

# SKUAST-J Convocation: Shastri, Kurien lectures delivered on Day-1

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: SKUAST-Jammu, on the First day of, its seventh convocation being held in the University from June 26th to June 28th, 2022 here at Baba Jitto Auditorium, SKUAST-Jammu, Chatha, organized Lal Bahadur Shastri and Dr. Verghese Kurien Lectures.

Lal Bahadur Shastri lecture was delivered by Dr. P. L. Gautam, Pro-Chancellor, Career University, Hamirpur (H.P.), while Dr. A. K. Srivastava, Vice Chancellor, DUVASU, Mathura delivered the Dr. Verghese Kurien Memorial Lecture.

Dr. P. L. Gautam spoke on the Evolution of Land Grant Universities in India and said that the concept that originated from the USA has different laws and acts enacted in the USA for establishment of Land Grant Universities and how the journey shifted to India for its establishment. He also talked about the status of Agricultural Education in India since the medieval period and stressed upon to review/ revisit the Agricultural Universities in view of mushrooming of new private Universities/ colleges and emerging national/global issues.

Dr. A. K. Srivastava while delivering Dr. Verghese Kurien Lecture deliberated on the glorious saga of Indian Dairy



VC SKUAST-J, Prof. J P Sharma lighting ceremonial lamp.

Sector which is a classical example of AtmaNirbhar Bharat. Dr. Srivastava stressed upon the need for stability and strengthening of the Indian dairy sector. Although India is high milk producing country, low milk productivity is the major issue which needs to be addressed.

Earlier, Prof. J P Sharma, Vice Chancellor of the University welcomed the Guests and speakers and thanked both the eminent speakers for accepting the invitation to deliver the lectures. Prof. Sharma presented major achievements of the University in the field of education, research and extension. He said recently three new faculties namely, Faculty of Agricultural Engineering, Faculty of Dairy Technology and Faculty of Horticulture and Forestry have been sanctioned, thus taking the total strength of existing faculties to six. The Vice Chancellor added that with the constant support

of LG J&K UT to strengthen the University, two new KVKs at Ramban and Kishtwar have been set up. Highlighting the achievements of University in academics, he informed that last year 66 students have qualified NET examination besides other prestigious national fellowships like INSPIRE; Maulana Azad National Fellowship, SERB and Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship. He also informed about the research and extension initiatives being undertaken by the University which include promoting agri-pre-preneurship and 52 startups have been incubated during the last three years in the Agribusiness Incubator and 14 incubated startups have received the grant in aid from the Ministry of Agriculture and Family Welfare, Government of India.

To inculcate competitive spirit, among various divisions of the faculties, a competition was held in which presentations were also made by the Head of

the Division of all the three faculties regarding academic, research and extension achievements of their respective divisions.

Dr M C Sharma, Dr A K Srivastave, Dr Umesh Rai, Dr. Bechan Lal and Dr U C Sharma were the Jury on the occasion, Dr During this occasion, Vice Chancellor Open badminton tournament was also held on this occasion and trophies were awarded to the winners 2022.

Among the faculty, Dr. Puneet Choudhary and Dr. Vinod Gupta won the Badminton Double and Dr. Akhil won the Singles. Cultural programme was also organized. Dr. M. C. Sharma, Former Vice Chancellor, IVRI, Dr. U. C. Sharma, Ex-National Director, ICAR; Dr. S. P. Tiwari, Vice Chancellor, Jabalpur University, Dr. Bechan Lal, Vice Chancellor, Cluster University, Jammu, Dr. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu, statutory officers of the University, Head of various Divisions, KVKs, and Research Stations; faculty and students were also present during the occasion. At the end vote of thanks was presented by Dr. S. E. H. Rizvi, Dean, Faculty of Basic Sciences. The proceedings of the programme were conducted by Dr. Ankur Rastogi.

# LG Mathur attends workshop on agri-based systems



Lt Governor Ladakh, RK Mathur speaking in the workshop at Leh.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, RK Mathur, attended the workshop on 'Development of Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agri-based Systems for Better Food, Feed, Nutritional and Livelihood Security Options to Farming Community of Cold Arid Region of Ladakh' organised by the National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI), in Leh on Sunday.

