

Cluster University convenes 7th Academic Council Meeting to shape future educational goals

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Cluster University of Jammu convened its 7th Academic Council meeting, in the university's conference hall, where significant decisions were made to enhance academic offerings and opportunities for students.

The Academic Council discussed various aspects of academic development and unanimously approved the introduction of Human Genetics, Biochemistry, and Statistics as minor subjects in GGM Science College, a Value-Added Course in Home Science, Commerce as a major course in MAM College, Integrated Programs in Geology and Linguistics.

In his opening remarks, Prof. K.S. Chandrasekar, Vice-Chancellor, welcomed the members of the Academic Council and the Special Invitee, Prof. Mohammad Mobin, Vice-Chancellor, Cluster



VC, CLUJ, Prof. K.S. Chandrasekar chairing a meeting.

University Srinagar.

Dr. Naveen Anand, Dean Academic Affairs, Cluster University of Jammu, presented the agenda of the meeting, which included 29 items and one table item. The Academic Council endorsed the vision set forth by the Vice-Chancellor.

Emphasizing the importance of fostering holistic development, the Council approved the introduction of a Master's in Performing

Arts Degree (in Music and Indian Theatre).

A key decision made during the meeting was the commencement of the 4th year of the Four-Year Undergraduate Program (both Honours and Honours with Research) as per the Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programs (CCFUP) from the ensuing academic session. Additionally, the Council

approved recognizing college faculty as Ph.D. supervisors and supervisors for 4th year research under the FYUGP. The Council also endorsed a hassle-free migration process for students from other universities to Cluster University and implementation of UGC guidelines on pursuing two academic programs simultaneously.

Furthermore, the Academic Council approved the introduction of a one-year PG Program from the academic session 2026-27, the introduction of PG Geography at GGM Science College, B.Sc. Nursing and M.Sc. Entrepreneurship program in collaboration with Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII) from the upcoming academic session. These decisions reflect the University's commitment to meeting evolving educational needs and enhancing academic opportunities in the region.

All decisions made during the meeting were thoroughly discussed and either confirmed or endorsed to the relevant academic bodies within the University for further action.

Expressing gratitude, Prof. K.S. Chandrasekar, Vice-Chancellor, extended heartfelt thanks to all members of the Academic Council for their active participation.

The meeting was also attended by Registrar Ankur Mahajan, Controller of Examination Dr. Ranvijay Singh, Dean Student Welfare, Dr. Raj Shree Dhar, Dean Research Studies Dr. Satinder Kour, Deans of various faculties, Principals and faculty members of constituent colleges, Heads of Departments of Cluster University of Jammu, as well as the Registrar, Controller of Examination, and Deans of Faculties from Cluster University Srinagar.

JKCA organises three-day workshop for physiotherapists



Resource person speaking during a workshop for Physiotherapists.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A three-day workshop is being held at JKCA complex, GGM Science College Jammu for Physiotherapists from March 26 to 28, 2025. The workshop is being conducted under the aegis of BCCI Centre of Excellence (CoE) Bangalore.

18 participants from all across J&K are participating in the workshop which includes the Physiotherapists who have worked earlier or still working with JKCA and a few new faces.

The workshop was inaugurated by Brig. Anil Gupta (Retd.), Member Administration, JKCA.

Brig. Gupta in his inaugural speech, exhorted the attendees to make best use of the expertise and experiences of the BCCI team to hone their skills and knowledge so that they can contribute towards the better performance of the JKCA players in the coming seasons.

He also reminded them that to be a successful Physiotherapist, one needs to maintain a good rapport with the players so that mutual confidence can be developed wherein the physiotherapist gains the confidence of the player who in turn benefits from the expertise of the physiotherapist which will be

a win situation for the both. It will also help the Association as the injuries to the players would be controlled.

Brig. Gupta also thanked BCCI for conducting this first ever workshop in J&K and hoped that more such workshops will be held in future so that our staff can benefit of their expertise in situ without having to travel to Bangalore. The team is headed by Dr. Badrinath Prathi, Zonal Head Sports Science Medicine (North Zone), which includes Niraj Karamchandani and Abhishek Thakar, who are experts in their respective fields.

40 observers to be nominated prior to tourneys DYSS releases Calendar of Activities for the year 2025-26 Calendar focuses on fair, transparent selection

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To fulfill the Government's dream of making Jammu and Kashmir a sporting hub, the Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) has released the Calendar of Activities for the year 2025-26, wherein the major focus has been given to fairness and transparency in the selection of players/teams.

As per the Calendar, 40 observers would be nominated with 2 from each district prior to the conduct of the tournaments to make the officials involved in the activities answerable and accountable and the selection process more vibrant and transparent.

While releasing the Calendar, Commissioner/Secretary Youth Services and Sports, Sh Sarmad Hafeez and Director General Youth Services and Sports, Sh Rajinder Singh Tara said the emphasis has been



given to disclose the selection lists on the spot at the venues itself, otherwise, to make an end to the practice of asking the players to confirm about their selection from the offices or via phone calls.

