

Curiosity is essential for storytelling: Prof Ashok Ogra

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A guest lecture on 'Emerging media scene' was organised by IIMC Jammu, here on Friday in which noted management as well as media expert Prof Ashok Ogra, Advisor of Mass Communication Department at Apeyaji Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi was the Chief guest of the day. Prof Ashok Ogra commenced his talk by referencing the ideologies of various thinkers like Mahatma Gandhi and Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, and their relevance to the field of media. He discussed how the advent of the internet sparked a wave of ideas that have transformed the landscape of media. In his remarks to the students, he emphasized two things happening in communication at present, which are information tsunami and atten-



Chief Guest, Prof Ashok Ogra posing with faculty and students of IIMC Jammu.

tion deficiency. He added that it is important for students to also know what not to know. Curiosity is a basic need for the art of storytelling and media should inform while embodying empathy in its content, he said. He also said that three forces are shaping the world: Globalization & Localization; Participation & Engagement; and Creativity & Innovation. He referred to the advent of 'Conversation Age' in which art of storytelling becomes even

more critical. Referring to the information becoming Portable, Participatory and Personal, he emphasised the importance of non-linear customised communication that is relevant, emotional, and empathetic. He provided details of the penetration of each of the new technologies of the last 100 years, and said that both the penetration and acceptability has speed up leading to doubling of information every few years. While Google democratised access to information,

social media platforms facilitated user generated content. "Idea is the key capital in present times." He stressed that that silence is the best form of communication. Earlier, Dr. Dilip Kumar, Regional Director of IIMC Jammu, and Dr. Ravia Gupta, Assistant Professor, welcomed the guest by presenting a memento and a book written by Hindi literature legendary writer; Munshi Premchand to honour the guest. Dr. Ravia Gupta further introduced the

guest to the media students of different departments at IIMC Jammu. Towards the end, two short films were shown to the media students. The films depicted simplicity and clarity of the thoughts to bring out powerful media messages by way of visual storytelling. He answered various questions from students about film making, power of content and storytelling. Other prominent among those who were present were Prof (Dr.) Anil Saumitra, Dr. Vinit Utpal, Assistant Professor (Digital Media), Dr. Ravia Gupta, Assistant Professor (English Journalism), Vishv, Assistant Professor (Digital Media), and Rajeev Kumar and Gulshan Kumar, Academic Associates. The event was moderated by Saloni Sharma and Harshit Yadav. Anjali Tyagi presented the vote of thanks.

Ritu Mahajan makes J&K proud, wins Mrs. India North 2024 Title

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Ritu Mahajan, a talented young woman from Jammu, has brought laurels to Jammu and Kashmir by winning the coveted title of Mrs. India North 2024. The national-level competition, conducted by WEA Teen India 2024, was held in Jaipur from August 14 to 17, 2024. Ritu outshone contestants from various states, impressing judges with her beauty, grace, and philanthropic endeavors. In addition to her main title, she also secured the subtitles of Mrs. India Graceful Glamour 2024 and Bharat Gaurav Ratna Award as a Fashion Designer. Owner of the exclusive boutique Ritu Creations in



Mrs India North, Ritu Mahajan being felicitated by Dr Ritu Singh and Baldev Singh Billowria for winning the title at an event at Press Club of Jammu on Friday.

Trikuta Nagar, Ritu is being encouraged to expand her business to a larger scale MSME, supplying designer suits to major showrooms across India. Ritu's achievement is a

testament to her dedication, hard work, and passion for fashion and social causes. Her win inspires young women in J&K to pursue their dreams and make a mark in the national arena.

Shiv Sena promises rights to people, hell to terrorists



Shiv Sena J&K chief Manish Sahni talking to reporters.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: All the previous and current governments are responsible for the current situation in Jammu and Kashmir, 'Chor-Chor Mausere Bhaee', they are challenging each other for a debate. Yes, the people of Jammu and Kashmir have been cheated, betrayed and the rights of the local people have been violated, today Jammu division has also become a stronghold of terrorism, we give an open challenge to the BJP for a debate, stated by Manish Sahni, president, Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and

challenge for a debate on terrorism. Like "chor chor mausere bhai", they are challenging each other for debate. Sahni said that in the last few years, along with Kashmir, Jammu has also become a stronghold of terrorism. Since October 2021, 8-10 major terrorist attacks have taken place in the Jammu division. So far 26 Indian soldiers have had to make the supreme sacrifice in this and about a dozen common people have died. Sahni said that those who challenge the debate on terrorism should take a look at the statistics of unemployment, corruption, crime, inflation, drug addiction, women trafficking in Jammu and Kashmir. Sahni said that Shiv Sena (UBT) will show the terrorists the way to hell with the promises of restoring the rights of the local people of Jammu and Kashmir.

