

IIM Jammu concludes HR Conclave 9.0 with Insightful Deliberations on AI, Innovation and Future of Work

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JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management Jammu concluded the second day and valedictory ceremony of HR Conclave 9.0, its flagship annual Human Resources conclave, on 25th July 2026.

Centered on the theme, “The People Advantage: Navigating the Intersection of AI, Innovation & Workplace Culture,” the conclave brought together eminent industry leaders, HR professionals, academicians, alumni, and future managers to deliberate on emerging trends shaping the future of work across diverse sectors of the economy.

The second day witnessed engaging discussions on Consumer Products & Agri-Business, Global Capability Centres (GCCs), and Manufacturing & Logistics, reaffirming the Institute’s commitment to fostering meaningful industry-academia collaboration and experiential learning.

The valedictory ceremony was presided over by Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu. The



valedictory ceremony was graced by Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean, Faculty & Research; Prof. Nitin Upadhyay, Dean Academics and Dr. Mahesh Gadekar, Chairperson Placements, IIM Jammu.

Dr. Baljeet Singh Sani, Co-Chairperson Placements, IIM Jammu, attended the valedictory ceremony.’

Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu underscored IIM Jammu’s commitment to bridging academia and industry through

experiential, practice-driven learning, emphasizing that meaningful industry engagement is essential to shaping future-ready leaders.

Reaffirming the institute’s aspiration to emerge as a globally renowned B-school, he invited industry leaders to strengthen this shared vision through continued collaboration, mentorship, and participation in initiatives such as the

upcoming CEO and GCC Conclaves.

Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean, Faculty & Research highlighted the importance of strong industry-academia collaboration and IIM Jammu’s focus on practice-oriented learning. He encouraged participants to actively engage, take notes, ask questions, and carry back key takeaways that would create a lasting multiplier effect in their careers.

CLUJ begins preparations for first Convocation Ceremony

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JAMMU: Cluster University of Jammu (CLUJ) has formally commenced preparations for its First Convocation Ceremony, marking a historic milestone in the University’s academic journey since its establishment.

To initiate the planning process, a meeting of the newly constituted Pre-Preparatory Committee was held today in the Conference Hall of the Vice-Chancellor’s Secretariat. The meeting focused on developing a comprehensive action plan and strategic roadmap to ensure the successful organization of the University’s maiden convocation.

The committee has been constituted under the directions of the Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. K. S. Chandrasekar, and comprises senior university administrators, Deans, Principals of Constituent Colleges and academic leaders entrusted with coordinating various aspects of the prestigious event.

During the meeting, Ankur Mahajan, Registrar and Dr. Ranvijay Singh, Controller of Examinations,



presented a detailed overview of the proposed preparations.

They outlined the tentative timeline, planning framework, logistical arrangements and key administrative measures required for the smooth and successful conduct of the University’s inaugural Convocation Ceremony. Emphasis was laid on coordinated planning, timely execution and adherence to the highest academic and organizational standards.

The committee members held detailed deliberations on the various administrative, academic, logistical, protocol, and technological arrangements necessary for the successful conduct of the convocation. They also discussed mechanisms for effective coordination among different committees and stakeholders to ensure seamless execution of the event.

The meeting concluded with a unanimous resolve to work in close coordination

and with utmost dedication to organize the University’s first-ever Convocation Ceremony as a memorable academic occasion that reflects the excellence, achievements, and growing stature of Cluster University of Jammu.

The inaugural convocation is expected to celebrate the academic accomplishments of graduating students while showcasing the University’s commitment to quality higher education and institutional excellence.

Army promote holistic wellness through yoga session at Trajbal

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RAMBAN: The Indian Army successfully organised a Yoga Session at Trajbal, Ramban, aimed at promoting physical fitness, mental well-being and a healthy lifestyle among local youth and residents.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from members of the local community, who actively engaged in various yoga exercises and wellness activities.

The session highlighted the significance of yoga in maintaining physical health, reducing stress and enhancing mental resilience.

Participants were guided through a series of yoga



postures, breathing techniques and relaxation exercises designed to improve flexibility, concentration and overall emotional well-being.

The programme served as an effective platform to raise awareness regarding the numerous benefits of regular yoga practice and encouraged

participants to adopt healthy habits in their daily lives. It also underscored the importance of holistic wellness in achieving a balanced and productive lifestyle.

The Yoga Session facilitated meaningful interaction between the Indian Army and the local populace, further strengthening civil-military relations and fostering mutual trust, cooperation and goodwill within the community.

The enthusiastic response from the participants reflected the growing awareness and acceptance of wellness initiatives among the youth.

