

J&K Judicial Academy organises orientation programme on 'Criminal Justice Administration with special reference to New Criminal Laws'

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, APR 26

Under the patronage of Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh (Patron-in-Chief, Arun Palli and guidance of Chairperson and Members of Governing Committee for J&K Judicial Academy, the Jammu & Kashmir Judicial Academy today organised a one day orientation programme on "Criminal Justice Administration with special reference to New Criminal Laws" (A-048/25) at its Police Auditorium, Gulshan Ground, Jammu.

Justice Rajnesh Oswal, Judge, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Chairperson, Governing Committee for J&K Judicial Academy, in his inaugural address, underscored the timeless relevance of law by quoting Manusmriti, observing that law is the very essence of dharma and acts as a silent guardian even when society rests. He emphasized that law must continuously evolve in response to changing societal needs and highlighted that criminal justice, though an ancient concept, requires constant modernization. Referring to the newly enacted legislations—



Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA), he said that these laws are aligned with the contemporary realities, particularly by incorporating advancements in electronic and digital technology.

Justice Oswal stressed that the success of these new legal frameworks depends upon the collective efforts of all stakeholders within the criminal justice system. He called for a collaborative, progressive and forward-looking approach to ensure that the true spirit and objectives of the new laws are effectively realized in practice.

Justice Rahul Bharti, Judge, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Member, Governing Committee for J&K

Judicial Academy in his address emphasized that the criminal justice system is a collective enterprise involving the police, prosecution and judiciary, each playing an interdependent role. He observed that while the new criminal laws mark a transition from the earlier framework, the real challenge lies in overcoming the entrenched stereotypes and systemic inefficiencies. He said that despite individual efforts, the system often appears disorganised due to routine practices and lack of coordination.

Highlighting the need for a shift in mindset, Justice Bharti stressed that all stakeholders must engage more deeply with their roles and take collective responsibility for improving the system. He also underscored the importance of continuous self-study and

introspection to move beyond the status quo and ensure effective implementation of the new laws.

Naseer Ahmad Dar, Director, J&K Judicial Academy, emphasized the significance of such orientation programmes in fostering a deeper understanding of the newly enacted criminal laws. He expressed sincere gratitude to Justice Rajnesh Oswal and Justice Rahul Bharti for their insightful deliberations and valuable guidance, which greatly enriched the programme.

The orientation programme comprised three technical sessions conducted by Sakal Bhushan, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India and High Court of J&K and Ladakh. The sessions covered key aspects of the newly introduced criminal laws, including the Bharatiya Na-

garik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (BNSS), Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 (BSA) and Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (BNS).

The learned resource person through PowerPoint Presentation focused on an overview and comparative analysis of the new criminal laws, highlighting significant additions, deletions and structural changes.

In the second session, Sakal Bhushan deliberated on pre-trial processes, the role of Magistrates and procedural reforms under BNSS, including trial procedures, adjournments, appeals and revisions.

In last session, Sakal Bhushan addressed the evidentiary aspects under BSA, including electronic evidence, as well as an overview of BNS and its punishment framework.

The programme witnessed participation from Judicial Officers, Public Prosecutors/Assistant Public Prosecutors, officers from the Police Department, Legal Aid Defence Counsels and law students from across the Jammu Province.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by the Director, J&K Judicial Academy.

Army conducts lecture on World Malaria Day at Khellani



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Indian Army conducted an awareness lecture on the occasion of World Malaria Day at Happy Home Academy, Khellani, District Doda (J&K).

The initiative aimed to educate students about the causes, symptoms, prevention and treatment of malaria, with a focus on promoting healthy and hygienic living practices.

During the session, emphasis was laid on maintaining personal hygiene, eliminating stagnant water sources to prevent mosquito breeding and adopting preventive measures such as the use of mosquito nets, repellents and proper sanitation.

The importance of early detection, timely medical intervention and community awareness in controlling the spread of malaria was also highlighted. Students were encouraged to

act as ambassadors of awareness within their families and local communities.

The session was interactive and informative, with active participation from both students and teachers. The initiative was well appreciated by the school staff, who acknowledged the efforts of Indian Army in spreading awareness on this critical public health issue. A total of 40 students and 10 teachers attended the lecture.

