

AIIMS Jammu welcomes MBA (Hospital Administration & Healthcare Management) Batch of 2024-26 for Academic Residency Program

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: AIIMS Jammu welcomed the students of the MBA (Hospital Administration & Healthcare Management) Batch 2024-26 for their Academic Residency Program at AIIMS Jammu.

The students will be staying at the AIIMS Campus for six weeks for this Residency program. The students will have structured Pedagogy imparted by distinguished faculty and experts from AIIMS Jammu, IIT Jammu, and IIM Jammu. This academic resource will be further enriched by eminent faculty and experts from AIIMS Delhi and other renowned institutions. The students will also undertake analytical case studies in various clinical and non-clinical areas, including facets of planning and designing of specialty/super-specialty healthcare facilities, financial, and logistics management. The hands-on experience, coupled with academic inputs, will result in students becoming ready for induction in health-



Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta, ED&CEO, AIIMS Jammu interacting with students.

care industry and also to take on leadership roles in the healthcare ecosystem in India and abroad.

The prestigious program of MBA (Hospital Administration & Healthcare Management) Batch 2024-26 jointly launched on 23rd October 2021 by AIIMS Jammu, IIT Jammu, and IIM Jammu, is the first of its kind in the country and probably even at the international level. The initiative was a landmark collaboration of three Institutes of National Importance, uniting the strengths of medical sciences, technology, and management to nurture future leaders in healthcare administration.

Since its inception, the

Program has achieved remarkable success. Two batches have already completed the course with outstanding outcomes, attaining one hundred percent placement. The first batch (2022-2024) and the second batch (2023-2025) set new benchmarks of excellence and established this unique model as a milestone in higher education. The present cohort represents the third batch of the program, continuing its legacy of innovation and leadership in healthcare management.

The Academic Residency Program at AIIMS Jammu is being coordinated by Dr. Ennas Chowdhary, Assistant Professor, Department of Hospital Administration,

AIIMS Jammu. Her dedicated guidance ensures comprehensive exposure for the students and a meaningful integration of theoretical learning with practical insights. Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta, Executive Director & CEO, AIIMS Jammu, interacted with the students and extended a warm welcome. He gave them a detailed introduction to AIIMS Jammu, highlighting its vision, achievements, and future roadmap. Prof. Gupta inspired the students by emphasizing the need to combine medical expertise, managerial acumen, and technological innovation in order to lead transformative changes in the healthcare sector. He motivated them to embrace leadership, innovation, and service as guiding principles in their professional journey. The students were also acquainted with the functioning of AIIMS Jammu and its various departments, which provided them with a deeper understanding of the operations of a premier healthcare

institute.

This academic immersion is expected to provide the students with invaluable experience in a tertiary multi-specialty healthcare institute and prepare them to take on leadership roles in healthcare organizations. The structured joint MBA program by AIIMS, IIT, and IIM Jammu continues to stand as a pioneering educational model, fostering interdisciplinary excellence and producing visionary professionals ready to meet the complex challenges of modern healthcare at both national and international levels.



Traders Welfare Association Bus Stand Jammu congratulates PM on GST Reforms, felicitates Yudhvir Sethi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Traders Welfare Association, General Bus Stand Jammu, in a meeting held today, extended warm congratulations to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the successful implementation of GST reforms. On this occasion, the members of the association presented a bouquet and conveyed their best wishes through Yudhvir Sethi, BJP leader and MLA Jammu East Constituency.

The meeting was attended by Rajan Gupta (General Secretary), Sudesh Suri (Senior Vice President), Tara Chand (Vice President), Shubam Gupta (Secretary), Ashraf Din (Executive Member), Ashish Sharma (Executive Member), Shiraj Din (Executive Member), and



Traders Welfare Association, General Bus Stand Jammu calling on MLA Yudhvir Sethi.

Kewal Sharma.

Speaking on the occasion, Yudhvir Sethi described the introduction of GST as a "historic step in India's economic reforms that has unified the tax structure across the country." He said the Goods and Services Tax has not only simplified business transactions but also ensured transparency, reduced corruption, and strengthened the economy.

"Jammu, being a hub of trade and tourism, has benefitted immensely from GST as it has made the tax system easier for traders, transporters, and small businessmen," Sethi added.

Members of the association lauded the Prime Minister's vision and expressed satisfaction that GST had eased many complications that traders faced earlier. They assured their

full support to government initiatives aimed at boosting the business environment.

