

# Workshop on Research Methodology, Science Communication & IPR organized at IIIM

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: A workshop on Research Methodology, Science Communication & Intellectual Property Right (IPR) - A Futuristic Perspective was successfully organized by CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM), Jammu, in which around 100 participants, including researchers, students and professions drawn from J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Punjab have got the opportunity to learn and enhance the knowledge.

On this occasion, Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM, Jammu, underscored the vital importance of integrating rigorous research practices with effective communication strategies to significantly enhance the impact of scientific endeavours.

Further, Dr. Ahmed highlighted how CSIR-IIIM, Jammu is taking on a leadership role in creating synergy among scientific institu-



Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM, Jammu speaking at a workshop on Saturday.

tions in the region.

By establishing collaborative networks, IIIM Jammu aims to facilitate knowledge sharing and innovation, ultimately contributing to the advancement of science and technology in Jammu & Kashmir and beyond.

Additionally, he elaborated on the importance of aligning research initiatives with sustainable development goals (SDGs), advocating for a 'Viksit Bharat' (Developed India) through strategic research and innovation. He emphasized that this alignment not only addresses pressing societal

challenges but also propels the nation toward sustainable growth. Furthermore, Dr. Ahmed brought attention to the critical issue of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) protection. He articulated that safeguarding intellectual property is essential for fostering innovation and ensuring that researchers reap the benefits of their work.

By doing so, IIIM Jammu is committed to promoting an ecosystem that encourages creativity and protects the rights of inventors and researchers.

During the workshop, lec-

tures on patent filing & prosecution, significance of communicating science, introduction to intellectual Property Rights its Application & Commercialization, and Basic of Science Communication and Writing were delivered by Dr. Lipika Patnaik, Senior Principal Scientist, CSIR-IPU, New Delhi; Dr. Manish Mohan Gore, Senior Scientist, CSUR-NISEPR, New Delhi; Dr. Kancherla Prasad, Senior Scientist; & Dr. Love Sharma, Scientist of IIIM.

In his remarks, Er. Abdul Rahim, Head of the RMBD

& IST Division, provided a comprehensive overview of the CSIR Integrated Skill Initiatives and the various skill development programs being offered by CSIR-IIIM, Jammu.

He emphasized the critical need for skill enhancement in today's rapidly evolving scientific landscape, where advancing technology and research methodologies demand a highly skilled workforce.

The workshop attracted a wide range of participants from diverse academic and research backgrounds, reflecting the collaborative spirit of the scientific community in the region. Representatives from several prominent institutions were present, contributing to an enriching exchange of ideas and experiences.

Dr. Mir M. Asrar, Scientist, conducted the proceedings of the event while Dr. Nasir-Ul-Rashid, Senior Scientist, delivered the formal vote of thanks.

# JKMEGA holds general council meeting, calls for strengthening Mechanical Engineering cadre



JKMEGA members releasing Calendar 2025 during General Council meeting at Jammu.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Mechanical Engineers Association (JKMEGA) convened a General Council meeting for its Jammu province members at the Institution of Engineers (India), Jammu.

In a press release, the JKMEGA spokesperson stated that the meeting witnessed an overwhelming participation of Mechanical Engineers from across Jammu province. Notable attendees included Er Firdous Ahad Bhat (president JKMEGA), Er Gagan Jyoti (Chief Engineer, M&HED), Er Sunil Gandotra SE PHE Urban

Circle Jal Shakti Department Jammu Executive Engineer Mechanical Assistant Executive Engineer, Assistant Engineer Junior Engineer from R and B, Jal Shakti and other deptt of Jammu Province.

During the session, members deliberated on key issues concerning the Mechanical Engineering community. They emphasized the need for optimal utilization of Mechanical Engineering expertise across various departments, particularly R&B (PWD), Jal Shakti, and H&UDD, to enhance public service efficiency.