A meeting was held here today to decide the strategy for campaigning with the candidates in the party's state central office. On this occasion, while talking to journalists, state chief Manish Sahni said that BJP is responsible for whatever happened with Jammu and Kashmir from 2014 till date. There has been violation of the rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, breaking of promises and betrayal. It is ridiculous for BJP leaders to give an open chal-

NOTTO organizes Chintan Shivir



NOTTO North and SOTTO J&K team at a programme.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: National Organ & Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO), New Delhi hosted two days' Chintan Shivir at NCDC campus Delhi on reforms required for augmentation of Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation in terms of Technology, Processes and Legislative Reforms in India. The event was inaugurated by LS Changsan, Addl Secretary, MoHPW, GoI in the presence of Dr Atul Goel, DGHS and Dr Anil Kumar, Director NOTTO.

ROTTO North team was led by Prof Dr Vipan Koushal, Nodal Officer ROTTO and Head Department of Hospital Administration, PGI Chandigarh. SOTTO J&K was represented by Dr Sanjeev Puri, Joint Director and Irfan Lone, Transplant Coordinator. Various issues were discussed regarding ensuring transparency in Organ Sharing, One Nation One Policy, plugging legal loopholes and transplant outcomes on day one of the event.

JU launches unique initiative to explore evolutionary journey

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a remarkable step toward promoting scientific awareness, the University of Jammu, under the leadership of Vice Chancellor Prof. Umesh Rai, has unveiled a unique initiative on campus. Today, Prof. Rai planted topiaries that vividly depict the milestones of vertebrate evolution, symbolizing the incredible journey of vertebrate life on Earth. These topiaries, representing key stages of evolution from fish to humans, are not just a visual treat but also serve as an educational resource for students and visitors. "At the University of Jammu, we are committed to nurturing scientific curiosity and deepening our understanding of the world," said Vice Chancellor Prof. Rai. "This project is intended to spark interest in the remarkable journey of evolution, while also underscoring the crucial need for conservation and sustainability."



VC JU, Prof. Umesh Rai planting topiaries.

The topiary garden is now open to the public, complete with informative plaques and guided tours to enhance the learning experience. The University also plans to expand this initiative by offering workshops, lectures, and research programs focusing on the horticultural importance of plants, evolutionary biology, and environmental science. This project was undertaken by the Department of Botany in collaboration with the Arboriculture section of the JU, under the leadership of Prof. Umesh Rai.

The event was graced by the presence of several esteemed faculty members, including Prof. Seema Langer, Dean, Faculty of Life Sciences; Prof. Sushel Verma, Head, Department of Botany; Prof. Piyush Malaviya, Head, Department of Environmental Sciences; Prof. Yash Pal Sharma; Prof. Namrata Sharma; Prof. Deepika Slathia; Dr. Geeta; Dr. Harish Chander; Dr. Sajan Thakur; Dr. Sapna Verma; Dr. Abhishek Dutta; and Landscape Development Officer Sh. Ajmer Singh.

IIM Jammu hosts mental health awareness session with Dr. Piyali Arora



Dignitaries at IIM Jammu.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, under the leadership of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, hosted a significant session on mental health awareness at the Mandapam auditorium, Jagti campus. The session was led by Dr. Piyali Arora, a distinguished Clinical Psychologist and Associate Professor of Psychology at Government Degree College, Udhampur. Dr. Arora, who holds an M.Phil and Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi, and is a certified Clinical Psychologist under the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), delivered an insightful talk focused on mental health challenges faced by students. She emphasized the importance of mental health, equating its significance with physical health, and discussed practical strategies for managing