The development project is funded by the Department of Science & Technology (DST). LG Mathur requested NDRI to conduct a study on the nutritional value of indigenous milk and suggest ways to bring prosperity to the people through the sale of indigenous milk of Ladakhi cattle with hypoxia properties.

He stated that Ladakhi cattle is recognised as one of the indigenous cattle breeds of India.

He stressed on the need for youth from Ladakh to come

forward and establish large dairy and fodder units to meet the overall demands of milk of the local population as well as the Army. This, he said, would enable a good livelihood.

LG Mathur stressed on the need for large-scale production of fodder for livestock. He suggested that NDRI may provide guidance to aspiring young entrepreneurs from Ladakh interested in the large-scale production of fodder and conduct research on the subject.

He stated that it is the responsibility of the Administration and both the Hill Councils to earmark large areas for the production of fodder and enable young entrepreneurs to grow.

Highlighting the efforts being made by the Administration and the Hill Councils to sell horticulture products such as apricot in the international market, LG Mathur stressed on the need for the processing of the

fruits. He requested NDRI for their expert advice in the matter.

Dr Anurag Saxena, who would lead the DST Project, briefed about the project outline and spoke of the shift in precipitation pattern due to the impact of climate change. He apprised of the need for a proper land-use plan for Ladakh, keeping in view the climate change pattern. He stressed on the need for developing suitable products for improving the livelihood of the people of Ladakh.

Dr Dheer Singh, Joint Director (Research), NDRI, also highlighted the challenges of the impacts of climate change. Secretary, Animal, Sheep Husbandry and Fisheries (ASH & Fisheries), Ravinder Kumar, shared the challenges faced by the people of Ladakh, especially the shortage of fodder and milk in the winters. Director, ASH & Fisheries, Dr Mohammad Raza spoke on the sustainable development of the livestock sector in Ladakh.

Earlier, Dr Deldan Namgyal from High Mountain Altitude Arid Agriculture Research Institute (HMAARI) welcomed the guests, while Dr Changchuk Lamo from Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI), Leh, gave the vote of thanks.

# Govt job not end of road, youth should explore other options: Abhinav

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior Advocate Abhinav Sharma, Spokesperson J&K BJP on Sunday asserted that youths should not waste their precious years of life by waiting to get government job rather they should explore other options to have a bright career and even create jobs for others through businesses or entrepreneurship. In a statement issued here today, the BJP leader said that though government in J&K is soon bringing a viable job policy to absorb maximum number of youths but this is also a hard fact that providing jobs to each and every unemployed youth is not possible and therefore people having extraordinary acumen, skills and qualifications should opt for other fields to ensure good fortune and help the government by creating job avenues for the aspiring ones by running successful entrepreneurship. Citing the statement made by the LG Manoj Sinha, Abhinav Sharma said that soon the J&K administration will roll out a new job policy in the Union Territory to ensure that maximum number of youths get absorbed in the government sector but it is not advisable for those who have the capability to open up their wings and attain unprecedented heights in other fields to wait for years together to get a government job.

# DISHA-India launches 'Students Scholarship' Project



DISHA-India members and other posing dignitaries with students during a programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: DISHA-India organized a get-together on Sunday for launching of new Project-DISHA Students Scholarship Program, at function at Community Hall, Migrant Camp, Muthi, here.

The Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner, J&K, Ashok Pandita, was the Chief Guest and Arun Kaul, Managing Director, Adonis Health Systems Private Ltd was the Guest of Honour on the occasion. The Chairman, P.K Koul said a new project under the name of DISHA Students Scholarship Programme has been launched today. A beginning has been made by disbursing monthly scholarship

to seven students from less privileged families. Koul emphasized the need to reach out to more such families so that the benefits accrue to a large section of the target group. He mentioned two grey areas which require the utmost attention of policy makers and the implementing agencies i.e. Cause and care of the Elderly and Education of Children especially the girls. Koul resolved that DISHA-India will launch long term Community based and development oriented Projects in these two priority areas.

Arun Kaul in his address emphasized the need to provide quality education to all including the girls. He further

said that Community youths should be encouraged to take up Entrepreneurship as career, so that they become job creators rather than job seekers. Ashok Pandita assured that genuine problems of the people will be addressed and all possible steps taken in this direction.

