

# Design your Degree Programme: JU to launch Bachelors in Interdisciplinary Studies

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Prof. Dinesh Singh, the Vice-Chairman, J&K Higher Education Council and former Vice-Chancellor, University of Delhi on Monday held a detailed discussion in presence of Alok Kumar, Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department and Prof Umesh Rai, Vice-Chancellor, University of Jammu (JU) on the introduction of the Innovative Programme to be launched soon at the JU.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof Dinesh Singh emphasized that under the aegis of NEP 2020, the JU shall soon launch a four-year degree programme in Bachelors in Interdisciplinary Studies.

Prof Singh said that the JU is envisaging to start at the undergraduate level.

This program shall offer a plethora of opportunities to the students, which will help them to develop the flare for research



Prof. Dinesh Singh, Vice-Chairman, J&K Higher Education Council holding discussion in presence of Alok Kumar, Principal Secy, HED and Prof Umesh Rai, VC, JU.

and analytical thinking and acquaint them with the necessary skills and knowledge to succeed in their chosen careers.

Under the ambit of this programme, the students can express their creativity in various forms which will help them to refine their skills.

It is pertinent to mention here that after the completion of first year of their studies, students will become mature enough where they will be exposed to specialized academic domain/subjects and thereby chose their path according to their interests.

The fourth year is the watershed moment for the students wherein the students may

either opt-out after the completion of their third year with a degree or opt to incubate their ideas/s at JU or take up a minor research project. The well trained mentors shall be available to guide the students round the clock and help them in understanding the basic nuance of their research, further added Prof Singh and also said that the curriculum is designed in such a way that there is every possibility that some of the best ideas of start-ups, public policy research documents etc shall come out from this research.

Prominent among others Prof Naresh Padha, Dean Academic Affairs, Prof Rajeev

Rattan, Director, CDC, Prof Madan Mohan Chaturvedi, Delhi University, Prof Shobha Bagai, Delhi University, Prof Anju Shrivastava, Delhi University, Prof Pankaj Srivastava, President, JUTA, Prof Alka Sharma, Convener, University Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Centre, Dr Sadaf Shah, various other faculty members from Delhi University and Jammu University, Abdul Majid Butt, Director (Finance), Higher Education Department, J&K UT, Rakesh Kumar Badyal, Special Secretary, Higher education Department, J&K UT were also present on the occasion.

# J&K Dragon Boat team flagged-off for National Championship



President J&K Dragon Boat Association, Mohd Syed Punoo flagging-off J&K team for national.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: President J&K Dragon Boat Association Mohammed Syed Punoo flagged off 28-member J&K team comprising of both boys and girls. The team also included International

players Zahoor Ahmad, Zainul Abidin, Imran Bashir, Bilal Ahmad Sheikh, Imtiyaz Ahmad Sheikh and Indian team Coach Farooq Ahmad Bhat. J&K team has been sponsored by HK Cements

Industries Pvt Ltd.

The team is scheduled to participate in the 10th National Dragon Boat Championship/Indian team selection for 19th Asian Games and 16th World Dragon Boat Championship 2023 to be played at Rayon Pataya Thailand. The National Championship is being held in Motihari Jheel District Motihari in Bihar from April 27 to 30, 2023 and has been organized by Dragon Boat India & Traditional Sports Federation in Association with Bihar Dragon Boat Association. J&K team is proceeding to Motihari Bihar by train from Jammu Railway Station where the players were send off by Aamir Ali, Senior Vice President J&K Dragon Boat Association and Kuldeep Kumar Hando DySP, who is the first Dronachariya awardee from J&K.

# Release 4 pc DA in favour of UT employees, pensioners: NMC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Stressing on the need in releasing of 4 per cent Dearness Allowance (DA) in favour of UT employees and pensioners, National Mazdoor Conference (NMC) President Subash Shastri on Monday appealed the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to release the same pending installment of four per cent DA due from January this year to its employees and pensioners so that confusion and uncertainty among the employees and pensioners could come to an end.

