

IIM Jammu hosts 26th IIM Libraries Consortium Meet 2025

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu is hosting the 26th IIM Libraries Consortium Meet from September 24-26, 2025, at its Jagti campus in the Vedanta MDP Block. Organized by the Nalanda Library, the three-day event brings together librarians from 21 IIMs, along with leading national and international publishers, vendors, and service providers.

The event serves as a collaborative platform to share best practices, promote knowledge exchange, and showcase innovative information services. The inaugural ceremony was graced by Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, and attended by Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean (Faculty & Research); Dr. Anuja Akhouri,



Dignitaries at IIM Jammu after 26th IIM Libraries Consortium Meet.

Chairperson, Library Committee; Shailesh K Lohiya, Librarian, and Cmdr. Kesavan Baskkaran, CAO, along with officers and staff of IIM Jammu. The IIM Libraries Consortium, established in 2000 with 6 members, now comprises 21 premier IIMs, including Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Calcutta, Kozhikode, Lucknow, and

Jammu, among others. This year, the meet hosts 42 service providers presenting 151 information products. The Consortium's key objectives include resource pooling, cost reduction, inter-library loans, and the promotion of collective learning across IIMs. In his keynote, Prof. Sahay welcomed delegates and emphasized the strategic role of libraries in advancing edu-

cation, research, and innovation. Referring to PM Narendra Modi's vision for a developed India by 2047, he urged librarians to go beyond subscriptions and contribute through Indian case studies, indigenous journals, and knowledge resources that reflect the country's global standing. He also proposed establishing a Central IIM Case Centre. Prof. Jabir Ali described libraries as the backbone of

academic institutions, critical to fostering academic excellence through equitable access to knowledge. Dr. Anuja Akhouri called the Nalanda Library a Gyan Mandir (temple of knowledge), combining traditional wisdom with digital access. Dr. Appasaheb Naikal, IIM Kozhikode, traced the Consortium's evolution and stressed its role in capacity building and unified cataloguing. Shailesh K Lohiya concluded the session with a vote of thanks, followed by the national anthem, group photo, and networking session. The Consortium is jointly coordinated by the Library Team and the Office of Executive Education & Consultancy, IIM Jammu, and aims to become a transformative force across the IIM network.

JKAP 8th Battalion conducts special cleanliness drive at Miran Sahib



JKAP 8th Bn personnel carrying out cleanliness drive.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The JKAP 8th Battalion carried out a special cleanliness drive today at its Headquarters in Miran Sahib, Jammu, in the aftermath of recent floods and heavy rains. The initiative, conducted under the overall supervision of Sh. Suram Singh, JKPS (SSP), Commandant, JKAP 8th Battalion, aimed to restore hygiene and safeguard the health of personnel and the local community.

The Commandant actively participated in the drive, motivating officers and jawans to contribute towards a cleaner environment. Flood-affected areas within the campus and its surroundings were thoroughly cleaned, with particular attention given to removing debris, stagnant

water, and other potential health hazards. Commending the dedication of the personnel, the Commandant highlighted the importance of such initiatives in protecting public health and promoting the objectives of the Swachhta Bharat Abhiyan. He further urged participants to extend these efforts at household and com-

munity levels, emphasizing the role of individual responsibility in maintaining cleanliness and preventing diseases. The JKAP 8th Battalion reaffirmed its commitment to continue proactive measures and called upon the public to follow the example set by the drive, ensuring a cleaner, safer, and healthier environment for all.

Historic initiative launched to unite secular and democratic voices in J&K



JKTWA delegation led by its Chairman Karan Singh Wazir meeting with Nirmal Kotwal, President of Jammu Bar Association.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a landmark step aimed at amplifying the collective voice of secular, democratic, and progressive forces in Jammu and Kashmir, a major initiative was launched today to create a common platform representing a broad spectrum of society. The move was spearheaded by the All J&K Transport Welfare Association, led by its Chairman Karan Singh Wazir, during a significant meeting with Nirmal Kotwal, President of the Jammu Bar Association, at the High Court Complex in Jammu. The meeting featured an in-depth and constructive dialogue that culminated in a unanimous agreement to form a broad-based, unified forum. The proposed platform

seeks to represent workers, small traders, professionals, marginalized communities, and civil society groups, offering them a secular and democratic space to address common concerns. "This marks a historic step towards unity," said Wazir. "Our struggles are shared, and it's time our voices are too." Supporting the initiative, Kotwal added, "The legal fraternity stands with the people. Together, we can uphold democratic values and fight for justice and equity for all." The coalition will now expand its outreach, engaging with like-minded organizations, trade unions, NGOs, and professional bodies to finalize the structure and objectives of the platform.

Rekha Mahajan honours Divyangjans under Seva Pakhwada, praises Modi initiatives

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AKHNOOR: BJP J&K Vice President Rekha Mahajan today honoured Divyangjans under the ongoing Seva Pakhwada programme at Akhnoor.

