

## Novo Nordisk India Pvt. Ltd. and SKIMS forge strategic partnership to advance clinical trials

TT CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, DEC. 11 : Novo Nordisk India Pvt. Ltd. and Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura have signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to embark on a strategic collaboration focused on advancing clinical trials in India. This partnership marks a significant milestone for both organisations as they join forces to innovate and transform the clinical research landscape, ultimately aiming to improve patient outcomes. Key dignitaries including Dr Mohammed Ashraf Ganie (Director, SKIMS); Dr Shariq Massodi - Dean, Medical Faculty, SKIMS and Dr Muzaffer Wani - Professor of Nephrology, SKIMS emphasised the collaborative potential of this initiative.

Commenting on the MoU signing, Vikrant Shrotriya, Managing Director and Corporate Vice President, Novo Nordisk India Pvt. Ltd., said, "This partnership underscores our unwavering commitment to redefining the future of clinical research in India. By uniting our global expertise in innovative therapeutics with SKIMS' exceptional medical infrastructure, we aim to create transformative healthcare solutions. This partnership aspires to bridge gaps in access to advanced medicines, delivering life-changing outcomes for patients in underserved communities and beyond."

Dr. Mohammed Ashraf Ganie - Director-SKIMS said, "This collaboration represents a significant step towards elevating clinical research standards in the region. By collaborating with Novo Nordisk India Pvt. Ltd., SKIMS aims to contribute to groundbreaking advancements in medical science while ensuring that the people of Jammu and Kashmir have access to world-class healthcare. Together, we are committed to transforming patient care and addressing the unmet medical needs of our community."

A first of its kind, this MoU for clinical trials with a medical institute in the region, is valid for three years and opens doors to long-term collaboration. The partnership aims to explore groundbreaking solutions in cardiology, obesity, nephrology and rare diseases by leveraging Novo Nordisk's expertise in developing advanced therapeutics and SKIMS' robust medical infrastructure. As part of the MoU, Novo Nordisk will contribute to building research capacity by providing resources, clinical research, relevant trainings and project-related equipment. This initiative also aims to enhance the capabilities of the clinical research team at SKIMS, ensuring the outreach of life-saving medicines to larger patient population. Meanwhile, SKIMS will play a pivotal role in expediting the approval process for clinical trials, facilitating patient participation, care and ensuring their safety and convenience.

This collaboration between Novo Nordisk India and SKIMS sets a benchmark for clinical research in the region, reflecting a shared vision to drive innovation and improve healthcare accessibility. By combining global expertise with local insights, this partnership is poised to deliver transformative outcomes for patients, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir. Together, the two organizations aim to pave the way for groundbreaking therapeutic interventions, ensuring that world-class treatments reach those who need them most and setting a strong foundation for future advancements in Indian healthcare.

## Dr. Manyal, Kick-starts Key Initiatives with Inaugurations and Inspections



TT CORRESPONDENT

RAMGARH, DEC. 11 : Dr Devinder Kumar Manyal, MLA Ramgarh, today launched several significant development initiatives, including the commencement of work for the Government Higher Secondary School (HSS) Nandpur, Ramgarh, and the inauguration of Medicare Centre at Mawa, Rajpura.

The inauguration of the new infrastructure project at the Government HSS Nandpur is a major milestone, with an allocated budget of ₹1 Crore 13 Lakh. This project aims to enhance the educational facilities and environment for students in the region, ensuring better learning outcomes and infrastructure for future generations.

In a bid to improve healthcare access in the region, Dr. Manyal also inaugurated Kamal Medicare, a new healthcare facility located at Mawa, Rajpura. The establishment of this facility aims to provide essential medical services to residents in Rajpura and surrounding villages, ensuring improved healthcare delivery for the local community.

Furthermore, Dr. Manyal conducted an inspection of the ongoing work at the Village Malani, Rajpura, focusing on the CFC (Common Facility Centre) building under the Department of Rural Development. The CFC is part of the government's efforts to enhance rural infrastructure, foster economic growth, and improve the quality of life for rural residents by offering essential services and facilities.

