

JU organises Iconic Week celebrations to acknowledge contributions of regional personalities

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Acknowledging the contributions of regional literary personalities and making youth aware about it, the University of Jammu and Higher Education Department, JKUT organized Seminar and Panel Discussion under ongoing Iconic Week Festival at Brig. Rajinder Singh Auditorium, University of Jammu.

In this connection, a Seminar on 'Different genres of Dogri Literature; Play, Poetry and Short Story' and Panel Discussion on 'The contributions of Padma Shri Prof. Ram Nath Shastri towards Dogra culture and heritage' were organised.

Prof. Manoj K. Dhar, Vice-Chancellor, University of Jammu, the Chief Guest on the occasion said that it is a matter of pride that the University of Jammu has a full-fledged Department of Dogri and all possible efforts



VC JU Prof Manoj Dhar and others during a programme.

would be put in to make it an iconic Department.

He also announced that the university will dedicate week-long celebrations of Dogri every year as Iconic Week Celebrations.

Speaking about Prof. Ram Nath Shastri, he emphasized on following the path and principles shown by Prof. Shastri in promotion of the Dogri, whose life itself is an inspiration for the younger generation.

Prof. Arvind Jasrotia

expressed his satisfaction over the successful organization of this event of high literary and social relevance.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Prof. Prakash Antahal informed that whenever there is some possibility to organize events which can inculcate values amongst the youth, the Department of Students Welfare is always keen to come forward.

Different aspects of Dogra culture and its literature were discussed in the session. Its

past present and future relevance was also elaborated by the learned speakers who are hopeful that it will preserve its sheen in the preservation and promotion of the values and ethos of Jammu as literature not only reflects the society but also guides it towards human values through different genres.

Prof. Lalit Magotra, Prof. Veena Gupta, Prof. Shiv Dev Singh Manhas, Ajit Khajuria, Pritam Katoch, Vijaya Thakur and

Rajeshwar Singh Raju were the Resource Persons of day-long sessions.

The event was conducted under the stewardship of Prof. Arvind Jasrotia, Registrar, Prof. Prakash C. Antahal, Dean Students Welfare, Prof. Vishav Raksha, Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee and Prof. Sanjana Kaul, Co-Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee.

Prof. Vishav Raksha presented the vote of thanks and the sessions were conducted by Dr. Garima Gupta and Dr. Sandeep Dubey and were attended by members of Campus Cultural Committee, staff, students and scholars of the University of Jammu.

The event was managed by Dr. Pritam Singh, Assistant Dean SW, Mansi Mantoo, Ifra Kak and Sumeet Sharma. The sound was looked after by Kulbhushan Thakur and Arif Paul.

SMVDU organises Dogri Workshop



Students, faculty members and others during a workshop.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) organized a one day conference under the aegis of Azadi ka Amrit. The conference was titled as 'Contribution of Dogri Writers to Dogri literature'.

Narsinh Dev Jamwal, noted Dogri Poet and writer and Padmashree awardee was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Narsinh hailed the contribution of Dogri writers like Dina Bhai Pant and Rammath Shastri in Dogri literature.

He emphasized the need for promoting Dogri language and literature among young generation through institutions of Higher education.

He eulogized the role of those unknown speakers and writers who kept the Dogri language alive from the times of Prakrit and Sanskrit.

He also donated his Dogri poems translated into English by a Canadian translator to the SMVDU library.

Mohan Singh, Sahitya Academy winner in Dogri and President Duggar Manch, recalled the contribution of the Dogri Poets from medieval times to the contemporary period.

"Poets like Gambhir Rai

Dattu, Ram Dhan, Gangaram's contributions cannot be forgotten in the development of Dogri" he said.

He highlighted the wealth of writings on class struggle and social issues like exploitation and untouchability.

He extolled the selfless contribution of Late Padma Sachdev and Ved Rahi in nurturing, promoting and introducing Dogri beyond the boundaries of Jammu and Kashmir.

Prof Lalit Magotra mapped the growth of the Dogri literature from 1940 onwards and contribution of Dogri Sansthan towards Dogri literature. Dinubhai Pant, Vepdal Deep, KS Madhukar, Narinder Khajuria, Nilamber Dev Sharma played an important role in the Dogri literature.

He stressed the need to promote Dogri at primary and secondary level followed by creation of Deptt of Dogri in Universities.