Yudhvir Sethi appreciated the association for their gesture and assured them of continued support in resolving trade-related issues. He emphasized that GST reforms reflect the government's resolve to promote ease of doing business and enhance India's growth story.

Syndicate endorses establishment of Centre for Culture, Dialects, Emotional Intelligence and Regional Studies of J&K



Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, JU chairing 122nd meeting of the Syndicate.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: University of Jammu (JU) convened its 122nd meeting of the Syndicate on Monday under the chairmanship of Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, JU.

The meeting deliberated upon important academic, administrative, and developmental matters shaping the University's future growth.

The Vice Chancellor welcomed Shantmanu, Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Higher Education Department, J&K; Santosh D. Vaidya, Principal Secretary, Finance Department and Financial Advisor (Universities); Prof. Chandra Bhushan Sharma, Vice Chancellor; Vinoba Bhavne University, Hazaribagh, Jharkhand; Prof. J.P. Pandey, Vice Chancellor; APJ Abdul Kalam Technical University, Lucknow (online); Prof. Meena Sharma, Dean, Faculty of Sciences, University of Jammu; Prof. Satinder Kumar; Dean, Faculty of Law, University of Jammu; Prof. Aneesa Shafi, Dean, School of Social Sciences, University of Kashmir; Prof. Zulfikar Bhat,

Dean, School of Applied Science & Technology; University of Kashmir; Prof. (Dr.) Iffat Hassan Shah, Principal, GMC Srinagar; Prof. Farvez Ahmad, Head, Department of Geography & Disaster Management, University of Kashmir; Prof. Rajeev Rattan, Department of Education, University of Jammu; Dr. Javid Iqbal Zargar, Principal, Government Degree College Doda; Dr. Jasbir Singh, Principal, Government Degree College Poonch; Prof. J.P. Singh Joorel, Dean Academic Affairs, University of Jammu; and Prof. Neelu Rohmetra, Dean Research Studies, JU, who were the special invitees.

While welcoming the members and dignitaries, the Vice Chancellor underscored the importance of their continued guidance in strengthening the University's academic and institutional framework.

Prof. Rai apprised the house of the various initiatives taken by the University, along with the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which has paved the way for interdisciplinary learning, skill

development, and holistic student growth.

He further updated the members on the progress of flagship initiatives such as the Design Your Degree (DYD) Programme, skill-building workshops, and outreach activities that connect the University more closely with society.

The Registrar, Dr. Neeraj Sharma, presented 119 agenda items pertaining to academic and administrative matters, besides reporting items, for the consideration of the House. After detailed deliberations, the Syndicate endorsed and approved several important decisions relating to academic programmes, faculty positions, student welfare, and infrastructure development.

A key highlights of today's meeting of the Syndicate were endorsement regarding establishment of the Centre for Culture, Dialects, Emotional Intelligence and Regional Studies of Jammu and Kashmir. The Centre will serve as a hub for advancing interdisciplinary research, preserving regional dialects, promoting emotional intelligence, and

showcasing the cultural heritage of the Union Territory.

Guidelines for the "Earn While Learn Scheme" for the benefit of all University students, aimed at supporting them financially while providing practical exposure and skill development was also endorsed by the Syndicate.

The commencement of a two-year M.A. (History) programme in the Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE) from the academic session 2026-27 was also endorsed. In addition, the Syndicate endorsed the introduction of the Ph.D. programme in Philosophy and Mass communication and Journalism, further expanding the University's research landscape.

Further, the introduction of the Ph.D. Programme in Engineering at GCET, MIET (Autonomous College/Institute), and UIET, thereby opening new avenues for advanced research in engineering disciplines, was also endorsed.

The formation of an IT Club under the Centre for IT Enabled Services and Management (CITED&M) to nurture digital skills, innovation, and technological engagement among students was also endorsed.

DGP J&K flags off Bharat Darshan Tour from Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In an inspiring initiative aimed at broadening the horizons of students from remote villages in Doda district, Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat interacted with students and officially flagged off their Bharat Darshan Tour from Police Sports Stadium, Gulshan Ground, Jammu.

The program provides a unique opportunity for these young minds to experience India's rich cultural heritage and diversity.

During the interaction, the DGP highlighted the importance of education and real-world exposure in shaping the



DGP Nalin Prabhat flagging off their Bharat Darshan Tour from Police Sports Stadium, Gulshan Ground, Jammu.

future of youth, particularly those from underprivileged backgrounds. He encouraged the students to make the most of this opportunity, learn about different cultures, and share

their experiences with peers back home.

