

8th National Geo-Research Scholars Meet gets underway at SMVDU

WIHG, SMVDU join hands for prestigious national event

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: 8th National Geo-Research Scholars Meet organized jointly by Wadia Institute Himalayan Geology (WIHG), an autonomous Institute of Department of Science & Technology, GoI and Schools of Civil Engineering, Physics and Architecture from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) was inaugurated here.



Dignitaries releasing books during 8th National Geo-Research Scholars Meet at SMVDU.

The event will conclude on November 25, 2024 and has various technical sessions besides field work component which are led by eminent scholars from various specializations. This prestigious national level event has been able to attract over 70 research scholars from premier research institutions and Universities from all over India besides participants from SMVDU.

Inaugural function was presided over by Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU. Prof. Pragati urged the participants not to work in isolation and emphasized that scientific community to join hands and forge networks as the major research problems cannot be solved by individuals in isolation. He said that faculty members of the University are open to research collaborations to work on major research problems and University is willing to provide them with conducive infrastructure and environment.

Swami Suchetanand presents set of religious, spiritual, motivational books to Balbir

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Swami Suchetanand of Divya Jyoti Jagriti Sansthan, presented a set of books to Guru Ravidass Vishva Mahapeeth national general secretary & British Ravidassia Heritage Indian (BRHI) Branch general secretary, Balbir Ram Rattan. He received these books when he visited Divya Jyoti Jagriti Sansthan Ashram in Jammu.



Swami Suchetanand presenting set of books to BRHI Branch general secretary, Balbir Ram Rattan.

During his conversation with Swamiji, Balbir apprised him of the objectives of social organisations working abroad and in India, which are very successfully spreading the teachings and message of Guru Ravidass. "It gives me immense pleasure and great satisfaction to be part of the organisations dedicated to the service of great Indian saint Guru Ravidass", Balbir told Swamiji.

POWERGRID provides five garbage collection vehicle, truenat machine to DC Udhampur as part of CSR program



Shafat Ahmad Wani, Sr GM POWERGRID, Northern Region-II handing over vehicle to Saloni Rai, DC Udhampur.

STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID), has handed over five Garbage Collection Vehicles for the Municipal Council, Udhampur and one Truenat Machine for TB Testing at District Tuberculosis Center, Udhampur to District Development Commissioner, Udhampur as part of its CSR initiative.

The vehicles and the Truenat Machines were handed over by Shafat Ahmad Wani, Senior General Manager, POWERGRID, Northern Region-II to Saloni Rai, Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur in the presence of Dr. Mrityunjay, Principal, GMC, Udhampur; Rajinder Kumar Diga, CEO Municipal Council, Udhampur; Vinod P. Baxla, General Manager (HR) POWERGRID, Rakesh Saraf, General Manager, POWERGRID, Kishenpur Sub Station other senior officers from District Administration, Health Department, and POWERGRID were present on the occasion.

The installation of the Truenat machine by POWERGRID is a commendable step in supporting the District Administration's efforts to create a TB-free Udhampur. This initiative aligns seamlessly with the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan, which aims to eliminate tuberculosis (TB) as a public health challenge in India by 2025. As a responsible Corporate Citizen, POWERGRID has been extending support for the development of various infrastructure activities in the state of Jammu and Kashmir through its CSR initiatives. Under CSR activities, the Sanitation and health sector is the thrust area of POWERGRID especially in the government hospitals of rural and urban areas across the country with the belief that adequate medical infrastructure and improving waste management are important for well-being of the general masses.

TTJ East India TravMart 2024 concludes in Kolkata, showcasing tourism potential of Eastern India

STATE TIMES NEWS
KOLKATA: The second edition of East India TravMart (EITM 2024) and the 68th TTJ TravMart concluded with resounding success at Hotel The Lalit Great Eastern in Kolkata, on November 21, 2024.



Pranav Prakash, Regional Director of India Tourism, Kolkata and others at a programme.

The two-day travel trade roadshow, organized by Sampan Media Group, highlighted the immense tourism potential of the eastern region of India, particularly focusing on the North-East states. The event saw a strong participation of over 250 travel trade agents and professionals from various Eastern Indian states, including West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, and the North-East, who engaged with more than 50 top exhibitors from across India and international destinations. The event was supported by India Tourism, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, which set up a booth to promote domestic tourism and highlighted initiatives like the Yuva Tourism Club aimed at educating young students about India's rich cultural heritage and tourism potential.