common issues such as anxiety, depression, and addiction. Dr. Arora urged students to stay socially connected, seek help when needed, and avoid harmful behaviors. Her approach highlighted the necessity of proactive mental health management for students' overall success and growth. Before her address, Dr. Arora conducted personalized one-on-one counseling sessions for a select group of students, offering tailored support and guidance in a confidential setting. This allowed students to address their specific concerns directly with Dr. Arora, benefiting from her expertise. The session, organized and coordinated by Team Anandam at IIM Jammu, was attended by Dr. Mamta Tripathi, Chairperson of Anandam, along with faculty, officers, staff, and students of IIM Jammu. It provided students with a deeper understanding of mental health issues and offered valuable strategies for effective management. The event concluded with a heightened sense of awareness and empowerment among students, who gained crucial insights into managing their mental health. This initiative reflects IIM Jammu's commitment to fostering a supportive and holistic learning environment, prioritizing the well-being of its students. By providing access to expert guidance, IIM Jammu continues to support not only academic excellence but also the mental and emotional well-being of its students, preparing them to navigate both academic and personal challenges with resilience and confidence.

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Ajay Sadhotra starts election campaign in Jammu North

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Ajay Sadhotra, senior leader of Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC), former minister, and contesting candidate of the INDIA Alliance from Jammu North Assembly segment, on Friday launched a seathing attack on the BJP government for its failure to provide basic amenities to the people of Jammu North. Kick-starting his poll campaign in Jammu North Assembly segment here today, Sadhotra said that the residents of Jammu North have been left stranded due to persistent shortages of drinking water and irregular power supply. "Despite the



Senior NC leader, Ajay Sadhotra speaking in public meeting.

installation of smart meters, the government has miserably failed to ensure a regular power supply. To make matters worse, people are being burdened with inflated electricity bills," he said. Sadhotra questioned the BJP leadership, asking them to explain why general public are still deprived

of basic amenities such as regular water and electricity supply, non-availability of Govt ration. He called for the BJP to clarify why their governance has left the people of Jammu North struggling for basic necessities. Sadhotra emphasized that the INDIA Alliance is the solution to the prob-

lems plaguing Jammu North, promising that, if voted to power, the Alliance would prioritize resolving the issues faced by the public. "Our focus will be on the basic amenities-consistent water supply, electricity, and other fundamental needs that have been neglected for too long," he stated. He said that the smart city project is completely failed in Jammu city and no new developmental projects were started and the public exchequer is wasted for unproductive project. Today's programme was organized by Ranjit Singh, Vice President JKNC Jammu District, and chaired by Raghbir Singh Manhas, District President Jammu

Rural A JKNC. Among those who were present include:- Chander Mohan Sharma District President Jammu Urban, Ghar Singh Joint Secretary Jammu Province, Charan Dass Bhagat, Rakesh Sharma (Phalwan) District President Jammu Rural A YNC, Randhir Chib District Vice President Jammu Rural A, S. Gurnam Singh Block President Jammu West, Satpal Karlopia former corporator, Randhir Singh, Bishan Dass, Rizak Choudhary, Bagh Ali, Sahil Chib District Secretary Jammu Rural A YNC, Parbhat Kaphai, Balwant Singh, Som Raj Taroch and others.

NHPC Ltd accorded with 'Navratna' company status



STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: NHPC Limited has been accorded with the prestigious status of 'Navratna' company by the Government of India. As per order issued by Department of Public Enterprise (Ministry of Finance) on Friday, NHPC has been declared a 'Navratna' Company, thereby giving it greater operational and financial autonomy. R.K. Chaudhary, CMD, NHPC said, "This is a truly historic moment for the NHPC family and recognition of our remarkable financial and operational accomplishments." He expressed gratitude on behalf of the NHPC family to the Ministry of Power for their unwavering trust in NHPC and their support which has resulted in conferring Navratna status to NHPC by Government of India. Chaudhary also said that, "NHPC has been an important player in the Indian power sector and has played a key role in tapping the hydropower potential of the country. We are a complete green power company which has also diversified in wind and solar energy options." The conferring of Navratna status brings forth key advantages to NHPC. It will enable faster decision-making, increase efficiency and

empower employees. It will support major CAPEX and investment plans, drive growth, expand market reach and achieve long-term gains. NHPC has enhanced powers to establish joint ventures and overseas offices, access new markets and leverage local expertise. Additionally, it will foster innovation by furthering technological alliances and strengthening market positioning. It will also facilitate mergers and acquisitions leading to growth and increased market share. Currently, NHPC's total installed capacity is 7144.20 MW and the company is presently engaged in the construction of projects aggregating to 10442.70 MW. These include the 2000 MW Subansiri Lower project (Assam/ Arunachal Pradesh) and 2880 MW Dibang Multipurpose project (Arunachal Pradesh). At present, NHPC is working on more than 50000MW capacity projects which are under various stages of development. NHPC is steadfastly working towards achieving an installed capacity of 23000 MW by 2032 and 50000 MW by 2047.