Dogri needs to be made employment oriented like teaching, Journalism, Archives, Archeology, linguistics and translations. He suggested the need for the Academy of Dogri. The Workshop was attended by Registrar, Dean's, HoDs, faculty members, scholars and students of SMVDU.

lore, culture and performing arts.

Surinder Sagar noted Journalist of Dogri recalled the History of Dogri Journalism from the times of Maharaja Ranbir Singh to the present times. He informed the audience about the first Dogri magazine Martand during Dogra rule. He remembered his journey from editor of Jammu Prabhat a Dogri daily to Social media platforms like YouTube. R K Sinha Padamshree Vice Chancellor SMVDU stressed the need for communicating in our mother tongue. "Unless and until we don't respect our languages we won't be able to respect our culture, civilisation and nation" he said.

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Ladakh records 3 new COVID cases

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: Ladakh recorded three fresh COVID-19 cases that took the infection tally to 20,899, officials said on Sunday. No Covid-related death was reported in Ladakh, they added. Ladakh has registered 208 Covid-related deaths -- 150 in Leh and 58 in Kargil -- since the outbreak of the pandemic last year.

Officials said 1,195 people were tested for COVID-19 in the twin districts on Saturday and three of them in Leh were found positive.

Five patients were discharged from a hospital in Leh, which took the overall recoveries to 20,653, they said, adding that the number of active cases stand at 38 37 in Leh and one in Kargil.

JCCI delegation meets Home Minister; seeks steps to restore derailed economy

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu Chamber of Commerce and Industries (JCCI) on Sunday submitted a memorandum to the visiting Union Home Minister Amit Shah, highlighting various issues including the need for immediate steps to bring on track the derailed economy and early restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir.

The memorandum was submitted by a two-member delegation of the JCCI president Arun Gupta and General Secretary Gaurav Gupta who called on the home minister who reached Jammu on the second leg of his three-day tour of Jammu and Kashmir.

"The delegation raised burning issues being confronted by the people of the region and also submitted a memorandum to the Home Minister was asked to take necessary steps to bring back on track the derailed economy of J&K so that people can have a sigh of relief," JCCI said in a statement here.

It said the home minister was also urged to pace up the process of development, generate jobs for the educated unemployed and also take robust

measures to bring in peace in real sense as businessmen across J&K are suffering due to continuing unrest in the valley.

"The measures which the CCI Jammu suggested to rejuvenate trade, tourism, industry and others sectors include effective tackling of terrorism, restoration of statehood as soon as possible, establishment of new public sector undertakings to boost industry, redefine land types and special incentives for hotel and other industries, the release said. It said the JCCI also highlighted the demand for three-year pollution clearance to industries, boosting the transport sector by removing passenger tax, amnesty on Token Tax and Passenger Tax from the period of March 25, 2020 to March 31, 2022.

The JCCI also demanded rehabilitation of the population which is getting affected due to the smart city project, extension of benefits announced under the new industrial policy to existing unit holders and review of the policies which are denting local business like the case of old wine shop owners who lost their business due to new excise policy.

GPGCW hosts iconic literary festival: Speakers advocate for growth, development of Dogri

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Government P G College for Women, Gandhi Nagar on Sunday conducted an iconic literary festival here under the aegis of Higher Education Department, UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

The event focused on the topic 'Growth and Development of Dogri Literature' for the growth and preservation of Dogri as the mother language.

The event was held under the patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Sangita Nagari, the Principal and Prof. (Dr.) Surjeet Kour Raina, Convenor Literary

years and emphasized that measures should be adopted to use Dogri as the official language as the New Education Policy 2020 also focuses on the usage and promotion of regional language in teaching/learning process.

It was also stressed that Dogri language should also be used as a medium of expression in academic arena and at domestic level.

The event was held under the patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Sangita Nagari, the Principal and Prof. (Dr.) Surjeet Kour Raina, Convenor Literary

Committee.

The event proceedings were conducted by Dr. Revika Arora, Dr. Sheetal Sharma and members of the literary committee. The event concluded with a Dogri song "Meri Maa Dogri" and a hearty vote of thanks by Dr. Sapna Nararia Head, Department of Dogri.

This iconic literary festival was a very own endeavor of the Department of Higher Education of UT of Jammu and Kashmir to celebrate the ethnic language of the Dogras and proved as a major success.

