

Dr Jitendra flags off CEL, CSIR supported Women Entrepreneurs for Leather Skill Development Training

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Union Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh on Saturday flagged off an Industrial Training Program on Leather Goods Manufacturing for women entrepreneurs from the J&K.

The initiative aims to empower women by providing them with skill development opportunities in the leather sector. The training program is being organized by the CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM), Jammu which was financially supported by Central Electronic Limited (CEL).

This employment generation programme is the Social Corporate Responsibility (CSR) initiative of CEL through which the project titled "Employability to Women Through Skill Development and Entrepreneur Support in Manufacturing & Designing of Leather Goods and Garments" was granted to CSIR-IIIM, Jammu.



Union Minister for Science and Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh flagging off women entrepreneurs for Skill Development Training in Leather.

While addressing the gathering, Dr. Jitendra highlighted that this is a unique initiative of first of its kind where three organizations viz., CSIR-Indian Institute Integrative Medicine (CSIR-IIIM), CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute (CSIR-CLRI) and Central Electronic Limited (CEL) have collaborated to strengthen the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the Union Territory of J&K.

Dr Singh also commended the institutions like CEL

which has funded this special project for imparting training to women with a focus on their employability, the CSIR-CLRI, globally renowned institution for conducting the training at its satellite centre at Jalandhar.

This effort, spearheaded by CSIR-IIIM, aims to empower women in J&K and is expected to significantly benefit startups registered under the Atal Innovation Centre at CSIR-IIIM.

Dr. Jitendra emphasized that Jammu & Kashmir

region has vast potential in the leather goods industry due to the availability of raw materials, traditional craftsmanship, and growing demand for handmade, high-quality leather products.

Proper training in this sector can significantly contribute to economic growth and livelihood generation, especially to unemployed women.

Earlier, Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM, Jammu, while welcoming the Union Minister, apprised him about the training focused on various aspects of leather goods manufacturing, including design, production, and marketing, with the goal of equipping women with the necessary skills to establish their own startup and businesses enterprise.

During next one week, the participants will receive hands-on training from industry experts at CSIR-CLRI, Jalandhar

and will be guided in modern techniques to ensure their competitiveness in the market, he informed.

Dr. Ahmed also underscored the significance of utilizing scientific research and innovation to boost entrepreneurship and support local talent in the country as a whole.

The program is expected to create new opportunities in the leather sector and contribute to the economic growth of the region.

The training program was organized under the guidance of Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM, Jammu & Chairman, Atal Incubation Centre.

The event was attended by officers of CSIR-IIIM including Er. Abdul Rahim, Head Br. Srinagar & Vice-Chairman, Atal incubation Centre, Dr. Saurabh Saran, Pr. Scientist, PI, Atal Incubation Centre, Dr. Shahid Jibran, CEO, Atal Incubation Centre.

Transformative Workshop on ‘Effective Communication & Leadership’ held at JU

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Skill Incubation, Innovation & Entrepreneurship Development Center (SIIEDC), in collaboration with ELFA International, successfully organized a power-packed one-day workshop on 'Effective Communication & Leadership' at the University of Jammu. Designed to equip participants with essential leadership and communication skills, the workshop provided valuable insights into becoming impactful leaders in both personal and professional spheres.

The session was led by Nawab Mehran Khan, CEO, ELFA International, in the presence of Iftikar, Senior Vice President.

ELFA International, and Komal, Project Coordinator, Samba Centre, ELFA. Their expert guidance enriched the learning experience, emphasizing the critical role of effective leadership and strategic communication. The highly interactive workshop featured engaging discussions, real-world applications, and hands-on activities focusing on self-belief, commitment, and mastering the art of communication. Participants were encouraged to refine their leadership presence, adapt communication styles, and build meaningful professional and personal connections.