DGP J&K condoles demise of Manju Rashid

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: On behalf of the J&K Police Pariwar, the Director General of Police (DGP), J&K, R.R. Swain, has expressed deep sorrow over the sad demise of Manju Rashid, a dedicated lady officer who left for heavenly abode last evening. In his condolence message, the DGP extended his sympathies to the bereaved family and relatives of the deceased officer. He has prayed for the departed soul and said, "Our thoughts and prayers are with her loved ones during this difficult time." Manju Rashid was a respected member of the J&K Police family. The entire police force stands in solidarity with her family and loved ones during this hour of grief. Rashid, who served the Jammu and Kashmir

Police with distinction, retired as Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police. The Nimaze-Janaza of the deceased officer was held today at 1500 hours at Gujjar Nagar Graveyard, Jammu. During her illustrious career, Manju Rashid served the police organization with dedication and professionalism at many important positions, contributing significantly to the safety and security of the region which includes DySP CID, SDPO Bakshi Nagar; DySP Armed Police, DySP GRP; Staff Officer to DIG, AD, Adm Police TRG College Udhampur; Principal Police Technical Institute Vijaypur; Staff Officer to IGP Jammu Range, Commandant 14th Bn./3rd IR Jammu, DIG Armed Police and retired as DIG in the year 2009.

CBC Regional Office organizes Hindi workshop

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A Hindi workshop was organized on Friday in the premises of the Regional Office at Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Government of India as a part of Hindi day and fortnight in this, Santosh Kumar, Assistant Director, Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs, Hindi Teaching Scheme, Gangyal, Jammu was present as the Chief Guest and expert. Ghulam Abbas, Director, Central Bureau of Communication, GOI, Jammu honoured by presenting a bouquet of followers. Sunil, Field Publicity Assistant, while welcoming

the Chief Guest, informed the staff about the objectives of Hindi workshop and its sponsorship to all units of Jammu & Kashmir Region. Santosh Kumar said that official language Hindi binds all the Indian together and is the biggest tool for human development. He said that if Hindi to be promoted then there should be no hesitation in speaking and writing Hindi. He said that one's own language is the best medium to express one's feelings. On this occasion, the field offices and regional office Jammu for the promotion of official language Hindi were discussed.

Modi to flag off two Vande Bharat trains on Saturday: Southern Railway

STATE TIMES NEWS
CHENNAI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will flag off two Vande Bharat services in the region on August 31, Southern Railway said on Friday. The PM will flag off the service from Dr MGR Chennai Central to Nagercoil as well as the one from Madurai to Bengaluru Cantonment through video conferencing, an official release here said. Only the inaugural special of the Nagercoil-bound service will be flagged off from Dr

MGR Chennai Central station but the regular service will be from Chennai Egmore, the release added. It will run on all days except Wednesday. Train No 20627 will leave Chennai Egmore at 5 am and reach Nagercoil at 1.50 pm the same day. It will stop at Tambaram, Villupuram, Tiruchirappalli, Dindugal, Madurai, Kovilpatti and Tirunelveli, before reaching Nagercoil Junction. Train No 20625 will depart from Nagercoil Jn at 2.20 pm and arrive at Chennai Egmore

at 11 pm, the release said. The Vande Bharat service between Madurai and Bengaluru Cantonment will be operated six days a week, except on Tuesday. Train No 20671 will depart Madurai at 5.15 am and arrive at Bengaluru Cantonment at 1 pm, the release said. It will depart Bengaluru Cantonment at 1.30 pm and reach Madurai at 9.45 pm, and the stoppages on either sides are Dindugal, Tiruchirappalli, Karur, Namakkal, Salem and Krishnarajapuram.