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SRINAGAR: The Innovation Incubation and Entrepreneurship Development Centre (IIEDC) of National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar Sunday organized a day-long impact workshop on 'Entrepreneurship, Research and Innovation'.

The workshop was conducted for the students of the Institute and other colleges and universities of the region. Expert lectures, innovator's product showcase, entrepreneurial success stories, and project demonstrations were held during the event.

The chief guest on the occasion was Professor M F Wani, Incharge Director NIT Srinagar. The event was also graced by Professor Saad Parvez, Head IIEDC who shared various projects and activities of the center.

Prof. Wani said there is a need to think, innovate, and improve our ideas. He said innovations come from different sections of society by using technology and new ideas of thinking to add value to existing ideas.

In his message, Registrar NIT Srinagar, Prof. Kaiser Bukhari said appreciated the ini-



tiative taken by IIED Centre. Hopefully, a lot of new such initiatives will be taken for promoting innovations in rural areas by involv-

ing local committees, he said. Presentations from distinguished experts from industry and academia enlightened the

students about entrepreneurial, innovation, and research opportunities in the region as well as globally.

The speakers on the occasion were Dr. Sheikh Fayaz, innovation Researcher (Zhejiang University); Mr. Saheel Allaqband, Assistant director MSME; Mr. Uhaid, Entrepreneur and CEO L-crystals, and Dr. Dinesh Kumar Rajendran, Assistant professor NIT Srinagar. The speakers motivated the participants and emphasized on Entrepreneurship as an alternative career option. They shared their experiences and insights on innovations, research and entrepreneurship.

Some local innovators of the region were also present who showcased their innovations. Among them, young innovators Mueed, a class 10th student from Burn Hall School; Abban Habib, a class 12th student, and his team attended the workshop and shared their innovations.

The latter had developed an innovative drone for application in disaster management, whereas Mueed is working on the development of an application named 'Know your Kashmir'. The drone was also demonstrated in the NIT Srinagar playfield.

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Mr. Saheel, Assistant Director spoke about the role of MSME to support innovations and entrepreneurship and highlighted above various MSME schemes.

It was informed that to boost innovations and entrepreneurship, NIT Srinagar is already working to develop technologies in the Agricultural and horticultural front with financial assistance from the Ministry of MSME. The two schemes, support for Entrepreneurial and Management Development of MSMEs through incubation and Design Expertise scheme. Under both these schemes, six innovative ideas are currently being developed in the institution."

The IIED center is working hard to create an opportunity for developing innovations in the region and create economic ventures.

The workshop was successfully coordinated by Tajamul Ashraf and Sanna Showkat and other IIEDC student team members.

02 Srinagar, Monday 01 November 2021

risingkashmir

There is a need to think, innovate and improve: Director NIT

Speakers lay emphasis on promoting entrepreneurship in rural areas

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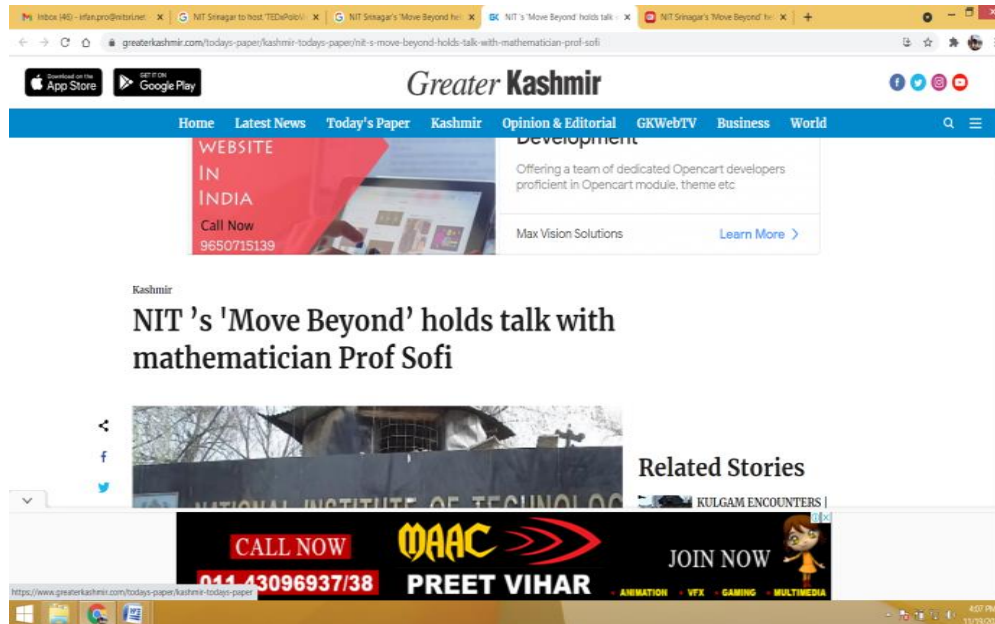
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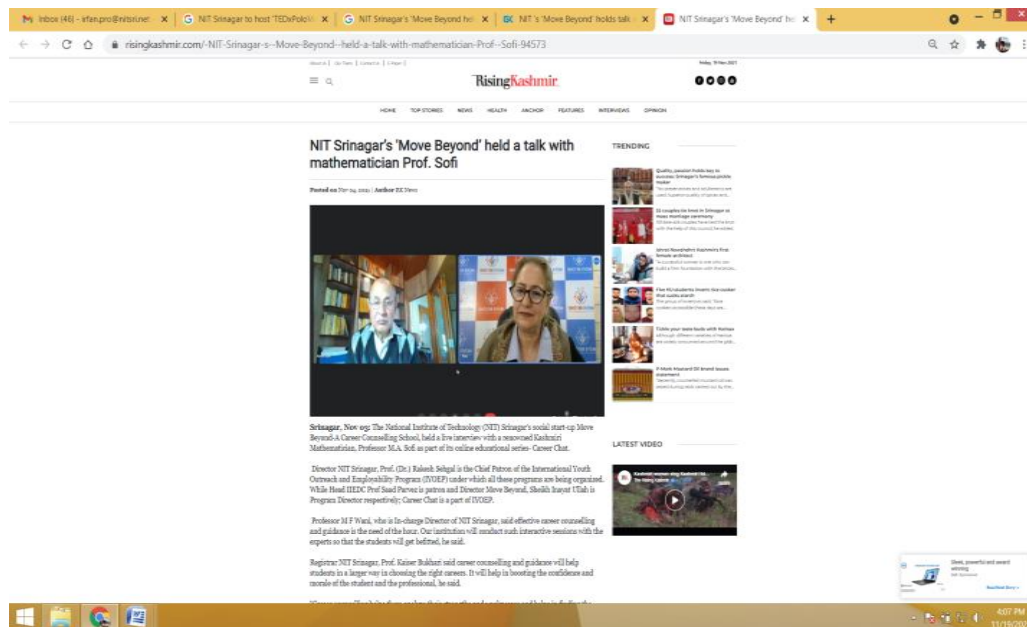
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NIT Srinagar's 'Move Beyond' held a talk with Prof. Sofi

