

IIM Jammu commences Certification Program in Business Analytics for MBA students of ITS Engineering College, Greater Noida

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management Jammu under the leadership of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu inaugurated the Certification Program in Business Analytics for MBA students at ITS Engineering College, Greater Noida, at its Vedanta-MDP Centre on 06th Oct 2025. The program consisted of 30 students and two faculty members Dr. Deepak Kumar and Ms. Dr. Shalu Tyagi, faculty, ITS Engineering College, Greater Noida. The event commenced with a campus tour for the students and the faculty, offering them an immersive



IIM Jammu faculty with MBA students of ITS Engineering College, Greater Noida.

experience of IIM Jammu's state-of-the-art infrastructure and vibrant learning environment. The inaugural ceremony began with the Lighting of the Lamp, symbolizing the pursuit of knowledge and wisdom. Dr. Sanjeev Pathak,

Chairperson, Executive Education and Consultancy (EE&C), IIM Jammu, delivered the inaugural address, highlighting the growing importance of business analytics in contemporary management practices. He encouraged

the participants to leverage this learning opportunity to enhance their strategic and analytical thinking abilities. He also gave an overview of the Executive Education and Consultancy at IIM Jammu.

Dr. Vijaya Prabhakar, Program Director, extended a warm welcome to the participants and introduced the objectives of the program, emphasizing its focus on equipping future managers with analytical skills crucial for data-driven decision-making in

today's dynamic business environment.

The participants introduced themselves, showcasing their enthusiasm for gaining hands-on insights into business analytics tools and techniques at IIM Jammu and expressing keen interest in learning at the institute. Dr. Yashoda Devi, Program Director, delivered the Vote of Thanks, appreciating the collaborative effort between IIM Jammu and ITS Engineering College, Greater Noida, in nurturing future-ready professionals.

The inaugural ceremony culminated with the National Anthem followed by a group photo, marking the beginning of a productive learning journey for the participants. The training program is being coordinated and executed by the office of Executive Education and Consultancy at IIM Jammu.

Modi Govt adding more means of rail travel & transportation to J&K: Billawaria

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: J&K BJP General Secretary and former Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria, hailed the Central Government's decision to lay a third railway track between Jalandhar and Jammu as a transformative move to boost transportation, economic development, and connectivity in the region.

He discussed the Rs 5,600 crore project with BJP Spokesperson Balbir Ram Rattan and Jammu South District Prabhari Parduman Singh at the party headquarters. Billawaria said that the ambitious project, sanctioned under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, reflects the government's continued focus on strengthening infrastructure in Jammu and Kashmir. "This third railway line will significantly reduce travel congestion, ensure smoother movement of freight and passengers, and further integrate J&K with the national economy," he stated.



Former Dy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria at a meeting.

Highlighting the strategic importance of the project, Billawaria added that it would particularly benefit farmers, small traders, and industries by enabling faster transportation of agricultural produce, goods, and essential commodities.

He also said that improved railway infrastructure would provide a significant boost to tourism and pilgrimage travel in the Jammu region, opening new avenues for local economic growth.

"The Modi government has consistently prioritized development in border and hilly regions. This new railway line will be a backbone for logistics, trade, and employment in J&K," Billawaria asserted.

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BJP spokesperson Balbir Ram Rattan said that the continuous rollout of projects such as the Vande Bharat trains and modern highways demonstrates the Centre's commitment to making Jammu and Kashmir a developed and prosperous region. He said the third rail line is not just an infrastructure upgrade but a symbol of national integration and inclusive development.

"This project is a step towards building a stronger, better-connected, and economically vibrant India," he concluded.

PM's Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar initiative empowering women, strengthening families: Rekha Mahajan



BJP J&K Vice President Adv. Rekha Mahajan with others at a programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: BJP Jammu and Kashmir Vice President Adv. Rekha Mahajan has said under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, 'Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar' initiative is transforming the health landscape of women and children across India.

Adv. Rekha Mahajan was speaking at an awareness programme under the 'Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar' Abhiyaan organized by District President Samba Asha Rani.

Programme also witnessed enthusiastic participation from women across the region. Prominent among those present were Sonia Thakur, Geeta Bhagat, Indu Wazir, and Parveen Lata.

"The nationwide Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar

Abhiyaan, inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, focuses on improving the health and nutrition of women and children," Rekha Mahajan said.

She added, "The campaign, organized in convergence with Poshan Maah, aims to spread awareness on nutrition, hygiene, and preventive healthcare, emphasizing that women's well-being is central to the strength and progress of families and the nation."