"We demand release of four per cent DA in favour of J&K employees and pensioners. DA is the part of salary and routine financial matter and as such there should be no hitch in releasing it," Shastri said while addressing a meeting of NMC activists here. He also demanded exemption of DA from ambit of

# DGPC Jammu to provide financial assistance to aspirants for IAS/JKAS coaching

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: DGPC President Ranjit Singh Tohra along with Balvinder Singh Vice President, Surjit Singh General Secretary, Ranvir Singh Joint Secretary, Harjit Singh and Gurmeet Singh Incharge Dharam Parehar Committee, while addressing the press conference here on Monday, announced new initiatives taken by DGPC Jammu to provide financial assistance to Sikh aspirants for getting coaching for IAS/JKAS and other Competitive exams.

They stated that from the day DGPC members taken over the charge had decided upon to lay stress and formulate the process to arrange education to under privilege students of Sikh Community and also to impart coaching to deserving aspirants for IAS/JKAS/JKSSB and other competitive Exams.

To work on the issue, three months ago, DGPC had



Balvinder Singh DGPC Vice President talking to reporters.

made a request to the community to submit applications for seeking financial assistance for the students belonging to weaker section and DGPC received number of applications which are being shortlisted keeping in view the family income and merit of the applicants and the shortlisted applicants will soon provide financial support in shape of fee directly to the School.

Balvinder Singh stated that DGPC Jammu in continuation to their efforts to give their best to the society in the field of education has taken

some new initiatives.

While giving detail of the initiatives taken by DGPC Jammu, he stated that in the current year we have decided to provide financial assistance to the aspirants for imparting coaching for IAS/JKAS and other Competitive exams through the reputed coaching centre of Jammu.

Singh further said that we have decided to start with minimum numbers of twenty to twenty five aspirants for giving financial support and the numbers will be increased in the days to come.

The list of aspiring candidates shall be scrutinized through written exams or on the basis of personal appearance before a panel of experts and percentage of financial assistance shall depend upon the financial background and merit of the candidate, he said.

Balvinder stated that this scholarship will be for both who want to appear in 2023 & 2024 sessions, so the interested candidates are directed to fill and submit their application form (available at both the Gurudwara) at DGPC Head Quarter Guru Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Chand Nagar Jammu and DGPC Sub office at Gurudwara Baba Fate Singh in between 11.0 AM to 4.00 PM daily on or before 30th April 2023.

Desirous candidates can also avail free counseling for the preparation of IAS/JKAS exams, he added.

# PM Modi brings forth captivating success stories of people of J&K: Raina

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has brought into the limelight the captivating success stories of the people of Jammu & Kashmir, said Ravinder Raina, President, Bharatiya Janata Party, Jammu & Kashmir while reviewing the preparations for the 100th episode of PM's 'Mann Ki Baat' with senior party leaders, here on Monday.

J&K BJP Vice-President Shakti Parihar, General Secretary Dr. Devinder Manyal, BJYM Incharge Munish Sharma, District President Gopal Mahajan, Media Secretary Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Co-Treasurer Prem Gupta, DDC Drabshalla Ashok Parihar and BJYM Vice-President Danish Mishra participated in the meeting.

Ravinder Raina said that the lakhs of people of Jammu & Kashmir would listen to the 100th episode



President BJP J&K, Ravinder Raina chairing party workers meeting.

of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's AIR programme 'Mann Ki Baat' at about 10,000 booths.

Raina said that PM Modi has brought into the limelight the captivating success stories of the people of Jammu & Kashmir through 'Mann Ki Baat'.

He said that the PM's words bore a scintillating effect on the minds of common but extraordinarily skilled residents of this region. He said that his repeated sharing of stories from J&K has given energy to many to do extraordinary

things in their respective fields. The very purpose of broadcasting this program from the radio was that PM's voice could be reached to remote villages because TV is not accessible in many rural and hilly areas, he said.

"All the senior party leaders must ensure their presence in the massive programmes to listen to the 100th episode of PM's 'Mann Ki Baat' at their respective booths with the participation of party activists and common masses", said Ravinder Raina.