While opting career, listen to your inner call: Prof. Sofi



This screenshot shows a news article on the Greater Kashmir website. The article title is "NIT 's 'Move Beyond' holds talk with mathematician Prof Sofi". The page features a navigation bar with categories like Home, Latest News, Today's Paper, Kashmir, Opinion & Editorial, GKWebTV, Business, and World. There are also social media icons and a search bar. A sidebar on the right contains a "Development" section with text about Opencart developers and "Max Vision Solutions". Below the article title is a video player showing a building, and a "Related Stories" section. At the bottom, there is a large advertisement for MAAC (Maharaja Agrawal Academy of Animation, Art & Computer) with a "CALL NOW" button and the number 011-43096937/38.



This screenshot shows a news article on the Rising Kashmir website. The article title is "NIT Srinagar's 'Move Beyond' held a talk with mathematician Prof. Sofi". The page has a navigation bar with categories like HOME, TOP STORIES, NEWS, HEALTH, ANCHOR, FEATURES, INTERVIEWS, and OPINION. The article includes a video player showing a virtual meeting between Prof. Sofi and NIT Srinagar officials. Below the video, there is text describing the event, mentioning Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. (Dr.) Rajesh Sehgal, and the International Youth Outreach and Employability Program (IYOEP). A "TRENDING" sidebar on the right lists various news items, and a "LATEST VIDEO" section is also visible. The page footer shows the date "Friday, 19 Nov 2021" and the time "4:07 PM".

NIT Srinagar celebrates World Science Day

NIT Srinagar celebrates World Science Day Speakers vowed to protect and conserve the environment with new inventions

The National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar Thursday celebrated World Science Day for Peace and Development in which speakers vowed to protect and conserve the environment with new inventions. The daylong event was organized by the Department of Physics.

Director NIT Srinagar Prof. Rakesh Sehgal was the Chief Patron, while as former NIT Director, Prof. A. M. Wani was the Chief Guest of the program.

Prof. M. F. Wani (Dean Research and Consultancy) and Prof. S. K. Bukhari (Registrar) were patrons of the programme. Dr. M. A. Shah, who is brain behind this scientific event has been supported by his colleagues, staff, and students and have been able to invite students from different parts of the valley.

In his key address, Prof. M. F. Wani urged students to use science for the benefit of humankind. Innovating destructive weapons is not a big deal for scientists but the main challenge is to save the environment which is a global concern, he said.

"We have recent examples of pollution in New Delhi and other places. We are ignoring our environment and it will be a disaster if we close our eyes on these burning issues," Wani said.

"The real and current challenge prevailing in today's world is environment. If we as a society don't produce good human beings, then preservation of forests, water bodies will remain restricted to papers only," he said.

Prof. A. M. Wani had taken over as Principal Regional Engg. College (REC) in 2002 and was responsible for streamlining its academic calendar and upgrading the REC to NIT and was designated as its first Director of NIT Srinagar.

Later he also shared his conservation of the environment and water bodies. "We should avoid those actions that will pollute or destroy the environment

and relevance of science in our daily lives, he said. "We should avoid those actions that will pollute or destroy the environment and other happenings in

decades, science has emerged as a blessing for humankind. Now we can predict the weather, eclipses and other happenings in a simplified way.



1990s with the audience, Prof. Wani said.

He also appreciated Prof. Sehgal and the entire NIT team for working jointly to make the institute among the top-ranked NITs in the country. The teachers were felicitated by a group of Deans including Prof. B. A. Mir, Prof. M. S. Mir and Prof. Shahid Saleem, chairman of REC.

Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Rakesh Sehgal said it is a collective responsibility of technical intuitions to work for the preservation and

encourage those things while science will benefit mankind," he said. Prof. Sehgal said science is subject of experiments. There are certain failures and successes. We keep learning new things with each passing day, he said.

Registrar NIT Srinagar, Prof. Syed Kaiser Bukhari said the day highlights the significant role of science in society and the need to engage the wider public in debates on emerging scientific issues. It also underlines the importance

of science in our daily lives, he said. "We should avoid those actions that will pollute or destroy the environment and other happenings in decades, science has emerged as a blessing for humankind. Now we can predict the weather, eclipses and other happenings in a simplified way.

About the program, Dr. Shah said the event coincides with the National Education Day and it witnessed a number of scientific programs including the Science quiz and Science Projects.

An overwhelming response has been received, he said. The quiz team from different institutions was declared first, whereas students from CLIC were declared second. Registrar NIT Srinagar, Prof. Bukhari presented a vote of thanks to the guests, deans, HoDs, faculty members, and students for making the event successful.

He appreciated the role of Dr. M. A. Shah and stated that he is a man with the mission. In the future also, Dr. Shah will be conducting such programs aimed to benefit students and a larger audience, he said.

