

Vice Chancellor JU felicitates NAAC Coordinators for exemplary contribution

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Vice Chancellor (VC), University of Jammu (JU), Prof Umesh Rai on Thursday felicitated the NAAC Coordinators for their outstanding efforts in compiling and presenting departmental data, which played a crucial role in the accreditation process. Addressing the gathering, the Vice Chancellor lauded the collective contribution of faculty members, officers, and staff in achieving



VC, University of Jammu, Prof Umesh Rai honouring a NAAC Coordinator.

this milestone, emphasizing that their dedication and teamwork had set a benchmark in institutional excellence. In his address, the Vice

JKESL doing great services to ex-servicemen, their families: Balbir



BJP Spokesperson Balbir Ram Rattan calling on President, JKESL Lieutenant General Rakesh Sharma (Retd.).

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JAMMU: Balbir Ram Rattan, a proud son of a retired Indian soldier and prominent social activist, called on Lieutenant General Rakesh Sharma (Retd.), President, J&K Ex Services League (JKESL), at his office in Jammu, to acknowledge and commend their commitment towards the welfare, resettlement, and rehabilitation of ex-servicemen and their dependents. Lieutenant General Rakesh Sharma (Retd.), shared the League's initiatives aimed at honouring the legacy of the Dogra warriors. He shared that the League regularly organizes commemorative programmes to mark the birth anniversaries and martyrdom days of iconic figures such as

General Zoravar Singh and Brigadier Rajinder Singh. These events serve not only as tributes but also as reminders of the valiant history that continues to inspire generations. "We take immense pride in paying homage to our great Dogra warriors like General Zoravar Singh and Brigadier Rajinder Singh. Their bravery and dedication have set standards of courage and leadership. Our efforts at the League are aimed at ensuring their sacrifices are never forgotten," said Lt. General Sharma. Balbir Ram Rattan, while appreciating the services of JKESL, said that the League is doing great services to many ex-servicemen and their families. Their dedication

towards rehabilitation, resettlement, and welfare of ex-servicemen, war widows and veer naris, reflects the true spirit of service and sacrifice that defines Indian armed forces. He said that the J&K Ex Services League has been instrumental in providing support and assistance to countless ex-servicemen and their families over the years. Their continuous efforts to address issues related to rehabilitation, pensions, and welfare have earned them widespread appreciation and respect. He said that the JKESL deserves all the appreciation for its tireless efforts in ensuring the well-being of those who have sacrificed for the nation. He emphasized that the legacy of the Dogra warriors must be preserved and celebrated, highlighting the pivotal role played by the JKESL in this noble cause. He expressed confidence that the League will continue its service towards the servicemen and their families. Lieutenant General Rakesh Sharma (Retd.), along with League's General secretary Colonel Rajinder Singh and Secretary Colonel Oshnak Choudhary also presented vaster to Balbir as a token of respect.

Chancellor acknowledged the rigorous process of internal quality assessment and reflected on his personal journey in understanding and implementing accreditation mechanisms. He praised the sense of ownership displayed by the university fraternity and highlighted the commendable coordination witnessed by the NAAC team during their visit. He also underscored the importance of a robust research policy, infrastructural development, and transdisciplinary research to further enhance the university's academic standing. While appreciating the efforts of all stakeholders, he also pointed out key areas for further improvement, including strengthening the alumni network, revitalizing the placement cell, and promoting high-impact research publications to improve the university's national and international rankings. He urged faculty members to break disciplinary boundaries and work col-

laboratively to address societal challenges. Among others who spoke on the occasion included Prof. Anju Bhasin, Dean Academic Affairs; Prof. Meena Sharma, Dean Planning and Development; Prof. Neelu Rohmetra, Dean Research Studies; Prof. Naresh Padha, Senior most faculty member; Prof. Pankaj K. Shrivastava, Director, CDOE and Prof. Satya Pal. The speakers commended the tireless efforts of the NAAC Coordinators and shared insights on enhancing the university's academic and administrative frameworks. Earlier, Dr. Ginny Dogra, Director DIQA welcomed the audience. The NAAC Coordinators also shared their feedback, reflecting on their experiences and challenges during the accreditation process. Ms. Akanksha Sharma, Assistant Registrar, DIQA, conducted the proceedings, while Er. Amit Targotra AD, DIQA and the DIQA staff managed the event.

