

Workshop on "Capacity Building And Leadership Development for Implementation of NEP-2020" concludes

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JAMMU: The three-day workshop on Capacity Building and Leadership Development for the implementation of NEP 2020, with special emphasis on Internationalization of Higher Education concluded here this afternoon with a valedictory function held at the Brigadier Rajinder Singh Auditorium, JU. Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary, UT of J&K and Chief Guest on the valedictory function of the workshop, highlighted the significance of capacity building in leadership development, considering India's position as the world's second-largest education system. Dulloo said that as a hub for higher education institutions in the region, the JU plays a pivotal role in offering multidisciplinary education, fostering research-oriented undergraduate training, and introducing innovative programs such as the "Design Your Degree" initiative.

Dulloo also underscored the importance of leveraging multiple interventions to maximize the impact of educational initiatives, drawing parallels between workshops like this and dynamic environments such as farms



Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo speaking at closing ceremony of workshop at JU.

and laboratories where incremental changes and predetermined outcomes are observed.

He emphasized the difference between leadership and authority which are important aspects in capacity buildings. Underscoring the importance of the National Education Policy (NEP) as a crucial initiative, Atal Dulloo focused on tapping into the boundless energy and potential of the youth, likening them to a valuable asset capable of sparking positive societal changes. The report of the three-day workshop was presented by Prof Manisha Priyam from the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), Alok Kumar, Principal Secretary,

Higher Education Department, J&K, and Guest of Honour stressed the importance of enhancing our global presence and fostering cross-cultural exchange to create a vibrant educational environment. Additionally, he proposed the crafting of an innovative curriculum to encourage a well-rounded educational experience conducive to adaptation and growth. Professor Umesh Rai, Vice-Chancellor, JU delivered an address emphasizing the importance of implementing the NEP 2020 for the holistic development of the education sector. Earlier, Prof. Anju Bhasin, Dean Academic Affairs, University of Jammu, extended a welcome to all attendees.

The valedictory function concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Prof. Sundee Pandita, Director MMTTC.

The proceedings of the workshop were conducted by Dr Sunita Sharma Deputy Registrar, DAA. Earlier, day three featured two enlightening sessions focusing on internationalization of higher education and the theme centered on "Internationalization of higher education in J&K perspective."

The chairperson of the session was Prof. Sundee Pandita, co-convenor of the workshop.

The first panelist of the session was Prof. Crig Jeffrey, from Monash University, Australia, emphasized that building a base of academic staff, researchers and developing bilateral relations with India and Australia is important to emerge stronger for global opportunities for students in meeting higher education standards. The second panelist of the session, Dr. Archana Thakur, Joint Secretary UGC, added that it is imperative for all, including UGC to come together to promote internationalization of higher education. She said that many universities will open

their branches very soon and such collaboration will help in mitigating barriers to make India a global knowledge destination and encourage faculty and students from different perspectives. During the session, panelists also discussed research in the field of climate change, global health, cyber security, food and agriculture where India and Australia can collaborate together.

The other session on the theme "Quality Intervention in pedagogy & Assessment of teacher Education," was chaired by Prof. P.K. Srivastava, Director DD & OE, University of Jammu. Prof. Remu Nanda, HOD Education Department, University of Jammu, emphasizing NEP will lay the foundation of new India focusing on how to think forward in the direction of teachers' development and will also enable the youth to excel and shine in different aspects of life.

The second panelist of the session, Prof. Seema Naz, Govt. College of Education, Srinagar, said that NEP focuses on quality education and effective teaching can make it happen with the help of teacher education programmes.

Training on 'Tissue Culture Techniques' commences at IIIM



Dr Zabeer Ahmed, Director CSIR-IIIM Jammu with faculty and participants.

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JAMMU: A three days skill development training programme on Tissue Culture Techniques commenced at CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine here today in which about 30 participants from diverse backgrounds of Biotechnology, Life sciences, Agribusiness management and agriculture enrolled for the workshop. The programme was inaugurated by Dr Zabeer Ahmed, Director CSIR-IIIM Jammu.

