

Guest Lecture on 'INFLIBNET Services for Higher Education Institutions' organized at JU

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Department of Library and Information Science, University of Jammu, under the leadership of Prof. Sangita Gupta, Dean Planning and Development, on Thursday organized a guest lecture on "INFLIBNET Services for Higher Education Institutions".

Prof. Umesh Rai Vice Chancellor of University of Jammu as Chief Guest and Prof. Devika P Madalli, Director INFLIBNET as Speaker graced the event with their presence.

Prof. Umesh Rai, in his presidential address, emphasized the importance of innovation and adaptability in the



VC JU Prof. Umesh Rai felicitating Prof. Devika P Madalli, Director INFLIBNET.

rapidly evolving field of library and information science.

He also discussed ways to implement the services provided by INFLIBNET and allocated responsibility for its execution to the delegates present within the lecture.

He also complemented the department for organizing the event and encouraged participants to leverage such opportunities for knowledge enhancement.

The guest lecture provided by Prof. Madalli's shed

insightful presentation and light on emerging trends and best practices, offering valuable perspectives for students, faculty, and professionals. She introduced the participants with various services of INFLIBNET and the ways to incorporate these services for academic excellence.

Prof. Sangita Gupta expressed her gratitude to Prof. Madalli for sharing her expertise.

The event concluded with an interactive session. The proceedings of the program were conducted by Pooja Rana and Kumar Chitraketu. The vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Meghna Dhar.

Dr. Rajeev Bhagat issues stern directives to Revenue Department for improved public service, transparency

STATE TIMES NEWS

BISHNAH: In a determined move to improve public service delivery, Bishnah MLA Dr. Rajeev Bhagat convened a high-level meeting with revenue officials, addressing critical shortcomings within the department. The meeting, held at his office chamber, focused on systemic issues causing hardship to citizens. Dr. Bhagat strongly criticized the persistent delays in issuing essential certificates, including domicile, category, character, and agriculture certificates. He reminded officials of the Public Services Guarantee Act (PSGA) mandates and demanded strict adherence to prescribed timelines. "Citizens are entitled to timely services,"

Dr. Bhagat asserted, "and delays are unacceptable."

The MLA also addressed the slow pace of providing online revenue extracts and land records. Despite the availability of online platforms, services like Jamabandi and Khasra Girdwari are significantly delayed. Dr. Bhagat instructed officers to prioritize online service delivery within the PSGA framework. A key concern was the flawed practice of conducting

Harvest Inspections (Girdwari). Dr. Bhagat denounced the practice of Patwaris completing Girdwari from their offices instead of conducting mandatory field inspections. He emphasized that this leads to inaccurate records and disputes among landowners. "Every Patwari will now be held accountable for conducting on-

the-spot inspections," Dr. Bhagat declared.

The attestation of mutations also came under scrutiny. Dr. Bhagat stressed the importance of fair hearings for all stakeholders and mandated on-site attestations to ensure transparency and prevent delays. He further expressed concern over the non-incorporation of attested mutations into revenue records, calling the practice "unlawful" and demanding immediate action.

Regarding land acquisition, Dr. Bhagat urged the Collector to meticulously review records, particularly the LB-10 forms, to prevent discrepancies. He cited past issues with Ring Road acquisitions and stressed adherence to the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and

Resettlement Act, 2013.

Dr. Bhagat also highlighted the lack of regular inspections of revenue records by supervisory officers, which he believes has enabled manipulation of records. He called for strict adherence to the inspection schedule outlined in the Land Revenue Act. Finally, Dr. Bhagat directed the swift disposal of pending partition cases and reiterated his commitment to eradicating corruption within the department. He also called for the immediate distribution of Property Cards under the SVAMITVA scheme.

Dr. Bhagat's assertive stance signals a push for significant reforms within the Revenue Department, with a focus on citizen-centric services, accountability, and transparency.

