

Wildlife Health Training Program conducted at SKUAST-Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-J) launched a groundbreaking two-day training program on wildlife health monitoring. Veterinary Doctors from Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry, Zoo veterinarians post graduate scholars participated in the programme.

Expert lectures were delivered by the distinguished scientists from USA, Central university and Wildlife Institute of India.

The event, led under the dynamic guidance of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. (Dr.) BN Tripathi, and graced by the esteemed presence of the Dean, FVSc & AH, marks a significant initiative to sensitize and set the tone for future wildlife health monitoring at the wildlife-domestic interface in Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr. Kafil Hussain, Organizing Secretary, delivered a welcome address,



Veterinary Doctors and post graduate scholars at the programme.

underlining the significance of the training program for wildlife health monitoring in the region. Prof. (Dr.) Rajiv Singh, Head of the Medicine Division, provided insights into critical aspects of wildlife health, reinforcing the importance of collaborative efforts in the field. He further informed that the wildlife is an economically, ecologically and aesthetically valuable resource for mankind.

Underlining the importance of the topic he said that wildlife suffers from various diseases, which can spread from domestic animals to wild animals and vice-versa. Dr. Khurshid Khan, Deputy Director of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Jammu Division, and a special video message from Dr. Benji Alacanter, Head Veterinarian at Wildlife Safari, Oregon, USA, added an international

perspective to the discussions. Dean, Dr. Rajesh Katoch, emphasized the groundbreaking nature of the training program and its potential to shape the future of wildlife health monitoring in the region. Underlining the importance of the topic he said that wildlife suffers from various diseases, which can spread from domestic animals to wild animals and vice-versa. Besides this wildlife is a source of infec-

tion for human population and many a times the disease may occur with enhanced virulence as in case of avian influenza and rabies which are zoonotic diseases of high-risk categories. The two-day training program signifies the university's commitment to advancing knowledge in wildlife health and promoting environmental responsibility.

The Vice-Chancellor under whose dynamic leadership the event was held, lauded the university's initiative, making it the first of its kind in Jammu and Kashmir to sensitize and set the tone for future wildlife health monitoring.

Abha Tikoo, Associate Professor concluded the event with a vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to all the distinguished guests for their contributions to this pioneering effort. SKUAST-J takes pride in spearheading this initiative, establishing a blueprint for future endeavors in wildlife health monitoring in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Hands-on Workshop on APA Style 7th Edition" organized at JU



JU faculty and students at a workshop.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The P.G. Department of Education, University of Jammu organized an engaging workshop titled "Hands-on Workshop on APA Style 7th Edition." The event commenced with an inaugural session, including a ceremonial lamp lighting. Prof. (Dr.) Renu Nanda, Head of the Department, applauded the research scholars for successfully planning and executing the workshop.

The introductory session marked the beginning of a fruitful workshop in which Prof. (Dr.) Renu Nanda and Prof. (Dr.) Rajeev Rattan Sharma, Dean, Faculty of Education were the Chief Guests.

The workshop comprised three technical sessions covering Academic Writing, the Basic Rules of APA 7th Edition, and the use of APA 7th Edition in referencing style. Eight research scholars from the Department of Education

were the presenters. The key areas of the workshop were Academic Writing Rules, In-Text Citation, Appendix Style, Thematic Review, Style of Introductory Pages, and Referencing Style according to APA 7th Edition.

The event concluded with a valedictory session, featuring a concise report on the workshop and an expression of gratitude. Isha Devi, a Research Scholar, skilfully hosted the workshop.

CUJ inaugurates FDP on Student Diversity and Inclusive Education

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (MMTTC) at Central University of Jammu is set to host a comprehensive Faculty Development Program (FDP) from February 20-29, 2024, under the visionary leadership of Vice Chancellor Prof Sanjeev Jain.

The program is designed to offer an in-depth orientation and sensitization on the one of the NEP thematic area on Student Diversity and Inclusive Education. The FDP aims at orienting teachers of the institutions of higher education in India to inculcate knowledge of the rich diversity amongst the learners almost all the Indian classrooms have and also to orient the teachers to use that diversity as resource to facilitate quality of learning.