Rekha Mahajan further said, "A healthy woman builds a healthy family, and a healthy family lays the foundation for a strong nation."

She added that the campaign reflects the government's commitment to women empowerment through accessible healthcare, nutrition education, and regular medical check-

ups.

The programme also included counselling sessions and discussions on improving women's health, adolescent care, immunization, and disease prevention.

Rekha Mahajan urged women to take advantage of the health schemes launched by the government and to spread awareness within their communities.

She further said, "Empowered and informed women are the true architects of a progressive society. Every small step taken towards better health will lead to a stronger, more vibrant India."

The event concluded with a pledge by participants to continue promoting the mission of "Healthy Women, Empowered Families, Stronger India."

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Senior Leader and Rajya Sabha Member Ghulam Ali Khatana on Monday launched a public outreach programme in the heart of Downtown (Shahr-e-Khas) Srinagar.

During the day-long visit, he interacted with traders, shopkeepers, youth and residents across Khanyar, Nowhatta, Gojwara, Saida Kadal and Sakedafar. The outreach aimed to strengthen grassroots engagement and convey the government's commitment to inclusive development and economic growth in Jammu and Kashmir.

Khatana hailed the recent reduction in Goods and Services Tax (GST) announced by the Union Government as a game-changing decision that will revitalise trade, ease financial pressures on citizens, and boost small business growth across the region.

He said the decision was a bold political commitment to the welfare of ordinary people



Rajya Sabha Member Parliament Ghulam Ali Khatana speaking at a programme.

and a reflection of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visionary leadership. He added that only a leader of Modi ji's stature and resolve could take such a decisive step, once again demonstrating his unwavering support for traders, youth, and the working class.

The BJP leader emphasised that the GST reduction would energise local markets, encourage entrepreneurship, and strengthen the economic backbone of Jammu and Kashmir.

He said the Modi Government believes in empowering every section of society from street vendors to business owners and remains focused on building a trans-

parent, business-friendly environment. Khatana also addressed several issues raised by local traders and assured them that their concerns would be taken up with the authorities.

He reiterated the government's resolve to transform Shahr-e-Khas Srinagar into a thriving hub of commerce, culture, and opportunity.

As part of his visit, Khatana inaugurated TRI Colour Constructions - General Suppliers and Real Estate on Railway Approach Road, Narsapora, Budgam.

He commended the young entrepreneurs behind the venture and said their initiative

embodies the spirit of the government's Start-Up India and Stand-Up India campaigns.

He noted that Kashmir's youth are increasingly confident about becoming job creators rather than job seekers and that the era of hopelessness has ended. According to him, the new generation is dreaming bigger, building stronger, and contributing to the region's economic future.

Khatana also visited Spring Buds Educational Institute in Ompora, Budgam, where he interacted with students and teachers. He urged them to focus on education, skill development, and innovation, describing the youth as the

true builders of a new Jammu and Kashmir.

He highlighted the government's efforts to create unprecedented opportunities in education, employment, and innovation to empower the young generation and secure the region's long-term development.

The BJP leader's comprehensive visit reflected the party's deepening engagement with all sections of society, including traders, youth, and local residents.

It also underlined the BJP's vision of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, and Sabka Prayas. Prominent BJP leaders who accompanied Khatana during the outreach programme included Dr. Ali Mohd Mir; Senior Leader BJP; Bilal Parray, Co-Incharge Cells, J&K BJP; Arif Raja, State Secretary, J&K BJP; Mushtaq Noorabadi, Senior Leader BJP; Manzoor Bhat, Spokesperson BJP; Jowhar Wani; Sameer Ahmad Shah, Senior Leader BJP; and Adil Ahmad Bhat, Vice President, Budgam.

MSCBMC Trust's 'Rang-E-Chinar' National Art Workshop begins in Srinagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The week-long 'Rang-e-Chinar' National Art Workshop commenced on Monday in Srinagar, bringing together renowned artists from across India to celebrate creativity, culture, and collaboration. Organized by the Master Sansar Chand Baru Memorial Charitable Trust (MSCBMC) in association with Petronet LNG Limited, Government of India, the event is being held at Government Degree College, Eidgah, and NIFT Srinagar from October 6 to 12, 2025.

