

# 9 Day ‘All Women Motorbike Expedition: Jammu to Siachen Base Camp flagged off

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JAMMU: Under the visionary guidance of Commissioner Secretary Tourism, Yasha Mudgal and the Director Tourism Jammu, Vivekanand Rai, the Directorate of Tourism Jammu, in collaboration with Shakti Udghosh Foundation, organized a nine day "All Women Motorbike Expedition" from 18th to 27th July 2024. The journey from Jammu to Siachen Base Camp via Srinagar, themed "Ride with Pride: Honouring Our Bravehearts," serves as a tribute to the valour and resilience of Indian women and as homage to the brave soldiers safeguarding our borders in the world's most extreme terrains.

The expedition was flagged off today from the Balidan Stambh by Joint Director Tourism, Sunaina Sharma Mehta, who was also the Chief Guest on the occasion.



Joint Director Tourism, Sunaina Sharma Mehta flagging off expedition.

Speaking on the occasion, Mehta shared her words of encouragement for the women embarking on this adventurous journey, expressing deep gratitude for being part of this endeavour aimed at honouring the bravehearts and championing women's empowerment. She expressed hope that this bike rally would highlight the potential of adventure tourism in the

Jammu Division and attract other bike enthusiasts from India and abroad to include Jammu in their bike tour circuits. She further added that elaborate arrangements are in place for the smooth facilitation of the bikers.

The expedition began in an environment filled with fervour and enthusiasm. Dr. Preeti Chaudhary, convenor of the Shakti Udghosh Foundation and the leader of

the expedition, served as the Marshal rider, leading a diverse group of bikers comprising 12 women and 3 men. Also present on the occasion were Dr. Showkat Hayat Matto, Deputy Director Tourism Jammu, Mohammad Arif Lone, ADT NHW Batote, Muzamil Hassan, AD Tourism Jammu, and other officials of the department.

Over the next 9 days, the expedition will navigate the majestic Shivaliks, traverse the breathtaking Kashmir Valley, conquer the formidable Zoji La Pass and brave the stark beauty of Ladakh, leading to the Base Camp of Siachen- the world's highest battlefield. The route includes the following stages: Jammu to Srinagar (18th July), Srinagar to Kargil (19th July), Kargil to Leh (20th July), a day halt in Leh for acclimatization (21st July), Leh to Diskit/Panamik (22nd July),

Panamik to Siachen Base Camp and back to Hunder (23rd July), Hunder to Leh (24th July), Leh to Kargil (25th July), Kargil (closing ceremony) and back to Srinagar (26th July), and finally Srinagar to Jammu (27th July).

The event aims to illuminate the courage of our soldiers while showcasing the unwavering strength and determination of women riders, sending a powerful message of empowerment and unity. The participants in this bike rally come from various parts of the country, including Tamil Nadu, Bihar, and the Union Territory of Delhi.

The Directorate of Tourism, Jammu, and the Shakti Udghosh Foundation proudly present this all-women motorbike expedition, showcasing the indomitable spirit of Indian women and paying tribute to the brave soldiers of India.

## Divisional Sports Officer JKSC meets taekwondo players at Poonch



Divisional Sports Officer meeting with Taekwondo players of Taekwondo Club at Sports Stadium Poonch.

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POONCH: The Divisional Sports Officer of the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council visited the Sports Stadium in Poonch, where he engaged with athletes from various disciplines.

During his visit, he specifically met with the Taekwondo players of the Poonch Taekwondo Club, who have been training regularly at the stadium for the past eight years.

The officer extended his best wishes to all the players and emphasized the importance of playing with the true spirit of sportsmanship.

Moreover, he assured the athletes of the Sports Council's commitment to supporting the development of sports in Poonch, promising all possible assistance.

Rajinder Singh, the Taekwondo Coach from the Department of Youth Services and Sports, highlighted the achievements of the Poonch Taekwondo Club at both the state and national levels.

He proudly mentioned that the players had secured a total of five medals at the national level, including one silver and four bronze medals.

Singh acknowledged the pivotal role played by the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council, particularly expressing gratitude to Secretary Nuzhat Gul for her unwavering support in fostering Taekwondo in Poonch, a district situated on the border.

The event was attended by various members of the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council, alongside Pawan Kumar PEL and other prominent personalities.

The occasion underscored the council's dedication to promoting sports and nurturing talent across the region, particularly in border districts like Poonch.

Prominent others present on the occasion were all the members of Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council and Pawan Kumar PEL.

## Alexander Memorial School hosts workshop on teacher's capacity building



Dr. Yasir Hamid Sirwal, Deputy Director Academics CDR, JKBOSE and others at workshop.

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JAMMU: A workshop on teacher's capacity building of educational pedagogy was conducted in Alexander Memorial School, Jammu on Thursday.

Esther William, Principal welcomed the guests and thanked Prof. Dr. Sudhir Singh, Director Academics, JKBOSE in absentia who sent his greetings and message as he could not be present.

The Chief Guest was Dr. Yasir Hamid Sirwal, Deputy Director Academics CDR, JKBOSE.