# Tarini, Manya, Harihar of DPS Jammu qualify SPOT-100 exam

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Tarini Gupta (VIII), Manya Targotra (IX) and Harihar Sharma (XI) of Delhi Public School Jammu qualified the prestigious Science Promotion Orient Test (SPOT-100) conducted by Vikram Sarabhai Science Foundation (VSSF) Kochoi, on 20th March, 2023. These students will be attending the internship program in the month of May, 2023.

A total of 41 students from classes VI to XI from DPS Jammu appeared for "SPOT-100" Examination, out of which 3 qualified as one of the Top 100 Science Talents Pan India, short-listed through the second phase exam "SPOT 100



DPS Jammu students posing for a photograph with faculty members.

2022-23". Vikram Sarabhai Science Foundation (VSSF) conducts SPOT assessment examination, annually, for students with aptitude to determine their conceptual knowledge & understanding of Science, across discipline. The exams are conducted in 2 phases online, wherein every shortlisted student stands to gain

intellectually & academically via an interactive Science portal SPOT link, for over a span of 5 months. Principal DPS Jammu, Ruchi Chabra congratulated all the qualifiers and their parents for the brilliant achievements. She felicitated them with mementoes and certificates during the special assembly held in the school. She

also appreciated the efforts of Navneet Kaur, Coordinator-SPOT. Headmistress, Meenu Gupta also applauded them. President-RCT, Ajatshatru Singh, Pro VC, Dr. Ritu Singh and Director, S.S Sodhi extended their best wishes to the qualifiers and their parents for their future endeavours.

# Congress will defeat designs of anti-peace forces: Bhalla

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla has said that unemployment and inflation in Jammu and Kashmir is all time high which has pushed people towards starvation. He said that financial health of the people is getting worse with every passing day. The former Minister was interacting with prominent persons of R S Pura constituency.

Bhalla further said that Congress has always played the role of unifying force in sensitive J&K, having regional, religious and linguistic and cultural diversities and at times has suffered electoral losses also because of the capabilities of rival parties to exploit different kinds of emotions of the people. He said people should not get carried away by the negative forces who are trying to create division and hatred in the State. Former Minister demanded



JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla interacting with people.

special recruitment in army and other central paramilitary forces for the border area people. He hit out at the BJP for misleading people on every count just to attain power but didn't care about urges and aspirations of the people. He also criticized the ruling government for its failure to provide basic amenities to the people of J&K. He asserted that the people of J&K are suffering due to power scarcity, and potable water.

Bhalla said that J&K has witnessed massive destruction during decade's long

turmoil and rising unemployment is a major concern. He urged upon the government to secure jobs of Jammu and Kashmir for local youth. He also demanded special employment package for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir. He said that it is the duty of the government to address the unemployment issue immediately. He lambasted previous BJP government in the state for exploiting the daily wagers in various departments for not fulfilling their long time pending genuine demands. He said due to callous and

non-serious attitude of governments families of daily wagers across J&K are facing a starvation-like situation. "Congress will defeat the designs of anti-peace forces vitiating atmosphere to serve their vested interests. Congress Party will remain committed to defeat the designs of communal forces and committed to safeguard the age old tradition of unity, diversity and communal harmony in J&K," he said, adding that Congress is capable enough to defeat the communal and fascist forces creating wedge between the communities to serve their vested interests. Bhalla said nothing can rescue BJP and its local proxies. People will teach them a lesson in the elections, whenever they are held.

People across JK have made it a point to register as voters and punish BJP democratically through ballot, he added.

# 'IEC of Directorate of AYUSH J&K registered under DHR, ICMR'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In order to boost evidence based practice of Ayurveda and Yoga in the present health scenario and to validate various principles and practices of the traditional systems of health care, a one day seminar on Research and Development in Ayush Sector in Ayurveda and Yoga was organized under the guidance of Dr. Mohan Singh Directorate of Ayush J&K to devise roadmap of research and development of Ayurveda and Yoga.