Shri Raghunath Ji Corridor Vikas Council announces Maha Arti Event at Tawi River Front on April 13

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Shri Raghunath Ji Corridor Vikas Council is delighted to announce a grand Maha Arti event at the newly developed Tawi River Front in Jammu. The event is scheduled to take place on the auspicious occasion of Baisakhi, on April 13, 2025, at 5:30 PM. This Maha Arti marks the beginning of spiritual and cultural activities at the much-anticipated Tawi River Front, which has been developed by Jammu Smart City Limited following the model of the famous Sabarmati River Front in Ahmedabad. The event will be graced by



Council members briefing media.

the presence of Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha, who will participate as the Chief Guest in the Arti ceremony. Additionally, a grand Baisakhi Mela will be organized at the River Front by

Jammu Smart City Limited, in collaboration with the Tourism Department. This promises to be a spectacular celebration, bringing together devotees, cultural enthusiasts, and tourists to experience the

rich heritage of Jammu. Taking inspiration from the sacred traditions of Kashi, Rishikesh, and Haridwar, the Shri Raghunath Ji Corridor Vikas Council is committed to promoting cultural and religious heritage while also emphasizing the importance of water conservation in Jammu. The Maha Arti will take place on the banks of Surya Putri Tavishi, also known as the younger sister of Maa Ganga. The sacred river is further blessed by the divine presence of Bawe Wali Mata, making this event a deeply spiritual and significant occasion for devotees.

The Council has received official consent from Jammu Smart City Limited to conduct this event and is actively seeking support from the Directorate of Tourism Jammu to enhance promotion and ensure greater participation. The Shri Raghunath Ji Corridor Vikas Council invites devotees, tourists, and residents of Jammu & Kashmir to join this historic and divine celebration. Come and experience the spiritual grandeur of the Maha Arti, witness the enchanting beauty of the Tawi River Front, and immerse yourself in the festivities of Baisakhi.

CSIR-IIIM's Field Station Bonera set to indigenize tulips, boost floriculture, farmers' income

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
PULWAMA: The mesmerizing tulip gardens of Kashmir, particularly in Srinagar, have long been a prime attraction for tourists. In a major step towards sustainable floriculture and enhancing farmers' income, CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM), Jammu, a premier research institution under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Ministry of Science and Technology, has been actively promoting high-value floricultural crop



cultivation under the CSIR Floriculture Mission. This mission focuses on quality planting material generation, area expansion, urban floriculture, post-harvest processing, value addition, and marketing linkages.

Aligning with the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call for self-reliance, the initiative has made remarkable strides in recent years. CSIR-IIIM initiated tulip cultivation at its

Bonera Field Station in Pulwama in 2022 to indigenize tulip bulb production, develop agro-technological protocols, and expand cultivation. Starting with just 10,000 bulbs, the initiative has successfully produced over one lakh tulip bulbs in two years, covering more than 12 kanals of land this season. During a media interaction at the Bonera Tulip Garden, Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director of CSIR-IIIM, highlighted the station's research on eight tulip varieties, focusing on bulb development, morphological

assessments, stress resistance, and agro-technological protocols. He emphasized that indigenizing tulip bulb production will reduce India's dependence on imports, create economic opportunities for farmers, and contribute to the overall growth of the floriculture sector. The newly developed Tulip Garden-cum-Experimental Field at Bonera, South Kashmir, has been opened to the public, attracting thousands of visitors. The initiative not only enhances floriculture tourism but also aims to position Jammu and Kashmir as a leading tulip bulb producer. By integrating scientific advancements with floriculture, the CSIR Floriculture Mission is fostering self-reliance in tulip cultivation while significantly boosting farmers' livelihoods and the economic potential of the region.

Addl SP Poonch conducts PCPG meeting, discusses key issues with locals

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: Additional SP Poonch Mohan Sharma, along with DySP Hqrs Poonch Neeraj Sharma conducted a PCPG meeting at Degwar village to engage with local residents on pressing community issues. During the meeting, Additional SP Poonch emphasized the importance of awareness and collaboration between the police and locals to address challenges effectively. Key discussions focused on the impact of new criminal laws, emerging Cyber Crimes and their implications for the local community. Additional SP Poonch Mohan Sharma, encouraged locals to stay informed and adhere to the updated legal framework to ensure safety and justice. Furthermore, a significant portion of the meeting was dedicated to the growing concern of drug abuse in the region. He also highlighted the police department's efforts to curb this issue and stressed the importance of community cooperation in fighting this menace. Locals were encouraged to voice their concerns, and several residents shared their suggestions for improving security and



Additional SP Poonch Mohan Sharma listening to public issues.

tackling social issues and assured the attendees that the police would continue to be proactive in ensuring the well-being of the community. During the interaction Sports item were distributed among youth to encourage Police Public Cooperation. Later on a Plantation drive was also organised with the aim to pay homage to the Police Martyr's who have sacrificed their lives for the Nation. The meeting concluded with a call for stronger collaboration between law enforcement and the public to foster a safer and healthier environment for everyone.

