

Two-day international placement drive concludes at JU

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Placement Cell, University of Jammu, in collaboration with Century Bank Brokers (CBB), Dubai, successfully organized a two-day international placement drive on November 1st and 2nd, 2025. The event, held under the visionary leadership of Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu (JU), aimed to provide global employment opportunities to students across departments, directorates, centres, off-site campuses, and affiliated institutions. The drive took place on both days at the Department of Environmental Sciences and Remote Sensing, JU. Century Bank Brokers, a reputed Dubai-based financial services firm, specializes in acquiring asset and liability products for banks including credit



cards, personal loans, mortgages, retail and SME accounts, and commercial lending products. The drive offered lucrative career prospects, enabling candidates to launch their professional journeys in Dubai's competitive global market. The event received an overwhelming response, with over 500 students participating. Approximately 400 candidates were shortlisted for the final round, and around 150 students were successfully selected. Interviews were conducted in multiple phases by a team of 10 experts from Century Bank Brokers. Faculty representatives from various departments and off-site campuses provided mentorship and support throughout the process. Dr. Neeraj Sharma, Registrar & Dean Students Placement, JU, formally welcomed the participants and highlighted the objective of organizing such drives to enhance employability and bridge the gap between academia

and industry. Chamak Banerjee, Managing Director, CBB Dubai, extended his gratitude to the JU for hosting the event. He shared that Bal Krishen Rathore, Chairman of CBB Dubai, originally hails from District Doda and is deeply committed to creating employment avenues for the youth of Jammu & Kashmir. Prof. J. P. Singh Joorel, Dean Academic Affairs and Guest of Honour, commended the efforts of the Placement Cell in facilitat-

ing international career opportunities and emphasized the need for proper mentorship to guide students toward successful careers. Prof. Neelu Rohmetra, Dean Research Studies and Chief Guest, inspired students to dream big, face global challenges with courage, and return to contribute to their homeland. She emphasized positivity, continuous learning, and the importance of overcoming fear to achieve success. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Aubid Hussain Parrey, Coordinator, Placement Cell, JU, who appreciated the efforts of all stakeholders, including Shilpa Chaku, Training & Placement Officer, JU. He reaffirmed the University's commitment to organizing more such drives, strengthening industry-academia collaboration, and creating multiple global career opportunities for students.

Ramakrishna Mission Jammu organizes Inter-School Events 2025



Ramakrishna Mission Jammu members with students and other dignitaries.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Ramakrishna Mission, Jammu successfully organized its annual Inter-School Events 2025 on October 30, 31, and November 1, 2025, drawing enthusiastic participation from schools across the city. A total of 340 students from 27 schools, representing Classes 7 to 12, showcased their talent, creativity, and spirit of healthy competition during the three-day celebration. The event featured a diverse range of competitions including Painting, Short Skit/Drama, Elocution, and Solo Singing, offering a vibrant platform for students to express their artistic and intellectual abilities. These activities aimed to nurture teamwork, confidence, and cultural awareness among the young participants while promoting value-based education inspired by Swami Vivekananda's ideals. The Painting Competition was judged by Ankur Kesar, Vikas Dogra, and Rachita Dutta, while Raman Gupta, Advocate Gayatri Jamwal,

and R.J. Sarang evaluated the Short Skit/Drama presentations. The Elocution Competition was assessed by a distinguished panel comprising Brigadier Neeraj Soni, Dr. Suman Banerjee, Prof. D.S. Manhas, and Kuldeep Khajuria. The Solo Singing Competition was judged by renowned artists Seema Anil Sehgal, Ravi Raghuvanshi, Dr. Mukteshi, and Sahil Nath. Swami Yajnadharananda, Secretary of Ramakrishna Mission Jammu, expressed heartfelt gratitude to all the participating schools, judges, students, teachers, and volunteers for their dedication and contribution to the event's success. He emphasized that such programs are vital in fostering the holistic development of youth, in line with the teachings of Sri Ramakrishna Dev, Holy Mother Sri Sarada Devi, and Swami Vivekananda. The Ramakrishna Mission, Jammu continues its dedicated efforts in promoting cultural, educational, and medical services for the welfare and upliftment of society.

