

# Design Your Degree team of SMVDU engages with IUST DYOD Team, students

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KATRA: The Design Your Degree (DYD) Faculty Team, spearheaded by Dr. M. Sharada Potukuchi at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), recently engaged in a fruitful interaction with Faculty Mentors and Students from the Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), Avantipora, as part of the Design Your Own Degree (DYOD) program.

This meeting signifies a significant advancement in innovative higher education strategies aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

Prof AH Moon, Dean of Academic Affairs at IUST, provided insights into the DYOD Program initiated in the Academic Session 2023-24.

This distinctive four-year undergraduate course offers students a diverse array of subjects during



Faculty members and students during the programme.

the initial two years, spanning various Faculties. Following this foundational period, students embark on specialized studies in their chosen field, facilitated by a bridge course in the fourth semester.

The program is grounded in project-based experiential learning, geared towards equipping students with the skills needed to tackle real-world challenges.

Dr. Ruheela Hassan, Coordinator of DYOD at

IUST, elucidated the program's innovative teaching methodology, showcasing the curriculum's emphasis on skill development and practical knowledge application. Noteworthy is the program's social impact component, where students address societal issues through innovative solutions.

Faculty members at IUST, trained at the prestigious Cluster Innovation Centre in New Delhi, prioritize hands-on learning

and continuous assessment through project work, offering the Program under their Design Innovation Center.

This pedagogical approach diverges from traditional methods, emphasizing interactive learning over conventional lectures and exams. Interactions with students revealed their involvement in impactful projects, including the revitalization of the historical Avanti Swami site and addressing

youth mental health issues through a podcast series aimed at reducing stress and anxiety. Students expressed enthusiasm for the program, citing improvements in confidence and presentation skills.

The SMVDU team expressed gratitude for the insightful interaction, extending special thanks to IUST's Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Shakeel A Romshoo, for facilitating the opportunity. Both universities share a commitment to leveraging technology to address community issues, exploring possibilities for joint initiatives and technical collaborations in the future. SMVDU University is set to launch its DYD program for the 2024-25 Academic Session under the leadership of Vice-Chancellor Prof. Pragati Kumar, with applications now open to students seeking an undergraduate degree with a difference.

# JU announces MBBS Final Prof. Part-II Regular Exam Results: Commemorating historic milestone for GMC Kathua



Jubilant students posing for photograph at Kathua.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KATHUA: The University of Jammu has announced the results of the MBBS Final Prof. Part-II Regular Session Examination, held in February/March 2024, marking a historic milestone for Government Medical College (GMC), Kathua, as it celebrates its First outgoing MBBS batch.

The examination was conducted in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the National Medical Commission (NMC), with video and audio recordings sent to the Undergraduate Medical Board (UGMB), New Delhi.

This achievement stands as a testament to the collective

efforts of the faculty and students who have dedicated themselves to the establishment and success of this new medical institution. The journey of Government Medical College, Kathua, has been characterized by dedication, perseverance, and a shared vision of excellence in medical education and healthcare delivery.

Dr. Surinder K. Atri, Principal of Government Medical College, Kathua, expressed immense pride in announcing the results of the MBBS Final Prof. Part-II Examination, particularly for the college's inaugural outgoing batch.

He emphasized that this moment reflects years of hard

work and dedication from both faculty and students.

Dr. Atri extended congratulations to all faculty members, recognizing their hard work and dedication alongside the students.

Under Dr. Surinder Kumar Atri's leadership, the institution has witnessed significant milestones, including the admission of the fifth batch of MBBS students and the initiation of BSc Nursing programs.

Now, with the first batch of MBBS students transitioning to their internships starting from May 24, 2024, Government Medical College, Kathua, celebrates another remarkable achievement in its journey.

# Martyr Capt Tushar Mahajan Trust organizes free eye & ear check-up camp



Trust members and doctors during the camp.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
UDHAMPUR: Martyr Captain Tushar Mahajan Memorial Trust Udhampur organized free eye check-up camp at Panchayat ghar Himbara Mansar area of Udhampur district on Saturday.

The Camp was conducted with the support and co-operation of the Rotary Eye Hospital Udhampur. The patients were checked by the ophthalmologist Dr Rakesh, ENT Dr Kanav Baigara and medical Specialist Dr sushil Kudyar and his medical team. In this camp,

patients were examined for common Eye and ear problems and were provided free medicines. A total of 300 patients were screened in the camp.