SNM organises blood donation camp

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Reflecting the spirit of love and brotherhood, Manav Ekta Divas (Human Unity Day) is observed annually on April 24 by the Sant Nirankari Mission in a spiritually charged atmosphere, in sacred remembrance of Baba Gurbachan Singh Ji. This day is not only an occasion to pay homage but also a spiritual confluence of humanity, harmony, and unity.

On this day, the Mission initiates a nationwide blood donation drive that flows throughout the year as a symbol of collective awakening toward selfless service. Alongside, spiritual congregations spread the message of love, peace, and inclusiveness to the masses. This day signifies that service is not merely an act but an inner sentiment of selfless dedication. This year too, the Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation organized an extensive series



A volunteer donating blood.

of blood donation camps across more than 500 branches throughout India. In Jammu the camp was held at Sant Nirankari Satsang Bhawan Shastri Nagar and was inaugurated by Smt. Seema Basin JKAS Director Finance, Social Welfare Department Civil Secretariat Jammu. She said that the camp witnessing the enthusiastic participation of devotees who voluntarily donated blood with full dedication and zeal, contributing to the wel-

fare of humanity. A total of 217 units of blood donated by devotees.

Through his realization of Truth, Yugdrishta Baba Gurbachan Singh Ji initiated movements that freed society from superstitions and social evils, encouraging de-addiction, simple marriages, and positive thinking among youth. Carrying forward his noble legacy, Baba Hardev Singh Ji gave the eternal message, "Let blood flow in veins, not in drains,"

making blood donation an integral part of the Mission's spiritual service. This message continues to live in the hearts of Nirankari devotees as a glowing torch of service and sacrifice.

Dr. Geetika Duggal, Medical Director of Sant Nirankari Health City, shared that approximately 30,000 units of blood were collected across the country during this blood donation drive, with nearly 1,000 units donated at the Delhi camp alone.

This day also honors the sacred memory of devoted martyrs like Chacha Partap Singh Ji and many other saints who dedicated their lives walking the path of human unity, selfless service, and spiritual awakening. Manav Ekta Divas keeps alive the inspiration drawn from their steadfast faith and noble resolutions. Ajit Singh Zonal Incharge

Jammu Welcome all and said that this grand initiative is more than just a blood donation drive; it is a living expression of Satguru Mata Sudiksha Ji Maharaj's message of compassion, service, and unity. It teaches us that humanity is the supreme religion. Inspired by this divine vision, the Sant Nirankari Mission continues to pave the path of humanity through tireless service and wholehearted dedication.

Other Dignitaries present on the occasion were Anu Behl JKAS Special Secretary to the Govt Revenue Deptt of Jammu & Kashmir (UT), Dr. Vijay Sahni, Dr. Renu Menia, Dr. Zulfikar, Dr. Rashmika from Blood Bank GMC Jammu. The camp was held in collaboration with blood & transfusion dept. of Govt. Medical College Jammu and JKASCS.

IIM Jammu hosts immersion program for BBA students of Institute of Technology and Science Ghaziabad



Faculty members and students during the programme.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, under the leadership of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, organized an enriching Immersion Program for BBA students from the Institute of Technology and Science (I.T.S), Ghaziabad.

Held at the Dharma Classroom, Vedanta MDP Centre from April 24 to 28, 2025, the program aimed to foster collaborative learning and provide valuable industry exposure to aspiring management professionals.

The Immersion Program featured the participation of 30 enthusiastic BBA students and two faculty members from I.T.S Ghaziabad. The students received a warm welcome and were taken on an engaging campus tour, beginning at the iconic Clock Tower and covering key facilities including the IIM Jammu Reception Area, Mandapam Auditorium, Smart Classrooms, and the state-of-the-art Nalanda Library.