Brahma Kumaris Jammu organizes NDS Program promoting natural and healthy living



Brahma Kumaris Jammu Branch members with other dignitaries at a programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Brahma Kumaris Jammu organized a highly insightful Natural Diet System (NDS) Program on Sunday focusing on the importance of adopting a natural and balanced diet for overall well-being. The event was graced by esteemed guests, experts, and participants who gathered to learn about holistic health practices and disease prevention through natural nutrition. The program was chaired by Rajyogini BK Sudarshan Didiji, who led

the initiative with her inspiring vision and spiritual guidance. The Chief Guest, Dr. S.P. Verma, Padma Shri awardee and President of the Global Gandhian Family, highlighted the transformative power of mindful eating. He emphasized that many lifestyle diseases can be prevented and even cured by following a balanced diet and maintaining harmony between body and mind. Renowned speakers and expert faculties Sunil K. Gupta, Chartered Accountant, and BK Deepak delivered enlight-

ening sessions during the event. Gupta spoke extensively on the benefits of a natural diet system, recommending the inclusion of green leafy juice, sprouts, fruits, and uncooked foods to strengthen the immune system and enhance vitality. BK Deepak shared his personal experience of adopting the NDS lifestyle, explaining how it significantly improved his health and energy levels while promoting inner peace and positivity. The event was coordinat-

ed by BK Ravinder Bali, who ensured the smooth and successful execution of all sessions. The program also encouraged interactive discussions and practical demonstrations, enabling participants to understand the role of natural foods in sustaining physical, mental, and spiritual health. The NDS program concluded with a message of self-care and sustainable living, reaffirming that adopting a natural diet not only nurtures the body but also aligns one's lifestyle with nature and spirituality.

Comprehensive Health Check-up Camp organized for elderly residents at Vridh Ashram

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Department of Commerce, University of Jammu, in collaboration with Care and Cure (CNC) Nursing Home, Jammu, organized a Free Comprehensive Health Check-up Camp for the elderly residents of The Home for the Aged & Infirmary (Vridh Ashram), Ambphalla, Jammu. The initiative formed part of the department's Extension and Outreach Programme, aimed at promoting health, care, and compassion among senior citizens. The camp focused on providing essential medical check-ups, health consultations, and wellness guidance to enhance the overall well-being and quality of life of the inmates.



Doctors examining senior citizen.

The medical team was led by Dr. Adeeb Singh (Urologist), who conducted detailed urological consultations and offered valuable advice on urinary and renal health issues commonly faced by the elderly. Dr. Sukanya Gupta (Plastic Surgeon) provided general surgical consultations, including post-operative care, wound management, and preventive health screening. Their expert guidance helped in identifying health concerns and advising appropriate follow-up care for the residents. Extending generous support, Dhaminder Singh from Corona Remedies distributed free

medicines and healthcare products to the inmates. Gurleen Kour and Pankaj Jamwal, active members of the organizing team, ensured smooth coordination throughout the camp by assisting the medical staff and interacting with the residents to make them feel comfortable and cared for. The event was graced by Prof. (Dr.) Jeevan Jyoti, Head, Department of Commerce, and Prof. (Dr.) Tarsem Lal, Coordinator, Outreach and Extension Programme, University of Jammu. They

appreciated the initiative and lauded the medical team's efforts in serving the elderly with empathy and professionalism. Both professors urged students and youth to draw inspiration from such socially impactful activities that blend education with service to humanity. A group of research scholars - Dheeraj, Deepak, Ankita, and Vinay - accompanied the professors, assisting in organizing the event, facilitating consultations, and engaging warmly with the residents to bring smiles and emotional comfort. The camp was conducted under the guidance of Dr. Dinesh Gupta, Hony. Secretary, along with Satpal Sharma and R.C. Vaid, Managing Committee Members, and Dr. Rajinder Thappa and Rajinder Singh, Life Members of the Home for the Aged & Infirmary. The management extended heartfelt gratitude to the Department of Commerce and CNC Nursing Home for their invaluable service. The residents expressed deep appreciation for the attention and compassion received, noting that the camp not only met their medical needs but also uplifted their spirits. The initiative reaffirmed the values of empathy, community service, and human connection - proving that true care extends far beyond medicine.