According to the doctor, people suffering with cataract, glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy were examined in the camp. Out of them, 26 patients were identified for cataract surgery which will be conducted free of cost by trust at Rotary Hospital Udhampur. Hearing aids, medicine and spectacles were also given free of cost to the patients who were found hard of hearing.

Chairman Trustee of Martyr Tushar Mahajan Memorial Trust, Dev Raj Gupta said that they are organizing such camps from last seven years in the memory of Martyr Tushar and get number of poor people operated free of cost with the help of Rotary Hospital Udhampur.

He added that trust has taken responsibility of the follow ups of the patients to ensure that they get operated or get the spectacles free of cost and counseling the patients who need surgery and fixing the date for surgery. He added that besides organizing such health camps, the Trust is doing number of works for the welfare of society.

Beside others, mother of martyr Tushar, Asha Gupta; Dr Yogeshwar Gupta, D N Sharma, Purn Chand, Pritam kotwal, Trust Secretary ShewatKetu Singh, Satish Chopra Ranjit Parihar, Karun Raina, were present in the camp.

# KVK Reasi empowering rural youths under ARYA Project

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

REASI: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Reasi, operating under the Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-J), is spearheading efforts to empower rural youths in the hilly district of Reasi, Jammu and Kashmir.

Through the Attracting and Retaining Youths in Agriculture (ARYA) project, KVK Reasi aims to promote commercial floriculture, organic farming, poultry farming, and value addition of fruits among rural youths.

Under the leadership of Vice Chancellor Prof. B.N. Tripathi and the guidance of Director Extension Prof. Amrith Vaid of SKUAST-J, KVK Reasi is dedicated to fostering sustainable income and gainful employment opportunities for rural youths.

Dr. Banarsi Lal, Senior



KVK, Reasi scientist guiding rural youths on value addition in fruits at Kadmal village in Reasi distt.

Scientist & Head of KVK Reasi, highlighted the objective of the ARYA project to attract and empower rural youths to engage in agriculture and allied sector enterprises.

He emphasized the need to make agriculture more profitable to stem the tide of rural youths migrating to urban areas in search of employment.

KVK Reasi is actively guiding rural youths on sci-

entific practices in commercial floriculture, organic farming, poultry farming, and fruit value addition, aiming to enhance

income and employment opportunities in the district. Dr. Lal stressed the importance of agri-entrepreneurship development for doubling farmers' income, a crucial aspect of the ARYA project's objectives.

Initiated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir, the ARYA project is instrumental in promoting agri-entrepreneurship among rural youths, fostering self-reliance and empowerment.

KVK Reasi's scientists are actively mentoring and encouraging rural youths

to explore opportunities in commercial floriculture, organic farming, poultry farming, and fruit value addition.

Moreover, they provide guidance on dual-purpose varieties of poultry, marigold, and vegetables, along with advising on disease management practices in crops.

Dr. Lal expressed optimism that the success stories of rural youths engaged in agriculture entrepreneurship will inspire more youths to embark on similar paths, further strengthening the agricultural landscape of the region.

# X-ray machine installed at Raja Sukhdev Singh District Hospital Poonch

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

POONCH: To improve healthcare infrastructure that directly benefit communities, the installation of the X-ray machine at Raja Sukhdev Singh District Hospital in Poonch will undoubtedly enhance the hospital's diagnostic capabilities and improve patient care.

Special Secretary Health Amarjeet Singh taking proactive steps to address such issues and ensure that essential medical equipment reaches where it's needed most.

Kudos to the entire team involved, including CMO Dr. Zulfikar Ahmed and Supdt Dr. Nusrat Bhatti, for their efforts in making this happen.



# DDC Reasi reviews working of DIC

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

REASI: District Development Commissioner Vishesh Mahajan on Saturday chaired a meeting to review the working of District Industries Centre (DIC), Reasi.

DDC asked the functionaries to explore the scope of industrialization in the least touched areas of the district. DIC General Manager Mohammed Anwar Bandy, gave a detailed power point presentation on the functioning of the department



District Development Commissioner Vishesh Mahajan chairing a meeting.

including the implementation of different schemes launched by the Govt. viz New Central Sector Scheme (NCSS) 2021, Prime Minister's Employment

Generation Programme (PMEGP) scheme, PM Vishwakarma & Jammu and Kashmir Industrial Policy 2021.

The DDC stressed on max-

imum sponsorship under PMEGP and other self-employment schemes and increasing the number of Registrations under the New Central Sector Scheme

(NCSS) 2021.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Reasi Sukhdev Singh Sambyal, Joint Director Chief Planning officer Narinder Kumar, Functional Manager DIC Ankur Sharma and IPO DIC Aadesh Singh.

