

Hands-on training workshop for media students organised by Department of Journalism, JU

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at Jammu University (JU) organized a one-day workshop on fact-checking, in collaboration with the Google News Initiative (GNI) India Training Network, here on Wednesday. The workshop aimed to support budding journalists and media educators to counter the spread of misinformation.

Dr. Aditya Kumar Shukla, GNI India Training Assistance and Professor of Media Studies at Amity University, Madhya Pradesh, was the resource person of the workshop.

Dr. Vinit Utpal, Assistant Professor, IIMC Jammu was the guest of honour during the workshop.

The event highlighted the importance of fact-checking in today's digital age, where misinformation can significantly impact public opinion



Dr. Aditya Kumar Shukla, GNI India Training Assistance posing with JU faculty and students.

and decision-making.

Dr. Garima Gupta, Head of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, emphasized the need of such a workshop to better equip the media students to deal with the present crisis of misinformation, disinformation in the age of fake news.

She appreciated the resource person for sharing "red flags" to spot misinformation and combat deep fakes with the use of apt tools and techniques to verify

fy misinformation.

Earlier, Dr. Ravia Gupta, Assistant Professor, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication presented the welcome address on behalf the department.

During the workshop, participants were informed regarding different types of misinformation and various strategies as well as tools to identify and counter online misinformation, particularly in the context of electoral processes. They were also

given hands-on training to verify the authenticity of photos, videos, and content by using tools such as Google Lens, Yandex, TinEye, and InVid.

The resource person cautioned the participants to step back from obvious messaging and posts that trigger extreme emotions. Also, they were told to be careful of the social media handles that do not always provide credible information.

Further, the attendees engaged in discussion on

how to effectively handle memes that can often be used to spread propaganda or misinformation. They also learned about monitoring Telegram profiles and groups using third-party tools like Google CSEs, TGStat, and Telegram DB search Bot (@tdb_bot).

Participants were urged to "think of intent" of the posts or messages circulated through social media and especially WhatsApp and beware of forwarded messages. They were encouraged to search for the original source, check the language and verify statistics and data. Faculty members, students of Journalism and Mass Communication and scholars from Department of English participated in the workshop.

Students from the first and final semester of Journalism Department, Vishali Devi and Komal Devi conducted the program successfully.

J&K Police Mountain Rescue Team imparts training to NDRF personnel



J&K Police Mountain Rescue Team imparting training to NDRF personnel.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu & Kashmir Police which has always played a pivotal role not only in containing insurgency and maintenance of Law & Order all across the UT of J&K but has also been busy in other areas whether it is fighting crime, traffic management, providing security to VIPs, protection of vital installations, etc besides disaster management, (earthquake of 2005 or the devastating floods of 2014). J&K Police

is ever ready to report to the call of duty. The J&K Police Mountain Rescue Team has proved its mettle during various rescue operations notably during Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY) by saving the lives of a number of Yatries. Presently J&K Police Mountain Rescue team is imparting training to Personnel of NDRF of 13th Bn. at Nud Samba under the supervision of Inspector Ram Singh, Incharge MRT in which 40

NDRF personnel are being trained in the 15 days specialized training course w.e.f. 15th March 2024 whereunder various aspects of trainings including mountain climbing, rescue & search operations along-with live demonstrations are being demonstrated/ trained.

The personnel are being trained under Basic Life Support System (BLS) protection, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and other first aid techniques.

SPMR College organises Blood Donation Camp and Thalassemia awareness



A volunteer donating blood.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: NSS Units of Govt. SPMR College of Commerce organised a Blood Donation Camp under the aegis of IQAC. The primary objective of the Blood Donation Camp was to contribute to the noble cause of saving lives by collecting blood from the willing participants.

The event was organised in collaboration with J&K Thalassaemia Welfare Society and Blood Bank of GMC Jammu. The programme commenced with brief inaugural ceremony where students were made aware by Er. Sudhir Sethi,

President J&K Thalassaemia Welfare Society about Thalassaemia and how survival of Thalassaemia patients is dependent upon donated blood as such patients are unable to produce blood in their own bodies.

Dr. Rajinder Singh, Principal of the College applauded the efforts of Prof. Deepshika Sharma and Dr. Deepak Pathania for motivating the students for donating blood.

He also appreciated the students for donating Blood and fulfilling their duty towards the society. In the camp over 65 students registered for blood donation out of which around 50 students physically donated blood.

Dr. Renu, Dr. Rajat and their team from the blood Bank, GMC Jammu efficiently conducted the whole procedure of blood collection.

Faculty members of the college present on the occasion were Prof. Pawan Gupta, Dr. Reena Rani, Dr. Mohd. Azam, Dr. Chetna Gupta, Prof. Monika Mahajan, Prof. Shaji Khan and Prof. Esha Abrol.

Shammi Kapoor and Rajinder Pathak from J&K Thalassaemia Society also graced the occasion.

The whole program was coordinated by Prof. Deepshika Sharma and Dr. Deepak Pathania NSS Program officers of the College.