"It has been decided and put in the Activities' Calendar that the selection lists must be announced at the venues' itself. Moreover, to avoid any conflict of interest, it has also been decided that the officials whose wards will be in the fray will never figure in the selection panel," maintained Sh Sarmad Hafeez.

With an aim to popularize all the 34 sports disciplines, 201 events of which are being organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports for making the teams to represent J&K in the National School Games, held under the auspices of School Games Federation of India (SGFI), the events have been distributed among various districts as per merit of the game in a particular district.

Refresher Courses in the disciplines of Fencing, Boxing and other sports disciplines have been kept in the Calendar of Activities to help the officials acquire complete knowledge of the games and make endeavours to produce international staff from the Union Territory. According to the new Calendar, the sports activities as usual will begin at the grass-root level with intra-murals and will be followed by inter-schools, inter-zones, inter-districts,

inter-divisions and then Inter-State at the national scene.

"Three member selection committees will be framed to pick the teams in various sports disciplines and the committees will be separate in each age group of a particular sports discipline. The provision of videography has also been kept in the Calendar," said Tara.

A Coaching Camp of minimum 5 days has been kept for training district/division teams, while a Coaching Camp of minimum 10 days has been kept for training the State/UT team.

Further, the Joint Directors of twin divisions and the District Youth Services and Sports Officers have been asked to maintain the record of Selection Lists, Score Sheets, Match Fixtures, Movement Orders and Eligibilities for their further submission to the Directorate of Youth Services and Sports J&K.

Orientation lecture on supplementary role of Theatre in Education organised in JU

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Department of Students Welfare, in collaboration with the Skill Innovation Incubation & Entrepreneurship Centre (SIIEDC), University of Jammu (JU), organized an interactive orientation lecture on the subject "Supplementary Role of Theatre in Education" on the occasion of World Theatre Day. The event, held in the Seminar Hall of Brig. Rajinder Singh Auditorium, featured National Award-winning theatre director and Drama Instructor, Sumeet Sharma, as the keynote speaker.

Since 1962, World Theatre Day has been celebrated globally by theatre professionals, organizations, and enthusiasts.

The University of Jammu, in alignment with NEP-2020, emphasizes the role of arts and culture in holistic education. Prof. Prakash Antahal, Dean of Students Welfare, highlighted that the university offers various



JU faculty and students posing for a photograph.

opportunities in theatre, including a 30-day Certificate Course launched last year, which received an overwhelming response. Regular theatre workshops under the Training Outreach Programme and theatrical events in youth festivals like Display Your Talent and Goonj further enrich students' artistic pursuits.

Prof. Alka Sharma, Director of SIIEDC, discussed how innovative programmes, such as last year's acclaimed theatre production Kabira, effectively impart experiential knowledge to students in the Design Your Degree initiative.

Prof. Monika Chadha, Chairperson of the Campus Culture Committee, shared practical insights on how theatre, art, and literature enhance emotional intelligence and personal growth.

During his lecture, Sumeet Sharma emphasized theatre's transformative role in building confidence, fostering creativity, and contributing to personality development. Engaging theatre activities were conducted, with enthusiastic student participation. Students also performed characters from their upcoming production, showcasing their talent and passion.

Those who attended the programme included Rohan Sharma, Divyani, Mehak, Vishali, Harshita, Nitin, Manan, Nishkarsh, Krishna, Sayam, Lovish, Himanshi, Kaashvi, Sanchi, Bhaviya, Meenali, Fatima, Shailja, Saaket, Saksham, Muneeb, Peehar and Lavanya.

The events of DSW are conceived, planned and organised by the team consisting of Prof. Prakash Antahal (Dean Students Welfare), Prof. Monika Chadha (Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee), Prof. Sarika Manhas (Co-Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee), Dr. Pritam Singh (Associate Dean SW), Dr. Shailu Sharma & Dr. A.R. Manhas (Deputy Chief Proctors), Dr. Harleen Kaur & Dr. Ripudaman Parihar (Assistant Dean, SW), members of Campus Cultural Committee, Mansi Mantoo (Media Officer), Ms. Supriya Sharma, AR, Sumeet Sharma (Drama Instructor) and Ifra Kak (Cultural Officer).

Jammu District Rugby Association hosts 10th District Rugby 7's Championship

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Rugby District Association of Jammu organized the 10th District Rugby 7's Championship on March 25-26, 2025, at Green Field, Gandhi Nagar.

The two-day event witnessed enthusiastic participation across four categories: Under-12, Under-15, Under-18, and Senior.

The closing ceremony, held on March 26, was a grand affair. The event was graced by Rajesh Kumar, ISS Passport Officer, as the Chief Guest. Anil Vadera attended the championship as an observer,



Winner players posing for a photograph with officials.

while Sanjay Sharma served as the Guest of Honour.

The championship was organized under the leadership of Harmeet Singh

(Organizing Secretary), Drishti Pawan Sharma (President), and Rashav Singh (Treasurer).