The forum also reiterated its longstanding demand for

the creation of a dedicated Mechanical Division within R&B and the expansion of the Mechanical wing in the Jal Shakti department, stressing that these measures are crucial for improved public welfare. Furthermore, the members resolved to intensify the membership drive and actively pursue initiatives aimed at strengthening the fraternity and addressing professional concerns.

JKMEGA reaffirmed its commitment to advocating for the rights and recognition of Mechanical Engineers across Jammu and Kashmir, urging the administration to address the fraternity's long-pending demands.

# The Saz Hotels & Resorts expands its luxury footprint in Jammu's Scenic Destinations



The Saz Hotels & Resorts officials with CM Omar Abdullah.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
BHADERWAH: The Saz Hotels & Resorts, a name synonymous with premium hospitality, continues its expansion in Jammu & Kashmir.

Having made its debut in July 2022 with The Saz Valley Resort in Bhaderwah, the brand has since established a strong presence in the region.

Following the success of

its flagship property, The Saz Hotels & Resorts opened a second hotel in Kishtwar in 2024.

Now, further strengthening its commitment to luxury tourism in the region, the group is set to unveil two premium-category properties in Bhaderwah.

These additions will enhance the hospitality landscape of this picturesque destination, offering world-class amenities and an immersive experience in nature.

With Bhaderwah and Kishtwar gaining prominence as emerging travel hotspots, The Saz Hotels & Resorts aims to cater to discerning travelers seeking comfort, elegance, and authentic local experiences.

# Yudhvir emphasizes modern horticultural practices for enhanced farmer productivity

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Yudhvir Sethi, BJP leader and MLA Jammu East Constituency today underscored the commitment of Modi government in empowering the farming community by providing them with comprehensive awareness about various central and UT-level schemes.

He emphasized that farmers should fully utilize the benefits of these farmer-friendly initiatives to improve their productivity and economic well-being.

He was speaking while addressing the farmers during the mega awareness camp / Kissan Mela organized by the Department of Horticulture Jammu at Bajalta, block Dansal under the scheme ATMA at Bajalta. Sethi urged the



MLA Jammu East, Yudhvir Sethi with other dignitaries at Kisan Mela.

farming community to adopt modern and scientific agricultural techniques, which would significantly enhance horticulture production and allied sectors.

Stressing the importance of sustainable agricultural practices, he assured that all central government schemes, including the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), are being effectively implemented to revolutionize the sector and

uplift the rural economy.

Yudhvir Sethi reaffirmed his unwavering support for the welfare of farmers and reiterated that the BJP-led government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi remains dedicated to their progress and prosperity.

He lauded the Department of Horticulture for its efforts in spreading awareness and facilitating access to resources that would help farmers achieve higher productivity and profitability.

Earlier, Director Horticulture Jammu, C. L. Sharma welcomed MLA Yudhvir Sethi and other dignitaries and informed them about the progress in respect of various components of departmental schemes being implemented in the area.

He briefed the farming community in detail about the central and UT sponsored schemes of the department especially Holistic Agriculture Development

Programme (HADP) with a motive to enhance the farmer's income.

Joint Director Horticulture Jammu Vikas Anand, Chief Horticulture Jammu Rakesh Kotwal, CCI Jammu Gul Sayeed & DL SMS Sandeep Gupta also spoke on the occasion.

HDO Dansal, Sandeep Sharma carried out the proceedings of the programme.

The farmers from all six Panchayats of Jammu East attended which includes Kana Chargal Lower, Kana Chargal Upper, Bain Bajlata, Pargalta, Aithem and Jagti.

Among those who were present included Dr. Uttam Singh, Daksh Kumar, Ashu Mandal, Naseeb Singh, Mohan, Kailsho and Rohit Gupta.

# SVMHC Hospital Management Committee calls on Health Minister to discuss affordable healthcare initiatives

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: In a significant move towards enhancing healthcare services for the people of Jammu & Kashmir; the Management Committee of Swami Vivekananda Medical Mission Charitable Hospital, Anbphalla, Jammu, on Saturday met with the Health Minister of Jammu & Kashmir, Sakina Itoo.