Extend benefits of Central Govt. Health Scheme provision to pensioners of JK UT: NMC urges LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: National Mazdoor Conference (NMC) president, Subash Shastri on Wednesday appealed to J&K Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha and Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo to extend the benefits of Central Govt. Health Scheme provision to the pensioners of JK UT as approved by the Central Govt.

Talking to media persons here, Shastri disclosed this the benefits provided by Central Government health scheme include OPD treatment medication charges, indoor treatments diagnosis services at Government or CGHS affiliated hospitals, Child Health Services



NMC president, Subash Shastri talking to reporters.

family welfare medical advice and distribution of medicines. He said the scheme covers various treatments and procedures under Medicine, General Surgery, Obstetrics, Gynecology, pediatrics ENT Ophthalmology and Orthopedic.

He said various types of medical systems including Allopathy, Ayurvedic, Unani, Homeopathy Indian system of Medicine and Siddha and Yoga are cov-

ered under CGHS. He said the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has taken a great step to extending CGHS facilities to J&K pensioners.

Since the medical allowance to the pensioners is rupees 300 only per month which for meagre to bear the medical day to day expenses, the extension of the central government health scheme will go a long way in the interest of pensioners, he added.

Shastri said that early orders by JKUT Administration to extension of said scheme will benefits to large chunk of pensioners community.

Stressing on the need Shastri also urged him to immediately restore old pension scheme in place of NPS as confidence building measures.

He said that many states like Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab, Karnataka and Sikkim have restored old pension scheme in favour of NPS Employees.

He hoped that the NDA Government will take positive step in this regard, adding that these will be a major political issue in the upcoming general election 2024.

He also demanded separate wage head for regular-

ly disbursement of monthly salary to daily rated workers till their regularization, enhancement of their wages to Rs. 600 per day, merging of 50% DA with basic pay pension, restoring of old pension scheme, clearance of all pending GP fund and gratuity cases, setting up of 8th Pay Commission to evolve National Pay Policy throughout the country implementation of all Central Laws in J&K, besides releasing of 18 months DA Arrear freeze during Covid pandemic 2019.

Rajan Babu Khajuria, B.S Jamwal, Surinder Kumar, Ramesh Sharma, Raman Sharma, Ram Singh, Vinod Kumar, Chaman Lal, Birbal Sharma, Ashok Khajuria, and others were also present on the occasion.

JKPSA delegation meets Chairperson FFRC JK UT

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Justice Sunil Hali Chairperson Fee Fixation and Regulation Committee (FFRC) JKUT extended official invitation to the designated members of JKPSA, Jammu regarding the circular circulated by the Administrative officer (FFRC) Nazir Ul Hussain Shah for the private schools of Jammu & Kashmir. Chairperson, during his deliberation to the members, said that some private schools are bypassing the authorized officer to settle their grievances. "Such type of intention/ practice by any of the school owners/ management is not tolerable. All schools through JKPSA are once more instructed to communicate for any clarification only through the offi-



JKPSA delegation calling on Justice Sunil Hali Chairperson FFRC J&K.

cial email of FFRC," he added. Members present in the meeting apprised him of their problems and demands.

While briefing, members said that the Fee Fixation Committee was set up in the entire country to protect the interest of the students and that of private unaided

schools but it had been noted that small private schools of Jammu Division are the worse sufferers.

Since 2019 to till date number of files which were submitted in online or in offline mode by the private schools of Jammu division as for the fixation of the fee are still gathering dust in

the court of the FFRC, they said. It has been noted that FFRC has till date targeted only recognized small private schools and had left all big/pre primary/creche type private schools unbridled which is inhumane and unethical, they added.

Members unanimously appealed the chairperson for the immediate disposal of all pending files which have been already submitted in the office of the FFRC for

the review/fixation/enhancement of the fee before the commencement of new academic session i.e. April 1, 2024. Inclusion of an independent person of a repute or a representative of a recognized school association as an expert member as per the provision laid in sub sec-

tion (e) of section 03 a provision is laid in S.O. 233 of 2022 along with a provision to stop the hierarchy of the parents was also demanded by the members of JKPSA.

Chairperson Fee Fixation and Regulation Committee gave a patient hearing and asked the members to give their memorandum with their genuine grievances and demands so that the same can be settled without any delay.

The members who accompanied the delegation included Kamal Gupta, Ajay Gupta, Deepak Handa, Sat Paul Mansotra, Gaurav Charak, Ajay Singh, Lal Chand Gandotra, Ram Parkash, Vineet Gupta, Rashpal Singh, Krishan Singh and others.

Rare cardiac procedure done at Ujala Cygnus JK Medicity



Cardiologist Dr. Najmus Saqib Shah and team with patient after performing successful Intravascular Lithotripsy.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In first of its kind, the cardiology team of Ujala Cygnus JK Medicity, led by cardiologist Dr. Najmus Saqib Shah and team performed a successful case of Intravascular Lithotripsy (IVL) for a heavily calcified coronary artery.