Army organises Lecture on Drug-Free Bharat in Rajpuri



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The Indian Army organised a lecture on "Drug-Free Bharat" at Government Girls Middle School, Hubbi, on 26 April 2026. The event was conducted under the initiative "Nasha Mukta J&K Abhiyan" with the aim of creating awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse and illicit trafficking, and to inspire youth to adopt a healthy, disciplined and drug-free lifestyle for the progress of individuals,

families and the nation. The session highlighted the dangers of substance abuse and its adverse impact on physical and mental health, academics, career and social relationships. The ill effects of illicit drug trafficking on society and nation-building were also discussed. Emphasis was laid on the collective responsibility of students, families and the community in building a Drug-Free Bharat.

The lecture underscored that drug abuse and illicit trafficking are complex challenges requiring a com-

prehensive and coordinated response from all sections of society. It also highlighted the far-reaching impact of substance abuse on the health and well-being of individuals, families and communities. A total of 34 students (including 20 boys and 14 girls) and 4 teachers attended the lecture. The students and staff expressed their sincere gratitude to the Indian Army for organising such meaningful awareness programmes addressing critical social issues affecting the youth, especially in remote areas.

NIT Srinagar's GIF awards ignition grants to 10 startups

SRINAGAR, APRIL 26: In a major push to strengthen the startup ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir, the Greenovator Incubation Foundation (GIF) at National Institute of Technology Srinagar (NIT) awarded ignition grants to 10 emerging startups under Cohort 2.0 during the Ignition Grant Felicitation Ceremony 2026.

Held under the theme "Providing your ideas a platform of warmth and technology", the ceremony marked a significant step towards promoting innovation-driven entrepreneurship by supporting early-stage ventures across sectors such as artificial intelligence, agri-tech, healthcare, IoT, and automation.

The event was organised by the GIF core team comprising Sana Aftab (CEO), Jehangir Hameed (Incubation Manager), and Waseem Ahmad Mir (DEO), who highlighted the importance of structured incubation support in enabling young entrepreneurs to scale their ideas.

A total of nine startups were felicitated under Cohort 2.0 and provided grant support by the GIF NIT Srinagar for their innovative solutions, including DreamCabs KMR Pvt. Ltd., owned by Uzair Hameed Zargar & Murchana Baishya, which received ₹2,00,000; Safavi Organics LLP, owned by Syed Sakib Abbas, ₹1,50,000; FireProtek, owned by Syed Faizan & Midhat Yassin,



₹1,50,000; Kashbrew Innovations Pvt. Ltd., owned by Yousman Zahoor, ₹2,00,000

ReWright AI Pvt. Ltd., owned by Ovais Nazir & Aaliya Nazir, ₹1,00,000; Bluepulse Labs Pvt. Ltd., owned by Zubair Ahmad Dar, ₹1,00,000; Dextrogo LLP, owned by Sikandar Ahmad Mir, ₹1,00,000; Abilixa Assistive Technology Pvt. Ltd., owned by Sana Jan, ₹2,00,000; and Tree Task Technologies Pvt. Ltd., owned by Dr. Ahmer Bashir Shah, which also received ₹2,00,000.

The programme was attended by senior faculty and officials, including In-Charge Director and Dean Research & Consultancy Prof. (HAG) Roohie Naaz Mir, Institute Registrar Prof. Atikur Rehman, Dean Faculty Welfare Prof. Manzoor Ahmad Ahangar, Dean

Alumni and International Affairs Prof. M. A. Shah, Dr. M. Hanief (HOD MED), and Dr. Dinesh Kumar Rajendran, Assistant Professor.

From the administration, Deputy Registrar (Accounts) Mrs. Nazia Nazir, Deputy Registrar (Administration, Director's Office) Mr. Faisal Irshad Ganai, Assistant Registrar (Administration) Mr. Mubashir Ahmad Wani, and Assistant Registrar (Accounts) Mr. Shahid Hamid Najar were also present.

In his message, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Binod Kumar Kanaujia, said that such initiatives show the institute's commitment to promoting innovation and entrepreneurship among youth.

He said that incubation support, along with financial help, allows young in-

novators to turn their ideas into meaningful solutions for society.

Registrar Prof. Atikur Rehman said that platforms like GIF are important for nurturing talent and promoting research-based entrepreneurship. The continued institutional support will help startups grow and create job opportunities in the region, he added.