Dr Ahmed, Chief Guest during the inaugural session in his address said that tissue culture techniques have emerged as a pivotal aspect of modern biotechnology, playing a crucial role in crop improvement, pharmaceuticals, and horticulture.

Recognizing the significance of this discipline in the contemporary scientific landscape, IIIM, following the NEP guidelines has taken the initiative to introduce a specialized Skill Development programme aimed at equipping individuals with the necessary skills and knowledge in tissue culture methodologies.

He called Tissue culture as an advanced technique, which includes molecular genetics, recombinant DNA studies, genome characterization, gene-transfer techniques,

aseptic growth of cells, tissues and in vitro regeneration of plants.

These technologies have applications in crop improvement and agriculture, which is the focus of this skill development program. Dr Ahmed further said that Plant tissue culture coupled with biotechnological approaches leads towards sustainable agricultural development providing solutions to major food security issues. Dr Ahmed described Plants are the rich source of phytochemicals with medicinal properties rendering them useful for the industrial production of pharmaceuticals and nutraceuticals.

He said there are numerous plant compounds with application in the cosmetics industry, in addition to having moisturizing, anti-ageing, anti-wrinkle effects, plant-derived compounds also possess pharmacological properties such as antiviral, antimicrobial, antifungal, anticancer, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, and anti-allergy characteristics.

He said that in vitro propagation of industrially significant flora is gaining attention because of its several advantages over conventional plant propagation methods.

He described the advantages of this technique is the

quick availability of food throughout the year, irrespective of the growing season, thus opening new opportunities to the producers and farmers.

Dr SK Bakshi, Ex Chief Scientist and renowned cytogeneticist, who was distinguished guest speaker spoke about advantageous technique for plant propagation at a commercial scale. He also gave a lead lecture on "Development of MAPs, using Tissue Culture Techniques, for commercial utilization". He further said that Plant propagation in vitro has the potential to be a powerful tool in both fundamental and applied biology and said that Cryopreservation of genetic resources technologies have a lot of potential and are rapidly evolving around the world.

Pertinently these hands on training and skill development series have been launched by CSIR-IIIM Jammu as part of CSIR-Integrated skill initiatives. The event was conducted under overall supervision of Er Abdul Rahim, Chief Scientist & Head RMBD & IST. Dr Srinivas Kota, Scientist gave an overview of whole training program while as Dr Nasir Ul Rasheed, Senior Scientist gave formal vote of thanks.

Ace para Int'l Taekwondo Player of Jammu gets Driving License

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Transport Commissioner, J&K Rajinder Singh Tara on Thursday handed over a Driving License to Chandee Singh, Specially abled International Player in Taekwondo, who had always dreamt of driving car using his legs. He had represented and won many laurels for the country and the UT of Jammu and Kashmir

To fulfill his dream, Chandee Singh, renowned differently abled sportsman approached the Transport Commissioner;



Transport Commissioner J&K, R.S Tara handing over a Driving License to Chandee Singh.

Jammu for issuance of Driving License. Keeping in view his contribution towards Nation despite facing challenges, a special Board headed by Vinay

Samotra, Joint Transport Commissioner comprising of Pankaj Bhagotra, Regional

Transport Officer, Jammu and Rehana Tabassum, ARTO (HQ), Jammu was constituted by the Transport Commissioner, J&K. The Board conducted Driving Skill Test at Trial Ground, Nagrota and during real time basis on National Highway as well on March 13, 2024. The trial was conducted on his adaptive vehicle which is modified/ altered as per ARAI guidelines/requirements. The major control of his car is being operated using his feet. The RTO Jammu has also altered the registration of the

car as adaptive vehicle after inspection of the kit provided by the ARAI.

This is one of the biggest service of the Transport Department to the specially abled persons to realise his dream of legally driving the car after obtaining license. The Department is ready to give wings to other similar special abled persons after meeting required formalities.

