

GC-MS skill development program conclude at IIIM

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JAMMU: The CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (CSIR-IIIM), Jammu, Friday concluded 2nd phase of 2-day Skill Development Programme on Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (GC-MS), organised under the CSIR-Integrated Skill Initiative to provide young researchers and students with practical exposure to advanced analytical instrumentation and its applications. The programme focused on developing hands-on skills in GC-MS, covering various stages of analytical work, including sample preparation, instrument handling, method development, data processing, peak identification, qualitative and quantitative analysis and interpretation of results. Addressing the valedictory session virtually, Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM



Jammu and CSIR-NBRI, Lucknow, appreciated the efforts of the organising team and participants and emphasised the importance of skill-oriented training in strengthening scientific research and preparing young researchers for emerging opportunities. Dr. Ahmed highlighted that modern research requires

scientists and research scholars to go beyond merely generating experimental data and develop the ability to understand, analyse and interpret their own results. He said exposure to advanced analytical techniques such as GC-MS enables researchers to make better scientific decisions, from selecting the appropriate analytical tech-

nique and preparing samples to developing methods and interpreting the final results. He encouraged the participants to make the best use of such training programmes and continuously upgrade their technical skills. He also underlined the importance of developing a culture of scientific networking, collaboration and knowledge

sharing among researchers coming from different institutions. Dr. Ahmed observed that such programmes are equally valuable from an industry perspective, as industries increasingly seek skilled professionals who are familiar with analytical instruments, sample preparation, experimental procedures and data analysis. He encouraged participants to remain connected with CSIR-IIIM and benefit from the institute's future training programmes. Earlier, Dr. Asha Chaubey, Scientist-G and Head, Fermentation and Microbial Biotechnology Division, CSIR-IIIM Jammu, in her address, said the programme had provided participants with meaningful practical exposure and an opportunity to interact with researchers from different institutions. She stressed that the strength of such programmes lies in

hands-on learning rather than demonstrations alone. She said that while the number of participants in each programme may be kept limited to ensure effective practical exposure, efforts would continue to expand the range and diversity of skill development programmes conducted by the institute. Dr. Chaubey also emphasised the importance of scientific networking among young researchers. She said participants coming from different organisations could continue to support, guide and collaborate with each other even after completing the training, creating a stronger scientific network in the long run. Dr. Chaubey stressed that method development is a crucial component of analytical chemistry, as a suitable method may need to be modified or specifically designed depending on the nature of the experiment and sample.

CISF pays tribute to personnel who died during Kishtwar cloudburst rescue operation

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JAMMU: The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) on Friday paid solemn tribute to its personnel who died while rescuing pilgrims during the cloudburst tragedy in Chisoti in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district a year ago. The CISF remembered head constables M K Biswal, Anand Kumar and constable Sanjay Kumar Murmu, whose courage and selfless service saved precious lives before they made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty during Chisoti cloudburst on August 14, 2025, they said. "Even in the face of grave danger, they chose duty over self, saving countless lives before making the ultimate sacrifice," it said in a tribute on X.

The cloudburst struck Chisoti village, the gateway to the Machail Mata temple in Kishtwar district, on August 14, 2025, killing 65 people, mostly pilgrims, while more than 30 people remained missing. The CISF paid tribute to the fallen personnel with the message: "service before self". It said that the courage, selfless service and unwavering commitment of the three personnel to protecting others would remain a timeless inspiration for every member of the force and the nation. "A year may have passed, but the courage and sacrifice of our bravehearts remain etched forever in the heart of the nation. Their legacy of courage and sacrifice will continue to inspire generations," the CISF said.

JKTPO holds Virtual E-Commerce Seller Onboarding Drive on Flipkart Samarth

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JAMMU: The Jammu & Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO), under the aegis of the Industries & Commerce Department, Government of Jammu & Kashmir, organized a Virtual E-Commerce Seller Onboarding Drive on the Flipkart Samarth Platform today, with the objective of facilitating digital market access and enabling artisans, MSMEs and other enterprises of Jammu & Kashmir to leverage e-commerce for expanding their market reach and business opportunities. The virtual programme witnessed the participation of more than 250 artisans, MSMEs and entrepreneurs from across Jammu & Kashmir, reflecting the growing

interest among local enterprises in adopting digital platforms for business expansion and accessing wider consumer markets. The programme commenced with a welcome address by Managing Director JKTPO Sudershan Kumar, who highlighted the importance of digital commerce in strengthening market linkages for local enterprises. He emphasized the need for MSMEs and artisans to embrace e-commerce platforms to overcome geographical limitations, enhance product visibility and access customers across the country. During the session, Anshul Nanda from Flipkart briefed the participants on the benefits of onboarding onto the Flipkart platform and highlighted the opportunities available to artisans,