Earlier the day, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Sehgal along with other dignitaries inaugurated the Holistic Health Garden (HHG) adjacent to the SEM Laboratory.

After Hands-on Demonstrations in Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Materials, Geo Sciences by the teachers under the coordination of Prof. S. Rubab and Prof. M. Iqbal, there were number of science stalls outside the venue.

In the afternoon, Director MeT, Sonam Lotus gave a brief lecture about climate, which was followed by Mir Faizal on career counselling. This part was coordinated by Prof. P. A. Ganai.

The event was concluded by a Kashmiri song, "Azzot Sawaraye Dilhar manayee," by a group of students from Kotbath High Secondary School. The different events were coordinated by Dr. Vijay Kumar, Dr. M. Zubair Anwar and Dr. Harkirat Singh.

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CAMPUS

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Jammu Links News 11/11/2021

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IEEE organizes career counseling session on GRE preparation at NIT Srinagar

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SRINAGAR: The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), student branch of National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar organized a career counseling session on GRE (Graduate Record Examinations) preparations.

The program was held in association with the Electrical Engineering Department, NIT Srinagar while Shah Mustafeez was the Chief Guest for the session.

In his message, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal appreciated the organizers for initiating such ideas for the guidance of aspirants. Such programs are the need of the hour and NIT will continue to hold such programs in the future also, he said.

Registrar NIT Srinagar, Prof. Kaiser Bukhari said these sessions are important for the all-round development of the students and will explore more in-depth knowledge to the participants, he said.

Shah Mustafeez, who was the chief guest, briefed students about right time to attempt the GRE, tips to choose the university, and other processes of the application.

He suggested that it would be better for the students if they conduct their exams in the month of June-August before their last year. Shah urged students to be specific about their



branch and university, once they are done with these, they can go for the application process.

"Mock tests are important and students should write mock exams every week for the first 2 months. GRE needs practice and regular mock tests. Mock tests help to assess themselves as it is all about basic calculations but one needs to be faster on it," he said.

Shah an alumnus of NIT Srinagar, Shah is pursuing MSc. in Microelectronics at TU Delft, Netherlands. He is also working in NXP Semiconductors and was one of the top scorers of the GRE exam in 2020.

The session ended with a

short Q&A, posed by students to the guest which was wisely answered by the guest speaker.

Dr. Abid Bazzaz (HOD, Electrical Engineering Dept.), Dr. Oshu Chandra Sekhar (Head, Training & Placement Department NIT Srinagar), and Dr. D.V. Siva Krishna Rao K. (Counselor, IEEE Students Branch NIT Srinagar) were present during the event.

Earlier the welcome address was presented by Dr. D.V. Siva Krishna Rao K. (Counselor, IEEE Students Branch NIT Srinagar), who welcomed all dignitaries present in the event. He also conveyed his gratitude to a speaker and thanked IEEE

team for organizing the session. Dr. Oshu Chandra Sekhar (T&P Head) addressed the importance of the GRE Exam, and also spoke about Placement statistics in the college. He also gave an outline to everyone regarding the purpose of such events to take place as they are beneficial for student career.

On the occasion, HOD, Electrical Engineering Dept. Dr. Bazzaz said appreciated students for taking part in such events and admired the efforts of IEEE SB for organizing such events.

He also briefed the process of GRE examination and let students know that the faculty members of NIT Srinagar will be always there to offer a helping hand.

A note of thanks was presented by Syed Aga Hadi Riza (Chair, IEEE SB NIT Srinagar). He expressed his gratitude to the guest speaker for sharing such valuable details and tips with the students.

He also thanked the faculty members for their constant support in all student-organized activities. Syed Hadi appreciated the IEEE SB executive team includes Tammil Ashraf, Burhan Latif Dar, Sarma Showkat, Loshitha Chowdary, Basar Qari, Shakti Prasad, S. Shikma Ashraf, Koshan Qari, Appeksha Reddy, and Mir Faizan for their efforts in making this event successful.

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NIT NEWS SERVICE

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NIT Srinagar signs two MoU's with IIT Ropar

It is a historic MoU between two technological institutions, it will help our students in larger way: Prof Sehgal

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SRINAGAR: The National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar Friday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with IIT Ropar and DST TH - AWaDH (Agriculture and Water Technology Development Hub) to explore collaborative, academic research activities, joint supervision of Ph.D. students, workshops and seminars.

The MoU was signed by Director, NIT Srinagar Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal, Prof. MF Wani in presence of Prof. Rajeev Ahuja, Director, IIT Ropar to collaborate on different academic activities.

The MoU is a part of IIT Ropar's initiative to welcome meritorious students from NITs to spend their final semester(s) at IIT Ropar, pursue courses, and do a project.

The students will go through a rigorous selection process, and subject to their continued excellence, will be considered for early admission to PhD programs at IIT Ropar.

The scope of collaboration on academic and research activities in the



MoU includes academic and research collaboration in the areas of mutual interest, exchange of students and faculty, exchange of academic information, scholarly information, materials and publications, and admission of NIT Srinagar students for Ph.D. at IIT Ropar.

As per the MoU, each institution will nominate one of its members as its representative in charge of the cooperative program. Individual program of work under this MoU will be jointly planned and conducted by the nominees of both

parties, it said.

On the occasion, Director IIT Ropar, Prof. Rajeev Ahuja said he is confident that this MoU between IIT Ropar and NIT Srinagar will lead to major research works that will benefit the general public and residents of Jammu and Kashmir in particular.

"Meritorious students of NIT Srinagar can now come to IIT Ropar in their final year and continue their Ph.D. after their graduation," he said.

On the occasion, Director NIT Srinagar

Professor (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal said this collaboration will bring technological solutions for the basic problems the industry is facing at J&K.

"The MoU will also help our PG students, research scholars, and faculty. This collaborative move will bring synergy in finding novel and innovative solutions to the problems faced by the industry in the region," he said.

Prof. Sehgal said it is indeed a matter of great pleasure as two technological institutions are coming together to sign the historic MoU. It will help our students in longer way, he said.