There are 105 participants in the programme representing almost all the regions of India. The pan-Indian participation in the programme, in itself is a representation



CUJ faculty at FDP on Tuesday.

of rich panorama of diverse socio-cultural context of India. Prof. Sunil Dhar, the Coordinator and Nodal Officer of NEP 2020 implementation wing of Central University of Jammu, inaugurated the event. In his address, he highlighted the key points of NEP 2020 and also iterated the outcome expectations with the FDP. The FDP, spearheaded by an esteemed organizing team, aims to enrich educators with a deep understanding of the current theme of FDP vis a vis NEP 2020. Dr. Kiran, Coordinator of the FDP proposed a welcome address followed by the of programme introduction and orientation by Dr. Neelika Arora, Director of UGC-MMTTC of Central

University of Jammu at the university. Dr. Akshay Kumar, Deputy Director, UGC-MMTTC shared the do's and don'ts of the participation with the registered candidates of the programme and also briefed them about the programme operationalities. Dr. Yadram, the Coordinator of the FDP proposed a formal vote of thanks.

A series of deliberations from the various eminent experts from different universities and institutions of eminence have been planned to be conducted in the 8 days of the FDP to provide relevant and quality experiences to the participants. The FDP is a significant step towards realising the objectives of NEP 2020.

Foundation Day of Arunachal Pradesh & Mizoram states celebrated at LG Secretariat

STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: The Foundation Day of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram states were celebrated with full fervour at the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat.

Executive Councillor, LAHDC Leh, Ghulam Mehdi; ADGP Ladakh, Dr SD Singh Jamwal, IPS; Commissioner/Secretary, Tourism, Kacho Mehboob Ali Khan, IRS; Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Leh, Shabbir Hussain, JKAS; Assistant Director, Information Department, Leh, Dr Tundup Namgail and personnel from Arunachal and Mizoram serving in Ladakh in armed and paramilitary forces were present in the event.

Arunachal Pradesh was transitioned from the North-East Frontier Agency (NEFA) to a state on February 20, 1987, after the declaration passed by India following the 53rd Amendment of the Indian Constitution. Mizoram, on the other hand, which was earlier a Union Territory, was



Executive Councillor, LAHDC Leh, Ghulam Mehdi; ADGP Ladakh, Dr SD Singh Jamwal and others at a celebration.

converted into a full-fledged state following the 53rd Amendment of the Indian Constitution on February 20, 1997, and became the 23rd state of India.

Calling all states in the Northeast as beautiful and full of greenery, EC Mehdi highlighted the vision of the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, to celebrate the diverse cultures of India and provide a platform to become acquainted with cultures of different states/UTs of the country.

He also appreciated paramilitary/armed forces personnel from different parts of the country for performing their duties with full dedica-

tion by braving the challenging conditions to guard the borders from the enemy forces. He informed about the cultural troupes comprising students sent to perform at Raj Bhawans/Raj Niwas across Ladakh on UT Ladakh's Foundation Day last year. Mehdi expressed hope to see more development in Ladakh along with Arunachal and Mizoram.

ADGP Ladakh, Dr SD Singh Jamwal, appreciating the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's initiative under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat to foster national integrity and unity, stated that a country's soft power, particularly culture, is its actual power. He

expressed his happiness for the celebration of the foundation day of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram.

Commissioner/Secretary, Kacho Mehboob Ali Khan, congratulated personnel from Arunachal and Mizoram on the foundation day of their respective states.

Stating that people from different parts of India are working in Ladakh in different armed/paramilitary forces and departments, he informed that people from different ethnicities and diverse cultures are visible in Ladakh. He appreciated the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh for sending a cultural troupe comprising stu-

dents and teachers to different Raj Niwas and Raj Bhawans to perform on the foundation day of UT Ladakh to showcase the region's art and culture.