Pranav Prakash, Regional Director of India Tourism, Kolkata, addressed the participants during the Business-to-Business (B2B) presentation session, focusing on promoting domestic tourism, particularly through the Yuva Tourism Club, which targets school and college students to become ambassadors for Indian tourism. Ravi Sharma, Managing Editor of TTJ Sampan Media, emphasized that the primary goal of the event was to create a platform where buyers (travel agents) and sellers (tourism service providers such as hoteliers, airlines, DMCs, and state tourism boards) could meet face-to-face, fostering stronger business relationships and encouraging collaboration in the tourism sector. Partha Chatterjee, Bureau Head of TTJ Travel Trade Journal, highlighted

the significance of tourism as an economic driver, noting that the National Tourism Policy 2022 recognized it as a key contributor to trade, job creation, and infrastructure development. He also underscored the growing importance of tourism for sustainable economic growth. The event also focused on the huge potential of Eastern India, especially the North-East region, which is home to the "Seven Sisters" states. Gurjit Singh Ahuja, Co-Covener of TTJ TravMart

EITM 2024, stressed that the Eastern region, including West Bengal, has tremendous opportunities for growth in both domestic and international tourism. He noted that Kolkata, as a major hub for tourists, both domestic and international, plays a crucial role in boosting the region's tourism business. The event also witnessed several key tourism players presenting their products and services, with many exhibitors showcasing offerings from popular tourist destinations like Darjeeling, Digha, Sundarbans, and lesser-known areas like Dooras and Purulia in West Bengal. TTJ East India TravMart 2024 successfully spotlighted the rich tourism potential of Eastern India, fostering connections and business opportunities that will help the region grow as a key player on the global tourism map.

MRI/CT SCAN installed in SVMM Charitable Hospital Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Swami Vivekananda Medical Mission Charitable Hospital (SVMM) in Ambphalla, Jammu, has announced the upcoming installation of two advanced diagnostic imaging machines - the Magnetom Free Star 0.55 Tesla MRI Machine and the Siemens 96-Slice CT Scan Machine.



Dr. Subash Gupta, Chief Patron of SVMM Charitable Hospital talking to reporters.

This announcement was made during a press conference led by Dr. Subash Gupta, Chief Patron of SVMM, along with key hospital members including Amar Chand Gupta, B.B. Gupta, and Dr. Romesh Gupta. Dr. Gupta emphasized that the introduction of these machines marks a major milestone in the hospital's ongoing efforts to provide accessible and reliable healthcare services.

SVMM Charitable Hospital already offers a wide array of essential medical services, such as Digital Radiography, a fully computerized laboratory with a Hormonal Assay Machine, ECG, Ultrasonography with Color Doppler, and Echo services. The hospital also provides specialized care in Laparoscopic Surgery, general surgery, orthopedic surgery, and advanced eye care with technologies like C3R, Pentacam, OCT, YAG Laser, and Phaco. Additionally, the hospital offers treatments such as Radiofrequency Ablation (RFA) for venous disorders, Dialysis, and critical care through its Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

SVMM's oncology department offers Day Care Chemotherapy, and the hospital operates well-established departments in Gynecology, ENT, Pain Management, Physiotherapy, Dentistry, and Immunization. A Free Outpatient Department (OPD) Dispensary also serves underprivileged patients, reinforcing the hospital's commitment to affordable care. With CT and MRI scan rates aligned with government hospital standards, and an OPD consultation fee of just Rs. 10, SVMM ensures that quality care is accessible to all. The hospital is also planning further enhancements, including the creation of a Cath Lab, a Pediatric ICU, and the introduction of PET Scan services, as well as expanded insurance coverage. SVMM Charitable Hospital remains dedicated to providing affordable, high-quality healthcare to the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

KNIT releases 2nd edition of School Magazine 'Vision'

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Kotwal National Institute of Teaching (KNIT) Bharat Nagar, Talab Tillo, a leading educational institution, on Friday released the 2nd Edition of School Magazine 'Vision'.



KNIT students receiving 2nd Edition of School Magazine 'Vision'.