WORKS DEPARTMENT, UNIVERSITY OF JAMMU		
E-NIT No. 532 dated : 21-10-2021		
For and on behalf of the University of Jammu, the Executive Engineer, University Works Department invites the tender by e-tendering mode on item rate basis from the approved & eligible contractors/agencies/firms registered with the J&K UT PWD/CPWD/MES and Railways for the following work-		
S.No.	Name of the Work	Estd. Cost
1.	Construction of RCC Platform opposite Fountain for placing War Tank in Jammu University Campus, Jammu	5.70 lac
Note : 1. Detailed e-NIT & BOQ is available on the website www.jktenders.gov.in and the same can be downloaded/ submitted online from 1600 hours on 27.10.2021 to 03.11.2021 (1400 hours). 2. The bidders are requested to go through the e-NIT thoroughly prior to submission of the bid.		
DIP/J-3768-P/21 Sd/- Executive Engineer		
No. UMD/2021-22/5997-1603 Dated : 21-10-2021		

Indigenous knowledge boon for drug discovery: Director BSI

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Department of Botany, University of Jammu organised virtual inauguration of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh Chapter of Society of Ethnobotanists (SEB), Lucknow.

SEB is one of the premier science societies established by Dr. S.K. Jain - Father of Indian Ethnobotany in 1980.

Event was inaugurated by Prof. Manoj K. Dhar, Vice Chancellor of the University of Jammu and Chief Patron of the Local Chapter with his opening remarks.

Prof. Dhar said that the opening of the local chapter by SEB in Department of Botany, University of Jammu is an encouraging step and will intensify ethnobotanical research and activities in the region.

Talking about the importance of ethnobotanical research, he said that like biotechnology, molecular biology, there is an equal need to nurture the traditional

subjects like ethnobotany and plant taxonomy.

Chief Guest of the function, Dr. A.A. Mao, Director, Botanical Survey of India (BSI), who is the President of SEB in his inaugural lecture stressed upon the requirement of Ethnobotanical Research in the country. He said that many drug discoveries are the result of ethnobotanical leads obtained by the botanists and ethnobotanists in the country.

According to him one has to think that what is the outcome of his research, publishing one or another research paper should not be the goal of a researcher. Ethnobotany has a lot of scope which is evident from the fact that now-a-days indigenous tribal food has become now the superfood in big markets across the globe.

Vice President of SEB, Dr. A. K. Goel while introducing the history and the objectives of the society said that the society was started in 1980 with a very minimal number of members at National Botanical

Research Institute, Lucknow and now the society has more than 250 members in different states and UTs of the country.

During the event, Dr. S. K. Srivastava, editor, Ethnobotany, who is former Joint Director and Head of Northern Regional Circle of BSI elaborated on the scope of ethnobotany in Ladakh as he has a wide experience on the flora of Ladakh and extensively worked on the ethnobotany of Ladakh. Earlier, Prof. Veena Kaul, Head of the Department of Botany, University of Jammu and patron of the chapter, welcomed all the dignitaries and participants of the event who had a security

review meeting in Srinagar.

This was followed by an interactive session with members of youth clubs, where he said that the statehood of Jammu and Kashmir will be restored after delimitation of constituencies and the assembly elections.

Shah also held a security

History Museum, London and vice-president of SEB put emphasis on the fact that researchers should not forget the contribution of the local source and should acknowledge their contribution. Dr. Ranee, also spoke on the various research opportunities in the British Council for the researchers especially women scientists.

Programme was coordinated by Dr. Skarma Nonzom, wherein more than 70 researchers including Dr. Manjoosha Srivastava (Secretary, SEB), Prof. B.K. Bajaj, Prof. Sanjana Kaul, Dr. Sikander Pal, Ishey Namgial (Ladakh), Dr. Anzar Khuroo (KU), Dr. Vartika (Rajasthan), Dr. Varinder Nath (CSIR-IHBT), Dr. Seemavati (M.P.), Dr. Mahroof Khan, O.P. Sharma Vidyarthi, Prof. Bilham Pal, Dr. Sandeep Kotwal, Prof. Sania Hamid, from all over the country and research scholars of the department attended the inauguration through virtual mode.

Dr. Harish Chander Dutt, co-ordinator of the chapter apprised the participants with the objectives and scope of the chapter in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh and in concluding remarks Dr. Ranee Om Prakash, curator of Natural

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