MSMEs and other sellers through e-commerce. He apprised the participants of the potential of the platform to enhance product visibility, expand customer reach and create new avenues for business growth. Adil Javaid Khan from Flipkart subsequently delivered a comprehensive presentation on the Flipkart Samarth platform, providing participants with detailed insights into the platform and the opportunities available for artisans and MSMEs. The session familiarized participants with the various aspects of establishing their presence on Flipkart Samarth and leveraging the platform for reaching wider markets. The interactive virtual session provided participating enterprises an opportunity

to understand the benefits of e-commerce, seek clarifications and gain practical insights into the process of leveraging Flipkart Samarth for their business expansion. The initiative forms part of JKTPO's continued efforts towards promoting digital adoption, strengthening market access and enabling MSMEs, artisans and other enterprises of Jammu & Kashmir to access wider markets through leading e-commerce platforms. The programme concluded with an emphasis on encouraging more enterprises from the Union Territory to adopt digital commerce and leverage platforms such as Flipkart Samarth to strengthen their online presence, expand their customer base and explore new avenues for sustainable business growth.

Mission Shakti Jammu, CRC celebrate Independence Day with patriotic fervour

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JAMMU: In a vibrant celebration of patriotism, unity and creativity, Mission Shakti, District Hub for Empowerment of Women Department of Social Welfare, in collaboration with Composite Regional Centre (CRC), organised a special Independence Day programme dedicated to nurturing the spirit of nationalism and inclusion among children. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from children, who expressed their love for the nation through a patriotic painting competition. With colours, creativity and imagination, the young participants beautifully portrayed the themes of freedom, national pride, unity and the Har Ghar Tiranga spirit, adding a colourful dimension to the celebrations. The programme was graced by Director CRC Jammu Dr. Rohnika Sharma & District Mission Coordinator, Mission Shakti Jammu Shagun Manchanda.



Others present were Administrative Officer CRC Naveen Gupta; Gender Specialist Mission Shakti Khushboo Kapthe; P&O Dr. Hasnian Khan and Rehabilitation Officer, CRC Rahul Singh. The painting activity provided children with a meaningful platform to express their emotions towards the nation while showcasing their artistic talent. Their colourful creations reflected the

message that every child has a voice, every talent deserves encouragement and every citizen has a role in building a stronger India. The collaborative initiative by Mission Shakti Jammu and CRC Jammu reaffirmed their commitment towards creating inclusive spaces where children can participate, express themselves freely and celebrate national occasions with confidence and pride.

Flag distribution, painting competition and cleanliness drive held at Surankote

POONCH: As part of the celebrations marking the 80th Independence Day, the Indian Army organised a National Flag Distribution, Painting Competition and Cleanliness Drive at Government Senior Secondary School, Surankote. The event was attended by the Tehsildar Surankote, School Principal, teachers and students. A total of 55 students and 12 teachers participated enthusiastically in the activities. The painting competition, based on the theme 'Har Ghar Tiranga,' provided students an opportunity to creatively express their patriotic spirit and national pride. Prizes were presented to the winners by the dignitaries. National Flags were also distributed among the students to promote a sense of unity, pride and respect for the Tricolour. A cleanliness drive conducted within the school premises reinforced the message of hygiene and the spirit of Swachh Bharat. **Army promote patriotism through Har Ghar Tiranga events in Doda, Ramban**

DODA: As part of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, the Indian Army organised patriotic and community-engagement activities at Goha in Doda and Tragan Middle School, Khari in Ramban, aimed at strengthening national pride, unity and awareness about the significance of the National Flag. At Goha, Doda, a rally under the theme "Har Ghar Tiranga, Har Dil Tiranga" witnessed enthusiastic participation from nearly 200 students, five teachers, the village Sarpanch, 10 Ex-servicemen, 70 Village Defence Guards, J&K Police personnel, civil officials, medical staff and local residents. Participants proudly carried the Tricolour, raised patriotic slogans and spread the message of national unity, integrity and pride.

Indian Army mark Independence Day with patriotic events across Rajouri and Poonch

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RAJOURI: As part of the celebrations marking the 80th Independence Day of India, the Indian Army organised a series of patriotic programmes across Keri, Samote and Gari in Rajouri district and Loran in Poonch district. The activities witnessed enthusiastic participation by students, teachers, youth and members of the local community and were aimed at fostering patriotism, national unity and responsible citizenship among the younger generation. At Tender Feet School, Keri a soulful rendition of the National Song "Vande Mataram" was organised with the participation of 289 students and 16 teachers. The collective singing created an atmosphere of national pride and enabled students to connect with the spirit of the freedom struggle and the sacrifices made for the nation. At Little Angel Public School, Samote, the Indian Army organised a mass singing of "Vande



Mataram" under the theme "Every Voice, One Nation." The programme witnessed participation of 50 children, five teachers and members of the local community, reinforcing the values of unity, integrity and national pride. At High School, Gari, a Tiranga Yatra and patriotic song programme was conducted under the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign. Seventy students and six teachers proudly carried the National Flag and participated in patriotic songs while learning about the significance of the Tricolour, discipline and responsible citizenship. Meanwhile, at Government

Higher Secondary School, Loran, a patriotic cultural programme featured songs, dances, speeches and activities showcasing India's cultural heritage. Army representatives interacted with students and highlighted the importance of unity, integrity, national responsibility and service to the nation. The school authorities and local communities appreciated the Indian Army's efforts. The programmes collectively strengthened Indian Army-Awaam bonds and inspired the youth to celebrate Independence Day with pride, enthusiasm and a renewed commitment to nation-building.

