

CUJ becomes first central university in India to attain prestigious AACSB Membership

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a landmark achievement for Indian higher education, the Central University of Jammu (CUJ) has been granted membership by AACSB International - The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, one of the world's most respected and long-standing global associations committed to advancing excellence in business education. With this accomplishment, CUJ becomes the first Central University in India to join the esteemed ranks of AACSB member institutions.

Founded in 1916, AACSB is a global non-profit association that connects educators, learners, and businesses to foster the next generation of impactful leaders. Membership in AACSB signifies an institution's dedication to the highest standards of academic rigor, innovation, ethics, and continuous improvement in business education. Institutions with AACSB membership are globally recognized for cultivating graduates who are future-ready, ethically driven, and capable of leading in an interconnected world.

The event commenced with a formal welcome address by Prof. Yashwant Singh, Registrar, Central University of Jammu, who extended greetings to the dignitaries, faculty, and guests. He highlighted the significance of the occasion and reaffirmed the university's commitment to pursuing global academic standards and excellence.

Speaking at the formal handover ceremony, Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain extended his gratitude to the university's faculty, students, administrative staff, alumni, corporate part-



Prathap Das, Regional Head, South Asia, AACSB International presenting AACSB Membership certificate to Vice Chancellor CUJ, Prof. Sanjeev Jain.

ners, and all stakeholders. "This milestone is a reflection of CUJ's growing global academic footprint and our steadfast commitment to excellence in education, research, and innovation. It marks a new chapter in our journey toward becoming a globally engaged and future-focused institution," he stated.

A highlight of the event was the official pinning ceremony, during which Prof. Jain was presented with the AACSB pin by Prathap Das, Regional Head, South Asia, AACSB International. Congratulating CU Jammu on this historic recognition, Mr. Das underscored the sig-

nificance of AACSB membership in enabling global collaborations, enhancing academic quality, and opening new avenues for student and faculty engagement across borders.

Prof. Neelika Arora, Dean, School of Business Studies, emphasized the broader impact of this membership: "This recognition affirms our efforts in curriculum transformation, global integration, and our mission to nurture responsible, resilient, and globally competent leaders. It validates the forward-looking vision we have embraced as a school of business."

The ceremony was marked

by enthusiastic participation from the entire academic community. Faculty members shared their pride in CUJ's rising stature on the international academic stage and reaffirmed their collective commitment to academic excellence and innovation.

Prof. Suram Singh, Dean, Academic Affairs and Research, in his vote of thanks acknowledged the tireless efforts of all those who contributed to this achievement. He highlighted the strategic potential this membership unlocks ranging from academic alliances, global internships, faculty and student exchange programs, to collaborative research, joint conferences, and case competitions that will benefit the entire CUJ ecosystem.

The event concluded with an interactive dialogue between Mr. Das and the faculty, followed by a networking session over high tea. The atmosphere was one of pride, enthusiasm, and collective aspiration to propel CUJ to new heights of academic distinction.

Modi govt has launched schemes for all sections of society: Balbir



Senior BJP leader, Balbir Ram Rattan sharing information about various schemes with Scheduled Caste community.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the central government has launched numerous welfare schemes over the past 11 years for the benefit of all sections of society. The objective of these schemes is to accelerate the economic, social, and educational development of the country, so that every citizen can benefit under the guiding principle of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, and Sabka Prayas" (Together with all, Development for all, Trust of all, and Efforts by all).

Balbir Ram Rattan, senior BJP leader and former Vice Chairman of the Jammu and Kashmir Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Backward Classes

Development Corporation, was sharing information about various schemes launched by the Modi government for the benefit of all sections of society with a group from the Scheduled Caste community.

Balbir informed that for the poor and underprivileged sections under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, lakhs of poor families have been provided with permanent housing. The Ujjwala Yojana has freed rural women from smoke by providing free gas connections. Under the Ayushman Bharat Yojana, crores of people are being provided free health insurance, allowing even poor families to receive treatment for serious illnesses at major hospitals.

Under the Pradhan Mantri

Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, small and marginal farmers are receiving annual financial assistance of Rs 6,000, directly deposited into their bank accounts. The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana has also provided farmers with financial relief and improved productivity.

Initiatives such as Startup India and the MUDRA Yojana have provided self-employment opportunities to lakhs of youth. Through the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, youth across the country are being given vocational training, empowering them for employment.

Balbir further shared that schemes like the Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana, Atal Pension Yojana, and Sukanya Samridhi Yojana have provided financial security to senior citizens, women, and girl children.

Balbir said that the goal of the Modi government is to ensure that the benefits of government schemes reach every citizen so that India can become a developed and self-reliant nation. These schemes are a strong step toward a "Developed India," he added.

Tanishq hosts styling session featuring Bandita S. Patro in Jammu



Tanishq official speaking during a session at Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Tanishq, India's largest jewellery retail brand from the house of Tata, unveiled a unique and exclusive experience for its valued customers-'Styling by Bandita'.

