

AIIMS Jammu conducts CME on recent advances in ophthalmology under aegis of NAMS

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JAMMU: The Department of Ophthalmology, AIIMS Jammu, successfully conducted a Continuing Medical Education (CME) program on "Recent Advances in Ophthalmology" under the aegis of the National Academy of Medical Sciences (NAMS). This academic event brought together eminent faculty from premier medical institutes across India, who shared their expertise on the latest advancements in ophthalmology. Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta, Executive Director & CEO, AIIMS Jammu, served as the patron of the CME. In his inaugural address, he highlighted AIIMS Jammu's commitment to fostering academic excellence and providing a platform for ophthalmologists to interact



Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta, Executive Director & CEO, AIIMS Jammu and others during the CME in Jammu on Tuesday.

and learn from renowned experts in the field. He emphasized that such initiatives play a crucial role in keeping medical professionals updated with cutting-edge developments in ophthalmology. The event was co-patroned by Lt. Gen. Sunil Kant, MS & Dean (Research), AIIMS Jammu, while Prof. Meeta Gupta, Dean (Academics), AIIMS Jammu, served as the NAMS Nodal Officer. Prof. Umesh Kapil represented NAMS during the event. The CME featured distin-

guished guest speakers, including Prof. J.S. Titiyal, Former Chief of R.P. Centre, AIIMS Delhi, who spoke on Recent Trends in Cataract Surgery & IOLs; Prof. Radhika Tandon, Chief of R.P. Centre, AIIMS Delhi, who gave an insightful talk on Eye Banking & Corneal Donation; Prof. Vishali Gupta from PGIMER Chandigarh, who discussed Turning Mistakes into Mastery & the Art of Improvement; Prof. Jyotirmay Biswas from Sankara Nethralaya,

Chennai, who elaborated on Recent Advances in Uveitis Management; and Prof. Pradeep Venkatesh from R.P. Centre, AIIMS Delhi, who presented on Nuances in Retinal Diagnostics. Their engaging presentations provided valuable knowledge to participants, enhancing their understanding of recent breakthroughs in the field.

The local organizing committee, led by Dr. Bhavani Raina, Additional Professor & Head, Department of Ophthalmology, AIIMS Jammu, along with Dr. Nitin Kumar, Associate Professor, and Dr. Nazia Anjum and Dr. Ridham Nanda, Assistant Professors, ensured the smooth execution of the event. Faculty and residents from GMC Jammu, ASCOMS, GMC Srinagar,

GMC Kathua, and GMC Doda actively participated, making it a truly collaborative academic endeavor.

In addition to expert lectures, an E-Poster Competition was held for postgraduate students, with the top three winners being felicitated. The session was judged by Prof. Renu Hashia from ASCOMS, Prof. Sanjay Kai from GMC Jammu, Prof. Maneesha Sethi from GMC Kathua, and Dr. Bhavani Raina from AIIMS Jammu. A quiz competition for postgraduate students was also conducted, adding an interactive learning element to the event.

The proceedings of the CME were conducted by Dr. Asma Jabeen and Dr. Rigzen, Senior Residents, while the vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Nitin Kumar, Associate Professor, AIIMS Jammu. The event concluded on a highly successful note, reinforcing AIIMS Jammu's dedication to academic excellence, continuous learning, and professional development in the field of ophthalmology.

Research Methodology Course in Social Science commences at SBS, CUJ



Prof. Jaya Bhasin, Dean, School of Business Studies, CUJ and others during the event.

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JAMMU: Research Methodology Course in Social Science at School of Business Studies, Central University of Jammu. The programme was formally inaugurated under the patronage of Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu by Prof. Jaya Bhasin, Dean, School of Business Studies, CUJ in presence of Head of Departments and Faculty Members of the School including Dr. Ranjeet Kumar Raman, Dr. Mahendra Singh, Dr. Amit Gangotia, Dr. Anjali Pathania, Dr. Naresh Kumar, Dr. Susmita Ekka, Biswabhusan Pradhan and Dr. Shahid Mushtaq. This programme is supported by the Indian Council of Social Science Research under Capacity Building Programme as part of its nationwide initiative to raise the quality of research in the country. The programme is being attended by the Research Scholars from

within and outside the UT of Jammu & Kashmir including the scholars from Central University of Jammu being hosted in Department of TTM.