The Inaugural Ceremony commenced with the traditional lighting of the lamp, symbolizing the pursuit of wisdom. The event was graced by Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu; Dr. Sanjeev Pathak, Chairperson, Executive Education and Consultancy; and Dr. Vinod Durg, Chairperson, Alumni Affairs. Representing I.T.S Ghaziabad were Prof. Vajayanti Anand and Prof. Shivoham, who extended their support and encouragement to the participating students.

Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu, welcomed the students and emphasized the importance of active participation and co-creation in the learning process. He encouraged the students to come prepared, be engaged, and leverage this opportunity to the fullest. Highlighting that learning at IIM system goes beyond classroom sessions, he underscored the value of peer learning and out-of-classroom experiences. He thanked I.T.S Ghaziabad for collaborating in this initiative and encouraged students to explore the IIM Jammu campus, reflect on key takeaways, and fully immerse themselves in its vibrant academic ecosystem. "This five-day journey is not just about learning-it's about discovery, challenge, and growth," he remarked.

Dr. Sanjeev Pathak, Chairperson, Executive Education and Consultancy, IIM Jammu, welcomed the participants and shared a key learning from a past industry immersion - the importance of discovering something new each day. He emphasized that the five-day BBA program is designed to align with students' aspirations and equip them to become future leaders and job creators. Highlighting the role of Executive Education, he noted that IIM Jammu focuses on practical skills, policy awareness, and industry insights essential for today's dynamic business landscape. He reiterated IIM Jammu's commitment, in contributing to policymaking and nation-building through continuous learning and innovation.

Dr. Shreya Rastogi, Program Director, IIM Jammu, warmly welcomed the participants and provided an insightful overview of the program's objectives, setting the tone for an engaging and enriching learning experience.

The five-day program featured a thoughtfully curated curriculum designed to equip students with essential managerial insights and practical knowledge. Key topics included International Business, Capital Budgeting, Critical Thinking, Digital Branding, Fundamentals of Forex Markets, Capital Structure and Leverage Analysis, Operations Management, Practical Applications of Business Strategy, Supply Chain Management, Consumer Behaviour, Digital Transformation in Business, Lean Management, Business Statistics for Managers, Monetary Policy, Digital Marketing, Team Building, and the Role of AI in Business Communications. The vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Garima Maurya, Program Director, IIM Jammu. The inaugural ceremony culminated with the national anthem and group photograph.

The Immersion Program at IIM Jammu stands as a testament to the institute's unwavering commitment to nurturing talent and strengthening industry-academia partnerships. Through such transformative initiatives, IIM Jammu continues to set new benchmarks in management education and plays a pivotal role in shaping future-ready leaders.

11th State Board for Wildlife meeting held under chairmanship of Lt Governor Brig Mishra

Several defence projects, defence roads and transmission line cleared and approved in meeting

STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: The 11th meeting of the State Board for Wildlife was held under the chairmanship of the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd), at the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat in the presence of the wildlife board members.

At the outset, the LG and the board members observed a minute's silence to pay respect to the victims of the Pahalgam terror attack.

Chief Secretary, Dr Pawan Kotwal, informed the board members about the request made by the LG to renowned wildlife expert Dr MK Ranjitsinh to help UT Administration in drafting detailed profiling of wildlife of Ladakh, a comprehensive wildlife policy for Ladakh and the guidelines on role and responsibilities of armed forces in the protection and conservation of wildlife in Ladakh, out of which Dr Ranjitsinh has already worked on detailed profiling of wildlife of Ladakh and work is underway on the other two aspects.

The Chief Secretary also apprised the members of the



LG Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) along with other officials observing silence to pay tributes to Pahalgam martyrs.

assessment report on status of black-necked crane in the High Altitude Cold Desert (Changthang) Wildlife Sanctuary 2024-25, informing them that 25 wildlife stewards have been engaged by the Department of Wildlife Protection for seven months and trained and assigned duties to protect and tasked with recording data on number of black-necked cranes, nest sites, chicks, eggs, etc. in 25 different habitats of black-necked crane in the Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary. He also informed that currently there are 69 adult and 20 chicks of black-necked crane in Ladakh.