A thoughtfully crafted styling session designed by celebrated Image Consultant, Bandita S. Patro offered customized, one-on-one consultations and styling ideas to customers to select jewellery and outfits that truly reflect their personality, occasion, and individual style.

Exclusively hosted at Tanishq Showroom(s) at Gulab Marg Singh and Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, the styling session brought together the worlds of fashion and intricate Tanishq jewellery in an intimate, personalised format under one roof. The session offered expert styling tips for different occasions, from the wedding look and daytime celebrations to elegant cocktail evenings. Guests were guided on how to pair Tanishq jewellery with outfits in a way that complements their personality, enhances their overall look, and helps their boosts confidence.

At Tanishq, we believe

today's modern Indian woman deserves jewellery that doesn't just accessorise her outfit but amplifies her individuality, her elegance, and her every moment.

Tanishq presented a versatile range of collections that cater to every mood and moment. From timeless plain gold pieces to the brilliance of natural diamonds, the session featured stand-out collections like Élanand Radiance in Rhythm.

Élan is crafted for the modern woman who is bold, effortlessly elegant, and unafraid to make a statement. It redefines the delicate balance between intricate artistry and the fearless individuality that today's woman embodies.

Radiance in Rhythm goes beyond mere adornment, it is an expression of her rhythm, her essence. The collection highlights Tanishq's commitment to craftsmanship with superior natural diamonds, innovative setting styles, and an exquisite mix of gemstones including emeralds, citrine, aquamarine, tsavorite, malachite, tanzanite, and amethyst.

Furthermore, the store also presented stunning jewellery pieces from 'Rivaah', a dedicated wedding jewellery sub-brand of

Tanishq. Rivaah is meticulously crafted to align with the fashion preferences of women from various regions across India and has evolved as a one-stop destination for wedding shopping.

The session seamlessly blended stylist's deep fashion expertise with Tanishq's design language, helping the women discover how to pair jewellery with outfits for the creating the look that helps them to sparkle like never before.

Speaking on the occasion, Faizan Ahmed, Area Business Manager, Tanishq, said, "We at Tanishq are delighted to curate this exclusive styling session for our customers. At Tanishq, women are at the heart of everything we do. We believe Tanishq jewellery is not just about adornment - it's about helping women express their individuality with confidence. With Bandita's expertise, this session is designed to guide our customers in making the right styling choices for every occasion. Initiatives like these allow us to build deeper connections with our customers and welcome new guests to experience the signature craftsmanship and personalised service that Tanishq is known for."

IIM Jammu advances towards AACSB Accreditation with visit by Regional Head - South Asia

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu marked a pivotal milestone in its ongoing journey towards AACSB Accreditation, with the visit of Prathap Das, Regional Head-South Asia, AACSB.

Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu welcomed and felicitated Prathap Das. In a symbolic exchange, Prathap Das presented an official AACSB Kit to Prof. Sahay, marking the beginning of a collaborative journey rooted in academic rigour, quality enhancement, and global alignment. A comprehensive academic discussion was conducted under the leadership of Prof. Sahay engaging key faculty members, accreditation team and administrative representatives. The deliberations focused on key components of the Initial Self-Evaluation Report



Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu felicitating Prathap Das, Regional Head-South Asia, AACSB.

(iSER), alignment with AACSB's 2020 Business Accreditation Standards, expectations from the Peer Review Team (PRT) visit, and the role of continuous improvement processes in shaping institutional excellence.

Strategic insights and benchmark guidance were also shared by Prof. Keryn Chalmers, Monash University.

Prof. Chalmers' role as the mentor has been instrumental in guiding the institute's accreditation journey forward. Her valuable guidance and prompt readiness to work with the Institute's vision have been crucial in IIM Jammu's accreditation efforts with AACSB.

The session featured a virtual interaction with Liyan Chen, Accreditation Manager,

AACSB (Singapore), who elaborated on documentation, reporting frameworks, and critical quality assurance mechanisms necessary for progressing through the accreditation process.

The meeting witnessed the participation of senior academic leadership, including Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean, Faculty and Research; Prof. Nitin

Upadhyay, Dean Academics; Dr. Gaana J, Chairperson, International Accreditation and Ranking Committee; and Dr. Raj Kumar V, Co-Chairperson, International Accreditation and Ranking Committee, along with faculty and staff associated with accreditation and institutional effectiveness.

Following the discussions, Prathap Das was taken on a detailed tour of the IIM Jammu campus, which showcased the Institute's robust academic infrastructure, state-of-the-art smart classrooms, World-Class Nalanda library and research facilities, and comprehensive student-centric learning environment.

The visit allowed for a first-hand assessment of IIM Jammu's academic preparedness and institutional excellence in alignment with AACSB expectations.

Court awards 3 years RI, Rs 17.5 lakh fine each in acid attack case

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Additional Sessions Judge, Kulgam Parvaiz Iqbal on Thursday awarded 3 years Rigorous Imprisonment (RI) and fine Rs 17.5 lakh each to Mohd Yaseen Kolay and Mohd Iqbal Kolay of Kolinar Lamad Tehsil Devsar, Kulgam who were held guilty on July 22, 2025 in acid attack case.