"We will take it forward for the benefit of students, faculty members, and other staff members of both respective institutions. It will help us to serve humanity through technological dimensions," he said.

Director NIT Srinagar said the MoU also provides an opportunity to the faculty of NIT Srinagar to apply for postdoc positions or other opportunities available at IIT Ropar.

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A statement from the Public Relations Officer of the NIT said that the MoU was signed by Director, NIT Srinagar Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal, Prof. MF Wani in presence of Prof. Rajeev Ahuja, Director, IIT Ropar to collaborate on different academic activities.

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and publications, and admission of NIT Srinagar students for Ph.D. at IIT Ropar.

As per the MoU, each institution will nominate one of its members as its representative in charge of the cooperative program. Individual programs of work under this MoU will be jointly planned and conducted by the nominees of both parties, it said. On the occasion, Director IIT Ropar, Prof. Rajeev Ahuja said he is confident that this MoU between IIT Ropar and NIT Srinagar will lead to major research works that will benefit the general public and residents of Jammu and Kashmir in particular.

"Meritorious students of NIT Srinagar can now come to IIT Ropar in their final year and continue for their Ph.D. after their graduation," he said. Director NIT Srinagar Professor (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal said this collaboration will bring technological solutions for the basic problems the industry is facing at J&K.

"The MoU will also help our PG students, research scholars, and faculty. This collaborative move will

bring synergy in finding novel and innovative solutions to the problems faced by the industry in the region," he said.

Prof. Sehgal said it is indeed a matter of great pleasure as two technological institutions are coming together to sign the historic MoU. It will help our students in a longer way, he said.

"We will take it forward for the benefit of students, faculty members, and other staff members of both respective institutions. It will help us to serve humanity through technological dimensions," he said.

Director NIT Srinagar said the MoU also provides an opportunity to the faculty of NIT Srinagar to apply for postdoc positions or other opportunities available at IIT Ropar. In his message, Registrar NIT Srinagar, Prof. Kaiser Bukhari said the signing of this MoU will bring two intuitions closer to serving the society.

"In future, NIT Srinagar will exchange faculty, students, and moreover the exchange of ideas for the benefit of students, faculty in general," he said.

While the second MoU was signed between NIT Srinagar and the IIT Ropar - Technology and Innovation Foundation for iHub AWaDH (Agriculture & Water Technology Development Hub).

KU's H special on 'Ger and NE

Srinagar, Nov 19: University's source Develo (HRDC) Frid: aspecial lectu: Equality in l 2020.

Registrar Dr. Mir delivered in online mod participants of refresher cou studies, a sta the varsity sa Asserting t tional Educatc puts a great i gender inclusi tion, Dr Mir portant to rec current educ where ever req the objectives ship policy in "The NEP 2 calls for univ of all to qualif it also talks c of inclusive a education in with the GoI Sustainable I Goals," he s academics, pol and other sta join hands to the vision an NEP-2020 tr reality on the Dr Mir stres



Director NIT Srinagar and others displaying copies of MoU's signed with IIT Ropar.

NIT Srinagar signs two MoU's with IIT Ropar

Srinagar, Nov 19: The National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with IIT Ropar and DST TH - AWaDH (Agriculture and Water Technology Development Hub) to explore collaborative, academic research activities, joint supervision of Ph.D. students, workshops and seminars.

The MoU was signed by Director, NIT Srinagar Prof. Rakesh Sehgal and Prof. MF Wani, in presence of Prof. Rajeev Ahuja, Director, IIT Ropar to collaborate on different academic activities.

The MoU is a part of IIT Ropar's initiative to welcome meritorious students from NITs to spend their final semester(s) at IIT Ropar, pursue courses, and do a project.

The students will go through a rigorous selection process, and subject to their continued excellence, will be considered for early admission to PhD programs at IIT Ropar.

The scope of collaboration on academic and research activities in the MoU includes academic and research collaboration in the areas of mutual interest, exchange of students and faculty, exchange of academic information, scholarly information, materials

BBIA takes up Financial Cor

Jammu, Nov 19: A delega- tion of Bani Brahmana Industries Association Jammu under the ed chairmanship of Lalit Mahajan, Co-Chairman Federation of Industries, Jammu & president, re Ravi Brahmana Industries Association in the presence of 03 Arun Singh, senior vice presi- filent, Ajay Langer, vice presi- dent, Vinay Mahotra, general pu secretary, Vivek Singhal, treas- urer of BBIA Association met 51 Atal Daloo, Financial th Commissioner, Finance so Department and highlighted the various issues related to the industrial sector of J&K for an early resolution.

Mahajan appreciated the su working of the Finance & Department under the guidance of Atal Daloo and Shovkat in Ajay Bhat, Commissioner, State Tax Department resulting into time bound release of requisite 20 funds in respect of reimburse- ment of COST/SOST and bulg- dinary support to industrial units on Union Territory of J&K.

During the course of discus- so Mahajan drew the atten- sion of Finance & Department on the issues of BBIA Association met 51 Atal Daloo, Financial th Commissioner, Finance so Department and highlighted the various issues related to the industrial sector of J&K for an early resolution.

MBBS first-ye not attending c

Srinagar, Nov 19: The an Government Medical College pr (GMC), Srinagar has issued an explanation to the first year to MBBS students who have been found not attending theory and as practical classes.

In a notice that has been issued a copy of which has also been sent to the parents of

3 held for illegal transportation of minerals in Budgam

Srinagar, Nov 19: Police in Budgam today said to have arrested 3 persons and seized 3 vehicles involved in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals in Budgam.

Officers from PS Khanabal have arrested 03 persons involved in the illegal extraction and transportation of clay from Government land at Kralpather Budgam.