Suruchi Kaul, Neeru Tika, Usha Raina, Kuldeep Bhat, Opendar Koul, Pran Pandita, M.L Raina, Sanjay Koul, Dr. Jitendriya Kaul, Dr. Vinod Koul, Bushan Koul, P.L Talashi, M.K Goja, P.N Bhat and Ashok Bhat were also present. Anil Tickoo compared the program and the vote of thanks was presented by Opendar Kaul.

# IIPA organizes 9th Shri Ram Sahai Memorial Lecture

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: "We are on borrowed time and it is time for all of us to buck up and change our attitude towards education, skilling, industrial growth and employment" said Prof. (Dr.) Neharika Vohra, Vice-Chancellor Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University, New Delhi while delivering 9th Shri Ram Sahai Memorial Lecture on "Bridging Skill Gap through Industry Academia Partnership" organized by Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), JK Regional Branch.

While raising concerns about the quality of human capital, skill deficit, and unemployable graduates, Prof Vohra advocated that both academia and industry cannot be complacent anymore, and should synergize their efforts and come forward to handle the issue of talent depth in the country. According to her, the education sector should rethink and design an effective curriculum through intensive collaboration with the indus-



Dignitaries at 9th Shri Ram Sahai Memorial Lecture at IIPA Jammu.

try to define required skills at a detailed level. Further there is a need to develop indicators to measure levels of core employability skills, create, adapt and develop new assessment methods that reflect the core work skills and competencies of learners.

Further highlighting the role of the industry in reducing the skill deficit, she said that industry should be willing to come into the classroom, engage with the students, provide internship opportunities, co-create curriculum which is of relevance to them.

According to her, industry should pay a premium for skill and therefore appropriate incentives for skilling and learning should be visible. Industry needs to move away from lazy categorizations of

talent and recognize the skilled workforce.

Dr. Ashok Bhan, IPS (Retd), Patron of IIPA-JKRB while remembering the contributions of Late Ram Sahai said he was a charismatic & seasoned entrepreneur who was way ahead of times and contributed towards issues of social relevance.

He said that educated unemployment is a matter of serious concern and suggested that suitable interventions should be made by both academia and industry to handle this issue which affects the youth of the country.

B R Sharma, IAS (Retd), Chairman of IIPA-JKRB in his presidential remarks, said that the vision of India becoming a 5-trillion dollar economy is only possible with the syner-

gistic and systematic effort of policy makers, educational institutions and industry.

He said that the skill landscape of our country is immense and through intelligence forecasting and modelling, the vision can be realized.

K B Jandial, IAS (Retd.), Director (Seminars), IIPA JKRB paid glowing tributes to late Ram Sahai. He said that as a founding member of the branch, Sahai has made immense contributions towards bringing the issues of trade and commerce to the forefront and this memorial lecture is organized every year to carry forward his legacy by deliberating on issues of relevance to the industry.

Rahul Sahai in his concluding remarks said that in a constantly changing world, incul-

cating steadily experiential learning is key to develop human capital of the future.

He assured that, as a head of industrial association, he will forge fruitful relationship with academia and provide meaningful opportunities to the students which will benefit the local industry and society at large. He acknowledged IIPA for organizing this memorial lecture in memory of his father every year.

Earlier Prof. Alka Sharma, Secretary, IIPA JKRB delivered the formal welcome address and the proceedings were conducted by Dr. Anil Gupta, Joint Secretary.

The programme was attended by over 100 eminent citizens, members of IIPA, family members of Late Ram Sahai including Dr. S D Singh, IPS, ADGP, Prof. Manoj Dhar, Sandeep Mittal GM RBI J&K, Sanjeev Kr Garg Airport Director Jammu, Arun Gupta President CCI Jammu, Rajesh Jain Chairman Federation of Industries Jammu, Lalit Mahajan Chairman BBIA of J&K and others.