J&K State Finale of "Kahin Gum Na Ho Jayein-Season 8" concludes at Jammu Club



Winner and runners-up with Jammu Club officials.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Jammu & Kashmir State Level Contest of "Kahin Gum Na Ho Jayein - Season 8" culminated in a vibrant and memorable finale at Jammu Club, Jammu, on Sunday. The competition witnessed enthusiastic participation from talented home chefs, food enthusiasts, and professionals across the Union Territory. Sakeena Begum was declared the Jammu & Kashmir State Winner, followed by Kanta Smailpuri as the 1st Runner-Up, and Gunkirat Kour securing the position of 2nd Runner-Up. Consolation prizes were awarded to Arjun Sharma and Siya Sharma for their commendable performances. Special recognitions went to Pooja Suri for Best Presentation, Madhvi Abrol for Best Attire, Naushen for Best Drink, and Preeti Sharma along with Atul Kumar for Best Dessert (Upcoming Chefs). A special mention was also made for Neeru Gulati under the Senior Citizen Participation category. Organized by Let's Give Back, a registered NGO, in association with Studio KAVA and Jammu Club, this unique national cookery contest aims to revive and promote traditional

Indian recipes while spotlighting the country's diverse culinary heritage. The initiative was founded by the late Babeeta Saxena in 2016 and continues to thrive under the guidance of Co-Founder Retd. Col. Atul Saxena, following her passing on May 16, 2021. This season's theme, "My State, My Plate," highlighted the importance of preserving regional culinary traditions. The contest is supported by Padma Shri Awardee Celebrity Chef Sanjeev Kapoor and Bollywood actress Suchitra Pillai, both of whom continue to champion the spirit of this initiative. The event was graced by Gaurav Gupta, Honorary Secretary of Jammu Club, who attended as the Chief Guest and distributed prizes to the winners. He lauded the participants for their creativity and congratulated the organizers for providing a national platform that blends culinary talent with a spirit of social contribution. The competition is being held across 20 states, including Delhi/NCR, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, Punjab, Gujarat, Assam, West Bengal, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra,

Tamil Nadu, and Jammu & Kashmir. The top three winners from J&K will represent the Union Territory in the Grand Finale to be held in NCR, January 2026, where a total prize pool of Rs 1,50,000 awaits the national winners. The event was graced by distinguished chefs and dignitaries from the hospitality sector. Special thanks to Jammu Club for hosting the event, to Studio KAVA for its creative collaboration, and to the esteemed jury panel - Chef Vinod Saini, Chef Kaushal, Chef Dr. Sanjay, and Dr. Hemla Aggarwal - for their expert evaluation. The successful execution of the J&K State Round was led by State Coordinator Kalpana Vinay, under the guidance of Co-Founder Retd. Col. Atul Saxena. Sincere appreciation was also extended to Reena Mukherjee, Chief Coordinator of the National Event, for her leadership. Gratitude was expressed to gifting partners, media partner Jammu Media, and all supporters for their valuable contribution. The event reaffirmed the mission of "Kahin Gum Na Ho Jayein - Season 8" - to celebrate talent, preserve India's culinary diversity, and promote the joy of giving back to society.

IIM Jammu hosts valedictory ceremony of GMP for Middle Management - Batch I for NHPC Ltd

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management Jammu under the leadership of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu organized the valedictory ceremony of the General Management Programme for Middle Management - Batch I for NHPC Limited (A Government of India Navratna Enterprise) at the Nyaya Classroom, Vedanta MDP Centre, IIM Jammu. The valedictory ceremony was graced by Dr. Mahesh Gadekar, Program Director, IIM Jammu and Dr. Gaana J, Program Director, IIM Jammu. The session commenced



Participants of GMP for Middle Management-Batch I for NHPC Ltd with IIM Jammu faculty.

with a welcome address and program report by Dr. Gaana J, Program Director, IIM Jammu who provided an overview of the program's objectives, learning outcomes, and participant engagement. This was followed by reflections from the participants, who shared their enriching experiences and key takeaways from the programme.