They have also seized 03 vehicles including 02 tippers and a KB from the spot. "The arrested persons have

NIT Srinagar observes 'Constitution Day'

'It gives us rare chance to go back to commitments made in the constitution': Director

CONSTITUTION DAY

Constitution imppt document to ensure equal justice: Dir NIT

Srinagar, Nov 26: The National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar Friday observed Constitution Day at Common Hall as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Education, Government of India. The event was presided over by Prof M F Wani (Dean Research and Consultancy) and it was coordinated by Dr. Srinibash Mishra, Assistant Professor at Metallurgy and Metallurgical Engineering Department. The reading of the preamble and the pledge administration (both in Hindi and English) took place at the scheduled time of 11 am in front of a large gathering consisting of faculty, students, and staff of the institute. Dr. Yashwant Mehta, HOD &



Associate Professor, MME Department read the preamble to the Constitution of India and pledged to uphold the spirit of the document which makes the largest democracy function. In-charge, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof (HAG), G.A Harmain said on this day country adopted the Constitution to eradicate social evils and provide equal justice to all sections of the public. "It gives us a rare chance to go

back to the commitment made in the constitution and today again let us all take a pledge to fulfill fundamental duties for the progress of our nation", he said. In his message, Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal, Director NIT said, "We must pledge to reaffirm the values at the heart of this great unifying document: Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. He said it took 2 years, 11 months, and 17 days to prepare the longest and most comprehensive constitution in the world. Prof Sehgal said the day is marked to create awareness of the importance of the Indian constitution and the main contributor, Dr BR Ambedkar. Registrar NIT Srinagar Prof. Kaiser Bukhari said constitution

day, also known as 'Samvidhan Divas', is celebrated to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution of India on November 26 in 1949. He said from the framing of the constitution from its history to its present-day form, it played a vital role in bringing together 'an idea called India'. It united the country and laid the foundation for the largest democratic setup in the world. "Our constitution was not printed but handwritten and calligraphic both in Hindi and English languages." Prof Bukhari said. The event was attended by all heads of all departments and faculty members and students of the NIT Srinagar.

Constitutioner brotherhood, e



Srinagar, Nov 26: Celebrat Constitution Day, JKRLM Pri organised an event where h son Director, Dr Syed Sehr Asgar led the reading of F amble to officers and official the Srinagar office. While reading out the Preamble and Charter of princit enshrined in the preamble of Constitution, Dr Sobrish ur

At NIT, HODs attended the pledge ceremony

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SO NEWS DESK

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NIT Srinagar's Rajbhasha cell hosts first quarterly meeting

Prof. Sehgal appreciates work of the cell, says they are committed in implementing official language on campus

NIT Srinagar's Rajbhasha cell hosts first quarterly meeting

Srinagar, Nov 29: The Rajbhasha Cell of National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar on Monday held its first quarterly meeting at the Committee Room of the Electrical Engineering Department to review the implementation of the Hindi language on the campus.

In his message, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal said appreciated the work of the Rajbhasha cell and stated that all things are being streamlined for the implementation of the Hindi language on the campus.

He said there is a need to promote and popularize the Hindi language among the people. The language has its history and legacy, he said.

"In future, we will try to get a good collection of books on Hindi language and literature for the central library, that would be beneficial for everyone," Prof. Sehgal said.

Registrar NIT, Prof. Syed Kaiser Bukhari said all directions from the Department of Official Lan-

guages, Ministry of Home Affairs are being followed in letter and spirit.

"Several meetings were conducted this year for its full implementation on the campus," he said.

The meeting was attended by Hindi Officer, Dr. Ravi Bhushan (EED), and all other coordinators of the cell including Dr. Brajesh Kumar (CHE), Dr. R.P. Shukla (Civil Eng), Dr. Pramod Kumar Yadav (CSE), Dr. Neeraj Gupta (EE), Dr. Brajindra Singh Sengar (E&C).

Dr. H.S. Pali (ME), Dr. Amrit Pal Singh (IT), Dr. Atendra Kumar (Maths), Dr. Nasir F. Butt (HSSM), Dr. Mohd. Zubair Ansari (Physics) and Mohammad Hazik (AP (S&P | Legal) were also present in the meeting.

During the meeting, it was decided that the data related to the quarterly report must be submitted by departmental coordinators within a week of the end of each quarter.

The formal vote of thanks was presented by Hindi Officer Dr. Ravi Bhushan (EED).

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JAMMU LINKS NEWS

CAMPUS

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Jammu Links News

11/29/2021

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My priority is to bring academic reform: Prof. Rakesh Sehgal

Rising Kashmir Nov 29, 2021



Ansha Latif Khan
ansha@risingkashmir.com



My priority is to bring academic reform: Prof. Rakesh Sehgal

Currently serving as a Director of NIT Srinagar, Professor Rakesh Sehgal has a vast experience in engineering, academics and research. He has worked in several institutions across India in various capacities. Since he assumed the charge of Director at NIT Srinagar, he has made a number of reforms while streamlining various things which were disturbed from years.

In conversation with Rising Kashmir's feature writer, Ansha Latif Khan, Prof. Sehgal talks about academic improvements, recruitments, new initiatives and other aspects of NIT Srinagar and his role as a director of the glorious institute.

Tell us about your job history and experience. I am from Mechanical Engineering background. I pursued M. Tech. from IIT Delhi, in design of Mechanical Equipment with 9.75 grade point and was the topper of my batch. I have done my doctorate in the area of Design Engineering specifically Tribology from Regional Engineering College, Kankulohra. I have pursued my Post Doctorate and USC fellowship award. I have 35 years of experience.

For two years 1986-1988, I worked with HP State Public Works Department and after that I joined as lecturer in Mechanical Engineering at REC Hamirpur (H.P.). Then I became assistant professor in the year 1995 and got further selected as professor in 2003 in the same institute. I have worked in many positions. I was Head of the Department, Mechanical Engineering three times, dean industrial research and consultancy, dean faculty welfare, coordinator for Technical Education Quality Improvement Program Phase I where NIT Hamirpur was placed at 2nd position in the best institution of India. So, I come from the institution which got the best campus award consecutively for two years.