This initiative reaffirms the Indian Army’s unwavering commitment towards community welfare, health

awareness and youth engagement. Through such outreach programmes, the Army continues to contribute towards the overall development and well-being of society while fostering a spirit of partnership with the local population.

The successful conduct of the event inspired participants to incorporate yoga into their daily routines and encouraged greater consciousness towards physical fitness and mental wellness.

The Indian Army remains committed to organising similar wellness and community outreach initiatives in the future, contributing towards a healthier, stronger and more resilient society.

Jammu Rural Congress organises Victory March

AKHNOOR: Under the leadership of District President Neeraj Kundan, the Jammu Rural Congress Committee organised a solemn victory march and tribute programme in Akhnoor Saturday.

The event was held to pay homage to the 21 students who sacrificed their lives, whose struggles and sacrifices have shaken the conscience of the entire nation.

The programme was attended by Akhnoor Constituency Incharge Kuldeep Sharma, former contested candidate Ashok Kumar, and several other senior leaders of the party. Hundreds of party workers, youth and local citizens also participated in the victory march, lighting candles and observing a moment of silence in memory of the 21 students.

Addressing the gathering, District President Neeraj Kundan said that the resignation of Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has once again proved that no one is bigger than the people of this country.

He stated, “The government that arrogantly claimed resignations never happen in our regime has finally been forced to bow before the will of the public.”

Kundan described the resignation as only a half-victory. He emphasised that this is the victory of the lakhs of Gen Z youth who came out on the streets and demanded accountability.

“The Prime Minister and the Home Minister must also apologise for this entire episode,” he asserted. He urged the youth to continue raising their voice for their rights, declaring that the people’s will can no longer be suppressed.

Kuldeep Sharma and Ashok Kumar said that the sacrifice of the 21 students will not be forgotten. They stressed that justice and systemic accountability remain the need of the hour and that the Congress will continue to stand firmly with the aspirants and their families until full justice is delivered.

The victory march remained peaceful and dignified throughout. Participants remembered the pain and determination of the 21 students and raised strong demands for justice and systemic accountability.

Baramulla Educator’s Research selected for Presentation at Columbia University

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BARAMULLA: A research paper by Rameez Ahmad Sudhan, an educator from Boniyar in Baramulla district, has been selected for presentation at the prestigious Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) Northeast Regional Conference, scheduled to be held from November 13 to 15, 2026, at Teachers College, Columbia University, New York.

The paper will be presented before education researchers, policymakers and scholars from across the world. The conference, themed “Education, Migration and Displacement”, will examine how education systems respond to challenges arising from conflict, disasters, migration and humanitarian crises.

Rameez is currently serving at the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), Baramulla, where he works to improve the quality of education by promoting

teachers’ professional development, developing innovative educational resources and supporting schools in implementing competency-based learning. His work aligns with the objectives of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the NIPUN Bharat Mission, helping educators adopt modern teaching practices that enhance student learning and strengthen foundational education.

Born and brought up in Boniyar, a remote area of Baramulla district, Rameez completed his schooling there before pursuing higher education in Baramulla town. Growing up in a border village, where education was frequently disrupted by disturbances, he made learning the central focus of his life.

“From my school days, I was inspired by the teachers I met. They shaped my thinking and encouraged me to pursue education as a career. Whatever I have learned has been because of them,” he said.

Coming from a

remote area, he often felt that students from rural backgrounds were expected to lag behind their urban counterparts.

“I wanted to prove that where you come from should never decide how far you can go. For me, knowledge was the only way to compete,” he said.

In 2016, he became part of an experimental project at a government laboratory school in Old Town Baramulla. The initiative sought to improve teaching practices and demonstrate that government schools, with the right support and resources, could compete with private institutions.

Over nearly two years, teachers adopted innovative classroom methods, focused on improving student learning outcomes and introduced a range of extracurricular activities to create a more engaging school environment. The initiative resulted in noticeable improvements in student learning, increased community participation and gradually changed public perceptions of government

schools. One of its most significant achievements came when 65 students transferred from private schools to the government school after witnessing its transformation.

“That experiment gave me hope. People realised that public schools can compete if teachers are supported and communities believe in them,” Rameez said.

The project later became the subject of a research paper that he presented at a conference hosted by the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad, in 2019.

Growing up in the Uri region, Rameez witnessed first-hand the devastation caused by the 2005 Kashmir earthquake, which claimed thousands of lives and brought the education of countless children to an abrupt halt. In the years that followed, repeated disruptions caused by natural disasters and security-related incidents continued to interrupt schooling across border areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

Dharmendra Pradhan’s resignation reflects BJP’s commitment to accountability: Devraj

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and former Sarpanch Adv. Devraj Sharma on Saturday said that the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan demonstrates the Bharatiya Janata Party’s commitment to accountability, transparency and democratic values.