Mehboob informed about the visit of a cultural troupe from Ladakh to Arunachal Pradesh to perform at Arunachal Utsav in Namsai. Such programmes, he said, would help in the exchange and adoption of successful practices being practised in the respective State/UT between Arunachal and Ladakh and help in achieving the goal of Vikasit Bharat.

Head Constable, ITBP, Karpay Basar and Constable Jumpe Nada from Arunachal Pradesh and CFN Muana from Mizoram spoke on the occasion of the foundation day of Arunachal and Mizoram and shared special features of their states.

Staff and officials from the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat were also present during the celebration of the foundation day of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram.

Bhalla congratulates Sonia Gandhi on being elected unopposed to RS from Rajasthan

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla on Tuesday congratulated former AICC President Sonia Gandhi on being elected unopposed to Rajya Sabha from Rajasthan.

In a congratulatory message, Bhalla said, "Sonia Gandhi's courageous and dignified contribution towards the country and the party is inspiring for everyone. We all wish for her good health and long life."

"A relentless advocate of the rights of the marginalized, she (Gandhi) has been a symbol of utmost grace while battling adversity with courage, grit and selfless sacrifice," added Bhalla.

Bhalla further said that she embodies the highest virtues of integrity, compassion and courage.

On her political journey, the Congress leader said, "Her life journey is an inspiration for us all. She steered the Congress through an extremely challenging period with great poise and was the architect of the UPA government that delivered welfare for all and exponential growth for the country."

On Sonia's contribution to strengthening the opposition alliance, the former Minister said, "May her profound vision and wealth of experience continue to be a guiding light in our united endeavour to save India from autocratic forces."

Workshop on Communication and Personality Development inaugurated at JU



Director DLL, Dr. Jeevan Jyoti speaking at a workshop.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Department of Lifelong Learning, University of Jammu inaugurated a one-week workshop on Communication and Personality Development in the Department of Commerce seminar hall.

Dr. Jeevan Jyoti, Director of the Department of Lifelong Learning, University of Jammu, inaugurated the workshop. With the primary goal of enhancing students'

basic communication skills and boosting confidence levels to make a lasting impression, the workshop aims to equip participants with essential skills for personal and professional development. The workshop's resource person, Ms. Neetu Dhar, Chief Coordinator and Master Trainer at Jammu and Kashmir Dairy Producers, Processors, and Marketing Cooperatives, Ltd., emphasized the importance of effective communication skills, cov-

ering aspects such as reading, writing, arithmetic, reading comprehension, and speed reading.

Dr. Rewa Khajuria, Counsellor at the Department of Lifelong Learning, is coordinating the workshop, ensuring a smooth and enriching learning experience for the 62 participants. These enthusiastic participants comprise students from the University of Jammu, colleges, and members of civil society.

Medicines worth Rs 52L seized at Delhi airport, three held

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) surveillance and intelligence staff arrested three passengers at the check-in area, in Terminal 3 of IGI Airport on Saturday evening, said CISF.

"On suspicion, passengers later identified as Basid, Mubashir Jamal and Kayfeh (all Indians) bound for Kabul via Sharjah by Air Arabia Airlines flight No. G9-466 (STD-1820 hrs) were diverted to the random checking point for thorough checking of their baggage," said the CISF release.

On screening their baggage through the X-BIS machine, CISF personnel noticed suspicious images.

On physical checking, a huge quantity of different types of medicines with an approximate value of Rs 52 lakh were detected, the CISF said.

On inquiry, the passengers could not produce supporting documents for carrying such a huge quantity of medicines.

The matter was informed to senior officers of the CISF and customs officials.

Later, the aforesaid passengers, along



with the detected medicines, were handed over to Customs for further action in the matter.

Shankaracharya of Jyotish Peeth writes to PM, advocates revival of Vedic names for Indian Rivers

Special reference to rivers of Jammu & Kashmir

STATE TIMES NEWS

GUJARAT: The revered Shankaracharya of Jyotish Peeth, Swami Shri Avimuktsharanand Saraswati Ji, has on Tuesday penned a letter to the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, advocating for the revival of Vedic names for the rivers of the country, with a special reference to the rivers of Jammu and Kashmir.