The workshop emphasized several key aspects of effective communication and leadership, encouraging participants to refine their skills for greater impact. One of the primary takeaways was the importance of pausing before responding, ensuring thoughtful and meaningful interactions. The session underscored authenticity as the foundation of strong leadership, highlighting the value of trustworthiness and honesty. Participants learned the significance of clarity and patience in communication, ensuring their ideas were effectively conveyed. The workshop also stressed the

power of active listening and understanding others' perspectives, fostering collaboration and inclusivity. Additionally, the role of non-verbal communication was explored, reinforcing how body language often speaks louder than words. The need for following up after conversations was also discussed, as a way to strengthen relationships and build trust. One of the most impactful lessons of the session was knowing when to "just shut up..." and please shut up," emphasizing the transformative power of active listening in leadership.

The event concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Pallavi Sachdeva, who expressed gratitude to Nawab Mehran Khan, the organizing team, and all participants for making the workshop a resounding success.

Department of Marketing & SCM organises national webinar on TOEFL & GRE Exams

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Department of Marketing & SCM, Central University of Jammu organized a highly informative and engaging Webinar on "TOEFL and GRE Exams" under the mentorship of Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu.

The event marked the gracious presence of distinguished and resource persons from The Educational Testing Service (ETS) India and faculty members from School of Business Studies.

The programme was formally inaugurated by Prof. Jaya Bhasin, Dean School of Business Studies and Dr. Neelika Arora, Head, Department of MSCM in presence of Dr. Naresh Kumar, Principal, Community College and faculty members of the Department including Dr. Vinay Kumar, Dr. Arun Yadav, Dr. Anju Thapa & Dr. Shahid Mushtaq.

Prof. Jaya Bhasin in her opening address appreciated the efforts of the Department under the dynamic leader-



CUJ faculty and students during a national webinar.

ship of Prof. Sanjeev Jain in carrying out professional development activities in collaborative mode for the benefit of the student community.

Speaking on the occasion Prof. Bhasin impressed upon the participants to take the maximum benefits from the distinguished speakers of the day having vast experience in facilitating the learners to have more clarity as well as better understanding of TOEFL & GRE exams.

Dr. Shahid, Assistant Professor, Department of Marketing and SCM in his address apprised the audience about the Programme and ETS India- a non-profit

organization which is a subsidiary of ETS., headquartered in Princeton, USA that creates and administers english proficiency tests and scores more than 50 million tests annually including the globally well-known TOEFL and GRE tests in over 160 countries worldwide.

He impressed upon the audience that this webinar would be of immense benefit for the participants to enrich their orientation about the TOEFL & GRE Exams. He informed that more than 250 participants from across the country registered for the programme.

Earlier Dr. Neelika Arora,

Head, Department of Marketing & SCM welcomed the Guests and introduced the Resource Persons of the day.

She highlighted that Resource Person/s have significant corporate experience and would share valuable insights to prepare for skill-sets required to qualify such exams.

Introducing the trainers for the Programme she pointed that this event promises to be a great learning opportunity for all those who are interested in expanding their knowledge to unlock global opportunities with TOEFL & GRE Exams.

She also highlighted that besides higher education, these skills also serve as an important parameter for campus placements as many companies evaluate students on these skills.

Speaking on the occasion Kanika Mehra, Regional Manager - North India ETS India in her address provided a comprehensive overview of TOEFL & GRE test and its acceptance across countries and universities. She also apprised the participants about the new format and structure besides a detailed comparison with IELTS, PTE & GMAT.

She elaborated that TOEFL is a standardized test to measure the English language ability of non-native speakers wishing to enrol in foreign universities.

It measures Skills such as reading, listening, writing & speaking whereas GRE is a standardized test that is an admissions requirement for many graduate schools in the United States and Canada and few other countries.

Even top Indian B-Schools

like IIMs have started accepting GRE scores for many of their courses. It measures critical thinking & logical thinking skills such as quantitative reasoning, verbal reasoning & analytical writing.

Munish Modi, Senior Business Development Manager ETS India in his address informed the participants about access to free preparation materials and online masterclasses every month being conducted by ETS India including free TOEFL Beginner's Guide availability to all interested students.