In a statement issued here, Sharma said that while Dharmendra Pradhan’s resignation marks the end of an important chapter in the Ministry

of Education, his contributions to nation-building, educational reforms and public welfare will continue to be remembered.

“Taking moral responsibility in the wake of public concerns reflects the BJP’s culture of accountability and respect for democratic institutions. Such decisions reinforce the faith of people in transparent governance,” Sharma said.

He described Pradhan as one of the BJP’s most accomplished organisational

leaders who successfully handled several key responsibilities during the Narendra Modi government’s tenure. Sharma said Pradhan played a pivotal role in implementing the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which laid the foundation for a modern, skill-oriented and globally competitive education system.

Sharma also highlighted Pradhan’s tenure as Union Petroleum Minister, saying that the successful implementation

of the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, which provided free LPG connections to millions of poor households, remains one of the landmark achievements of the Modi government.

He added that Pradhan also made significant contributions to the Skill Development and Entrepreneurship sector, empowering youth through employment-oriented initiatives.

Referring to the recent controversy surrounding the examination system, Sharma

said that while concerns raised by students deserved to be addressed with sincerity, the government’s decision to ensure accountability reflected its commitment to continuously improving institutional credibility.

“The BJP has always placed the interests of students and the nation above political considerations. The government remains committed to conducting fair, transparent and technology-driven examinations while strengthening the education

Indian Army organise medical camp at Sakri Mandir, Rajouri

RAJOURI: With the aim of strengthening civil-military relations and ensuring access to quality healthcare services in remote areas, the Indian Army organised a medical camp at Sakri Mandir, Mandirgala, in coordination with the Block Medical Administration, Kandi.

A team of experienced medical specialists and paramedical staff examined patients, provided expert medical consultations and distributed free medicines among the local population.

The camp addressed a wide range of healthcare needs and benefited residents from several surrounding villages.

The medical camp witnessed an overwhelming response, with approximately 600 beneficiaries, including women, children and senior citizens, availing themselves of the medical services.

The initiative was widely appreciated by the local community and further strengthened the trust and confidence of the people in the Indian Army’s unwavering commitment to humanitarian service and the welfare of the local population.

Jammu’s Ishan Secures AIR 16 in UPSC CAPF 2024

JAMMU: Bringing laurels to the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, Ishan Gupta has secured All India Rank (AIR) 16 in the prestigious UPSC Central Armed Police Forces (Assistant Commandant) Examination, 2024, emerging as the highest-ranked candidate from Jammu & Kashmir.

According to the service allocation list released on July 24, 2026, Ishan Gupta has been allotted the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) as Assistant Commandant.

Ishan Gupta is the son of Er. Naveen Gupta and Dr. Bhavna Langer. He completed his schooling from Delhi Public School (DPS), Jammu. During his preparation for the UPSC CAPF (Assistant Commandant) Examination, he received guidance at SR College of Competitions, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, which has been mentoring aspirants for civil services and various other competitive examinations since 2000. The achievement assumes greater significance as 15 candidates from the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir have secured selection in this year’s examination, reflecting the growing success of the region’s youth in one of the country’s most competitive recruitment processes.

The UPSC CAPF (Assistant Commandant) Examination is among India’s most prestigious competitive examinations, conducted annually by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) to recruit Group ‘A’ Gazetted Officers for the Border Security Force (BSF), Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).

J&K HC upholds KU Professor’s Seniority, dismisses appeal challenging CAS Benefits

SRINAGAR: The High Court of Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh has dismissed an appeal filed by Syeda Afshana Bhat, upholding the seniority and Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) benefits granted to a fellow faculty member at the University of Kashmir and ruling that the challenge was devoid of merit as well as barred by an unexplained delay of more than a decade.

A Division Bench comprising Justice Sanjay Dhar and Justice Mohammad Yousuf Wani affirmed the September 28, 2022 judgement of the Single Judge, which had dismissed the writ petition challenging the placement of Malik Zahra Khalid (respondent No. 6) in the Senior Scale of Assistant Professors from May 17, 2007, one year ahead of the appellant’s placement under the University Grants Commission’s Career Advancement Scheme (CAS).

Five other respondents include the VC, Registrar, Deputy Registrar (Adm-TW), Assistant Registrar (Adm-TW) and Assistant Registrar Recruitment – all from the University of Kashmir, and Malik Zahra Khalid (Respondent No 6).

The appellant was represented by advocate Salih Pirzada. The University of Kashmir and other respondents were represented by advocates Asif Maqbool and SM Ayoub.