From 2014 to 2017, I was picked by the Himachal Pradesh government to establish a new government engineering college at district Kangra which I established from scratch. Today, it is one of the largest engineering institutions in the state of Himachal Pradesh.

In October 2017, I was selected as Director of NIT Srinagar where I have already completed 4 years.

Since you assumed charge of the director, what changes have you made in academics? My first priority was academic reform. Academic calendar was not followed here because of the situation. I made it point that the academic calendar should be followed religiously. I introduced the Central Education System. It is used to take a lot of time to evaluate the answer scripts of the students. Now, immediately after completion of end semester exams, the answer scripts are evaluated centrally and results are declared within two-week time.

I regularized the Ph.D. admission. Currently we have more than 400 candidates who are pursuing Ph.D. This semester meetings are held as per the norms; at least three meetings in a year are held. Also, Censored four Board of Governors meetings are also held every year. Then another academic reform is a change in curriculum. Curriculum was not revised for a long time so I took the initiative with the help of various departments.

Since you assume charge of the institute, is there any change in recruitments and promotions? There were no faculty recruitments from the last 11 years. When I joined here, we had 86 regular faculty members. Out of them 5 were in Jammu who had migrated back and never returned. They were drawing all the benefits. They used to take salaries and were not teaching. We sanctioned 198 positions so we advertised 129 positions at that time and I could recruit new 43 faculty members at the entry level. They were from different states including Jammu and Kashmir.

Then there were no promotions from the last many years. Almost all 86 faculty members were promoted to one level higher. Another recruitment drive was conducted during February - March 2020 and this was unique because nowhere in India recruitment could take place at that time. The interview was conducted in offline mode in Delhi. I recruited 44 new faculty members and promoted the existing faculty

to the next higher level. Also carried out recruitment of non-faculty members for middle rung administrative positions. Also, promotions in non-teaching cadres were held which were also pending for a long time. Departmental progressive was also given in which 150 non-teaching staff members were promoted.

Earlier, there was no regular registrar. The recruitment drive for registrar was taken. There was no audit for many years. It was not proper and there were many audit objections and we have removed almost all of that. I ensured a regular audit is carried out every year. Regular annual report is made and is sent to the Ministry. It is then put before the Parliament because it is an institution of national importance.

I hope when I leave this place, things should continue to work in a better way. The person who takes the charge should be a good person and has a vision to take this institution further. It is a very high-ranking institution. It was established as the third REC in the country after REC Warangal and REC Durgapur.

An institution requires better infrastructure for growth. Tell us about the changes that were brought in the infrastructure? We are constructing an auditorium of 1000 capacity which will be completed by next year. We have constructed a new gate and constructed a new girls hostel. So, per government of India's policy, girls' strength is to be increased by 25% this year. So, our intake has to be increased too. There was no sufficient accommodation for male students as well so we are constructing a mega hostel. We took a loan of 65 crores from Higher Education Funding Agency through the Ministry of Education. Now the work has started and will be completed in two years. It will be a self-sufficient green building.

In 2014, the residential quarters and the hostels were damaged due to floods. We are carrying out the renovation process. My residential quarter, which was 85 years old, was never renovated. I renovated it before shifting.

We got a funding of 100 crores under the Prime Minister Development Package (PMDF). We have utilized 70 crores out of that and we have created good research infrastructure and good data centers. We have made two state of art computer labs. Each lab has 100 computers. Apart from that we are upgrading the sports facility. We have also created special gyms for boys and girls. We have also upgraded our medical facility. We already have an x-ray lab and we have a dental section. Now we are adding physiotherapy equipment.

We have also upgraded our library. We last 30 thousand books during floods so we purchased many new books and we purchased e-resources as well. We have an RFID system in the library. We have automatic issue and return of the books without any involvement of the person in the library. We have increased the seating capacity by around 500 users. We also constructed lecturer halls and made smart classrooms. We are also making heating arrangements for most of the buildings like dining halls, library etc. We have good subscriptions for libraries like Springer, IEEE. We spent almost 3-3.5 crores annually on research.

How many programs have you organized in the past few years? We have organized more than 116 online

programs in the last two years. We have organized three international conferences, many online workshops, and short-term training programs for students. We invited great personalities like Sonam Wangchuk twice. We also carried out our Alumni meet where old alumni came here.

How many departments of this institution have received accreditation? Accreditation was also pending for a long time. In 5 eligible departments we have gone for accreditation by the National Board of Accreditation.

How is placement in NIT Srinagar? When I joined, placement was around 43 percent, now it's more than 75 percent.

Where does NIT Srinagar stand on the ranking scale? We have worked on the ranking as well. In the National Institutional Ranking Framework 2021, we figured in 239 last year. We brought it down to 69 this year, which is reasonably good while looking at the circumstances here.

One of the main reasons for getting good ranking and accreditation is admission. Another reason for not getting a good rank was the Research. Earlier, people were very casual in research and were publishing many journals. In the senate meeting, I decided that no Ph.D. thesis can be submitted without having two publications in SCIE or high-ranking journal so that it will help us in future.

How many patents have you filed? Patents are an important thing that I emphasized. We have filed around 29 patents in the last two years. Three or four patents have been granted also.

We have organized more than 116 online programs in the last two years. We have organized three international conferences, many online workshops, and short-term training programs for the benefit of the faculty and the students. We invited great personalities like Sonam Wangchuk twice.

Tell us about your research with international projects? We have a good research facility. Some of our labs are the five best labs in the country. We have a tribology lab and good facilities for material synthesis. We can make good material, test them, and characterize them. We also published a booklet of research papers. I emphasize a lot on research projects. We have 3 international projects. I am part of two of them. We completed with Tunisia. 2nd is going on with Uzbekistan and we have applied for the third research project with Russia. We are developing material for space crafts and they will be tested as well.