It is pertinent to note that under the aegis of Directorate of Ayush, J&K an Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC) has been constituted to grant approval for various clinical research studies and establish Ayurveda and Yoga as an evidence based system of health care. The Institutional Ethics Committee, Govt. Ayurvedic Hospital Jammu is also registered with Department of Health Research under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

In order to incorporate culture of research and scientific investigations among AYUSH Medical Officers, Director Ayush J&K organized a sensitization program in the premises of Directorate of Ayush, J&K at Indira Chowk, here.

Participants of the program were also briefed about Extra Mural Research, ICMR funded research project, Integrative research, literary research, epidemiological research, ethno-medicinal and tribal research.

Dr. Mohan Singh highlighted the priority areas of research in Ayurveda and Yoga. He also emphasized that as enshrined in National Health Policy 2017, rational use of validated and evidence based Ayush treatments and interventions are mandated for use in Public health delivery system.



Dr. Mohan Singh Directorate of AYUSH J&K speaking during a seminar.

In order to boost to and referral and to mainstream Ayurveda and Yoga, it is mandatory to conduct clinical studies as per International Good Clinical Practice guidelines in prevalent health conditions with special focus on Non communicable diseases and Life style disorders.

He also stressed that traditional health practices like Dinacharya, Ritucharya, Sadvruta, Aachar Rasayan, Pathya-Apathya have to be validated clinically to make them robust and ready for acceptance for global community as measures of health promotion.

He also impressed upon that Yoga, Ayurvedic Dietetics, Medicinal Plants, Tribal Medicine are the areas which are full of research potentials. Research enthusiasts of Yoga and Ayurveda must come forward to validate the practices and principles of Ayurveda through internationally accepted research methodologies.

He also shared the road map of research and development of Ayush in J&K which include constitution of a research and development cell in the Directorate of Ayush J&K, multilateral organizations with various stakeholders and research institutions, Research Standard Operative Procedures, Research data management and publications. He impressed upon the PG Doctors of Ayush J&K to work with enthusiasm and zeal for promotion

of research and development in Ayush Sector of J&K. He also interacted with the participants of the Program which comprise of PG specialist doctors of various specialties of Ayurveda and Yoga and listened to their research ideas and thoughts. Dr. Mohan Singh, Director Ayush J&K, also shared his views that Ayush J&K must aspire for high quality research publication and patenting of new Ayush technologies.

Dr. Singh also discussed the research opportunities in upcoming IDY and urged Medical Officers to conduct evidence based research studies on disease specific

asym interventions at their respective Ayush health and wellness centers.

The program was also attended by Dr. Rakesh Kumar Raina, Assistant Director Ayurveda, Dr. Suresh Sharma, District Ayush Officer, Jammu, Dr. Vandana Dogra, Medical Superintendent and Dr. ArunaBhat, Deputy Medical Superintendent, Govt. Ayurvedic Hospital Jammu along with many PG and Specialist Doctors of various Districts of Jammu Division. Dr. Rakesh Kumar Raina also impressed upon the Ayush Medical Officers to utilize this research platform for advancement of Ayurveda and Yoga.

# JKSPA to participate in May Day convention

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir State Pensioners Association (JKSPA) has decided to take part in the May Day Convention being organized by J&K Low Paid Employees Federation (JKLPEF) on 1st May 2023 at Prem Bhawan, Shaheedi Chowk Jammu at 12.00 hrs to pay tributes to May Day.

President JKSPA Krishan Singh said that various grievances and demands of the serving employees, workers and the pensioners will jointly be highlighted by JKSPA and JKLPEF on this occasion.

The speakers will seek early redressal of pre and post 2006 pensioners grievances, release of 4% DA from January 2023, release of DA unilaterally impounded for the period from January 2020 to June 2021, raising of Medical Allowance to Rs 1,000 per month, protection of Trade Union rights, arresting price rise and other outstanding demands.

He appealed to all the Members of JKSPA to participate in the May Day Convention in large number to pay tributes to the martyrs and highlighting the grievances.