Annual Samuhik Yagyopavit by Global Solace Society concludes

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Global Solace Society, Jammu, concluded the Samuhik Yagyopavit Sanskar for 33 children, including three girls, at Swami Mirza Kak Ashram, Nagrota, on Thursday. The two-day ceremony was attended by over 3000 people including prominent members of the Kashmiri Pandit (KP) community. The participation of over 3000 people from all walks of life included the families of the children being initiated in the ceremony, their relatives and well-wishers, KP community social workers and activists, intellectuals, religious and spiritual leaders notably Swami Kumar ji (Gita pracharak), retired bureaucrats. Many distinguished individuals from outside the KP community also visited the event to bless the children. Among the notable attendees from the political sphere was Ashok Kaul, General Secretary of BJP (J&K). The civil administration extended its support by ensuring uninterrupted water and electricity supply, with several senior officers personally attending the event. The special feature of this year's ceremony was the presence of His Holiness Sri Narayana Theerth Mahaswamy, Shankaracharya of Shri Kalika Peetam Samsthanam, Tamil Nadu,



who personally blessed the children and tutored the gathering about the importance of yagnopavit Sanskar in Sanatam Dharma. Speaking on the occasion, Mahaswamy called upon the state government to take measure for return and rehabilitation of pandits back to Kashmir. "I call upon Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to prioritize this issue so that civilizational heritage of sanatan and Kashmir is preserved," he added. According to Pintoo Ji Pandita, President of Global Solace Society, the Samuhik Yagyopavit has evolved into a unifying platform for the scattered KP community. It fosters solidarity by bringing together thousands from diverse backgrounds and provides an opportunity for community organizations, groups, and individuals to collaborate in supporting those in need. "Our event has created a

strong resonance and highlighted the importance of Yagyopavit Sanskar among the younger generation. I am delighted to announce we're planning to hold samuhik vivah (wedding) that in November this year and use this occasion to appeal people to come forward to make it happen like this event," he added, while expressing gratitude to all supporters and contributors who ensured the smooth execution of the ceremony. Speaking on behalf of administration, Relief Commissioner, Dr Arvind Karvani lauded the effort of Global Solace and said such initiatives by civil society are needed to address societal challenges. Global Solace extends its heartfelt gratitude and thanks to all donors individual as well as organizational who came forward with support and donations to make this event a grand success.

The ceremony was graced by several eminent personalities, including Swami Kumar ji (Muthi), Relief Commissioner Dr. Arvind Karvani, DC Relief Vijay Kumar Sharma, B. L. Bhat, M K Yogi, Dr. Ramesh, Dr Sushil Watal, Ajay Pandita (from Gurgaon), Prof A N Sadhu, Ashok Kangan, B B Chullu, Kamal Ganjoo, Chand Ji Bhat, Muktesh Yogi, Rajeev Pandita (District President KDD BJP), Manohar Dhar, T K Bhat, Sanjay Ganjoo, Sanjay Raina, Vikran Koul, Rajesh Hanglo, Parvinder Hangloo, Pyarey Lal Pandita (Mandal President, Jagti), Avtar Nehru and others. The event's success was made possible by the tireless efforts of volunteers, including Ashok Sumbl, Ajay Bhat, Khuldeep Razdan, Ashwani Bhat, Sahil Pandita, Suraj, Pran Nath, Kundan Raina, Avtar Ji Raina, Rajnath Dhar Ashwani, B.L Hangloo, Sohan Lal, Bushan Lal, Roop Koul, Vijay Kardar, Bhat, Ram Ratan, Ravinder Raina, Naveen, Surinder Bhat, Roshan Lal, Dolly Raina, Ruby, Sunita Rawal, Anju, Roma Pandita, Avinash Bhat, R.K Tikoo, Kiran Raina, Uttar Raina, Satish Malla, Sunil Razdan, Marta, M. L Ashok Sumbl, Soom Nath, Padroo, Ramesh Padroo, Kukdinji, Sunil Pandita, and Vijay Pandita.

Mission Director JJM J&K directs Jal Shakti officials to upload data of JJM works on PM Gati Shakti portal



Mission Director, JJM, J&K Khurshid Ahmad Shah chairing a meeting at Srinagar.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), J&K Khurshid Ahmad Shah urged the Jal Shakti (PHE) Divisions of J&K to speed up the process of mapping the pipelines laid under JJM and uploading the same on PM Gati Shakti portal. The MD was chairing a

preparatory meeting with Chief Engineers, Jal Shakti (PHE) Departments Jammu/Kashmir, Superintending Engineers (Hydraulic) Circles J&K and Executive Engineers of Civil as well as Mechanical divisions of the UT of J&K. The preparatory meeting was a precursor to the meeting to be held by MD & ASM

National Jal Jeevan Mission on 4th April 2025. The MD enquired about the progress achieved in uploading the pipeline and Water Testing Infrastructure created under JJM on PM Gati Shakti portal. He urged the executive engineers to ensure that the targets set in this regard are achieved well in time.

The chair also directed the officers to rectify the mistakes related to data (Dump data) wrongly uploaded on IMIS portal of Jal Jeevan Mission so that a clear picture of work done and uploaded is put in the public domain. The meeting was held in virtual mode and all the officers attended the meeting from their respective stations.

NOTICE

Name is hereby given to the public at large that Mr. Sadru Ram, expired on 13-10-1998 at Village Chohala, Tehsil R.S. Pura, Jammu. We are applying for death certificate of the death person and the following are the legal heirs of the deceased Mr. Sadru Ram. Any person having any objections/claim or demand may send his representations to the concerned authorities within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Pritam Lal
S/o Late Sh. Sadru Ram
R/o Village Chohala,
Tehsil R.S. Pura, Jammu