The subject experts were Kashif Hashmi and

Sugandh both Academic Officers, JKBOSE. The other guests included eminent educationist from Youth Talent Search Groups Prabha Jain, Director, New Era Environmental School, Shashi Sharma, Principal, Bikram Memorial School, Neeru Puri, Principal, S.D. Tarapuri School, Principal, JK Montessori School, Anita Kaul, Principal, Playway Progressive School, Teachers of Elite Public School, Teachers of Humanity Public School and teachers from Alexander Memorial School and other schools.

The workshop highlighted educational pedagogy and in his keynote address Dr. Yasir Hamid Sirwal emphasised how to conserve and transform education from one generation to another.

He emphasised again on five qualities - Competency, Learning Outcome Skill Development, Life Skills and Application of skills and stressed on mother tongue.

In the participatory atmosphere the two subject experts created a healthy open house discussion wherein the teachers asked various questions on the new examination system and the role of teachers in concept clearing, hand on experimental learning and the academic excellence. All Pvt. Schools thanked the Academic Department of JKBOSE for accepting our invite.

The programe was conducted Marshlaw Khokhar, Neelam Shambu and Alka Mantoo. Vote of thanks was presented by Satish Kumar Munshi.

## Corporate Engagements, keynote speakers, faculty interactions, Yoga mark day 3 at IIM Jammu

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JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu continued its extensive five-day Orientation Program for its incoming batches at its advanced campus in Jagti.

The third day commenced with an invigorating yoga session titled "Maximize Happiness and Mindfulness," led by Yoga Guru Sahil Mehra, coordinated by Team Anandam, IIM Jammu. This session set a positive tone for the day, focusing on mental well-being and mindfulness, crucial for the students' personal and academic growth.

Following the yoga session, Dr. Ashish Kumar, Chairperson of Student Affairs at IIM Jammu, provided an in-depth overview of the "Students' Policy, Rules, and Regulations at IIM Jammu." This session aimed to familiarize the students with institutional guidelines, ensuring clarity and adherence throughout their academic journey.

The morning continued with out-bound activities aimed at fostering team-building and collaboration among the students, enhancing their interpersonal skills and promoting camaraderie.

In the afternoon, the students engaged in sessions with industry



A dignitary speaking at IIM Jammu on Thursday.

experts. Shashi Kumar K from Publicis Sapient discussed industry expectations and career pathways, emphasizing adaptability and openness to new experiences. Sheetal Sharma from Grant Thornton explored "The Future of Work: Integration of AI in HR to Build a Culture of Happiness and Empowerment," highlighting the importance of ethics and integrity in the workplace amidst technological advancements.

Additional sessions featured Satish Mohapatra from Maruti Suzuki, who shared insights on the future of HR in a technologically driven world, stressing the significance of human skills alongside AI.

Koustubh Kanade from British Biologicals discussed "Strategic Thinking in Healthcare," encouraging students to embrace innovation and risk-taking for corporate success.

The day also featured a session on placements by Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, and Prof. Baljeet Singh, Co-Chairperson of Placements at IIM Jammu, who outlined the student-driven placement process and the roles of various placement committees. Prof. Ali emphasized the importance of active student participation in shaping their career paths.

Prof. Jabir Ali further conducted a session on "Teaching through Case Study," highlighting the pedagogical

benefits of case studies in business education. He emphasized student engagement and discussion as pivotal to effective learning and encouraged students to actively participate in classroom interactions.

The afternoon concluded with sessions by Mohit Gupta from Friends of Books (FROB) on the role of curiosity in learning, and Inspector Gagandeep Singh from the Cyber Cell, Jammu, who provided insights into cybersecurity and digital safety practices.

Dr. Sarbjit Singh and Dr. Sonu Gorai conducted enlightening sessions on international student exchange programs and cultural adaptability, preparing students for global opportunities and cross-cultural environments.

The day culminated in a vibrant cultural program by 'Natrang' led by Padmashri Balwant Thakur, celebrating the cultural heritage of the region and fostering a sense of community among the students.

These comprehensive orientation activities underscore IIM Jammu's commitment to providing a supportive and enriching environment for its students. The institute eagerly anticipates the achievements and contributions of its new batches in the years ahead.

## My Youth My Pride: Summer activities begin in South Kashmir

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SRINAGAR: Aiming to reach and engage the maximum number of youths in sports, the J&K Sports Council has launched summer activities for the Kashmir division under the banner of 'My Youth My Pride 2024-25' from Tral in South Kashmir.

The activities were inaugurated on Thursday at the Indoor Sports Hall, Tral, by Divisional Sports Officer, Kashmir, Divisional Sports Officer, Central, the Manager of Bakshi Stadium, along with other officials.

Approximately 200 athletes (boys and girls) participated in the Thang-Ta event, witnessed by 250



Participants posing for a photograph with officials.

spectators at the Indoor Sports Hall, Tral. Similarly, 150 athletes and 200

spectators were involved in a Kabaddi competition held at the Sports Stadium, Pulwama.

The playfeld in Pampore was vibrant with Tennis Ball Cricket activities, engaging 48 players and 140 spectators.