Dr. Manyal emphasized the importance of continued development in education, healthcare, and rural infrastructure. He assured that these projects would significantly contribute to the overall progress and welfare of the region.

The event was attended by DDC Ramgarh-B Anita Chaudhary, Former BDC Darshan Singh, BDO Rajpura Shivali Choudhary JKAS, Sukwinder AE PW Department (R&W), Incharge Principal Dr. Ruksana Kousar, Sr. Lect. Shiv Raj Singh, Sr. Lect. Meenaakshi Manhas, Sr. Lect. Rakesh Kumar, Tr. Shakti Sharma, and Tr. S K Kaith, Dr. Butti Ram, Mandal Pardhan Swankha Shamsheer Singh Mandal Pardhan Rajpura Kulbhushan Singh Jasrotia.

## Doctoral Degree awarded to Mr. Sudhir Kumar Pathak in Energy Management, SMVDU

TT CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, DEC. 11 : Mr. Sudhir Kumar Pathak s/o Mr. Dindayal Pathak has been declared qualified for the award of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Energy Management by Shri Mata Vaishno

Devi University (SMVDU) Katra, UT (J&K). The candidate has worked on the topic "Energy and Exergy Analysis of Evacuated Tube Collectors based Solar Water Heating Systems with Thermal Energy Storage" under the supervision of Dr. Vineet Veer Tyagi, Associate Professor, School of Physics, SMVDU, Katra. Mr. Sudhir Kumar Pathak has published his research work in various reputed high-impact factor SCI/SCIE and Scopus-indexed journals, and also presented papers in international and national conferences. The candidate thanked Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University for providing all necessary support and facilities for carrying out the research work. Also, Mr. Pathak attributes his success to the unwavering support and blessings of his parents, as well as the constant encouragement from his spouse, Ms. Krati Shukla. Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU, Prof. R S Mishra (External expert), Prof. Balbir Singh (Dean of Academics), Dr. Kumud Ranjan Jha (Dean Faculty of Engineering), Dr. Vineet Veer Tyagi (Supervisor), Dr. Sanjeev Anand, and other committee members congratulated the scholar and wished him a bright future.

# IIM Jammu Welcomes NITTR Chennai delegates to Yuva Sangam Phase-V

TT CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, DEC. 11 : The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, in collaboration with the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research (NITTR) Chennai, warmly welcomed participants of Yuva Sangam Phase-V at the Mandapam Auditorium of IIM Jammu, the previous day. This program, a pivotal initiative under the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat campaign by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, seeks to promote cultural exchange and mutual understanding among youth from diverse regions of the country. The event was presided over by Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, who extended a heartfelt welcome to the 40 participants from Chennai, including 20 male and 20 female students, accompanied by 2 faculty members from NITTR Chennai. The delegates were introduced to the inspiring journey of IIM Jammu through an engaging campus audiovisual presentation.

The welcome session commenced with a symbolic lamp lighting ceremony, signifying the start of a vibrant journey designed to offer participants a holistic experience of Jammu's rich culture, traditions, progress,



and its people. A comprehensive overview of the meticulously planned five-day itinerary was presented, highlighting key themes such as Tourism (Paryatan), Traditions (Parampara), Development (Pragati), People-to-People Connect (ParasparSampark), and Technology (Prodyogiki). Present on the occasion were Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu, Dr. V. Rajkumar, Chairperson, Student Affairs, Dr. Ashish Kumar, Nodal Officer, Yuva Sangam 2024, Dr. Apurva, Co-Chairperson, Student Affairs, IIM Jammu, Dr. Sudarshan, faculty, NITTR Chennai and Dr. Jacqueline Divya Mary, faculty, NITTR Chennai.

Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu highlighted IIM Jammu's unwavering commitment to fos-

tering unity, cultural understanding, and national integration through initiatives like Yuva Sangam. He commended Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for spearheading this transformative program. He emphasized that the Yuva Sangam program perfectly embodies the essence of the "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat" initiative, which aims to strengthen cultural harmony and mutual respect among India's diverse regions. He emphasized the importance of such programs in shaping young leaders by providing them with a firsthand understanding of the country's cultural richness, historical significance, and developmental achievements. He highlighted the perfect gender balance in the delegation and encouraged participants to explore

Jammu's food, hospitality, and culture while engaging with IIM Jammu's vibrant community. Reflecting on the program's objective of fostering meaningful connections, he appreciated the reciprocal cultural exchange, with students from Jammu & Kashmir visiting Tamil Nadu.

Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu, emphasized the importance of cultural amalgamation and the unique design of the program, which provides participants with invaluable learning experiences. He encouraged the delegates to enjoy every moment of this journey, which fosters a greater understanding of India's diversity and unity.

Dr. V. Rajkumar, Chairperson, Student Affairs, IIM Jammu, provided an overview of the Yuva Sangam program and

its objectives, emphasizing the transfer of cultural knowledge and the promotion of national unity. He highlighted the itinerary and encouraged participants to take away valuable learnings from this enriching experience.

Dr. Sudarshan Kumar, faculty, NITTR Chennai, expressed gratitude to Govt of India, Ministry of Education, Director, IIM Jammu for his support, noting that this initiative offers a unique opportunity for participants to gain insights and create lifelong memories. Dr. Jacqueline Divya Mary, faculty, NITTR Chennai extended her appreciation to the Government of India and the Ministry of Education and IIM Jammu for their efforts in organizing such a meaningful program. She also shared details about the comprehensive itinerary designed to showcase the cultural and historical essence of Jammu & Kashmir.

The opening session emphasized the institute's commitment to facilitating enriching cultural interactions, underlined by its robust infrastructure and active engagement with national initiatives. The program will include cultural exploration with visits to iconic landmarks such as Raghunath Temple, Amar

Mahal Palace Museum, and Suchetgarh Border, offering participants valuable insights into Jammu's rich heritage. Development and engineering marvels will be highlighted through visits to the Salal Hydroelectric Project and the world's highest railway bridge, the Chenab Rail Bridge, showcasing the region's strides in technological advancements. Cultural exchange will be promoted through interactive programs at institutions like Jammu University and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), fostering people-to-people connections. Additionally, a plantation drive at IIM Jammu is also planned on the last day which will emphasize the importance of sustainability and environmental consciousness. The first day included a visit to Raghunath Temple and Raghunath Bazaar, where participants immersed themselves in the vibrant local culture, followed by a dinner at Annapurna, the IIM Jammu dining facility. A group photograph marked the momentous occasion, capturing the spirit of unity and collaboration. The event concluded with the National Anthem, reinforcing the essence of national integration and pride that underpins the Yuva Sangam initiative.

## Two-Week "Refresher Course on Chemical and Physical Sciences" begins in Central University of Jammu

TT CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, DEC. 11 : The UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (MMTTC) at Central University of Jammu is set to host a comprehensive "Two Week Refresher Course on Chemical and Physical Sciences" under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof Sanjeev Jain. Vice-Chancellor delivered the keynote address as a Chief Guest, stressing the significance of such refresher courses in bridging gaps between theoretical knowledge and practical applications. He commended the efforts of the organizing committee for curating a comprehensive program that includes expert lectures, hands-on sessions, and interactive workshops.

Prof. Vinay Kumar Dean, School of Applied Sciences was the chief guest in the inaugural session. He highlighted the University's commitment to implementation and promoting skill development in contemporary education. In light of the dynamic nature of teaching-learning pedagogy, skill development of faculty in all disciplines is



the highest priority of our University, he added.