# NEET PG aspirants meet PCC, seek deferment of pooling of 50 pc PG seats in AIQ



NEET PG aspirants presenting memorandum to JKPCCL leaders.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A delegation of aspirants of NEET PG from J&K UT met the JKPCCL Chief G A Mir along with working President Raman Bhatta, Chief spokesperson Ravinder Sharma, General Secretaries Yogesh Sawhney and Mannohan Singh on Sunday and voiced their concerns about the pooling of JK UT PG seats in All India quota this year, this reducing the seats from 522 to 172 for the domiciles of Jammu and Kashmir.

Opposing pooling of PG seats in all India quota for the time being, they sought deferment of the decision and urged for highlighting their problem as well as loss to Jammu and Kashmir.

The PCC leadership urged government to reconsider the decision in the larger interests of the people of Jammu and Kashmir as well as the PG

aspirants of J &K.

JAMMU: The Shopkeeper Association (Canal Road) on Sunday held a meeting wherein Narinder Gupta was elected as the President by the members of the Association. Other members who were elected in this meeting include Deepak Gupta (General Secretary), Vikas

# Canal Road Shopkeepers Association forms new body with Narinder as President

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Newly elected Shopkeeper Association (Canal Road) during a meeting.

# Modi Govt established new paradigms of progress: Kavinder

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The BJP government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has established new paradigms for progress in Jammu and Kashmir by providing vistas of opportunities to people belonging to all shades of life and setting up world class infrastructure to augment facilities to the common man. This was stated by Kavinder Gupta, senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister while kick-started work of Tubewell at Channi Himmat with an estimated cost of Rs 1.66 crore.

On the occasion, Rajkumar Tarkhan, Chairman Public Health and Sanitation Committee, JMC and Neena Gupta Corporation Ward 50 were also present.

He also stated that this tubewell will supply water to atleast 20 thousand dwellers of the area.



Senior BJP leader, Kavinder Gupta and others during start of Tubewell work at Channi Himmat.

Kavinder stated the he is very much impressed from Rajkumar Tarkhan for his loyal working for the welfare of the general public.

Among those who were present include Jagdish Raj Proch, Ward President; S.K Mengi, Jeewan Singh Charak, Raghurib Singh Charak, Mohinder Paul, Mirza Baghat, Dinesh Kumar, Manohar Lal,

Mahaveer Gupta, Dinesh Kumar, Deepak Kumar, Harbans Lal Sharma, Vinod Gupta, Parshotam Kumar, Tarsem Lal, Vimal Sharma, Krishan Lal, Bittu Choudhary, Thoru Ram, Chander Shekhar, Manohar Lal, Devinder Kumar Sharma, Rishi, Pintu Pandita, Vishawdeep Gupta, Deep Raj and Devinder Singh Charak.

# Medicinal plants are more valuable, useful: Sanjita

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Stressing upon the people to contribute in planting more trees in the monsoon season, Jammu and Kashmir BJP Mahila Morecha President, Sanjita Dogra, said that medicinal plants are more useful as they serve many purposes.

She was speaking on the occasion of the launching of plantation drive in Jumbo Lochan Park, near Ustad Mohalla, Jammu, along with BJP Jammu West District President Munish Khajuria and Mahila Morecha team.

It was for the first time that Sanjita Dogra involved small girls called 'Kanjaks' to set in motion fifteen days Plantation Pakhwada. The saplings planted today were of Neem, Amla, Giloy etc, which are considered to be best medicines under Ayurvedic System.

She said that from state to booth level, across Jammu and Kashmir, thousands of



J&K BJP Mahila Morecha President, Sanjita Dogra and others during plantation drive.

saplings will be planted in fifteen days.

The Mahila Morecha activists took pledge to continue with the plantation drive in their respective areas in the coming days and also involve the local people for the same. She also announced that for every sapling, one activist of the

Morecha will be given responsibility as care taker/ paalak to take care for three years so that it grows well.

Earlier, in the morning, Mahila Morecha and Jammu West team also listened to the PM's 'Mann ki Baat' programme at Kachi Chawni office.

Those who were present in the programme Neha Mahajan, Urvashi Gupta, Neena Gupta, Anita Gandotra, Neeru Anand, Suman Raina, Indu Puri, Geetanjli Mahajan, Anu Bhasin, Minakshi Jamwal, Usha Rajput, Ritika Trehan, Reena Salathia and Vidushi Chohan.