Abrogation of Art 370 opens floodgates of development, ends turmoil under meek dispensations of Cong, other parties: Randhawa

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former Legislator and senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Vikram Randhawa said that crores of families in villages across the country have received the benefits of schemes launched by the Narendra Modi led government without having to visit any government office again and again.

He underlined that the Government identified the beneficiaries and then took steps to extend the benefits to them.

Randhawa made these remarks during his visit to Panchayat Dharap of RS Pura Jammu South Assembly Segment under outreach programme to masses and to physically contact with the beneficiaries of different schemes launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi led NDA Government, here today. Former Legislator Vikram



Senior BJP leader Vikram Randhawa interacting with people.

Randhawa was accompanied by Ashok Khajuria, senior BJP leader, Vijay Sharma Ex-Sarpanch and Mandal President, Pushkar Sharma, Surinder Sharma, Gurdal Singh, Madan Lal, Sohan Singh, Girdhari Choudhary and many others. While speaking, the beneficiaries briefed about the benefits being procured by them from various Modi led Government. They expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister for launching

various flagship schemes for the benefit of the poor and marginalized people. "We have established a direct relationship, an emotional bond between the central government and the people of the country", Randhawa remarked.

Randhawa added that the BJP Government led by PM Narendra Modi has done tremendous work to ensure that every section of the society gets its due share.

Former Legislator while referring to the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi about Jammu and Kashmir said, "Central Government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has come up with an inclusive agenda of development, growth, investment and creating opportunities for the youth-skilled, unskilled and educated. The initiatives put into action by the visionary Prime Minister Narendra Modi will transform Jammu and Kashmir; irrespective of region, religion, caste or ethnicity", he said. The BJP leader said that PM Modi gave special attention towards J&K with abrogation of Article 370 remaining the turning point for the region which has opened the floodgates of development and end of turmoil that lasted for several decades under the meek dispensations of Congress and other parties.

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JAMMU: Yudhvir Sethi, J&K BJP Vice President on Thursday reaffirmed the Party's dedication to swiftly address the grievances of the general public.

This commitment was underscored during a grievances' redressal camp held at Pt Prem Nath Bhawan in Kacchi Chawni, Jammu.

The camp was organized by Yudhvir Sethi with the primary objective to address the problems being faced by the general public hailing from the East constituency of district Jammu. Parveen Kerni, President East Mandal, Arun Sethi, General Secretary East Mandal, Naseeb Singh Shakti Kendra Parmukh Aithem also accompanied the senior BJP leader during the camp. The camp witnessed a huge rush of people from across Jammu city who came to the party office to discuss their issues with senior BJP leaders. Various deputations, including individual persons--



Yudhvir Sethi, J&K BJP Vice President listening to public issues.

most of whom were women-visited the camp to present their grievances on issues such as ration, education, pension, PHE, PDD, revenue, power, water scarcity, roads, and other development-related topics, as well as personal issues. Yudhvir Sethi gave a patient hearing to the deputations and resolved most of their issues instantaneously by talking to the authorities concerned on the phone. He assured the visiting people that he will take up the rest of their

issues with the concerned authorities and get them resolved soon.

The senior BJP leader reiterated the unwavering commitment of the Bharatiya Janata Party to prioritize and resolve the issues and concerns voiced by the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

He emphasized that the BJP stands as a bridge between the government and the masses, dedicated to ensuring effective communication and prompt action on the grievances of the citizens.

Yudhvir Sethi mentioned that the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, has a personal interest in the welfare of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

He asserted that the BJP-led government at the Centre has taken various initiatives to address the issues of unemployment, poverty, and underdevelopment in the Union Territory.

He also underscored the party's proactive approach in engaging with the public, listening to their woes, and swiftly addressing their concerns.

He reiterated that the BJP's mission is not only to govern but also to serve the people, fostering a sense of trust and collaboration between the government and the populace. Through initiatives like these, the BJP aims to strengthen the democratic fabric of Jammu and Kashmir, ensuring inclusive development and prosperity for all its residents, he added.

