought and philosophy in near future.