Dr. Neelika Arora, Director of UGC-MMTTC, Central University of Jammu, in her welcome address, informed that this Refresher course is the 17th in the series that the centre is slated to offer. The program includes more than 125 faculty members from various educational institutions across India. She informed that the MMTTC is designed to implement the key changes to the current higher education system to revamp and reenergize it and thereby deliver high-quality higher education with equity and inclusion. Prof. Ravuri, Program Coordinator highlighted the

pivotal role of chemical and physical sciences in shaping modern scientific advancements and emphasized the need for continuous upskilling in these disciplines.

Dr. Akshay Kumar, Deputy Director of UGC-MMTTC, Central University of Jammu provided an overview of the program and its objectives. She/he expressed gratitude to the university administration for their unwavering support and encouraged participants to make the most of this opportunity to enhance their academic and research acumen. The Refresher Course, scheduled to run from 10th to 23rd Dec, 2024, will cover a wide range of topics,

including emerging trends in nanotechnology, spectroscopy, material science, quantum mechanics, and advanced chemical synthesis techniques. Renowned scientists and academicians from premier institutions across India will be delivering sessions during the course.

The inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Praveen Kumar, Program Co-ordinator. The event marks the beginning of an intellectually stimulating journey that promises to inspire new ideas and collaborations in the fields of chemical and physical sciences.

The Refresher Program is spearheaded by an energetic organizing team that aims to enrich educators with a nuanced understanding of skill development and its integration within the current educational framework. Dr. Neelika Arora, Director of UGC-MMTTC at the university, leads the initiative alongside and Dr. Akshay Kumar, Dr. Praveen Kumar and Prof. Ravuri, have been instrumental in shaping the program's structure and content.

## Kesri demands PM Modi to put pressure on Bangladesh Govt to ensure safety of Hindus



TT CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, DEC. 11 : A press conference was held by a members of Shiv Sena Hindustan under the chairmanship of Jammu and Kashmir President Pt Rajesh Kesri at the village office of Block Arnia against the atrocities on Hindus in Bangladesh. Addressing media persons, Kesri demanded an intervention by the United Nations, criticized the world body for not doing more to address the problems in Bangladesh. He also rejected claims by interim government officials in Bangladesh that the targeting of minorities was an internal matter. He accused the Bangladesh government of being a silent spectator to the destruction of the Hindu community, alleging that Hindus there are living in dire conditions with no support from the police or administrative authorities. Kesri demanded that the President and government take concrete and effective steps through international-level talks to ensure the safety of Hindus in Bangladesh and secure the unconditional release of community members falsely imprisoned. He also called on the Central government to exert diplomatic pressure on Bangladesh to protect its minority communities. Kesri said, "Just like human rights, people have the right to defend themselves."

We want to give a message to the Hindus in Bangladesh that Indians are with them. This will help them fight the atrocities on them." Kesri demanded the Bangladesh government to ensure the rights of Hindus and other minorities to live with dignity and peace, free from arbitrary interference by the government or Islamic extremists. "It's a very serious attack, a very sustained attack on the lives of the Hindu minority," said Kesri. Attacks on the livelihoods, homes and businesses of minorities in Bangladesh must stop, he said.

## Few parties adopting silence on Bangladesh incidents

### NC, PDP, Cong should shed policy of selective Condemnations: Sunil Sethi



TT CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, DEC. 11 : Jammu and Kashmir BJP Chief Spokesperson, Sunil Sethi, Advocate, criticized NC, PDP and Congress over their approach of selective condemnations and keeping silence on what is happening in Bangladesh.

He was addressing media persons at party headquarters, along with party spokespersons G.L. Raina, Dr. Tahir Choudhary, Y.V. Sharma and Balbir Ram Rattan.

Sunil Sethi said that Hindus in Bangladesh are facing atrocities, they are being killed, and women are being raped. A wave of uncertainty and total insecurity is prevailing there. It is most unfortunate that parties like NC, PDP and even Congress, which project them as champions of human rights, have adopted silence and not showing any sympathy towards the

affected Hindus in Bangladesh. He said that these parties have double standards even in matters of human rights violations.

