



# UNIVERSITY OF JAMMU

## DISABILITY INITIATIVES

**REPORT OF ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED IN 2022-23**



*Submitted by*

*Prof. Sarika Manhas*

*Coordinator, Disability Initiatives, JU*

## **Report of Activities carried out during 2022-23**

### **Activity 1: North Zone Divyang Triangular Cricket Tournament at Jammu University**

North Zone Divyang Cricket Tournament was organized by Disability Initiatives Unit of University of Jammu, Unnat Bharat Abhiyaan-Jammu University chapter, and Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, Jammu University in collaboration with Divyang Cricket Team Jammu and Kashmir on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> March 2023. Three cricket teams representing the states of Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Jammu and Kashmir participated in the triangular series, with Jammu and Kashmir team lifting the winning trophy. Three league matches were played between Jammu and Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh, where J&K was the winner; the second match was played between Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, where U.P was the winner; and the third match was between J&K and Himachal Pradesh, where the winner was J&K. The final match was played between Jammu and Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh.

The man of the match awards were won by Ishtiaq, Vijay Kumar, Shahid Iqbal Awan and Yassir. While Shahid Iqbal Awan, Captain of J&K was declared the man of the tournament.

Prof. Naresh Padha, Dean Academic Affairs, University of Jammu was the Chief guest in the inaugural match. While, Dr. Saleem ur Rehman, Director General Family Welfare, MCH & Immunization, J&K, & Director Health Services Jammu graced the closing ceremony as chief guest.

Prominent among others who graced the tournament with their presence were Prof. Jasbir Singh (Convener, UBA-JU), Prof. Namrata Sharma (Convener, JUIKASH), Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba (Director, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education), Ms. Sunita Kashyap (Chairman, Divyang Cricket team Jammu and Kashmir), Dr. Suresh N. Rao (Member, JU UBA), Dr. Hema Gandotra (Programme Coordinator, NSS, JU), Dr. Shallu Sehgal (Department of Economics, JU), Ms. Sandhya Dhar (President, JIGER); and Sh. Rajkumar, (Cricket Coach, JU).

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A bouquet being presented to a dignitary during the inaugural ceremony of the Cricket tournament at University of Jammu on Saturday.

## JU hosts North Zone Divyang Cricket Tournament

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 11: University of Jammu is hosting a two-day North Zone Cricket Tournament for divyang cricketers, which commenced today at University Ground, here.

The tournament is being organized by JU's Disability Initiatives Unit, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan-Jammu University chapter and Directorate of Sports and Physical Education in collaboration with NGO partner Divyang Cricket Team Jammu and Kashmir.

Three cricket teams representing the States of Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Jammu and Kashmir are participating in this tournament.

Prof. Naresh Padha, Dean Academic Affairs, JU was the chief guest and Prof. Jasbir Singh, convener UBA-JU was the guest of honour on the occasion.

Prof. Naresh Padha applauded the efforts of the Disability Initiatives unit for organizing a sports event for the divyang community. He stressed that in keeping with the NEP 2020 renewed emphasis has to be placed upon the non formal educational experiences.

He assured that University of Jammu is ready to organize more sports activities for the divyanjan so that their energies are channeled

for the University as its differently abled students belonging to the rural areas are participating in this event. He said that the University is offering multiple provisions to ensure that students with disabilities are fully engaged and included in all aspects of campus life.

Prof. Sarika Manhas, Coordinator Disability Initiatives shared that this is for the first time that the University is organizing a Zonal level cricket tournament for the differently abled, while Sunita Kashyap, Chairperson Divyang Cricket team Jammu and Kashmir thanked the University for hosting the tournament.

Sandhya Dhar, president JIGER also made significant contributions towards organizing the cricket tournament.

Technical committee of the tournament is headed by Rajkumar, JU's cricket coach.

Prof. Namrata Sharma, convener JUCASH, Dr Suresh N. Rao, Member UBA, Dr. Hema Gandotra and Programme Coordinator NSS, Dr. Shallu Sehgal were present during the event. Two cricket matches were played today. The first match was played between Jammu and Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh wherein J&K emerged as winner. The second match was played between Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

A graduation held to bid farewell to the upper Kindergarten as they were given certificates as for their outstanding performance and extracurricular

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Director Health Services, Dr. Saleem-ur-Rehman presenting the trophy to winners at Jammu University on Sunday.