The workshop offers a vibrant platform for artistic learning, cultural exchange, and creative dialogue. Activities include live art demonstrations, interactive sessions with students, and cultural programmes designed to promote art appreciation among youth and the wider community. The event pays tribute to the legacy of Master Sansar Chand Baru, the last exponent of Pahari miniature painting and a seminal figure in J&K's art history. As the founder and first curator of the Dogra Art Museum, and a painter who documented India's wars through his art, Baru's dedication to preserving Indian traditions continues to inspire generations. His daughter, Anuradha Rishi-President of MSCBMC and great-granddaughter-in-law of Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya-has been at the forefront of promoting art across J&K for over

a decade, even during turbulent times.

At the inaugural session, Anuradha Rishi said, "Art is a universal language that connects and convinces beyond words. Rang-e-Chinar aims to bring visionary artists together to inspire students and reaffirm the power of art in shaping society." She highlighted that the workshop also features school-level art demonstrations to spark creativity at the grassroots level.

Eleven acclaimed artists are participating: Taslima Sona (Rajasthan), Dr. Rakhi Kumar (Delhi), Dr. Priti Samyukta and Kishan Kappari (Hyderabad), Supriya Amber (Jabalpur), Debashish Dutta (Gujarat), Sharmila Sharma (Delhi), Deepu Kumar (Bihar), Apurba Karati (West Bengal), A.K. Douglas (Bengaluru), and Javid Iqbal (Sopore, J&K).

These artists engaged with students at GDC Eidgah, discussing regional art styles, contemporary techniques, and art's role in peace building.

The next phase at NIFT Srinagar will see artists create thematic works inspired by Kashmir's autumn and rich cultural heritage. Rang-e-Chinar stands as a beacon of artistic expression, cultural preservation, and educational inspiration-carrying forward Master Sansar Chand Baru's legacy into the hearts and minds of a new generation.

IGNOU extends deadline for December 2025 TEE Exam Form and Assignment Submission

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has extended the last date for submission of the online examination form for the December 2025 Term-End Examination (TEE) until 20th October 2025 without any late fee. From 21st to 26th October 2025, students can still submit the exam form by paying a late fee of Rs 1100. The examination fee remains Rs 200 per course.

Students must submit their exam forms via the SAMARTH platform by logging into their student account at [http://exam.ignou.ac.in]/(http://exam.ignou.ac.in). New users must first complete the registration process through the "New Registration" option. The December 2025 TEE is tentatively scheduled from 1st December 2025 to 8th January 2026.

Hall tickets/admit cards will be released in November 2025, and the tentative exam schedule is subject to change. Exam centre allocation will be done on a first-come, first-served basis. If the preferred centre reaches full capacity, students must choose an alternative nearby centre. No requests for change in exam centres or courses will be entertained after submission.

IGNOU has also extended the assignment submission deadline to 31st October 2025 for all programmes for the December TEE. Assignments are crucial, carrying 30% weightage in final evaluation. Dr. Sandeep Gupta, Regional Director, IGNOU Regional Centre Jammu, urged students to carefully read instructions before form submission. He emphasized that no changes will be allowed post-submission and that Learner Support Centres (LSCs) have been directed to assist students with assignment submissions. The University retains the right to reschedule or cancel exams due to unforeseen circumstances at any exam centre across India. Students are advised to complete their submissions in time to avoid last-minute issues.

All J&K Plus 2 Lecturers Forum expresses concern over delay in Regularisation, other issues

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The All J&K +2 Lecturers Forum held a UT-level virtual meeting on Monday, presided over by RS Salathia, Chairman, and Mohd Younus Gurezi, President Kashmir Division. Senior leader R.K. Padroo conducted the proceedings.

The Forum, in a united voice, expressed strong concern over the inordinate delay in the regularisation of incharge lecturers, the pending transfer list under ATD, the long-overdue ACP, and the delay in posting of elevated Principals.

Chairman RS Salathia, Younous Gurezi, Jyoti Prakash, and Khateeb Ahmed criticised the School Education Department (SED) for its indifferent approach.

They revealed that despite several meetings with Minister for School Education Sakina Masood Itoo and Secretary SED Ram Nivas Sharma, no concrete steps have been taken.

The incharge lecturers, whose regularisation should have been completed within six months, continue to suffer despite clearance of their one-time exemption files.

The Forum highlighted that the Minister had fixed July 31, 2025, as the deadline for finalising the DPC for regularisation, but the directive was ignored. Even directions from the Chief Secretary and CAT orders have gone unheeded.

The Forum warned that if immediate action is not taken, they may resort to a pen-down strike across J&K, followed by protests.

On the ACP and ATD, the leadership urged the government to resolve these long-pending demands, calling ACP a rightful entitlement of the +2 cadre.