The ceremony concluded with the distribution of certificates to the participants, followed by a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Mahesh Gadekar, Program Director, IIM Jammu. The valedictory ceremony culminated with the National Anthem, marking the completion of the programme.

The participants shared positive reflections on the programme, expressing appreciation for the enriching sessions, engaging interactions, and overall positive learning experience. The General Management Programme for Middle Management at IIM Jammu aimed to enhance

managerial competencies, strategic thinking, and leadership capabilities among NHPC executives, aligning with the vision of creating dynamic leaders for a rapidly evolving business environment. The training program was coordinated by Executive Education and Consultancy, IIM Jammu.

Devotees immersed in divine melody: Shree Chandi Jagran illuminates Ved Mandir Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a mesmerizing night of devotion and spiritual fervor, the Ved Mandir in Jammu came alive with the echoes of bhajans and chants during the Shree Chandi Jagran held last evening. Organized meticulously by the Shree Chandi Mata Sewa Samiti, the all-night vigil drew hundreds of devotees who gathered to seek the blessings of Goddess Chandi Mata, the fierce embodiment of divine power and protection in Hindu lore. The event, which unfolded under a canopy of twinkling stars and vibrant temple lights, commenced around dusk with traditional rituals, including the lighting of the sacred lamp and recitations from the Durga Saptashati. As the clock struck midnight, the atmosphere thickened with anticipation, setting the stage for soul-stirring performances by a constellation of eminent singers. The lineup, a harmonious blend of classical devotion



Shree Chandi Mata Sewa Samiti members and others at a Jagran.

and contemporary flair, left the audience spellbound, their voices weaving tales of faith, valor, and surrender to the Divine Mother. Head Pujari of Shri Maa Vaishno Devi Durbar, Sudarshan pujar ji also presented on the occasion and address the devotees along with other Mahants, Acharyas and religious heads including brother of Thakur Kulbir Singh Jamwal, Sole Trustee Sarv Shakti Shree Chandi Mata Ji Temple Chinote Trust, Bhaderwah and founder of Machail Mata Yatra also presented.

Leading the celestial chorus was Bandna Dutta, whose ethereal renditions of Chandi Mata's glory evoked waves of emotion, with many devotees visibly moved to tears. Her powerful vocals, infused with the depth of Dogri and Bhaderwah folk traditions, resonated through the mandir's hallowed halls, drawing the crowd into a trance-like communion. Following her was Shiva Sagar from Delhi, known for his thunderous baritone; his interpretation of age-old jagran

staples like "Jai Ambe Gauri" ignited fervent claps and synchronized handclaps, transforming the gathering into a unified symphony of praise. The energy soared further with Darjeet Singh Rathor, whose rhythmic compositions blended Paddari influences with Dogri fervor, captivating younger attendees who swayed in rhythmic devotion. Suresh Chouhan and Kumar Ravi's high-octane bhajans, marked by intricate taans and improvisations-culminated in a collective aarti that echoed till the break of dawn.

Organizers from the Shree Chandi Mata Sewa Samiti, a dedicated group of local philanthropists and spiritual enthusiasts, expressed profound gratitude for the overwhelming response. "This jagran is more than a ritual; it's a call to rediscover our inner strength through Mata's grace," said Samiti Chairman Suneet Raina during a brief address. The event also featured langar services, offering prasad to all attendees, underscoring the samiti's commitment to community service and inclusivity. Held annually to commemorate the triumph of good over evil, the Shree Chandi Jagran at Ved Mandir has become a cornerstone of Jammu's cultural calendar, fostering unity amid the region's diverse tapestry. As the first light of November 2 bathed the temple in golden hues, devotees dispersed with renewed vigor, carrying the night's divine vibrations into their daily lives.