The 'Vision' showcases the artistic, literary and academic talents of KNITites. It serves as a vibrant platform for students to express their thoughts, ideas and creativity. The Principal, Bimla Blawria has a nostalgic walk down sharing memories behind the making of the Magazine. The Director, Prof. J.L. Kotwal owed "the success of magazine to the students, teachers and staff for their unwavering support."

He walking down the memory lane, shared memorable incidents of his life with the students. He applauded the students telling that the 'Vision' is a promise come true that was made with his friend and now this Magazine is a testament to the students' talent, excellence and dedication. Copies of the 'Vision' were distributed among his students and the staff members.

KPS welcomes Court's verdict restoring migrant status to KP women married outside community

Sham Lal calls for excellence, discipline at Bright Future School's Annual Day celebration



Sham Lal Sharma, MLA Jammu North posing with students and other dignitaries.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Bright Future Higher Secondary School celebrated its Annual Day with enthusiasm and a series of vibrant performances. The event was graced by distinguished dignitaries, including Sham Lal Sharma, MLA Jammu North and former Minister, as the Chief Guest, SP Rural Brijesh Sharma and Tehsildar Jammu North Aman Anand as Guests of Honour, and Ravi Kant Seth as a Special Guest.

The celebration commenced with a traditional lamp-lighting ceremony, followed by a variety of captivating cultural performances. Students showcased their creativity and talent through traditional dances, skits, and musical numbers. In his address, Sham Lal Sharma praised the school for its focus on holistic education, emphasizing the importance of discipline, respect, and hard work. He lauded the school's efforts in shaping future leaders, stating, "Schools are the temples of learning where the seeds of future leadership are sown."

He urged parents and teachers to collaborate in nurturing the potential of students. SP Brijesh Sharma and Tehsildar Aman Anand also spoke, appreciating the school's role in promoting co-curricular activities, which help build confidence and a sense of community among students. The event concluded with the presentation of awards to meritorious students, followed by a heartfelt vote of thanks by Principal Ranju Sharma and Director Akhilesh Bakshi, who expressed gratitude to the dignitaries, parents, and staff for their continuous support.

Scholars, writers, advocates hold rally for immediate action to promote, preserve Dogri language

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a display of unity and resolve, scholars, writers, students, and cultural advocates gathered at the Cultural Academy in Jammu today to demand the upliftment and preservation of Dogri, the language that is the backbone of the region's cultural heritage.



Scholars, writers, students, and cultural advocates raising slogans during a protest.

The rally saw a remarkable turnout, including prominent figures such as Padma Shri Mohan Singh Slathia, Team Jammu Chairman Zorawar Singh Jamwal, writers Inderjeet Kesar and Satpal Gadwalia, Sahitya Akademi Awardee Vijay Verma, and cultural leaders like Randhir Raipuria, Khajur Singh, and Balwan Singh Jamboria. The rally highlighted the urgent need for action to address the marginalization of Dogri, despite its recognition in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution. Protesters expressed their frustration at the lack of concrete steps to ensure the survival and growth of this ancient language.

A memorandum was drafted and submitted to all elected members of the Legislative Assembly, urging them to prioritize Dogri in the upcoming budget session. The demands included significant funding for Dogri education, cultural promotion, and research initiatives; the inclusion of Dogri as a mandatory subject in schools across Jammu and Kashmir; the establishment of grants, scholarships, and awards to support Dogri scholars and artists; and the integration of Dogri into official communication and administrative practices. The rally also called for financial and infrastructural support for Dogri

newspapers, radio programs, and digital platforms. Padma Shri Mohan Singh Slathia stressed the urgency of the cause, saying, "Dogri is not just a language; it is the heartbeat of our cultural identity." Zorawar Singh Jamwal, Chairman of Team Jammu, emphasized the years of neglect, calling it a fight to honor the language. Vijay Verma, Sahitya Akademi Awardee, highlighted Dogri's literary richness and the need for greater recognition. The rally concluded with the submission of the memorandum, signaling a crucial step in the campaign to protect Dogri. Participants pledged to continue their efforts until tangible progress is made. This event marks a turning point in the struggle to preserve the Dogri language and culture for future generations.

The judgment is a major step towards gender equality, recognizing these women as integral members of the displaced Kashmiri Pandit community. The Sabha expresses its gratitude to the judiciary for this progressive ruling and hopes it will pave the way for further steps in the rehabilitation and empowerment of the Kashmiri Pandit community.