He further informed the members about the work-

shop/training held for user agencies such as Army and Border Roads Organisation (BRO) officials for handling and correctly uploading wildlife diversion proposals on Parivesh 2.0 portal with the help of NIC Delhi, GoI.

23 infrastructure development proposals received from the Indian Army and the Intelligence Bureau, MHA, along with wildlife clearance proposal for defence roads and wildlife clearance for transmission line in Karakoram and Changthang Wildlife sanctuaries, were put up for discussion during the meeting. After a detailed discussion, all the projects were approved by the board members, headed by the LG. Chairman/CEC, LAHDC

Leh, Advocate Tashi Gyalson; Dr Ranjitsinh; wildlife expert Dr RK Singh and Director, Snow Leopard Conservancy India Trust, Tsewang Namgal gave their valuable suggestions in the meeting such as holding discussions on the proposed defence projects with the concerned area councillors so that there is no confusion; minimal acquisition of land owned by the villagers; the need to put up barricades/speed barriers to stop the killing of endangered species such as Pallas's Cat by speeding vehicles, etc.

Chairman/CEC LAHDC Leh, Adv Tashi Gyalson; Chief Secretary, Dr Pawan Kotwal, IAS; Wildlife expert Dr MK Ranjitsinh; former PCCF Jigmet Takpa, IFS (Retd); DGP Ladakh, Dr SD Singh Jamwal, IPS; Commissioner/Secretary, Dr Vasanthakumar N, IAS; CCF Ladakh, Sajad Mufti, IFS; Secretary, IT, Shashanka Ala, IAS; officials from Army, Border Roads Organisation; PDD, Wildlife Department; Wildlife Institute of India and other wildlife experts were present in the meeting.

FICCI FLO JKL condemns Baisaran attack, urges for peace & unity

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: FICCI FLO Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh Chairperson Aarti Chowdhary has strongly condemned the barbaric attack on innocent tourists in Baisaran, calling it a heart-wrenching tragedy that has shaken the entire region.

In her statement, Aarti Chowdhary expressed deep sorrow over the loss of innocent lives and extended heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families. "What was meant to be a joyful moment turned into an unimaginable tragedy. As a woman, a leader, and above all, a human being, I unequivocally denounce this act of terror," she stated. She urged the community to remain united in compassion, courage, and commitment to peace. "There is never any justification for such violence. We must speak against fear and uphold peace with unwavering resolve," she added.

FICCI FLO JKL reaffirmed its stand in solidarity with the victims and emphasized that the power of light and unity will always overcome darkness.

IJSA Jammu condemns terror attack at Pahalgam

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Brigadier (Dr.) Vijay Sagar Dhemana, a renowned defence expert and Convenor IJSA Jammu, the only think tank in J&K, strongly condemned the heinous act perpetrated by terrorists from Pakistan, executed under the real-time direction of Pakistan's ISI, at Pahalgam.

He denounced the cowardly attack carried out by inhuman, anti-humanity and misguided Jihadis, which resulted in the death of 27 innocent, unarmed civilians and left many others injured.

He emphasized that such individuals deserve no reprieve and must be neutralized by security forces at the earliest opportunity.

He expressed full support for the administration in Jammu & Kashmir during this challenging period and

assured his readiness to assist in any required capacity.

He also backed the Bandh call across the Union Territory to raise awareness among the misled sections of society and to expose the true intentions of the Pakistani deep state.

Brigadier (Dr.) Vijay Sagar Dhemana further pointed out the strategic timing of this terror incident, coinciding with the visit of U.S. Vice President J.D. Vance to India, during which a \$500 billion trade deal was expected to be discussed, as well as the Indian Prime Minister's visit to Saudi Arabia, where significant economic gains were anticipated.

He asserted that the objective of this attack was to portray India as unstable and chaotic before the international community, an agenda

allegedly pushed by Pakistan's ISI at China's behest.