Court further ordered that in default of payment of fine the accused shall suffer life-imprisonment.

While imposing the above-said sentence, Additional Sessions Judge Kulgam Parvai Iqbal observed that the victims have lost everything as a result of this ghastly incident. Nazir Ahmed Deedad was the sole bread-

earner in the family and worked as a Rehbar-e-Talim teacher and he was slated to be regularized as permanent teacher but due to dramatic decline in fortune due to this incident, he was reduced to penury.

He lost his job, sold his only patch of one and half kanals of land for plastic surgery and as per his own admission, his perilous financial conditions have pushed him and his wife Hajira into beggary.

The victim has to incur a lot of expenses on medicines, education of their only daughter who is now in 11th class and other basic needs like food and cloths but there is no permanent source of income. Victim Nazir Ahmed has no scope or capacity to earn his livelihood.

Newly promoted officer decorated at SCW CB Jammu



SSP Special Crime Wing, Jammu, Sanjay Parihar after decorating Sub-Inspector Bansi Lal.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sanjay Parihar, Senior Superintendent of Police, Special Crime Wing,

Jammu, decorated Sub-Inspector Bansi Lal (posted in PSK9 squad) with his new rank insignia following

his recent promotion. The brief and dignified ceremony was held this morning at the Zonal SCW Headquarters Channi Rama, Jammu.

On this occasion, the SSP congratulated Sub-Inspector Bansi Lal on his well-deserved promotion and encouraged him to continue performing his duties with the same zeal, dedication, and professionalism.

The event was attended by Insp Arun (Incharge PSK9 squad), Insp Paramjit Singh (PA to SSP SCW) and other officers/officials of the Special Crime Wing Jammu, who also extended their best wishes to the promoted officer.

EPFO, Labour Deptt join hands to promote employment generation in J&K under PMVBRY



Charandeep Singh, Labour Commissioner, J&K UT and Sumeet Singh, Regional PF Commissioner-I at a meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A meeting was held on Thursday between Charandeep Singh, Labour Commissioner, Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and Sumeet Singh, Regional Provident Fund Commissioner-I (RPF-C-I), to discuss the rollout and implementation of the newly launched Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PMVBRY) in the region.

During the meeting, Charandeep Singh expressed optimism about

the scheme's potential to boost employment in J&K. He noted, "This scheme is expected to open up new avenues for job creation, particularly benefiting industries that are either setting up operations or expanding their existing capacity.

It will not only support such units but also extend benefits to first-time employees and establishments generating fresh employment opportunities."

He further assured full

cooperation and support from the Labour Department to ensure the scheme becomes a grand success in the Union Territory.

Sumeet Singh briefed the Labour Commissioner on the scale and objectives of the scheme. He informed that the scheme has a substantial outlay of Rs 1 lakh crore (specifically Rs 99,446 crore), aiming to generate 3.5 crore employment opportunities across the country.

He urged all stakeholders in Jammu & Kashmir to proactively take advantage of the scheme, which will be operational for two years from 1st August 2025. Notably, for the manufacturing sector, the benefits of the scheme will extend up to four years.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: "Serving people is the essence of our political mission," said Yudhvir Sethi, BJP leader and MLA from the East Constituency, while addressing a public grievances camp held at Pt. Prem Nath Dogra Bhawan, where a large number of people, including several deputations and individual citizens-most of them women-participated to voice their concerns.

People raised a wide range of issues related to ration cards, pensions, school admissions, PHE and PDD services, water and power supply, revenue matters, poor road conditions, and other development-related grievances. Many also shared their personal difficulties, seeking help from the local representative. Yudhvir Sethi gave a patient hearing to



BJP leader and MLA, Yudhvir Sethi listening to public issues.

all visitors and assured them that their concerns would be addressed on priority. Demonstrating his commitment to public welfare, Sethi instantly resolved many of the grievances by directly contacting the concerned officials and departments on the phone during the camp itself. Speaking to the media during the camp,

Yudhvir Sethi said, "My doors are always open to the people. It is my responsibility to ensure that their voices are heard and their problems are resolved. Public grievance redressal is not just a duty-it is a commitment towards making governance more responsive and people-centric." He further emphasized the importance of

direct communication between elected representatives and the common citizens. "Public outreach and grievance camps like these help bridge the gap between the administration and the public. Immediate resolution of problems builds trust and confidence in democratic institutions," he added.

Sethi also assured that

issues requiring departmental follow-up would be pursued rigorously. He directed his office to maintain a record of pending grievances and ensure regular follow-ups with the concerned authorities until each matter is resolved.

Residents expressed gratitude for the accessibility and proactive approach of their MLA. Several women, who had attended the camp with issues related to pension delays and water shortages, appreciated the timely interventions made during the session.

The camp concluded with Sethi reaffirming his pledge to hold such public interaction drives regularly. "Our mission is not just about politics-it is about public service, and every effort will be made to address the people's issues with sincerity and urgency," he stated.