The sessions were well received by participants followed by enthusiastic question and answer sessions. The entire programme was coordinated by Dr Shahid Mushtaq under the overall supervision of Dr. Neelika Arora. Dr. Anju Thapa conducted the proceedings of the Programme and Dr. Naresh Kumar proposed a formal vote of thanks expressing gratitude to all the contributors and supporters of this initiative.

GDC Mahanpur organises Work Camp under theme ‘Clean Campus and Green Campus’



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

MAHANPUR: NSS Unit of GDC Mahanpur organised a Work Camp under the theme "Clean Campus and Green Campus" on the fourth day i.e. on 8 th of February, 2025 of the One-Week long "NSS Winter Camp" (05th to 11th of February, 2025).

The Camp is being organized by Dr. Rupalee Jasrotia, NSS Programme Officer and the NSS Committee Member Dr. Jogbinder Singh Soodan, under the supervision and able guidance of Prof (Dr.) Sangeeta Sudan, Principal of the College.

During the Work Camp, NSS Volunteers weeded, tilled and prepared the flower beds in front of the Administration Block, Library and Canteen area for plantation. Moreover, they also maintained the already prepared flower beds in the College campus.

Besides this, a cleanliness drive was also organised in the College Campus.

NSS Volunteers cleaned the whole Academic Block in order to make the campus clean, thus, upholding the idea of "Cleanliness is next to Godliness."

40 NSS Volunteers participated in the camp and contributed in making the Campus Clean and Green. Refreshment was given to all the NSS volunteers at the end of the Camp.

Kathua skier represents India in Asian Winter Games

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A young skier of the Indian Army, Aman Kumar of district Kathua is representing the country in the 9th Asian Winter Games at Harbin in China.

Since the mega event has already been underway, the Indian team has arrived the venue. Aman has a long list of achievements, and it was because of his performance that he has been made part of the Indian team.

Aman, 22, started training on snow during his posting in Kashmir and soon fell in love with the adventure sports.

"I'm an athlete of Cross Country Skiing and play for the Indian Army. Most of my training sessions remains in Gulmarg where I practice in 10 kms, 15 kms and sprint," disclosed Aman, a resident of Nagri Parole in Kathua.

Aman shall contest in 4x 7.5 kilometers Relay event. Earlier, Aman was selected in



the Indian team considering his performance in the IIIRD Khelo India Winter Games held in Gulmarg in 2024. It was followed by the international camp in Italy.

District Poonch Wushu Championship begins

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: The District Poonch Wushu Championship, organized by the District Poonch Wushu Association under the aegis of the Wushu Association of J&K and supported by the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council, began on Saturday at the Poonch Martial Art Academy.

The championship, which spans categories for boys and girls across different age groups-Under-5, 7, 9, 14 years (Sub-Junior), 14 to 17 years (Junior), and 18+ years-



Players in action during opening ceremony of District Poonch Wushu Championship 2024-25.

has attracted a strong participation of around 130 players from various institutions and Wushu clubs across the district.

The opening ceremony was graced by Mohd Sawal, Hockey Coach and Observer for the event from the Jammu and Kashmir District Unit of Poonch.

Other distinguished

guests included Rajinder Singh, Taekwondo Coach from the Department of Youth Services and Sports, Dr. Sarfraz Mir, Chairman of Sir Syed Education Mission Soeh India, and Jatinder Sharma, Headmaster of GMS Khorinar.

The event was officially welcomed by Parveen Kour, Senior Vice

President of the District Poonch Wushu Association and a veteran National Wushu player, who addressed the gathering.

In his speech, Mohd Sawal conveyed his best wishes to all participants and congratulated the District Poonch Wushu Association for organizing such a remarkable event for the youth of the region.

Rajinder Singh also extended his support, offering his congratulations to Nuzhat Gul (Secretary of JKSC) and Kuldeep Handoo (Chief Wushu Coach of India and Dronacharya Awardee) for providing an exceptional platform to the players of Poonch by facilitating the district's opportunity to host the championship.