What about the recruitments? Are there going to be any more recruitment drives? We are carrying out the recruitment. If this recruitment is successful then not less than 35-40 people from Kashmir will get employment. It will be regular employment because these are non-teaching positions so most of the candidates are locals and I would wish them to be selected and join the institution. For teaching, we need to have mixed faculty from all states. That will give a good culture. That will motivate others to progress in the institution.

How can students get admission in NIT Srinagar? Is there any quota for the students of Jammu and Kashmir?

For B.Tech courses, the admissions are done through JEE mains examinations. After the results, students have to apply to a central portal which is alternatively done by one of the NITs. This year the nodal agency is NIT Jaipur. They hold the admissions and the students apply online and give the preferences. Depending upon the score of the students in the JEE examinations, they get their streams. Also, there is a 50% quota for Jammu and Kashmir and some percentage of quota for Ladakh. The remaining 50% quota seats are filled with all India.

For M.Tech courses, there is no quota for the state and the admission takes place through a central portal called CNIT and for applied sciences admissions are done through central portal CCMS. Ph.D. admissions are also conducted through all India levels and there is no quota for J&K students but most of the candidates are from J&K.

Are convocations held yearly in the institution? Convocation was also pending for many years. In September 2018, we carried out convocation for the last three years. We had the then governor, Satya Pal Malik as the chief guest and Vaid Prakash former chairman UGC was the guest of honor. In the ceremony, 49 Ph.D. degrees were also awarded to the students. Convocation has to be regular.

How many events has this institution hosted so far? We hosted many committees here like the parliamentary committee. We hosted G Manoj Sinha twice, and Minister of State, Jitendra Singh. We organized one international conference on Nano Technology for better living through offline as well as hybrid mode.

Have you faced any problem while working here? The major problem is the lethargic attitude of people. People are disinterested towards work. All the faculty members of this institution are highly qualified. I felt the sense of belongingness was missing. That was the biggest challenge for me to make people work not only for them but for their institution because I believe this institution belongs to them but we have come far and obviously I can do anything without their cooperation. Slowly people changed.

Have you faced any criticism here? If yes, how did you address it? There is only one criticism: the system is slow. I am trying to energize it. I want files to be cleared within no time. I clear everything within 2 hours from my table. I answer queries on phone and mail. I keep checking the mails till night also. We have an RTI cell/legal cell as well. For an online grievance portal, we have a person who looks after that. In a transparency audit done by external agency of Chandigarh, we got 97.6 % which is very high.

What do you hope for this place after your term is over? I hope when I leave this place, things should continue to work in a better way. The person who takes the charge should be a good person and has a vision to take this institution further. It was a very high-ranking institution. This was established as the third REC in the country after REC Warangal and REC Durgapur.

Randit Jawaharlal Nehru had inaugurated this institution. I tried to get admission in 1981 here but I couldn't succeed. I had to be satisfied with some other institution. Our students should get the best facilities and placements. It's my ambition that our students will be placed with more than one crore package annually.

What will you take along with you when you will finish your term here? I will go with the sense of highest satisfaction that whatever I started got completed one day. In fact, I never thought that I would be a director of the institution where I had applied for the admission. There were many restrictions from my family. They thought it's not a safe place but I took the challenge. I have the habit of taking challenges. Otherwise, one can't progress.



Insha Latief Khan
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My first priority is academic reform. Academic calendar was not followed here because of the situation. I made it a point that the academic calendar should be followed religiously. I introduced the Central Evaluation System. It used to take a lot of time to evaluate the answer scripts of the students. Now, immediately after completion of end semester exams, the answer scripts are evaluated centrally and results are declared within two-week time.

I regularized the Ph.D. admission. Currently we have more than 400 candidates who are pursuing Ph.D. The senate meetings are held as per the norms: at least three meetings in a year are held. Also, I ensured four Board of Governors meetings are also held every year.

Then another academic reform is a change in curriculum. Curriculum was not revised for a long time so I took the initiative with the help of various departments.

Since you assume charge of the institute, is there any change in recruitments and promotions?

There were no faculty recruitments from the last 11 years. When I joined here, we had 86 regular faculty members. Out of them 5 were in Jammu who had migrated back and never returned. They were drawing all the benefits. They used to take salaries and were not teaching. We sanctioned 198 positions so we advertised 129 positions at that time and I could recruit new 43 faculty members at the entry level. They were from different states including Jammu and Kashmir.

Then there were no promotions from the last many years. Almost all 86 faculty members were promoted to one level higher. Another recruitment drive was conducted during February - March 2020 and this was unique because nowhere in India recruitment could take place at that time. The interview was conducted in offline mode in Delhi. I recruited 44 new faculty members and promoted the existing faculty

to the next higher level. Also carried out recruitment of non-faculty members for middle rung administrative positions. Also, promotions in non-teaching cadres were held which were also pending for a long time. Departmental progressive was also given in which 150 non-teaching staff members were benefitted.

Earlier, there was no regular registrar. The recruitment drive for registrar was taken. There was no audit for many years. It was not proper and there were many audit objections and we have removed almost all of that. I ensured a regular audit is carried out every year. Regular annual report is made and is sent to the Ministry. It is then put before the Parliament because it is an institution of national importance.



I hope when I leave this place, things should continue to work in a better way. The person who takes the charge should be a good person and has a vision to take this institution further. It is a very high-ranking institution. It was established as the third REC in the country after REC Warangal and REC Durgapur.



An institution requires better infrastructure for growth. Tell us about the changes that were brought in the infrastructure?

We are constructing an auditorium of 1000 capacity which will be completed by next year. We have constructed a new gate and constructed a new girl's hostel. As per government of India's policy, girls' strength is to be increased by 25% this year. So, our intake has to be increased too. There was no sufficient accommodation for male students as well so we are constructing a mega hostel. We took a loan of 85 crores from Higher Education Funding Agency through the Ministry of Education. Now the work has started and will be completed in two years. It will be a self-sufficient green building.

In 2014, the residential quarters and the hostels were damaged due to floods. We are carrying out the renovation process. My residential quarter, which was 55 years old, was never renovated. I renovated it before shifting.