## J&K lifts North Zone Divyang Cricket tournament

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 12: Jammu and Kashmir Divyang team emerged winners of the North Zone Divyang Cricket tournament, organized by the University of Jammu, here today.

Three cricket teams representing the States of Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir UT participated in the triangular series.

The tournament is organized by the Disability Initiatives Unit of the University, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan-Jammu University chapter, and the Directorate of Sports and Physical Education in collaboration with Divyang Cricket Team Jammu and Kashmir.

Three league matches were played between Jammu and Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh, where J&K was the winner; the second match was played between Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, wherein UP scripted win and the third match was between J&K and Himachal Pradesh, in which J&K remained winners.

The final match was played between Jammu and Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh wherein J&K emerged winners. The man of the match award was won by Ishfaq, Vijay Kumar, Shahid Iqbal Awan and Yassir, while Shahid Iqbal Awan, Captain of

testimony to that was not being impatient for a boundary for 16 balls. In fact, in the first session he couldn't add to his overnight five hits to the fence. (PTI)

## District Boxing

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

PULWAMA, Mar 12: Pulwama District Boxing Championship was organized by J&K Amateur Boxing Association under the aegis of Boxing Federation of India and J&K Olympic Association and sponsored by J&K Sport Council at Hajhad Public School Awantipora, here today.

The championship was organized under the supervision of Farooq Ahmad Khan, Asif Ahmad, Shoaib, Zulfikar and Kamran Hassan.

The chief guest of the event was Principal Hajad Public Awantipora. He distributed the medals and certificates among meritorious boxers.

In sub junior boys 28-30kg Rayil Farook-Gold, Rasik Fida-Silver and Junaid Andrabi Bronze, in 30-32kg, Zai



Winners displaying certificate

Zahoor-Gold, Mohd Muesal Silver and Mohd Arif-Bronze, in 32-34kg, Irfan Manzoor-Gold Rizwan Sheikh-Silver and Monin Manzoor-Bronze, in 34-36kg, Yasir-Gold, Owais Wani Silver, Faizan Javid-Bronze, in 36-38kg, Umar Ismail-Gold Aifat-Silver and Wasim Junaid Bronze and in 40-42kg, Mohd Suja-Gold, Mehran-Silver and

## Rahul Drav

### Press Coverage of Cricket Tournament

Prof. Sarika Manhas, Coordinator Disability Initiatives, JU and organizer of the tournament lauded the vision of Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu Prof. Umesh Rai for supporting the cause of the differently abled community. She expressed that the University is committed to provide equal opportunities to all its students and stakeholders, and that more sports and cultural events for the differently abled are in offering.

Four students of the University of Jammu namely, Rajesh Kumar, Mohd. Asif, Mohd. Ashfaq and Abhinandan Sharma also played in these matches.