"If Hindus are subjected to atrocities and physically assaulted in Bangladesh or elsewhere, none from NC, PDP and Congress condemns the inhumane treatment to the minority community," said Sunil Sethi, adding that selective condemnations by these parties have exposed their anti-Hindu mindset.

Sunil Sethi, while appreciating the united protests and condemnations of Bangladesh incidents by the people of Jammu, belonging to all sections and religions, raised questions for no reaction from Kashmir over the inhumane treatment of Hindus in Bangladesh. He said this speaks of the communal approach of the valley-based parties and people

there. Whereas these parties are making hue and cry over the illegal settlement of Rohingyas and also showing concerns over the distant Israel-Palestine war, these parties are least concerned for the Hindus of Bangladesh which were very part of this nation before partition.

Sunil Sethi, while quoting that during partition of the country in 1947, there were over 20 per cent Hindus in Pakistan and today they have been reduced to just 2 per cent. Similarly, the number of Hindus in Bangladesh has also come down. This all speaks of the conspiracy to eliminate Hindus.

In India, people of all religions are treated equally, they enjoy freedom of expression, follow their religious practices and all are equal in all matters and at all levels. He said that Hindus from all over the world closely long for help from India.

Sethi further said that people in Jammu and Kashmir and other parts of the country are minutely watching the anti-Hindu approach of few political parties and would condemn them in the strongest words.

## International Workshop on Renewable Energy for Carbon Neutrality Successfully Held at SMVD University

TT CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, DEC. 11 : The School of Energy Management at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra, in collaboration with UMPEDAC, University of Malaya, Malaysia, hosted a One-Day International Workshop on Renewable Energy for Carbon Neutrality. This workshop united distinguished academics, researchers, and professionals from across the globe to discuss innovative strategies for combating climate change through renewable energy solutions. The workshop was convened by Dr. Vineet V. Tyagi, Head of the School of Energy Management, with co-conveners, Dr. Sanjeev Anand, Associate Professors at SMVDU. Dr. Yatheshtha Anand served as the Organizing Secretary. In his opening remarks, Dr. Tyagi underscored the significance of transitioning to renewable energy to achieve global climate goals, emphasizing solar energy's pivotal role.

He highlighted that the event provided an invaluable platform for students and faculty to exchange ideas and explore practical pathways to carbon neutrality. The workshop featured a keynote session by Prof.



Jeyraj Selvaraj, Executive Director of UMPEDAC, University of Malaya, on "Carbon Neutrality through Solar Energy-Based Systems." Prof. Selvaraj presented groundbreaking research on leveraging solar energy technologies, such as photovoltaic systems and solar thermal solutions, to reduce carbon emissions and drive sustainable energy transitions. Prominent speakers from leading institutions such as Dr. Sounhisack Phommachanh from the National University of Laos, Prof. Tran Sy Nam from Can Tho University, Vietnam, Prof. Deepak Pathania from the Central University of Jammu (J&K), Prof. Ashutosh Vashishtha from SMVDU enriched the workshop with their insights. These sessions covered advancements in solar energy, thermal energy storage, renewable energy policies, and energy financing. The workshop also included

interactive discussions and panel sessions addressing the challenges and opportunities in implementing renewable energy initiatives regionally and globally. Dr. Sanjeev Anand, co-convenor, emphasized the vital role of academia-industry partnerships in driving innovation in renewable energy. Organizing Secretary, Dr. Yatheshtha Anand expressed gratitude to the participants and the organizing team for their dedication. He remarked, "The outcomes of this workshop will serve as a roadmap for future research and innovation in renewable energy technologies." Concluding the event, Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor of SMVDU, praised the organizing team for their efforts in making the workshop a success.

The event closed with a reaffirmed commitment to advancing research and fostering global partnerships to accelerate the transition towards carbon neutrality.