In his letter to the Prime Minister, the Shankaracharya of Jyotish Peeth (one of the four Dharmic institutions established by Adi Shankaracharya), underscores the paramount historical and cultural importance of the holy rivers. Citing excerpts from the sacred Hindu scriptures such as the Shrimad Bhagwat Puran and the Rig Veda, he illuminates the eternal significance of the rivers to the people, nature, and heritage of our country, as well as the Vedic names bestowed upon them. Expressing concern over recent changes or distortions in the names of these sacred rivers, Swami Shri Avimuktsharanand Saraswati Ji has impressed upon the Narendra Modi to make a



historic decision towards reinstating their Vedic appellations. The Shankaracharya makes a special emphasis for the restoration of Vedic names for the rivers currently flowing through Jammu and Kashmir - 'Asikni' for Chenab, 'Vitasra' for Jhelum, 'Parushni' for Ravi, and 'Sindhu' for Indus. It is pertinent to mention here that the Vedic rivers

hold a sacred place in the hearts and minds of people of our country, serving as lifelines that sustain life, cultures, and civilizations. Their Vedic names reflect the essence of cultural identity and spiritual connection with nature. Merely uttering the Vedic names invokes a sense of purity, pride and respect in the individual, and society. Swami Shri Avimuktsharanand Saraswati Ji's letter to the Prime Minister, while it keeps with the traditions and legacy of Adi Shankaracharya, the great philosopher who re-established the Vedic Sanatana Dharma, it also reflects a collective aspiration to preserve and honor the sanctity of the Vedic rivers, as well as India's ancient wisdom and cultural legacy.

Bukhari urges administration to ensure adequate arrangements to deal with snowfall-related issues

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, on Tuesday, urged the administration to ensure all the required arrangements to deal with the challenges and problems caused by widespread snowfall across the valley.

He emphasised that the concerned departments must be prompt and responsive to the needs of the people, especially those who have lost road connectivity due to heavy snowfall.

In a statement issued here, Bukhari said, "Due to the heavy snowfall in most areas across the valley, several roads, including the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway,



Srinagar-Leh, Mughal Road, Bandipora-Gurez, and roads leading to Keran/Karnah border towns, have been closed. The administration must ensure that the concerned populations, who have lost road connectivity to other areas, do not suffer due to the scarcity of food supplies and other essentials,

especially medical facilities. Additionally, the concerned departments must be vigilant in avalanche-prone areas to ensure no human casualties occur due to snow avalanches, landslides, and falling stones."

"Some reports suggest that hundreds of vehicles have become stranded amid falling rocks in the Ramban area. The administration must be alerted to keep track of the stranded vehicles and be prompt in addressing any medical requirements that may arise along the highway," he added.

He urged the concerned authorities to ensure prompt snow clearing on the roads in Srinagar and other towns in the valley.

SMC Commissioner directs officials to remain vigilant for Dewatering & Snow Clearance operations

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC), Dr. Owais Ahmed today issued clear instructions to all concerned wings of SMC to remain vigilant and proactive in dewatering and snow clearance operations in the Srinagar city.

In view of the weather conditions, the Commissioner stressed on the urgent need for effective dewatering measures to prevent water logging and smooth discharge of Storm water ensuring low level in all swamps of permanent Dewatering Stations for the better pedestrian and vehicular movement in the city.

Furthermore, the Commissioner stressed for timely and effective measures to clear snow from roads, lanes/bylanes, sidewalks, walkways

and all vital establishments viz. Hospitals, Religious places, Ration Depots etc. for the convenience and safety of the citizens. The directions passed by the Commissioner underscore the significance of the SMC operations and prompt action to mitigate any potential challenges posed by adverse weather conditions.

The Commissioner SMC appealed to residents of Srinagar for their cooperation and support in view of ongoing Dewatering and Snow Clearance Operations in the Srinagar City.

Meanwhile, if any issue related to dewatering and snow clearance arises, people may report to SMC's 24x7 Control Room on the following numbers: 0194-2474499 18001807038 0194-2470465.