SVMHC Hospital Management Committee members meeting with Health Minister Sakina Itoo.

at affordable rates.

The delegation from the hospital, led by Amar Chand Gupta, Senior Vice President; B.B. Gupta, Gen Secretary; B.S.

Jamwal, Secretary; Administrator Dr. Ramesh Gupta; and Manager Iqbal Deep Singh, presented a memento to the Health Minister as a token

of appreciation for her continued support of healthcare initiatives in the region.

During the meeting, the hospital management highlighted the commendable services currently being offered to the community.

Notably, the hospital provides MRI and CT scan services at government-approved rates, at par with those at the Government Medical College.

This ensures that patients in need of diagnostic services can access them at affordable prices, without the financial burden that often comes with advanced medical procedures.

Delegation shared that all surgeries performed at Hospital are offered at rates that are 50%

lower than the rates charged by other private hospitals in the province.

In addition, the consultation fee at the hospital has been set at an incredibly affordable rate of just Rs. 10, ensuring that individuals from all walks of life can benefit from professional medical advice and treatment.

The management committee also discussed with the Health Minister about the future health services that are set to be introduced at the hospital.

Health Minister Sakina Itoo expressed her appreciation for the efforts of the hospital and acknowledged the important role the hospital plays in the region's healthcare system.

She praised the hospital's approach in providing healthcare services at affordable rates and assured the hospital's management for all possible government support.

# ABRSM welcomes Union Budget 2025, reiterates demand to spend 6 pc of GDP on education

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Akhil Bharatiya Rashtriya Shaikshik Mahasangh (ABRSM) on Saturday welcomed the allocation of Rs 1,28,650 crore for the education sector in the Union Budget 2025 presented by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, an increase of 6.65 per cent over the previous year.

The Mahasangh has termed this budget as an important step towards expanding education infrastructure, promoting digital education, promoting research and innovation.

However, the Mahasangh also made it clear that the government should take concrete steps towards spending at least 6% of GDP on the education sector so that the goals of the New Education Policy

(NEP) 2020 can be fully achieved.

ABRSM has described the allocation of Rs 7,500 crore for PM Shri Yojana, Rs 12,500 crore for PM Poshan Yojana and Rs 50,077.95 crore for higher education sector in the budget as positive.

Along with this, announcements like 6,500 new seats in 5 IITs of the country, 75,000 new seats in medical colleges in the next 5 years, 50,000 Atal Tinkering Labs and establishment of Center of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence are important steps for the future.

ABRSM said that the provision of 10,000 new PM Research Fellowships (PMRF Scheme) by the government to promote research and innovation, 5 National Centers of Excellence for Skillling in

partnership with global experts and Rs 20,000 crore for private sector-driven research, development and innovation is commendable.

The increase in the PM Internship Scheme will help youth gain work-experience and broadband connectivity in rural government schools under the BharatNet project will promote digital education.

ABRSM has demanded from the government that the budget of the education sector should be increased to at least 6 per cent of the GDP so that all students can get equal and quality education. ABRSM said that there is a need to further increase the education budget to provide more support to education and research, improve teacher training and expand digital education.

## K.K. Gandhi to attend 'Luminance' in Goa

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Sneha D Art Foundation, a dedicated non-profit organization championing visual art across India and beyond, is set to present "Luminance", a groundbreaking exhibition that unites the masters of modern Indian art with the bold new voices of the future. Hosted at Art Chamber, Goa, from 4th to 12th February 2025, this remarkable event will bridge generations, celebrating India's artistic evolution.

"Luminance" will feature an extraordinary collection of works by legendary artists who have shaped Indian modern art, including M.F. Hussain, Sunil Das, Ram Kumar, Jatin Das, and more.

Their timeless masterpieces, which have left an indelible mark on the art world, will be showcased alongside emerging talents, offering a compelling dialogue between tradition and innovation.

Among the distinguished invitees is K.K. Gandhi, a celebrated artist from Northern India, whose masterful paintings will be displayed alongside these iconic figures. His work, deeply rooted in cultural and historical narratives, adds a unique dimension to this artistic confluence.