*Group photograph of the participating cricket teams*

## **Activity 2: Life skills workshop for differently abled students and scholars**

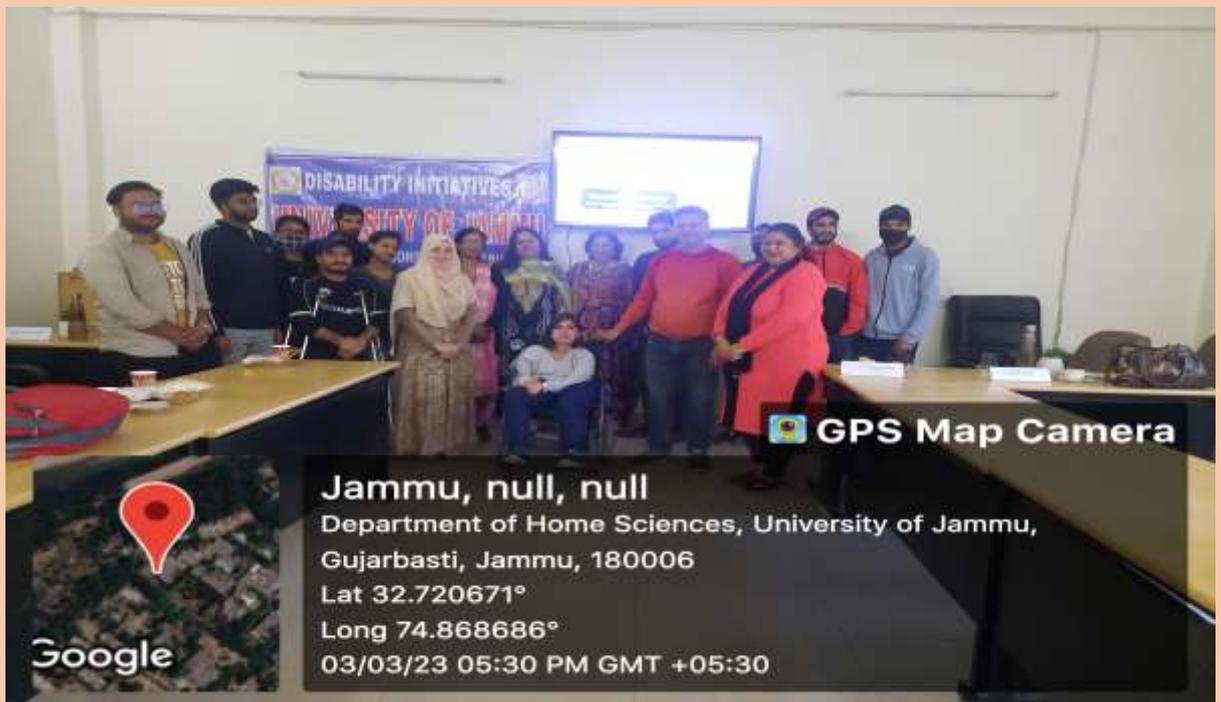
A workshop on 21<sup>st</sup> century essential life skills was organized on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023 by Disability Initiatives unit of University of Jammu. The workshop was an endeavor to help the differently abled students to develop skills that would help them deal with life challenges in a skilled manner. Prof. Rajni Dhingra, Former Dean Research Studies, Jammu University was the chief guest at the workshop. Dr. Chand Trehan, renowned Psychologist and RCI certified Counselor was the resource person for the workshop. She stated that self-awareness and empathy are two core skills that all individuals including those with disabilities need to nurture. She carried out activities for developing good communication, inter-personal and critical thinking skills among the participants.

The entire workshop was conceptualized and organized by the Coordinator, Disability Initiatives, Jammu University Prof. Sarika Manhas. She exhorted upon the specially abled students to realize their potential and capabilities. She mentioned that changing social contour necessitates that all students especially for with disabilities to constantly upgrade their skills and keep themselves relevant.



*Resource Persons interacting with Differently abled students*

25 differently abled post graduate students and research scholars belonging to the different departments /centers of Jammu University participated in the workshop. Faculty members and research scholars from the Department of Home Science, Jammu University also attended the workshop.



*Workshop Photograph*

viewing the status of SCA to TSS, it is estimated that out of 591 projects have been completed.

The process of Border Roads are being considered to provide safety to the road along the border, was also discussed. The DDC directed the contractors to ensure the completion of the projects within the stipulated time and to ensure the quality of construction. The DDC also discussed the employment of disabled persons. He also discussed the need for timely completion of projects and to maintain the quality of construction. The DDC expressed his satisfaction over the progress so far and urged the contractors to continue their efforts in achieving the goals of the Border Roads. He emphasized the need for coordination between the various departments to ensure the timely completion of all projects. He also attended the meeting led by ACD, Vijay D. Mohammiad Sheraz Chowhan; P. Sharma; Ex-En and BDOs.

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Singh is Oxford surgeon and has 10 successful surgeries with 100% success rate. He is inventor of

children of the STC Campus witnessed the parade and cheered the recruit Constables for their excellent parade.

technical courses in view of the changing scenario and new challenges.

He also stressed the impor-



Differently-abled students and scholars of Jammu University posing for a group photograph during a workshop organized in the varsity on Saturday.