We got a funding of 100 crores under the Prime Minister Development Package (PMDP). We have utilized 70 crores out of that and we have created good research infrastructure and good data centers. We have made two state of art computer labs. Each lab has 100 computers. Apart from that, we are upgrading the sports facility. We have also created special gyms for boys and girls. We have also upgraded our medical facility. We already have a pathological test facility. We have an x-ray lab and we have a dental section. Now we are adding physiotherapy equipment.

We have also upgraded our library. We lost 30 thousand books during floods so we purchased many new books and we purchased e-resources as well. We have an RFID system in the library. We have automatic issue and return of the books without any involvement of the person in the library. We have increased the seating capacity by around 500 users. We also constructed lecturer halls and made smart classrooms. We are also making heating arrangements for most of the buildings like dining halls, library etc. We have good subscriptions for libraries like Springer, IEEE. We spent almost 3-3.5 crores annually on subscriptions so that it can help students in research.

How many programs have you organized in the past few years?

We have organized more than 116 online

programs in the last two years. We have organized three international conferences, many online workshops, and short-term training programs for the benefit of the faculty and the students. We invited great personalities like Sonam Wangchuk twice. We also carried out our Alumni meet where old alumni come here.

How many departments of this institution have received accreditation?

Accreditation was also pending for a long time. In 5 eligible departments we have gone for accreditation by the National Board of Accreditation.

How is placement in NIT Srinagar?

When I joined, placement was around 43 percent, now it's more than 75 percent.

Where does NIT, Srinagar stand on the ranking scale?

We have worked on the ranking as well. In the National Institutional Ranking Framework 2021, we figured in 239 last year. We brought it down to 69 this year which is reasonably good while looking at the circumstances here. I want the ranking of this institution to be below 50. We should be in 1-50 brackets.

One of the main reasons for getting good ranking and accreditation is admission.

Another reason for not getting a good rank was the Research. Earlier, people were very casual in research and were publishing in only journals. In the senate meeting I decided that no Ph.D. thesis can be submitted without having two publications in SCIE or high-ranking journals so that it will help us in future.

How many patents have you filed?

Patents are an important thing that I emphasized on. We have filed around 29 patents in the last two years. Three or four patents have been granted also.



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Tell us about your research with international projects?

We have a good research facility. Some of our labs are the five best labs in the country. We have a tribology lab and good facilities for material synthesis. We can make good material, test them, and characterize them. We also published a booklet of research papers. I emphasize a lot on research projects. We have 3 international projects. I am part of two of them. We completed with Tunisia. 2nd is going on with Uzbekistan and we have applied for the third research project with Russia. We are developing material for space crafts and they will be tested as well.

What about the recruitments? Are there going to be any more recruitment drives?

We are carrying out the recruitment. If this recruitment is successful then not less than 35-40 people from Kashmir will get employment. It will be regular employment because these are non-teaching positions so most of the candidates are locals and I would wish them to be selected and join the institution. For teaching, we need to have mixed faculty from all states. That will give a good culture. That will motivate others also. Sense of competition is very important to progress in the institution.

How can students get admission in NIT Srinagar? Is there any quota for the students of Jammu and Kashmir?

For B.Tech. courses, the admissions are done through JEE mains examinations. After the results, students have to apply to a central portal which is alternatively done by one of the NIT. This year the nodal agency is NIT Jaipur. They hold the admission and the students apply online and give the preferences. Depending upon the score of the students in the JEE examinations, they get their streams. Also, there is a 50% quota for Jammu and Kashmir and some percentage of quota for Ladakh. The remaining 50% quota seats are filled with all India ranking.

For M.Tech. courses, there is no quota for the state and the admission takes place through a central portal called CCNT and for applied sciences admissions are done through central portal CCMS. Ph.D. admissions are also conducted through all India levels and there is no quota for J&K students but most of the candidates are from J&K.

Are convocations held yearly in the institution?

Convocation was also pending for many years. In September 2018, we carried out convocation for the last three years. We had the then governor, Satya Pal Malik as the chief guest and Ved Prakash former chairman UGC was the guest of honor. In the ceremony, 49 Ph.D. degrees were also awarded to the students. Convocation has to be regular.

How many events has this institution hosted so far?

We hosted many committees here like the parliamentary committee. We hosted LG Manoj Sinha twice, and Minister of State, Jitender Singh. We organized one international conference on Nano Technology for better living through offline as well as hybrid mode.

Have you faced any problem while working here?

The major problem is the lethargic attitude of people. People are disinterested towards work. All the faculty members of this institution are highly qualified. I felt the sense of belongingness was missing. That was the biggest challenge for me to make people work not only for them but for their institution because I believe this institution belongs to them but we have come far and obviously I can't do anything without their cooperation. Slowly people changed.

Have you faced any criticism here? If yes, how did you address it?

There is only one criticism: the system is slow. I am trying to energize it. I want files to be cleared within no time. I clear everything within 2 hours from my table. I answer queries on phone and mail. I keep checking the mails till night also. We have an RTI cell/legal cell as well. For an online grievance portal, we have a person who looks after that. In a transparency audit done by an external agency of Chandigarh, we got 97.6% which is very high.

What do you hope for this place after your turn is over?

I hope when I leave this place, things should continue to work in a better way. The person who takes the charge should be a good person and has a vision to take this institution further. It was a very high-ranking institution. This was established as the third REC in the country after REC Warangal and REC Durgapur. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had inaugurated this institution. I tried to get admission in 1981 here but I couldn't succeed. I had to be satisfied with some other institution. Our students should get the best facilities and placements. It's my ambition that our students will be placed with more than one crore package annually.

What will you take along with you when you will finish your term here?

I will go with the sense of highest satisfaction that whatever I started got completed one day. In fact, I never thought that I would be a director of the institution where I had applied for the admission. There were many restrictions from my family. They thought it's not a safe place but I took the challenge. I have the habit of taking challenges. Otherwise, one can't progress.