# Shri Bawa Bhair Devsthan Trust releases annual calendar 2025



Shri Bawa Bhair Devsthan Trust members and others releasing annual calendar 2025.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Shri Bawa Bhair Devsthan Trust on Saturday organized a function at Dogra Brahman Pratinidhi Sabha, Chanakya Chowk, Parade Jammu in which the annual calendar (Panchang) for the year 2025 was released by DIG Jammu Samba Kathua range Shiv Kumar Sharma, Rakesh Khajuria, Retired Brigadier, in the presence of senior BJP leader and chief of Tawi Andolan, Chander Mohan Sharma president, Dogra Brahman Pratinidhi Sabha, Ved Parkash Sharma, Subash Shastri president, NMC, B.S. Jamwal Ex. DC, Gurdas Sharma. DBPS chairman, P.C. Sharma senior advocate presided over the function which started with the chanting of Mantras and

Sholakas. The function which was attended by various representatives and prominent citizens and pilgrims drawn from various parts of Jammu city especially from village Aitham, Soura, Kattal Battal apart from village Bhair among all the trustees and associated members of Baba Bhair Devsthan Trust namely Balwant Singh Chairman, Ramesh Sharma, general secretary, Ritiz Khajuria, Rajesh Bargarota, Raman Sharma, Shiv Ram Sharma, Jagan Nath Sharma, Om Parkash Sharma, Ex. Sarpanch Kirpal Singh, Girdhari Lal, Subash Chander, Dina Nath, Ex. Panch Pritam Singh, Rohit Sharma, Abhinash Sharma, Mohinder Sharma, Kishor Kumar Sharma Ex. Sarpanch Nagrota, M.L.

Padha, Birta Ram, K.L. Sharma, Devinder Baboo, Anchit Sharma Adv. Kanav Sharma Adv. and others were also present.

The speakers, while throwing the light on the history of Baba Bhair Devi the Kul Devta of many Bradaries urged the J&K Government to bring shrine on the map of J&K Tourism circuit apart from raising and upgrading the facilities to lakhs of pilgrims from Punjab, Himachal, Haryana & Delhi who visit shrine annually.

It was pointed out that drinking water, power and medical aid centre be opened and the road under PMGSY Scheme be constructed for which the Trust members have already pursued the case the Tourism Department and PWD.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the chief architect of the Indian Constitution, dedicated his life for the cause of social equality and justice. His ideals continue to inspire movements for human rights and social justice worldwide.

Balbir Ram Rattan, spokesperson, Jammu and Kashmir BJP & former Vice Chairperson, said this, while his interaction with a group of prominent SC citizens, who had recently joined BJP.

Balbir said that Dr. Ambedkar's vision of an all inclusive society was rooted in the principles of liberty, equality, and fraternity. He believed that caste-based discrimination was the biggest obstacle to India's progress and worked tirelessly to abolish untouchability. His



Spokesperson J&K BJP, Balbir Ram Rattan speaking in a meeting at Jammu.

efforts led to the inclusion of provisions in the Indian Constitution that guarantee equal rights for all citizens, regardless of caste, religion, or gender.

Balbir further pointed out that Ambedkar was a staunch advocate of education as a tool for empowerment, who urged marginalized communities to seek knowledge and assert their rights. He famously said, "Educate, agitate,

and organize!"-a message that remains relevant today. His contributions in shaping laws for social justice, including reservations in education and employment, laid the foundation for a more inclusive India.

Beyond legal reforms, Dr. Ambedkar emphasized economic and social democracy. He believed that true equality could only be achieved when

social hierarchies were dismantled and economic opportunities were accessible to all.

Balbir said that Dr. Ambedkar's ideals serve as a guiding light for a just and inclusive society.

Prominent SC citizens who had interaction included Hans Raj Loria, R. L. Kaith, Des Raj, Baldev Raj Sandhu, Naresh Kumar and Jagdish Raj Kaith.