The Bharat Darshan Tour is designed to allow students to visit various historical and cultural sites across the country,

fostering a sense of national unity and deepening their understanding of India's heritage. Beyond education, the tour aims to instill confidence and motivation in the stu-

ISBTI J&K Chapter shines at National Golden Jubilee Conference, brings laurels to UT

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu & Kashmir Chapter of the Indian Society for Blood Transfusion and Immunohematology (ISBTI) earned high acclaim at the 50th Annual National Conference, TRANSCON 2025, held at Grand Hyatt, Gurugram, Haryana. The chapter received multiple prestigious awards recognizing their outstanding contributions to blood transfusion medicine.

The highlight was the "Lifetime Achievement Award" presented to Dr. Meena Sidhu, Professor and Head of Immunohematology and Blood Transfusion at Government Medical College, Jammu. Honored by Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, Dr. Sidhu's two decades of dedicated service, research, and leadership were acknowledged. She also serves as Chairman of ISBTI J&K Chapter and is a National Member of



Jammu & Kashmir Chapter of ISBTI members at 50th Annual National Conference, TRANSCON 2025.

the Technical Resource Group on Blood Transfusion Services under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. Dr. Irm was honored with the AN Kashyab Award for meritorious service, particularly recognizing her dedicated efforts during 'Operation Sindhoor' at Government Hospital Rajouri.

Dr. Navneet Kaur, Social Reformer and Secretary General of ISBTI

J&K, received an Award of Excellence for Volunteer Donor Motivation, presented by Padma Shri Awardee Dr. Italia. Her tireless support for Thalassemia children also garnered recognition.

The ISBTI J&K Chapter team earned praise for their impactful work under the Anemia Mukta Bharat initiative and for organizing blood donation camps supporting

patients and Thalassemia children, reflecting their deep commitment to community health.

The delegation from GMC Jammu included faculty and postgraduate students who actively participated by presenting posters, demonstrating the academic vigor of the department.

Dr. Meena Sidhu expressed gratitude, stating, "This award recognizes the collective efforts of our team. It inspires us to advance safe blood donation and transfusion practices."

Dr. Navneet Kaur added, "This recognition motivates us to continue supporting Thalassemia children and ensuring a safe blood supply with the help of our volunteers."

The ISBTI J&K Chapter's achievements at this national forum underscore their vital role in advancing healthcare in Jammu & Kashmir, bringing immense pride to the region.

J&K Bank sets up special counter at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Bhawan on Navratra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: On the auspicious occasion of Navratra, J&K Bank reinforced its commitment to facilitating pilgrims by establishing a Special Counter at its Business Unit in Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Bhawan (SMVDB). The counter will provide fresh cash and note exchange facilities to devotees visiting the revered shrine.

The counter was inaugurated jointly by CEO, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB), Sachin Kumar Vaishya, and the Bank's Divisional Head (General Manager) Ashok Gupta, in the presence of SDM Bhawan Anshumali Sharma, Tehsildar Mukesh Thappa, DySP Munish Kumar, Zonal Head Udhampur, Lalit Prakash, senior Shrine Board officials, police, administration, Bank officers, and a large gathering of devotees from across the country.

Speaking on the occasion, CEO SMVDSB Vaishya lauded J&K Bank's initiative, remarking, "By setting up this Special Counter, the Bank has once again demonstrated its commitment to providing seamless and world-class banking facilities to the Shrine Board, its employees, and lakhs of devo-



CEO SMVDSB, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, and Bank's Divisional Head (GM) Ashok Gupta setting up Special Counter at its Business Unit.

tees who visit the holy shrine." He further appreciated the Bank's role in ensuring smooth financial services along the entire pilgrimage route.

Welcoming the dignitaries, GM Ashok Gupta expressed gratitude to the Shrine Board for its continued trust and support, assuring best-in-class services. "Operating at the Bhawan since the inception of SMVD Board, our branch is fully dedicated to serving the Shrine Board, its establishments, employees, and the devotees from across the country. With three branches and nine ATMs from Katra to Bhawan, we ensure pilgrims have easy access to

banking services, in addition to facilities like fresh cash and note exchange on special occasions like Navratra," he said.

Prior to the inauguration, a Pooja ceremony was performed inside the branch premises by GM Ashok Gupta, Zonal Head Udhampur, and branch staff on the occasion of the first Navratra.

The event concluded with a formal Vote of Thanks by Zonal Head Udhampur Lalit Prakash, who expressed gratitude to dignitaries, officials, and devotees for their presence and support in enhancing banking services at the holy shrine.