

IIM Jammu engages alumni in online meet, announces upcoming reunion



■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: IIM Jammu on Saturday hosted an engaging Online Alumni Meet, bringing together alumni from its MBA, MBA Healthcare Administration, and Executive MBA programs. The event, attended by 170 alumni from Batch 1 to Batch 7, showcased their enduring connection to the institute and their commitment to its growth.

The meeting was chaired by Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director of IIM Jammu, who welcomed the alumni and praised their contributions to both their fields and the institute's legacy. He emphasized the importance of formalizing the Alumni Association to foster collaboration, share experiences, and strengthen professional networks.

Prof. Sahay also provided updates on IIM Jammu's academic advancements, infrastructure developments, and strategic initiatives, inviting alumni feedback to help shape the institute's future.

He extended a formal invitation for the Alumni Meet scheduled for January 2025, highlighting the event as an opportunity for alumni to reconnect and contribute to IIM Jammu's progress.

Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean of Academics, spoke about the role of alumni in enhancing the institute's reputation and building a vibrant network.

He outlined plans for strengthening the Alumni Association, aiming to foster ongoing relationships between the alumni and the institute. Dr. Pradeep K Tare, Chairperson of the Alumni Association, and Dr. Jaganth G., Co-Chairperson, shared their vision for creating platforms that encourage continuous engagement and collaboration.

The interactive session allowed alumni to share their experiences, fostering a sense of camaraderie.

The event concluded with a renewed enthusiasm for the upcoming Alumni Meet in 2025, as alumni reaffirmed their commitment to supporting IIM Jammu's growth and success, further solidifying their integral role in the institute's future.

HPS facilitates Parental Counselling Session 2024-25

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBHA: Humanity Public School (HPS), Bassi Kalan, organized a Principal Parent Meet (PPM), aiming to foster a collaborative partnership between the parents and the school.

The session, focused on creating a conducive teaching-learning environment and ensuring the holistic development of each child, saw parents of students from Pre-Nursery to 4th grade participate in the insightful event.

The program began with the lighting of the lamp by the school's Principal, Gaurav Charak, Vice-Principal Anku Charak, A.O. Ravinder Sadhu, Akashdeep Raina (Senior Incharge), Vandana Sharma (Incharge Primary



Wing), Aparna Billowria (Incharge Pre-Primary Wing), and Er. Varinder Kumar (IT Incharge).

The gathering paid heartfelt tributes to the late Capt. Gandharb Singh Charak, the founder of the school, whose belief in the transformative power of education continues to inspire.

The session featured a soulful Bhajan presented by students of Class 4th and 5th, guided by their mentors, Rajan Kumar and Kumar Abhilash. Vandana Sharma welcomed the parents and members of the

administration to the event. In his address, Gaurav Charak, the Principal, engaged parents in discussions covering key topics such as the influence of behavioral and social factors on student progress, the impact of modern lifestyles on health and academic performance, and the importance of feedback from both teachers and parents.

He emphasized the school's commitment to a transparent and collaborative approach in nurturing students' potential.

The session also featured Ravinder Sadhu (A.O.), who shared insightful suggestions on healthy parenting for toddlers. The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Aparna Billowria.



MANOJ SINHA
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
JAMMU & KASHMIR

Message



Each year, on 1st December, the world commemorates "World AIDS Day". It's an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against HIV, to show support for people living with HIV and to remember those who have died from an AIDS-related illness. Founded in 1988, World AIDS Day was the first ever global health day.

"Take the rights path" is the theme of the 2024 World AIDS Day campaign. The campaign calls for leaders to protect everyone's health by protecting everyone's rights. It highlights the need to enact laws and approaches that uphold human rights and to remove laws that harm them. The campaign's message is that change is a movement, not a moment. The campaign aims at creating a picture of a path that leaders need to choose - signposted as the rights path.

We need robust partnership between all sections of society including the policymakers to develop initiatives and programmes that would promote focussed public action to realise the vision of action to protect everyone's health by protecting everyone's rights. Our response against this formidable health challenge needs to be collective and coordinated. We need to put our heart in this endeavour.

The world can end AIDS – if everyone's rights are protected.

Manoj Sinha
(Manoj Sinha)



CHIEF MINISTER
Jammu & Kashmir

Message

The World AIDS Day serves as a vital call for action, emphasizing the importance of safeguarding public health by upholding the rights of all individuals. "Take the Rights Path" is the theme of the 2024 World AIDS Day, urging leaders to safeguard public health by enacting laws and policies that promote human rights while eliminating those that harm or violate them.

Towards this end, it is imperative that we reach and engage everyone affected by, at risk for, or living with HIV, particularly those who have been historically excluded or marginalised. Gender equality plays a central role in this approach, as does commitment to acceptance, respect and care.

This day serves as a poignant reminder that we must remain resolute in our efforts to prevent new HIV infections while ensuring access to comprehensive and essential services for all individuals living with HIV, regardless of their circumstances. Our collective focus must remain on equity, inclusivity and compassion for those in need.

On this World AIDS Day, I commend the steadfast efforts of civil society organisations, colleagues in the legislature and the team at the Jammu and Kashmir AIDS Control Society for their significant contributions in controlling the spread of HIV/AIDS in the region.