Furthermore, the playfield in Devsar, Indoor Sports Hall, and Indoor Hall in Qaimoh, Kulgam, were bustling with Kabaddi, Badminton, and Kho Kho events respectively, attracting 180 athletes and captivating an audience of 240.

Also, special sports activities were conducted at the Sports Stadium, Shopian, where six volleyball teams, four cricket teams, and 50 athletes participated in Taekwondo events, drawing the admiration of 700 spectators.

## Visit of Vigyan Jyoti students to IIT-J

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JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jammu on Thursday hosted 50 students from Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) Reasi, Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS) Reasi and Kendriya Vidyalaya (KV) Reasi as part of the Vigyan Jyoti Programme.

This initiative aims to promote gender parity in STEM fields by increasing the representation of girls in science and technology.

The outreach section, led by Prof. Abhay Sharma, Dean, and Dr. Nalin Kumar Sharma, Associate Dean, organized the visit to the institute's various facilities, including the Tinkerer's Lab, Central Workshop, and Physics Lab, where dedicated staff explained the operation and significance of equipment. The day included informative sessions where Dr. Pervaiz Fathima Khatoon, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering and Dr. Nalin Kumar Sharma motivated the students towards STEM. The event concluded with refreshments served to all participants. This visit was a pivotal step in inspiring and empowering young girls to pursue careers



in STEM, reinforcing IIT Jammu's commitment to fostering educational outreach and support for future generations.

## Cricket Tournament organised at Ramban



Teams posing for a photograph with officials.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: In a spirited initiative to promote a drug-free lifestyle among youth, the Social Welfare Department (SWD), Ramban on Thursday organized a cricket tournament under 'Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan.' The event, held under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary and overall supervision of District Social Welfare Officer, Rahul Gupta, saw enthusiastic participation from young cricket enthusiasts across the district.

The tournament aimed to engage the youth in

constructive and healthy activities, steering them away from the menace of drug abuse. It featured teams from various regions, showcasing their cricketing skills and sportsmanship. The event not only provided a platform for young talents to shine but also served as a medium to spread awareness about the harmful effects of drugs.

DSWO emphasized the importance of such events in creating a positive and drug-free environment for the youth. He highlighted that sports can be a powerful tool in diverting young minds from nega-

tive influences and instilling discipline, teamwork, and a sense of achievement.

The tournament concluded with an award ceremony where the winning team was felicitated with trophies and certificates. Participants and spectators alike expressed appreciation for the event, noting its positive impact on raising awareness about drug prevention.

The successful execution of this cricket tournament marks a significant step towards a drug-free Ramban, fostering a healthier and more vibrant community for the youth.

## DC inaugurates job fair under SANKALP Scheme



DC Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya inaugurating job fair under SANKALP Scheme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Deputy Commissioner, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, on Thursday inaugurated a job fair under the SANKALP Scheme at the District Employment & Counselling Centre Jammu.

Assistant Director Employment, Mukhlis Ali was also present at the

occasion. The event took place at the Employment Complex Toph Sherkhania marking a significant step towards empowering the youth and job seekers of the district by providing ample employment opportunities and career guidance.

Over 13 companies from different sectors actively participated in the Rozgar

Mela, offering more than 200 vacancies.

A total of 400 job seekers attended the event, with 65 individuals shortlisted and 10 selected on the spot. The Job Fair/Rozgar Mela demonstrated a strong commitment to enhancing employment prospects and supporting the career aspirations of the district's youth.

## French Club organises workshop in Model Academy

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JAMMU: The French Club organized a one-day workshop at Model Academy School, exclusively for 8th-grade students, centered around the theme "The Influence of French Language on the English Language." The workshop aimed to deepen the students' understanding of the linguistic and cultural connections between French and English.

Arun Sharma, founder and president of the French Club Jammu, led the workshop. His extensive expertise in the French language allowed him to provide insightful perspectives on how French has historically influenced and enriched English vocabulary, grammar, and expressions. Sharma's dynamic presentation captivated the young audience, encouraging them

to explore their interest in learning French further.

The workshop included interactive sessions and activities designed to highlight the profound impact of French on English language development. Students participated enthusiastically, gaining a newfound appreciation for the interconnectedness of global languages.

"We are delighted to have collaborated with Model Academy School for this educational initiative," expressed Arun Sharma. "Our goal is to ignite a passion for language learning among students and help them appreciate the historical and cultural connections between languages."

Dr. Pramod Kumar Srivastva, Principal of Model Academy School, emphasized the school's commitment to holistic education and fostering academic excellence. He

acknowledged the workshop as part of their efforts to encourage lifelong learning through diverse educational programs.

Deepika Sharma, French teacher at Model Academy, and Muskan Mahajan, a member of the French Club, played supervisory roles during the workshop, ensuring its smooth conduct and active student engagement.

The event concluded successfully, leaving students with not only enhanced linguistic knowledge but also a broader understanding of the cultural ties that bind languages together. French Club Jammu continues its dedication to promoting French language and culture in the region, aiming to build a vibrant community of language enthusiasts through educational and cultural activities.