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DANSAL: To commemorate the spirit of patriotism and honour the National Tricolour, the Sub-Division Agriculture Office, Dansal, organised a vibrant Tiranga Rally Friday under the leadership of SDAO Dansal, Ashwani Gupta. The rally was accompanied by SMS SDLs Mr. Pankaj Bhawani and Mr. Pranav Chadha, Mr. Parveen Singh, JAEQ HQ, along with all three Agriculture Extension Officers (AEOs) of the respective zones and their field staff. The rally commenced from the Sub-Division Agriculture Office headquarters and passed through the Dansal market, with enthusiastic participants raising patriotic slogans of "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" and "Vande Mataram." At the culmination of the rally, SMS SDL Pankaj Bhawani highlighted the sacrifices and struggles of the freedom fighters and ancestors who fought for India's independence, enabling the pres-



ent generation to enjoy freedom and exercise their rights with free will. He urged everyone to remember their sacrifices and uphold the values of unity, integrity and patriotism. SDAO Dansal Ashwani Gupta paid rich tribute to the freedom fighters who made the supreme sacrifices for the nation. He also recalled the revered Bawa Jitto Ji, highlighting his historic struggle and contribution towards reforms and justice in agriculture. He further shed light on the remarkable journey of the agricul-

ture sector since Independence, underlining the transformation from food scarcity to a more productive, diversified and technology-driven agricultural system. The Tiranga Rally witnessed enthusiastic participation from officers and field functionaries of the Agriculture Department. The event reflected their collective respect and devotion towards the National Flag and reaffirmed their commitment to serving farmers and contributing towards the progress and prosperity of the nation.

SMVDU welcomes new batches of MBA and BBA programme

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KATRA: The School of Business at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), under the inspirational guidance of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Professor Pragati Kumar, commenced its induction programme for the 23rd and 7th batches of MBA and BBA respectively, setting a strong roadmap for academic rigor, discipline, and holistic growth. Dr Arti Maini, Head School of Business welcomed the dignitaries and the students to the induction ceremony while Prof. Ashutosh Vashishtha, Dean, Faculty of Management recollected and shared the strong history of the school in nurturing talent and transforming individuals. Bridging the gap between corporate expectations and academia, distinguished speakers shared practical insights with the incoming students. Adding a governance perspective, Jagdeep Singh, JKAS, Functional Manager, DIC Udhampur, urged students to look beyond tradition-



al management textbooks, highlighting the importance of situational judgment, spiritual values in leadership, and the regional economic landscape. Illustrious alumna Isshaa Bhadwal, Senior Manager, J&K Bank, reflected on her professional trajectory, guiding students on aligning academic learning with evolving industry demands. Prof. Dinesh Shukla, Professor of Practice, Prof. Balbir Singh, Dean Academic Affairs, Prof. R.K. Mishra, Dean Students' Welfare, Prof. Suparn Kumar Sharma, former Dean FOM and Sh. B.K. Bhatia, Training and Placement Officer shared

the key aspects of the learning environment provided at the University. The event was coordinated by Dr. Rashi Taggar, Dr. Syeda Shazia Bukhari, Dr. Divya Singh Jamwal, and Dr. Sarabjot Singh. The programme concluded with a formal vote of thanks proposed by the Coordinator of the program, Dr. Rashi Taggar. The seamless organisation and resounding success of the induction drive were widely credited to the joint efforts of the Faculty members of School of Business and a dedicated team of student volunteers.

Army organised plantation drive at Halemaidan Ramban

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RAMBAN: The Indian Army organised a plantation drive in collaboration with the J&K Forest Department at Halemaidan, Bahihal as part of its ongoing efforts towards environmental conservation and community engagement. The initiative aimed to promote awareness about the importance of forests, increase green cover and encourage local participation in environmental protection. The Indian Army Personnel, J&K Forest Department and local residents actively participated in the plantation of saplings at designated locations. During the event, participants were sensitised about the importance of protecting trees, maintaining ecological balance and nurturing the planted saplings for their



healthy growth. The drive also highlighted the need for collective responsibility towards creating a cleaner, greener and sustainable environment. The plantation drive witnessed enthusiastic participation from the local com-

munity and reinforced the close bond between the Indian Army, Forest department and the local populace. The event concluded with a pledge by the participants to protect the environment and contribute towards tree plantation in the area.