Prof. Jaya Bhasin in her welcome address emphasized on the importance of quality and original research. She urged upon the research scholars to continuously embark on the upward learning curve. She encouraged the researchers to inculcate a passion for research. She also apprised the august gathering about the various initiatives undertaken by the School in the past. Speaking of the occasion Dr. Ranjeet Kumar Raman, Head, Department of Tourism and Travel Management, Central University of Jammu talked at length about new approaches to research, and highlighted new initiatives being undertaken by the University vis-à-vis promotion of research. He said various topics shall be covered during the different sessions

will significantly benefit the research scholars as eminent faculty members from across the country will conduct the sessions'. Dr. Shahid Mushtaq, Co-Course Director briefed the participants about the Programme schedule. Dr. Rahul Thakur emphasized on the importance of learning application of data analysis software for publishing in high impact Journals. He said that acclaimed resource persons and researchers from across the country will deliver lectures in the coming days during the programme which will sharpen the research skills and knowledge of the participants.

Prof. Anil Gupta, Director, SHITM and Prof. Jaya Bhasin, Prof. Ranjeet Kumar Raman, HoD TTM, Central University of Jammu were resource persons for today's session. The session concluded with the formal vote of thanks by Programme Coordinator Mr. Rahul Thakur.

IIM Jammu inaugurates Trekking-Based MDP Batch IV for Leadership Skills for NTPC Managers



Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu along with participants during the programme.

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JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu under the leadership of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu inaugurated a unique trekking-based Management Development Programme (MDP) for NTPC's dynamic young leaders (Batch-IV) at the Prahalad Classroom on 04th March 2025. This leadership training program, conducted from 03rd March to

05th March 2025, is designed to enhance leadership skills through experiential learning in the picturesque lower Himalayas. The program features seven carefully curated sessions aimed at fostering personal and professional growth. The batch featured 54 Participants from the different parts of the country.

The inaugural ceremony was graced by Dr. Ateeque Shaikh, Chairperson, Executive Education and Consultancy (EE & C), IIM Jammu, Dr. V. Raj Kumar, Program Director, Dr. Vinod.C. Durge, Program Director, IIM Jammu Program Director, IIM Jammu. Dr. Ateeque Shaikh, Chairperson, Executive Education and Consultancy (EE & C), IIM Jammu, highlighted the division's role in delivering high-impact training for professionals, government officials, and industry leaders. He emphasized its focus on skill enhancement, leadership development, and industry-academia collaboration through partnerships with NTPC, the Government of J&K, and PSUs, reaffirming EE&C's rapid growth in line with IIM Jammu's global vision for executive education and consultancy. Dr. Vinod.C.

Durge, Program Director, IIM Jammu welcomed everyone and provided an overview of the program, briefing about the upcoming sessions and expressing his anticipation for an interactive and engaging discussion. He extended his warm wishes to all the participants, stating that the journey ahead is both promising and make best use of this training program.

Dr. V. Raj Kumar, Program Director, IIM Jammu, emphasized the institute's commitment to transformative learning, reflecting its motto of "knowledge that liberates." He concluded the session with a vote of thanks followed by the national anthem.

The program includes field-based experiential learning activities such as trekking in the Himalayas, empowering leadership, team building, sustainability and good governance, conflict resolution, negotiating solutions, entrepreneurship skills, strategic thinking, mastering communication for leadership, and digital transformation. Through initiatives like these, IIM Jammu reaffirms its role in shaping future-ready leaders who can make meaningful contributions to society and industry.

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JAMMU: The Research and Advocacy Group (RAAG), a voluntary organization comprising of legal professionals, academicians, media persons and scholars organized an insightful seminar on "POJK: Parliament's Resolution & Legal Discourse" at the Lawyers' Chamber; J&K High Court Complex, Jammu.

The seminar featured eminent speakers, including Dr. (Captain) Alok Bansal, Executive Director of India Foundation, Sunil Sethi, Senior Advocate, and Upinder Krishen Jalali (U.K. Jalali), Senior Advocate and former Advocate General, J&K Government, who provided expert insights into the legal and parliamentary dimensions of the Pakistan Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (POJK) issue. The program commenced with the introduction of eminent guests and welcome address by Advocate Deepak Sharma, Convener of RAAG organization.