Omar Abdullah
(Omar Abdullah)



Hon'ble MINISTER
for Health & Medical Education, School Education, Higher Education & Social Welfare Department, Jammu & Kashmir

Message

On the occasion of World AIDS Day which is observed on 1st December every year, we as citizens of this country need to exhibit a shared responsibility to create solidarity for tackling inequalities which occur in availing the most basic services related to HIV/AIDS viz. testing, care, support & treatment. At government level laws need to be reformed and also aligned at the same time with the emerging social and technological trends happening in the societies so as to be readily available to facilitate equal access to HIV care services.



This World AIDS Day is a call to action to protect everyone's health by protecting everyone's rights. Leaders need to take the rights path. It is a day of solidarity for people around the world who are affected by HIV. An enabling regulatory environment is needed which facilitates availing of HIV services, ensures civil society participation, protects the human rights of all and works for the inclusion of marginalized communities to advance the global HIV response.

World AIDS Day is an opportunity for every community and each individual to honor those who have lost their lives worldwide from AIDS-related illness. To keep everyone safe and to protect everyone's health we need to treat everyone equally – Join us in raising awareness about the importance of observing World AIDS Day.

I commend the work of Jammu & Kashmir AIDS Control Society for their efforts in raising awareness and working towards eliminating HIV in Jammu & Kashmir.

Sakeena Itoo
(Sakeena Itoo)

WORLD AIDS DAY 1ST DEC | 2024 JAMMU & KASHMIR AIDS CONTROL SOCIETY



CHIEF SECRETARY
Jammu & Kashmir

Message

1st December designated as World AIDS Day since 1988 is observed every year as an international day dedicated to raising awareness about the AIDS pandemic caused by the spread of HIV infection. Government and health officials, non-governmental organizations, communities and individuals around the world observe this day, often with an aim to create awareness on HIV/AIDS prevention and control.

Upholding the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights and fostering inclusion of all communities are essential for ending AIDS, for ensuring sustainable development and for human security. There is an urgent need to remove criminal and other laws which harm people's rights and an urgent need to enact laws and approaches which uphold the rights of every person. The mandates in the international human rights framework have the force of law and communities have the right to hold duty-bearers accountable for adherence to the human rights commitments they have made.

Ending AIDS requires that we reach and engage everyone who is living with, at risk for or affected by HIV – especially including people who have been most excluded and marginalized. As no one is immune to HIV/AIDS – the only way to know your HIV status is to get tested.

Let us join hands in raising awareness about the importance of World AIDS Day and for alleviating all sorts of stigma and discrimination associated with it.

Atal Dulloo
(Atal Dulloo)



SECRETARY
Health & Medical Education
Government of Jammu & Kashmir



Message

1st December every year is observed as World AIDS Day globally to raise awareness about AIDS pandemic caused by the HIV virus. It is one of the eight official global public health campaigns marked by the World Health Organization (WHO), along with World Health Day, World Blood Donor Day, World Immunization Week, World Tuberculosis Day, World No Tobacco Day, World Malaria Day and World Hepatitis Day.

Ending AIDS from this planet requires that we reach and engage everyone who is living with, at risk for or affected by HIV – especially including people who have been most excluded and marginalized. Gender equality is an essential element of an approach to tackle AIDS that is grounded in human rights. Stigma and discrimination still exists. There is an urgent need to remove criminal and other laws which harm people's rights and an urgent need to enact laws and approaches which uphold the rights of every person.

I, thus take this opportunity to appeal all the members of the society especially the health professionals to provide a supporting environment to all those who are in need of help, infected or affected by HIV especially the vulnerable High Risk groups living in J&K for ending the threat of AIDS from this world.

Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah
(Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah), IAS



PROJECT DIRECTOR
Jammu & Kashmir AIDS Control Society
H&ME Department, Government of J&K

Message

Every Year 1st December is observed as World AIDS Day all over the world. Government and health officials, non-governmental organizations, communities and individuals around the world observe this day, often with an aim to create awareness on HIV/AIDS prevention and control and to show solidarity for people around the world who are affected by HIV. This is a day for voices to unite by sharing experiences, remembering those lost, and standing together in the fight against HIV.

The vision of the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), MOH&FW (GOI) is focused towards an 'AIDS free India' in line with United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) of ending the AIDS epidemic as a public health threat by 2030. Effective prevention, care and support for HIV/AIDS is possible in an environment where human rights are respected and where those infected or affected by HIV/AIDS live a respectful life without stigma and discrimination and where equal access is available to all for availing HIV services. The upholding of everyone's human rights is an essential foundation of an effective HIV response.

Jammu & Kashmir will also be observing World AIDS Day with an aim of raising awareness about HIV/AIDS, for providing equal access to HIV related services for people infected / affected by HIV and to reduce the stigma and discrimination associated with the disease. Being a low prevalence region we cannot be complacent and lower our guard but have to consistently work in the direction of ending AIDS as a public health threat. Regular efforts are made to keep the spread of virus under control by following the protocols, providing easy access to services & facilities and by involving various stakeholders who are directly or indirectly related to HIV/AIDS.

As no one is immune to HIV, I request you to remain vigilant about your health, get tested, know your HIV status and seek help whenever required without any prejudice or fear of stigma and discrimination in your mind.

For any sort of information regarding HIV/AIDS public can call on national toll free helpline number 1097.

Dr. Abdul Rouf Bhat
(Dr. Abdul Rouf Bhat)