Prof. Babar Ahmad (MED) said that working across different fields is important for building successful startups, adding that the selected startups reflect new technologies and also address local challenges.

Dr. Saad Parvez (Principal Investigator - GIF) said there is a need to build a strong culture of innovation in academic institutions. He noted that incubation centres help young entrepreneurs and stressed the im-

portance of linking research, innovation, and entrepreneurship for economic growth.

CEO GIF Sana Aftab said that such grant programmes help bridge the gap between ideas and their implementation.

She said that timely funding and mentorship are important for startups to survive and grow.

Incubation Manager Jehangir Hameed said the Ignition Grant programme supports early-stage startups by helping them turn ideas into practical products and services.

He added that, in addition to funding, the programme provides mentorship, technical support, and access to resources to help startups grow.

GIF-NIT was established in 2022-23 as a Section 8 company with the aim of fostering an innovation-driven economy in the region. It is supported by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) under the iTBI NIDHI Scheme, with Saad Parvez serving as Principal Investigator (PI) and Prof. Rakesh Sehgal as Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI).

The GIF is currently managed by a seven-member Board of Directors (BoD), chaired by Director NIT Srinagar. The board comprises distinguished professionals from academia, financial institutions, the startup ecosystem, and industry, ensuring diverse expertise and strategic guidance.

Rajouri Tops in Budget Quest 2026; Felicitated at North Region Chintan Shivir

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District Rajouri was felicitated at the three-day Chintan Shivir of the Department of Youth Affairs, Government of India, held at the Sher-i-Kashmir Inter-

national Conference Centre (SKICC), for achieving the highest participation in Budget Quest 2026 in the country—marking a significant milestone in youth engagement.

The award was received by Deputy Director Youth Services and Sports Rajouri, Nitin Hangloo, on behalf of the District Administration Rajouri, recognizing the collective efforts undertaken to mobilize youth participation at an unprecedented scale. Notably, Rajouri district secured the top position nationwide in terms of youth participation in the Viksit Bharat Budget Quest 2026.

The recognition was conferred by Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports, Raksha Nikhil Khadse, who lauded the district's consistent and impactful efforts in engaging youth and promoting financial literacy and civic awareness through innovative initiatives like Budget Quest.

While accepting the honour, Nitin Hangloo attributed the achievement to the proactive leadership and guidance of Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Abhishek Sharma (and high-

lighted the coordinated efforts of all stakeholders. He emphasized the vital role played by Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University, colleges, educational institutions and youth clubs in ensuring maximum outreach and participation.

Reaffirming the district administration's commitment, he stated that Rajouri will continue to focus on strengthening youth engagement and fostering a sense of responsible citizenship among young people through meaningful and participatory initiatives.

SMVDU School of Business hosts insightful session on BRAP

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The School of Business at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) organized an interactive session, featuring Sh. Nagendra Singh Jamwal, JKAS, Special Secretary (Chief Secretary Office) Jammu and Kashmir.

The event, titled "Govt as Enabler: BRAP and Ease of Doing Business in the UT of J&K," began with a formal welcome by Dr. Ashutosh Vashishtha, Dean of the Faculty of Management. Sh. Nagendra Singh Jamwal focused on the Business Reforms Action Plan (BRAP), a DPIIT initiative launched in 2014 to foster investor confidence through digitization and simplified compliance. Central to the discussion was "Deregulation 2.0," where



Sh. Nagendra Singh Jamwal explained how eliminating "Change in Land Use" (CLU) requirements and adopting the "Permitted until Prohibited"

principle streamlines construction and industrial approvals.

The session also addressed sector-specific advancements, such as removing minimum land

mandates for private educational institutions and empowering MSMEs through self-declaration and protection from inspections. By emphasizing reduced Turn-

around Times (TAT) and a centralized digital repository for state regulations, the session showcased the government's commitment to a seamless business ecosystem. Under the inspiring leadership of honourable Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU, Prof. Pragati Kumar, the School of Business has started series of lectures for its students which aim at providing a connect between industry, academia and government.

The session concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Arti Maini, Head of the School of Business, who emphasized the importance of such interactions in preparing students for the evolving business landscape of J&K while acknowledging the support provided by Prof. Suparn, Dr. Rashi Taggar, Dr. Divya Jamwal, and Dr. Sarabjyot Singh faculty members of the School.

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