The discussion focused on the constitutional and legal aspects of India's lawful claim over Pakistan Occupied Jammu and Kashmir, in line with Parliament's resolution on the subject. The speakers emphasized historical perspectives, strategic implications, and legal



Dignitaries lighting the ceremonial lamp.

frameworks surrounding the issue.

The speakers highlighted legal provisions, strategic concerns, and historical aspects, comprising in depth analysis on the subject.

U.K. Jalali, Senior Advocate and former Advocate General of J&K, raised concerns over the Shimla Agreement, stating that Indian leadership returned a strategic area to Pakistan. He remarked that it is unfortunate and against international law that Pakistan and its military establishment continue to use POJK as a terror-launching pad against India. He also recalled the 1971 Indo-Pak War and the creation of Bangladesh, emphasizing that if Indian leadership had exercised better political wisdom, the areas of POJK could have been bartered in the Shimla

Agreement. The former AG also exposed Pakistan's actions, stating that it was Pakistanis (now Bangladeshis) who became victims of the reign of terror imposed by the Pakistani Army and corrupt political leaders.

While deliberating on the Parliamentary resolution on POJK, Senior Advocate Sunil Sethi stated that it is not merely a Parliamentary document but a strong assertion of India's resolve to reclaim all territories illegally occupied by Pakistan. This includes Pakistan-Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (POJK), regions of Jammu and Kashmir under Chinese control, and the area illegally ceded by Pakistan to China. He also said that the creation of Pakistan Occupied Kashmir was not because of any rebellion from within the territory of

India or from the people of PoJK at that time but it was because of external aggression from Pakistan.

In his address to the gathering, Captain Alok Bansal compared the democratic principles and freedom of speech available in Jammu and Kashmir to the dictatorial approach of Pakistan towards the residents of POJK. He stated that Pakistan treats the residents of POJK as second-class citizens and does not allow them to utilize their own resources. He further emphasized that the valuable assets and natural resources of POJK are being exploited by the Pakistani government and military establishment. He also provided insights into the demography, terrain, and administrative setup of POJK.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from legal professionals, scholars, media representatives, and civil society members. The interactive session allowed participants to engage in thought-provoking discussions with the experts.

The programme was coordinated by Advocate Prem Sadotra and formal vote of thanks was delivered by Advocate Arvind Khajuria who expressed gratitude to the speakers and all participants and reaffirmed RAAG's commitment to legal

research and advocacy on national issues.

The seminar concluded with a Question & Answer session followed by high tea.

The prominent lawyers who attended the event include Jammu Bar Association team including Baldev Singh Vice President, Pardeep Majotra Secretary, Anshu Mahajan Joint Secretary, Rahul Aggarwal Treasurer and Amandeep Sharma, president Young Lawyers Association and his team. Other prominent advocates who were present include Raghu Mehta Sr. Advocate, Adv. Vishal Sharma DSGI, Sr. Adv. Vikram Sharma, Adv. Ranjeet Singh Jamwal, Adv. Sudarshan Sharma, Adv. Subodh Jamwal, Adv. Vandana Sharma, Adv. Ayush Sharma, Adv. Harshwardhan, Adv. Ashwani Khajuria, Adv. Rakesh Sharma, Adv. Dewakar Sharma, Adv. Hunar Gupta, Adv. MP Singh Palli, Adv. Rajnish Raina, Adv. Deepali Arora, Adv. Sarfaraz Rather, Adv. Rajesh Thappa, Adv. Pawan Kundal, Adv. Sonia Manhas, Adv. Madhvi Sambyal, Adv. Karan Prashar, Adv. Pawan Choudhry, Adv. Sanjeev Kohli, Adv. Saket Rathore, Adv. Aditya Raina, Adv. Chetan Prabhakar, Adv. Gaurav Jamwal Adv. Divyashan and others.

IEI Jammu celebrates World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development

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JAMMU: The Institution of Engineers (India), Jammu Centre celebrated the World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development on 4th March, 2025 with the theme "Unleashing the Power of Engineers to Advance the Sustainable Development Goals". The event was attended by Engineers from various Departments, Organizations and Senior Engineers along with Members of the Committee of IEI, Jammu Local Centre.