Dr. Najmus said, "The patient was suffering from chronic unstable angina and due to heavy calcification in his coronary artery he was

refused treatment by many centres. But because of our expert cardiology team and exposure to latest advances in cardiology the patient was offered a new technique for his treatment called Intravascular Lithotripsy which was performed successfully and a precious life was saved."

Earlier such procedures were confined to tier 3 cities only but our commitment towards people of our UT has opened the doors for such rare and difficult procedures at our centre at Ujala Cygnus JK Medicity, Jammu, he said.

DGP greets people on the eve of Nauroz

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Director General of Police J&K R.R. Swain has extended greetings to the people of Jammu Kashmir, particularly members of Shia community, families of Police Parivar and other security forces on the auspicious occasion of Nauroz. In his message, the DGP has hoped that Nauroz will bring happiness, prosperity and progress to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, families of martyrs and police personnel. The DGP said that the beginning of a new year brings with it a sense of fresh possibilities. It gives us a chance to renew our resolution of commitment to peace. He has prayed for peace and prosperity for Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr Chaman Lal is new Staff Secretary of GGM Science College Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The faculty of GGM Science College Jammu elected its new Staff Secretary today in which two faculty members namely Dr. Chaman Lal, Department of Physics and Prof. Bhekam Pal Singh, Department of Botany were in the fray. Dr Chaman Lal secured 50

votes and Prof. Bhekam Pal Singh secured 36 votes. Finally, Dr. Chaman Lal won by a margin of 14 votes. The election was held in the most congenial atmosphere under the supervision of the election commissioners Dr. Vandana Khajuria and Dr. M.S. Saini, the senior faculty of the college.



Dr. Chaman Lal, Department of Physics after winning election.

CUJ inspires youth participation in Viksit Bharat



Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, CUJ speaking at a programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Office of Dean Students Welfare, Central University of Jammu (CUJ) organized a event titled "Viksit Bharat: Yuvaon ki Bhumika" on Wednesday, with the presence of Vijay Pratap, Organising Secretary, North Zone ABVP was the Chief Guest of the program. The event aimed to ignite the spirit of nation-building among the youth and empower them with a sense of responsibility towards shaping the future of India.

Prof. Ritu Bakshi, Dean Students' Welfare CUJ welcomed the chief guest and other participants.

Vijay Pratap emphasized the significance of preserv-

ing and nurturing the cultural heritage of our country for the holistic development and progress of the nation.

Drawing from historical anecdotes, he passionately conveyed youth's pivotal role in nation-building endeavours. He said today's youth are the architects of tomorrow's India, and urged the audience to harness their potential and contribute to making India a developed nation by 2047.

His motivational address resonated deeply with the participants, instilling a sense of purpose and determination to work towards a brighter future.

Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, CUJ highlight-

ed the importance of aligning one's skills with the evolving landscape of Artificial Intelligence (AI) while emphasizing the crucial role of humanities in addressing the challenges posed by AI-driven advancements. He urged students to focus on upskilling themselves and engaging in research initiatives that cater to the emerging needs of society.

Prof. Yashwant Singh, Registrar, CUJ delivered a formal vote of thanks. The presence of Tilak Thakur, Jammu Kashmir Prant Sangathan Mantri, ABVP added to the grandeur of the occasion, making it a memorable and impactful event.

MIET hosts Innovation 2024

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Model Institute of Engineering and Technology (MIET) on Wednesday hosted "Innovation 2024," a significant event dedicated to fostering grassroots innovation. Padma Shri Prof. Anil Kumar Gupta, Former Professor IIM Ahmedabad and the pioneer behind the Honey Bee Network, was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Dr. Anamika Dey, CEO, Grassroots Innovation Augmentation Network (GIAN) and Dr. Shah Nawaz from Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture, and Language (JKAACL) were the Guests of Honour.

Prof. Ankur Gupta, Director MIET, extended a warm welcome to the chief guest, acknowledging him as a legendary figure in fostering India's innovation culture. He reaffirmed MIET's dedication to innovation, ensuring students and faculty of the institution's continued growth as a leading innovation hub. The theme of the events was centered around grassroots innovation, promi-



Prof. Ankur Gupta and Padam Shri Prof. Anil Gupta exchanging MoU to foster innovation at MIET.

nently featured through a compelling workshop by Prof. Anil Gupta titled "Unseen Riches," focusing on local innovations from Jammu and Kashmir.

He inspired students to solve real-world problems and pursue commercialization of their innovative solutions.

The institution also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between MIET and the Honey Bee Network through GIAN, aimed at establishing a '100 Bee Innovation Club' at MIET. This partnership will assist the institution in student exchange programs, joint projects, internships, and faculty exchange programs, strengthening

MIET's commitment to becoming an innovation hub in the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory.

The event was sponsored by the Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture, and Language, which enriched the occasion with breathtaking performances representing the region's diverse cultural heritage. Babar Afzal, Chief Innovation Officer, MIET delivered the vote of thanks, highlighting the collaborative spirit and intellectual insights shared during the event.

The other senior dignitaries presented during the event included Prof. S.K Sharma, Ajay Khajuria and Prof. Sahil Sawhney.