The first day of the championship saw remarkable performances, with athletes showcasing their

extraordinary Wushu skills.

The Gold medalists of this event will have the honour of representing District Poonch in the upcoming 18th UT Jammu and Kashmir Wushu Championship, which will be held at the Bhagwati Nagar Indoor Complex, Jammu, from February 15 to 18, 2025. The event is being technically supervised by Parveen Kour (National Wushu Player and Technical Supervisor), Sarvjeet Singh (SAI Certified Wushu Coach), Akarshit Sudan, Qasim Hussain, and Manmeet Singh.

This exciting championship not only highlights the talent of young athletes in Poonch but also emphasizes the importance of sports in shaping a healthy and disciplined future for the youth.

Sewna, Udhampur Clubs triumph in 18th Open District Kho-Kho Championship



Winner team receiving trophy from the chief guest at Udhampur on Saturday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: The 18th Open District Kho-Kho Championship concluded in Udhampur with thrilling victories for Sewna Club in the boys' section and Udhampur Club in the girls' section.

In a nail-biting final, Sewna Club emerged victorious in the boys' category, edging past Udhampur Club with a 15-13 win. The match was decided in the final minutes, showcasing the deter-

mination and skill of both teams.

Meanwhile, in the girls' section, Udhampur Kho-Kho Club secured a hard-fought win, defeating their opponents by a narrow 10-9 margin in a thrilling contest.

The event, held under the aegis of the District Udhampur Kho-Kho Association, was graced by distinguished guests, including SSP Udhampur, Ashok Amod Nagpuraee, the Chief Guest for the occasion.

Nagpuraee lauded the efforts of the Association for organizing the tournament successfully and emphasized the importance of sports in shaping young minds.

He encouraged players to remain active in sports to keep away from harmful substances and to channel their energy in positive directions.

Other attendees included Sanjeet Bavouria, District President, Sanjay Sharma,

Organizing Secretary of Kho-Kho Association Udhampur, Manender Bawa, Vice President of JKKKA, Amrinderpal Singh, General Secretary of Jammu Kashmir Kho-Kho Association, Pankaj Malhotra, Treasurer of JKKKA and International Player, Sandeep Bhat, Additional Superintendent of Police Udhampur, Rajinder Digra, District Information Officer, Bhutto Choudhary, DSP DAR Special Guests, and Rashika Sharma, SHO Women's Police Udhampur, who was the Guest of Honour.

The successful organization of this championship is a testament to the growing popularity and talent in Kho-Kho across the district.

This year's championship was a memorable one, filled with excitement, competition, and an underlying message of sportsmanship and community spirit.

DYSS organises four-day self defense classes at GDC Kathua



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: The Department of Youth Services and Sports organized four day self defense classes at GDC Kathua in collaboration with District Social Welfare Department Kathua.

Dr. Sanjay Kalopia Incharge Principal Govt. Degree College Kathua was the chief guest. Professor Yash Pal Sharma, Dr Sandeep Sharma Physical Director Degree college Kathua and Sunil Singh Sambyal District Youth services and Sports Officer Kathua were also present on the occasion.

While addressing the students today's chief guest expressed that girls are excelling in every field. These self defense classes will boost their confidence. It is great initiative taken by the department of youth services and sports in collaboration with social welfare department which will help the girls to feel safe and build confidence. It will prepare them for unexpected situations. The experts from the department will impart techniques of martial arts.

Ashish wins Taekwondo gold in National Games

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Ashish Muwal brought laurels to Jammu and Kashmir by winning a gold medal in the discipline of Taekwondo in the ongoing 38th National Games in Uttarakhand.

Chief coach of Taekwondo in J&K, Atul Pangotra has played a key role in shaping Ashish as a medal winner in the important National event.

Ashish was selected in the National Games considering his performance at the National level.