A dedicated team of referees, including Uday

Walia, Mehak, Adil, Saruti, Neetu Malhotra, Muskan, and Momina, ensured the matches were officiated fairly and with professionalism. Their expertise contributed to a competitive yet enjoyable experience for all the participants.

The results BOYS Under-12: APS Nagrota clinched the first position, Shiv Public School was the runner-up, and JRC Club claimed the bronze medal. Under-15: APS Jammu dominated by winning the gold, APS secured second place, and RHD Club won the bronze medal. Under-18: RHD

Club bagged the championship title, with APS finishing second and JRC Club securing the bronze.

GIRLS Under-12: Shiv Public Higher Secondary School, Sari Rakwalan, emerged victorious, while Eagle Club secured the runner-up position, followed by APS Nagrota winning the bronze medal. Under-15: APS Jammu emerged as winners, APS was the runner-up, and Jammu Club claimed the third position. Under-18: APS emerged as winners, JRC Club claimed the runner-up position, and RHD Club secured the bronze medal.

District Kathua Taekwondo Championship to begin on March 29

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: The Taekwondo Association of District Kathua, under the aegis of J&K Taekwondo Association (Regd) and J&K Sports Council, is set to host the District Kathua Taekwondo Championships 2024-25 at the District Sports Stadium, Kathua from March 29 to 30, 2025, under the theme "My Youth, My Pride."

The championships are open to Sub-Junior, Cadet, Junior, and Senior players from District Kathua, with the association reaffirming its commitment to nurtur-

ing and supporting local athletes.

To participate in the championships, athletes must meet possession of a valid JKTA Athlete License (mandatory for all participants), senior athletes must provide Black Belt Certificates in compliance with Taekwondo Federation of India (TFI) guidelines and submission of a completed registration form, duly signed by parents, attachment of supporting documents, including an Aadhaar card, JKTA License, and Date of Birth certificate issued by the

Municipality of Kathua or the concerned Sarpanch.

Participants are required to report to the District Sports Stadium, Kathua, on March 29, 2025, at 2:00 PM for the weigh-in process.

The decision to organize the championships was taken unanimously during a meeting of the office bearers of the Taekwondo Association of District Kathua under the supervision of the association's president. For further details, interested participants can contact the event coordinator at 9149512724.

Indigo Paints team organises Shram Dan at GHS Sangrampur



Team members of Indigo Paints and staff posing for a group photograph with winners at GHS Sangrampur.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Under the Indigo Seva Utsav, a team from Indigo Paints, led by Sunil Bhatti, Manager of Jammu, organized a meaningful one-day Shram Dan at the Government Girls High School (GHS) in Sangrampur. The initiative

aimed to improve the school's environment and foster a sense of community service among the team members.

The team undertook the task of whitewashing the school building, giving the premises a fresh and vibrant look. This act not

only enhanced the aesthetics of the school but also created a more pleasant and conducive learning atmosphere for the students and staff.

In addition to the physical improvement, the team organized a variety of engaging games and cultur-

al activities for both the staff and students. These activities were a fun-filled way to encourage teamwork and creativity. Prizes were distributed among the winners of the various competitions, further motivating students and staff to participate with enthusiasm.

The team also took time to honor the painters who contributed to the whitewashing effort. Appreciation certificates and gifts were presented to them as a gesture of gratitude for their hard work and dedication.

The in-charge of the institution Ashok Kumari expressed sincere thanks to the Indigo Paints team for their generous contributions and efforts. The in-charge also hoped that the company would continue such noble initiatives, benefiting communities and institutions in the future.

GDC Kunjwani in collaboration with JPDCL holds awareness campaign regarding PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana



GDC Kunjwani faculty and students posing with JPDCL officials.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: An awareness campaign/camp was organised by JPDCL in the premises of Govt. Degree College (GDC), Kunjwani, Jammu regarding PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana under the patronage of Dr. Manisha Kohli, Principal of GDC Kunjwani.

The speakers Ex. Mohd. Ashraf, AEE and Sheetal Koul, AE highlighted the

benefits of this prestigious scheme.

While speaking on the occasion Ex. Mohd. Ashraf, AEE drew the attention of the participants that due to the widening of gap between the demand and supply, the consumers are facing inconvenience of power cuts and with the installation of Solar Roof Tops, besides deduction of power bill, the consumer can contribute in

Nation Building process by becoming a power producer.

The Second speaker Sheetal Koul, AE delivered a great presentation highlighting the need of Solar Roof Top and benefit of the scheme in respect of the subsidy and the other facilities being provided to the solar consumer.

The presentation was followed by deliberations and discussion by the students and faculty regarding the

Solar Roof Tops. Mohd. Ashraf, AEE requested the students and staff to install Solar Roof Top in their premises so that the subsidy and other benefit could be availed.

Sahil Kohli AE, Chandarkant Kotwal, JE, Ankush Sharma, JE and Harpal Singh from JPDCL were also present. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Neeru Sharma, NSS PO.