On this occasion, Er. Raheela Wani, FIE; Managing Director, J&K Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. Power Development Department, J&K Govt., Jammu was



Dignitary being honoured during the event.

the Chief Guest, whereas Er. Anil Verma, FIE, Chairman, IEI, Jammu Centre presided over the function.

Er. Anil Verma in his Welcome Address introduced the day's theme to the audience. He eulogized that 17 Nos Sustainable Development

(SDGs) are the ideal benchmarks for making living on this earth sustainable.

During the seminar, Er. P. K. Nanda, FIE; Er. Ranjeev Sawhney, MIE; Er. Hemdeep Singh Ishar, AMIE & Er. Anil Kumar Shan, AMIE also presented their papers on the

theme of the World Engineering Day for sustainable development.

While speaking on the occasion Er. Raheela Wani, FIE, Chief Guest lauded the efforts of engineers in presenting wonderful papers on the theme. She advocated that education is very important and engineers need to be trained not just in technical skills but also in understanding the sustainability principles which can be possible only if SDGs are included in the engineering curricula.

Er. Avneet Gupta, MIE, Honorary Secretary conducted the proceedings of the event and presented the Vote of Thanks to the august gathering and media personnel for their active participation.

Startup Mahakumbh unveils Startup Maha Rathi for entrepreneurs with prize pool of up to Rs 30 Cr

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JAMMU: The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), in collaboration with Avaana Capital, LetsVenture, Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM), IVCA, and HDFC, has launched Startup Maha Rathi under the Startup Mahakumbh 2025 initiative. This flagship challenge aims to empower Indian startups by providing funding, mentorship, and global networking opportunities, aligning with India's long-term goal of becoming a

developed economy (Viksit Bharat) by 2047.

With a prize pool of up to Rs 30 crore, this initiative will offer financial grants, industry mentorship, and exposure to global investors. Special awards will also be given to innovative startups from emerging states and union territories to ensure inclusive growth across the country.

The Startup Maha Rathi challenge will support startups across 11 strategic sectors that play a crucial role in India's economic transformation.

These sectors include AI & DeepTech, BioTech & HealthTech, Gaming & Sports, FinTech, Incubators & Accelerators, Mobility, AgriTech, B2B & Precision Manufacturing, D2C (Direct-to-Consumer), ClimateTech, and Defence & SpaceTech.

By identifying high-potential startups in these sectors, the challenge aims to enhance India's technological and economic growth. The event, which will be presided over by the Minister of Commerce and Industry, will provide partici-

pating startups with essential resources to scale operations and drive innovation.

The competition follows a structured, multi-phase selection process, beginning with the application launch on February 26, 2025, and culminating in an exclusive live pitching finale from April 3-5, 2025, at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. Startups selected for the grand jury round will receive a guaranteed Rs 1 lakh. The top two startups in each sector will be awarded Rs 10 lakh each, while the next five

will receive Rs 5 lakh each. Additionally, the next five startups in each track will gain access to Rs 3 lakh each.

Apart from financial grants, participating startups will benefit from expert mentorship, investor access, and national-level recognition by DPIIT.

Union Minister Piyush Goyal described Startup Maha Rathi as a pivotal stride toward Viksit Bharat 2047, highlighting its role in scaling, innovating, and transforming India's startup ecosystem.

Amardeep Singh Bhatia,

Secretary, DPIIT, emphasized the importance of fostering a culture of innovation and ensuring high-potential ventures receive the necessary support. Sanjiv, Joint Secretary, DPIIT, stated that the initiative aims to bridge the gap between startups and investors, providing a structured platform for showcasing innovations. Leading investors, including Anjali Bansal (Avaana Capital) and Prashant Prakash (Accel), praised Startup Maha Rathi for enabling India's entrepre-

neurial talent to address key national priorities such as sustainability, deep tech, and economic transformation. Applications for Startup Maha Rathi 2025 will open on February 26, 2025, with a deadline of March 7, 2025. Shortlisted startups will present their pitches to a jury panel between March 15-25.

Eligible startups must be DPIIT-recognized entities in their early or growth stages, operating in India as a Private Limited Company, LLP, or Partnership Firm.