Brigadier Dhemana also highlighted Pakistan's disregard for the people of Jammu & Kashmir, as evidenced by targeting the region's key source of livelihood i.e tourism.

He noted that this exposed Pakistan's true motives and territorial ambitions devoid of any empathy for the local population. Calling for decisive retaliatory action, he advocated for strict measures against jihadi training camps in Pakistan, comparable to the Balakote airstrike and the surgical strike in Uri.

He expressed deep condolences to the families of the deceased and injured and reiterated his commitment to stand by the people of Jammu & Kashmir and the nation in these trying times.

LG Brig Mishra seeks cooperation from tourism stakeholders to welcome tourists in Ladakh in wake of terrorist attack in Pahalgam

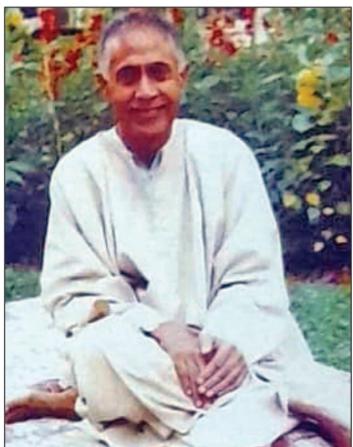
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LEH: In view of the cowardly attack on innocent tourists by the armed terrorists in Pahalgam, in which around 26 people lost their lives, the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd) appealed to all stakeholders and sought their assistance in welcoming tourists with open arms and take all necessary measures to increase the footfall of tourists in Ladakh.

Stating that tourism is the lifeline of people of Ladakh as majority of people are engaged in tourism activities for their livelihood, the LG sought cooperation from all tourism stakeholders to welcome and support tourists and not indulge in any malpractices that might hamper the footfall of tourists in Ladakh and affect the livelihood opportunities of the people of Ladakh. The LG stated that, going by the trend, he was expecting more tourists to visit Ladakh in 2025 than in 2024. The LG stated that appropriate action would be taken against the travel advisories issued by the United States and United Kingdom, categorising the Union Territory of Ladakh under Jammu and Kashmir and thereby creating confusion and concern among foreign and domestic tourists.

Stating that the nation is facing a difficult time, the LG highlighted the need to secure the nation and protect our sisters and daughters. Further stating that nobody wants Kashmir's economy which is dependent on tourism, as majority of people in areas such as Pahalgam are dependent on tourism for their livelihood to suffer, the LG sought everyone's goodwill and support and the need to evoke the 'nation above everything else' sentiments to overcome the difficult period.

Janam Diwas Jayanti celebrations of Shaivacharya Swami Lakshmanjoo Maharaj today



of the legendary saint-philosopher, widely regarded as a spiritual beacon of Kashmir Shaivism.

The primary celebration will be held at the Kashmir Shaiva Institute, located at 2-Mahinder Nagar, Canal Road, Jammu. As per the official statement released by the Institute, the Gurm Pooja will begin at 7:15 AM and will conclude by 11:30 AM, followed by the distribution of Prasad.

The Secretary of the Institute, in a heartfelt appeal to the public, urged people to join the celebrations and receive the divine blessings of Swami Ji Maharaj. "Let us all come together to pay homage to the spiritual wisdom and legacy of Swamiji," the statement read.

In addition to the event in Jammu, parallel celebrations will be conducted at multiple locations across India, including Ishbar-Nishat, Srinagar-Kashmir, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir Sabha, Salt Lake City, Kolkata, and Kashmiri Pandit Sabha, Kharghar, Mumbai.

The Institute has invited all devotees and well-wishers to participate in the Janam Jayanti celebrations and be part of the sacred occasion.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Kashmir Shaiva Institute has announced the grand celebration of Janam Diwas Jayanti of Shaivacharya Swami Lakshmanjoo Maharaj on Friday, the 25th of April 2025. This revered occasion commemorates the birth anniversary