MLA Akhnoor Mohan Lal Bhagat, District President BJP Kuldeep Raj Sharma, District Prabhari Vinay Gupta, Seh Prabhari Vaishno Devi, DDC Bhushan Bral, BDC Chairperson Sushma Devi and others attended the event, organized to celebrate the spirit of service and inclusivity. The Event also witnessed enthusiastic participation from local community members, volunteers, and beneficiaries.

While addressing the gathering, Rekha Mahajan lauded the initiatives of the Modi-led



BJP J&K Vice President Rekha Mahajan honouring Divyangjans under Seva Pakhwada.

government, stating, "The efforts of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his administration have transformed the landscape of governance in India. Policies focused on inclusivity, welfare, and empowerment have creat-

ed a supportive environment for every citizen, particularly the Divyangjans, to lead a dignified life. Programs like Seva Pakhwada reflect the government's commitment to reaching the grassroots and ensuring that no one is left behind."

Mahajan emphasized that the BJP's focus on welfare, transparency, and citizen-centric schemes has strengthened the social and economic fabric of the country. She praised the numerous steps taken to empower

Divyangjans, including financial aid, skill development initiatives, and improved accessibility to public services. Speaking further, she highlighted the importance of community participation in making such initiatives successful. "While government policies provide the framework, it is the support and engagement of local communities that bring meaningful change. Events like these encourage awareness, compassion, and active involvement, ensuring that the Divyangjan are given opportunities to excel and contribute to society," she said. The programme concluded with the distribution of assistive devices, certificates, and gifts to Divyangjan, creating an atmosphere of celebration and motivation.

Department of Botany, CLUJ organizes induction programme-cum-felicitation ceremony

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Department of Botany, Cluster University of Jammu (CLUJ), organized a Induction Programme-cum-Felicitation Ceremony for the newly admitted M.Sc. students (2025-2027). The event aimed to familiarize students with the academic environment of the university and the department. The programme commenced with an introductory note by Dr. Arun and Dr. Pankaj, who gave a detailed presentation on the departmental profile, including the course structure, research opportunities, infrastructure, extension



Faculty and students of Department of Botany, CLUJ at Induction Programme-cum-Felicitation Ceremony.

activities, and achievements of alumni. Prof. Sugandha Mahajan, Coordinator, Department of Botany, welcomed the new batch and emphasized the importance of sincerity, inquisitiveness, association, and experience in academic

life. She encouraged students to balance academics with active participation in departmental events for holistic growth. Dr. Harpreet Bhatia, faculty member, highlighted the importance of discipline, integrity, dedication, and perseverance in achieving long-term success. She motivated students to remain focused while maintaining a strong value system. Other faculty members including Dr. Tahir, Dr. Pratibha, and Dr. Anil also

interacted with the students, fostering an atmosphere of academic enthusiasm and mentorship. The programme concluded with the felicitation of winners from two recent departmental events: Ozone Day (held on September 16) and Water Monitoring Day (held on September 18). The winners were recognized for their active participation and commitment to environmental protection and sustainable practices. The event saw enthusiastic participation from students who pledged to uphold eco-friendly values and contribute positively to both academics and society.

Ayushman Bharat Scheme provided free healthcare to crores in 7 years: Balbir

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Balbir Ram Rattan, BJP spokesperson and former Vice Chairman, J&K, stated that the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) has successfully completed seven years, significantly transforming the lives of crores of underprivileged citizens. Launched on September 23, 2018 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the scheme provides health insurance coverage of Rs 5 lakh per year to nearly 10 crore poor and vulnerable families, making it India's largest public health insurance scheme.

Balbir said that Ayushman Bharat is more than just a health scheme; it has become a lifeline for the poor, enabling them to live with dignity. Over 5 crore free treatments have been provided under the scheme, covering major diseases and complex surgeries, clearly proving its welfare and life-saving value. He added that beneficiaries can avail of treatment not only at government hospitals but also at empanelled private hospitals, ensuring access to quality healthcare even in rural and remote areas.

Balbir further highlighted the integration of the scheme with the Digital Health Mission through the Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA). Each beneficiary now has a Digital Health ID, securely storing health records and streamlining access to medical services, thereby improving transparency and efficiency. He concluded by saying that the scheme reflects PM Modi's vision of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas', reaffirming the government's commitment to providing accessible and affordable healthcare to every citizen across the nation.

IIIM celebrates 10th National Ayurveda Day



Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director CSIR-IIIM Jammu honouring a dignitary.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM), Jammu today celebrated the 10th National Ayurveda Day at its main campus with the theme "Ayurveda for People and Planet". The event featured an Ayurveda expert lecture and a comprehensive medical health camp, marking a significant milestone in promoting traditional healing systems and their integration with modern medicine. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM Jammu, emphasized that Ayurveda represents total healing that addresses both emotional distress and physical sufferings. He highlighted that as India progresses towards becoming the world's third-largest economy, healthcare plays a crucial role in this transformation. Dr. Ahmed noted that the government is actively formulating policies to strengthen the health system, recognizing the importance of integrating