Ritika welcomes EC's readiness to conduct Parliament & Assembly elections simultaneously in J&K



STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Ritika Trehan, the Chief Spokesperson of BJP Mahila Moreha in Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory, has welcomed the views of the Election Commission of India (ECI) regarding the possibility of conducting simultaneous Parliament and Assembly elections in J&K.

In a statement, she expressed BJP's readiness and support for this decision, emphasizing that the people of the Union

Territory would benefit greatly if both sets of elections were held concurrently. Trehan highlighted that the people of J&K are eager to participate in the democratic process and elect their representatives.

She indicated that BJP favours early assembly polls in the Union Territory and anticipates that the elections will take place before September of that year. Trehan underscored the efforts made by the government, particularly under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to ensure progress and peace in Jammu and Kashmir since August 2019. Moreover, she reiterated BJP's commitment to enhancing its electoral performance and contributing to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of forming a stronger BJP government at the Centre. Trehan expressed confidence in BJP's ability to secure victories in various constituencies, including Jammu, Udhampur, and Rajouri-Poonch-Anantnag, while calling for unity among the people of Jammu and Kashmir to move away from divisive politics perpetuated by other parties such as the NC, PDP, and Congress.

J&K Amateur Fencing Association filed Appeal challenging order of trial Court dismissing interim injunction application HC declines to stay order of trial Court

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The controversy amongst the National Sports Federation i.e. Fencing Association of India (FAI) and J&K Amateur Fencing Association has finally landed in the Jammu Wing of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh as the J&K Amateur Fencing Association has filed Miscellaneous Appeal (MA No. 07/2024) thereby challenging Order dated January 15, 2024 passed by the 1st Additional District Judge, Jammu whereby the said Court after hearing Advocate Supriya Chouhan appearing for National Sports Federation i.e. Fencing Association of India and Adhoc Committee in J&K, dismissed the interim injunction application, vacated the interim injunction and allowed the Adhoc Committee for carrying out the fencing activities in the Union Territory of J&K.

When the Miscellaneous Appeal came up for hearing before Justice Sanjeev

Kumar of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court after hearing Senior Advocate Gagan Basotra with Advocate Sachin Gupta who vehemently argued for staying the order of trial court whereas Advocates Supriya Chouhan and Hemant Phalpher appearing for National Sports Federation (FAI) and Adhoc-Committee, J&K strongly resisted the submissions of Senior Advocate Gagan Basotra and the Court did not stay the operation of the order of trial

Court and after hearing both the sides, issued notice to the contesting parties and Advocate Supriya Chouhan accepted notices on behalf of Fencing Association of India (FAI) and Adhoc-Committee whereas notice was issued to Advocate Anshuja Tak representing J&K Sports Council.

The Court also summoned the scanned record from the Court below and further directed the Registry to list this matter on April 3, 2024.

DB disposes of PIL Smart City constructions project are creating serious traffic congestion and pollution

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JAMMU: In a PIL filed by Residents of Peerbagh and Hyderpora Residents of Peerbagh and Hyderpora pertains to certain steps taken under the Smart City Project whereby Cycle Tracks, Walk Ways and Link Roads are being constructed.

According to the petitioner the said constructions undertaken during the project are creating serious traffic congestion and pollution. In this regard, the petitioner has submitted a representation to the Government authorities on December 7, 2023 projecting therein the issues and

seeking redressal of the grievances.

A Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court Comprising Chief Justice N Kotishwar Singh and Justice MA Chowdhary is of the view that since the petitioners have submitted a representation to the

competent authority, the same will be examined by the authorities so that the difficulties of the public are addressed.

DB disposed of PIL with the observation that the representation submitted by the petitioner to the Chief Secretary to Government, UT of J&K

and Ladakh, is disposed of expeditiously preferably within a period of four weeks from the date copy of this order is made available. The petitioner is, however, at liberty to approach this Court again, if the cause survives. The instant Public Interest Litigation is closed.

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