Senior leaders Jyoti Prakash, Pardeep Singh Rakwal, Pardeep Koul, Ramesh Padroo, Bal Krishan Tickoo, and Showkat Zargher stressed the

need for releasing the ATD list for Jammu division and repatriating Principals and lecturers who have served over three years in remote areas.

The Forum demanded immediate posting orders of elevated Principals, especially with the academic session at its peak.

It also sought regularisation of Principals, creation of Vice Principal posts, and non-vocational status for Principals, citing their year-round duties.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks and was attended by several district leaders including Khateeb Ahmed, Farooq Ahmed, Suresh Mattoo, Amarjeet Singh Kotwal, and others.

Bovine smuggling bid foiled, vehicle seized, Bovine animals rescued

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Continuing its drive against bovine smuggling Police Post Chingus foiled an attempt and rescued 03 Bovine animals.

During patrolling duty in the Sasalkote area, a police party laid a naka on Agrati road and started checking vehicles. During Checking one Tata Mobile bearing registration No. JK11G 0494 coming from Nowshera side towards Kashmir was signaled to stop. The driver of vehicle on seeing police party fled from the spot. During vehicle search 03 bovine animals were found loaded, which were being transported illegally and mercilessly without valid permission.

The animals were rescued and the vehicle was seized. In this regard a case FIR No. 502/2025 under relevant sections of the law has been registered at Police Station Rajouri and further investigation is underway.

DHS reviews healthcare facilities in Doda Dist

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Director Health Services Jammu Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar conducted an extensive visit to different Healthcare facilities across Doda district in the last two days.

He visited Primary Health Centre Changa, Community Health Centre (CHC) Gandoh and Community Health Centre (CHC) Thathri to review the functioning of health institutions and assess the delivery of healthcare services in the far-flung areas of District Doda.

At PHC Changa and CHC Gandoh, the DHS Jammu along with CMO Dr. Om Kumar took extensive round of the hospital



DHS Jammu Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar visiting hospital.

to assess its working. The DHS inspected all the sections including OPD, IPD, Labour Room, Wards, Laboratory, Store, X-Ray and Dental Section.

The DHS interacted with Medical consultants, doctors and paramedical staff, emphasizing the importance of punctuality, disci-

pline and maintaining a proper dress code while discharging their duties. DHS also interacted with the patients in the ward and enquired about the facilities being provided to them. He directed staff to work with full dedication and accountability, ensuring all services are deliv-

ered efficiently and professionally.

Later, at CHC Thathri, he reviewed the infrastructure, equipment status and implementation of various national health programmes including Ayushman Bharat, NCD, and maternal & child health services. He directed the concerned officials to ensure uninterrupted healthcare delivery and to strengthen outreach activities in remote areas.

He lauded the dedication of healthcare workers serving in difficult and hilly terrains and encouraged them to continue their efforts toward providing quality healthcare to the people.

Desh Nari Ratna Awards 2025 to honour women achievers in Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Nations Development Association (NDA) has officially announced the launch of the Desh Nari Ratna Awards 2025, a prestigious national-level initiative aimed at recognising and celebrating the achievements of outstanding Indian women.

The awards ceremony is scheduled to be held in December 2025 in Jammu, with the exact date and venue to be announced shortly.

Conceived under the leadership of Sushil Singh Charak, Founder-cum-Chief Functionary of NDA, the initiative is designed to highlight the contributions of women who have excelled in various sectors, including Sports, Education, Social Service, and Entrepreneurship. The awards seek to empower women by recognising their strength, resilience, and leadership in shaping the nation.

The awards will be presented in four distinctive categories: Rani Lakshmbai Ratna for Sports Bravery & Excellence, Saraswati Shiksha Ratna

for Education & Knowledge Leadership, Ahilyabai Holkar Seva Ratna for Social Service & Activism, and Gargi Udyamita Ratna for Business & Entrepreneurship.

A core committee comprising Sushil Singh Charak, Shivani Vaid Sharma, Manpreet Kour, and Karan Singh will manage and oversee the national-level event. In addition to honouring the awardees, the event will also recognise the efforts of volunteers through Certificates of Working for their contributions to the success of the programme.

Speaking about the awards, Charak said, "The Desh Nari Ratna Awards are not just honours-they are a movement to celebrate the spirit of Indian women. This platform will inspire future generations and acknowledge those who are making a real difference in society."

Nominations for the awards can be submitted through the official link: https://forms.gle/8mhrKKLNGeF1WhsG6.