India's rich traditional practices with modern medical approaches. Dr. H.S. Bali, Professor & Head, Department of Shalya Tantra, Jammu Institute of Ayurveda & Research (JIAR), Jammu, delivered a talk on "Surgery in Ayurveda: Ancient Wisdom Meets Advanced Technology". Dr. Bali emphasized the integration of traditional Ayurvedic surgical practices with contemporary medical techniques. He particularly highlighted Shalya (Surgery) as an important branch of Ayurveda and paid tribute to Sushruta, known as the father of surgery. His presentation focused on precise diagnosis, holistic care, and post-operative healing approaches in surgical procedures. On this occasion, a Medical Health Camp was also organized in the Knowledge Resource Centre of the Institute by the Jammu Institute of Ayurveda & Research (JIAR), Jammu, which was inaugurated by Dr. Zabeer

Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM, Jammu. The camp provided comprehensive health consultations including Prakriti Parikshan (Body Constitution Analysis), free medical consultations, and personalized diet advice to visitors and staff members. The camp showcased the rich heritage and scientific foundation of Ayurvedic practices through practical demonstrations and consultations. Earlier, Dr. Amit Nargotra, Senior Principal Scientist and Nodal Scientist of this event, welcomed the dignitaries, doctors and practitioners from Jammu Institute of Ayurveda & Research (JIAR), Jammu, and briefed the audience about the programme. Among others were also present, Heads of various divisions, scientists and scholars from IIIM while Dr. Rachin Shivgotra, Dr. Palvi Dubey, Dr. Shivani Bhat, Dr. Kamalpreet Kaur, Dr. Sushant Padha, Dr. Abhinandan Manhas and Dr. Chetanya Sharma from Jammu Institute of Ayurveda & Research (JIAR), Jammu. Er. Abdul Rahim, Chief Scientist and Head, RMBD&IST delivered a formal vote of thanks while Dr. Kancherla Prasad, Principal Scientist presented the proceedings of the event.

UGC-MMTC and Community College, CUJ inaugurate FDP on Research Methodology and Data Analysis

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU:UGC-MMTC in collaboration with Community College, Central University of Jammu (CUJ) inaugurated a one-week Faculty Development Programme on "Research Methodology and Data Analysis" under the guidance and mentorship of Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, CUJ. The programme witnessed the gracious presence of Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, CUJ, Prof. K. S. Chandrasekhar, Vice Chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu, Rajinder Kumar Sharma, Director, JKEDI, Prof. Jaya Bhasin, Dean, School of Business Studies, Prof. Yashwant Singh, Registrar, Central University of Jammu and Prof. Ritu Bakshi, Dean Students Welfare. Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Chief Guest of the session, addressed the gathering

and highlighted the importance of IKS driven research for the nation. He pointed out that collaborative research and quality publication is like a currency for researchers and impressed upon the audience to take maximum benefit of hands-on-training sessions. He appreciated the organizers for organizing the FDP in offline mode and wished them best for successful conduct of the same. Prof. Chandrasekar highlighted the importance of learning application of latest software for quality publications. He eloquently cited examples of success stories from across the globe and compared India's research journey with the rest of the world. Rajinder Kumar Sharma, Director, JKEDI and Special Guest pointed out that a conducive environment and sincerity of purpose is must for a mean-

ingful outcome. He assured incubation support from JKEDI for start-ups. Prof. Jaya Bhasin, Dean, School of Business Studies in her address impressed upon the participants to take the maximum benefits from faculty members. She apprised the participants to learn, unlearn and relearn key concepts and develop expertise in analysing datasets for quality publications. Earlier the programme started with the welcome address by Dr. Neelika Arora, Director, UGC-MMTC. Dr. Neelika Arora in her inaugural address highlighted that this short-term training programme in online mode is designed to equip participants with basic and advanced data analysis tools. She highlighted the mandate of UGC-MMTC and provided a brief overview

of activities conducted so far. She impressed upon the audience about compulsory requirements for successful completion of the course and briefed them about the Programme Schedule. The program was coordinated by Dr. Naresh Kumar and Dr. Shahid Mushtaq, Programme Coordinator/under the supervision of Dr. Neelika Arora, Director, UGC-MMTC. FDP Organising Committee Members included Dr. Anju Thapa, Dr. Shubam Amar, Dr. Ketan Bhatt, Dr. Payal Gandotra, Preeti Slathia, Kohit Targotra and Dr. Pranka Dogra. Dr. Naresh Kumar, Principal, Community College addressed the participants of the programme and proposed a formal vote of thanks. Dr. Ketan Bhatt conducted the proceedings of the programme.

CBC organises Mini ICOP in Nagrota

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NAGROTA: Central Bureau of Communication, Jammu, under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, organised a mini ICOP (Integrated Outreach Programme) on Three Criminal Laws, Mission LiFE, Swachhta Hi Sewa-2025, and other Centrally-Sponsored Schemes (CSS) at Government Higher Secondary School, Jagti Camp, in Nagrota today. Dr. Arvind Karvani, Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner, Migrants Jammu was the Chief Guest



Central Bureau of Communication, Jammu members and students at a programme.

of the programme. The event was inaugurated in

the presence of Pawan

Secondary School, Jagti Camp; Rakeshwar Singh,

of the programme. The event was inaugurated in