# GDC Samba organizes workshop on Intellectual Property Rights

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

SAMBA: The Institution Innovation Council (IIC) of Government Degree College (GDC) Samba, in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), organized a One day workshop on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). Prof. Narayan Dutt, Head Department of Physics, formally welcomed the Resource persons, Dr. Jagjeet Singh, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry, GDC Udhampur and Dr Yash Paul Khajuria, Assistant Professor, Department of Biotechnology, University of Jammu.

Dr. Ranjodh Singh Janwal President, IIC of the college presented a brief profile of the council and its endeavour.



Faculty members along with students during the workshop.

Dr. Jagjeet Singh highlighted that Intellectual Property is part of the human intellect but has commercial value when used with the light perspective. He dwelt on the basics of IPR, the process of patent filing, trademarks, copyrights, and the role of IPR in fostering innovation

and entrepreneurship. Dr. Yash Paul Khajuria, explained the concept of patents and underscored the need for maintaining balance so that the patent is mutually beneficial to both individual and society.

The sessions were highly interactive, with participants engaging in lively dis-

cussions and Q&A sessions.

The workshop was attended by about 20 faculty members & 35 students of the college. Assistant Prof. Reetika Reet compered the proceedings of the workshop. The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Assistant Professor, Rajni Devi.

# Construction workers educated about precautions against heat wave



Dept officials educating construction workers.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

RAMBAN: The Labor Department team on Saturday visited Dalvas and Cowbag construction sites to impart training and create awareness

among Labourers/construction workers about the protection against ongoing Heat Wave.

On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary,

the team of Labour Department led by Assistant Labour Commissioner, Amit Kumar engaged with the workers. About 100 workers were informed about the Dos and Don'ts mentioned in public health advisory issued by the National Programme on Climate change and Human Health amid extreme heat /heat wave. The Assistant Labour Commissioner briefed the workers about the necessary precautions to be taken during during the day time, especially between 12 pm to 3 pm. Meanwhile, the employees

were directed to make available necessary facilities like drinking water, shaded areas, temporary shelters, rest breaks, first aid materials, etc at their worksite and impart the training and awareness to the workers about the heat wave mitigation and its precautions.

Moreover the information pamphlets of public health advisory were distributed among employers and pasted at various worksites.

The ALC Ramban was assisted by the Labour Inspector and Data Entry Operator during the visit.

# RDD Ramban conducts cleanliness drive in Panchayat Maitra-A

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

RAMBAN: Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department on

Saturday organized a cleanliness drive under Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen at Panchayat Maitra-A Block Ramban with emphasis on cleanliness and disposal of waste.

The RDD officials led by Block Development Officer Yasir Wani, besides locals took part in the cleanliness drive and resolved to strive for cleanliness, sanitation and hygiene in and around their houses and vicinity.

Streets, roads and vicinities of Panchayat were cleared and the collected



RDD employees carrying out cleanliness drive.

waste was disposed of in an eco-friendly way. On the occasion, the BDO sensitized the locals about different factors responsible for creating garbage and unhygienic conditions in and around their houses. They were motivated to protect the environment and maintain hygiene.

The public cooperation was sought to achieve the target of Sampoorna Swachta in Gram Panchayats across the district.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: PDP chief's sit-in protest was nothing but another drama in the series of her tantrums for which she is famous.

This was said by senior BJP leader and former deputy chief minister Kavinder Gupta as he took a jibe against the former chief minister of erst-while state of J&K.

He said that after getting acquainted about her defeat, the desperate head of the PDP has manipulated the demonstration accusing the administration of prejudice against her party, which is a big white lie.

Kavinder said that the parliamentary elections of 2024 under the present dispensation and the incumbent Election Commission are going to make a record of being totally free and fair as no party except Mehbooba and a few leaders of NC has a problem with the way these polls are being conducted in J&K and for that matter, in the

entire country. He said that the problem with Mehbooba and her ilk including NC leadership is the fact that they have foreseen their devastating defeat in the ongoing Lok Sabha polls and therefore both are making ground for finding alibis through such series of tantrums and dramas.

Kavinder said that both PDP and NC had hoodwinked people for so long and now these political entities have been exposed badly especially due to their dynastic tendencies therefore people have rejected these spent forces and political rout is in offing for them making these so called leaders of Kashmiris restless and full of anxiety, as masses in J&K are toying the line suggested by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who took revolutionary steps to bail out people from dark era of violence and morass, and offered them vistas of opportunities and avenues to thrive and prosper in complete peace and tranquility.

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