## JU organizes life skills workshop for differently-abled students, scholars

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 4: The Disability Initiatives unit of the University of Jammu organized a workshop on 21st-century essential life skills for differently-abled students and scholars here on Saturday.

A press statement said that the workshop was aimed at assisting the participants in developing skills that would enable them to handle life challenges proficiently.

Prof Rajni Dhingra, the former Dean of Research Studies at Jammu University, was the Chief Guest at the workshop, and she praised the University's efforts to promote disability welfare. She encouraged the participants to focus on their potential and channel their energies positively to become contributing members of society.

Dr Chand Trehan, a renowned psychologist and RCI-certified counsellor, was the resource person for the workshop. She emphasized the need for self-awareness and

empathy, as well as developing good communication, interpersonal, and critical thinking skills. Dr Trehan shared motivational videos and inspirational stories of people with disabilities who have achieved remarkable success.

The workshop was organized by the Coordinator of Disability Initiatives, Prof Sarika Manhas, who highlighted the unit's previous efforts towards promoting the welfare of the differently-abled. She encouraged the participants to realize their potential and capabilities and adapt to the changing social contours by constantly upgrading their skills to stay relevant.

The workshop was attended by 25 differently-abled postgraduate students and research scholars from various departments and centres of Jammu University. Several faculty members and research scholars from the Department of Home Science at Jammu University, including Dr Arpana Langeh, Anu, Vinish Malik, Insha, Meghna, and Mamta, also attended the workshop.

## Vikar led JKPC delegation visits Duksar in Gool

Excelsior Correspondent

RAMBAN, Mar 4: The Jammu & Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) today expressed dismay over the

Wani found the arrangements unsatisfactory while expressing dismay over the hardships confronting affected families on account of basic facilities. He said providing tents to sixteen affected

tribution and thanked the visiting faculty for their support in enhancing the trainees' capabilities.

## Ultrasonography, Spirometry inaugurated at GUH

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Mar 4: Dr Mohan Singh, Director Ayush

J&K today inaugurated the Ultrasonography and Spirometry facilities for general public at Government Unani Hospital (GUH) Shalteng.



Speaking on the occasion, Director AYUSH J&K Dr Mohan Singh informed that the installation of

Ultrasonography and Spirometry machines was a long pending demand of patients who come from far off places to avail the specialized treatment methodologies of Unani system of medicine. He said that by starting these facilities, patients suffering from Gastrointestinal/Renal/Liver Disorders or Chronic Lung Diseases can now avail these diagnostic facilities in the hospital itself on nominal charges.

He further informed that the process of NABH accreditation for two tertiary care Ayush Hospitals viz. Government Ayurvedic Hospital, Jammu and Government Unani Hospital, Shalteng (Srinagar) shall be completed shortly so that both these hospitals demonstrate commitment to quality care and patient safety.

On the occasion, Dr Mohan Singh also reviewed the function-

ing of the facilities.



### Coverage of Life Skills Workshop

### Activity 3: Clothes distribution for underprivileged and destitute children

Under Disability Initiatives of University of Jammu a clothes distribution drive was organized for the underprivileged and destitute children on 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2023. Speaking on the occasion Prof. Sarika Manhas, Coordinator, Disability Initiatives mentioned that University of Jammu strongly believes knowledge, competence and resources should be utilized for the welfare and upliftment of the society. The clothes distribution drive is a symbolic voluntary act that aims to instill a feeling of social responsibility. The clothes for the purpose were provided by a Mumbai based NGO. Distribution of the clothes were made to destitute children living on and off the street, and to children belonging to needy families. Also, underprivileged children putting up in a residential facility at the outskirts of the city were also given the clothes. University faculty Dr. Harleen, Department of Commerce and Dr. Hema Gandotra, Program Coordinator NSS contributed to this cause. A team of research scholars from the Department of Home Science namely, Ms. Vinish Malik, Ms. Inshah, Ms. Asiya Abdullah, along with non-teaching staff namely, Sh. Rakesh, Ms. Shikha, Sh. Rupal Chand, Sh. Kuldeep helped in the successful conduct of the drive.



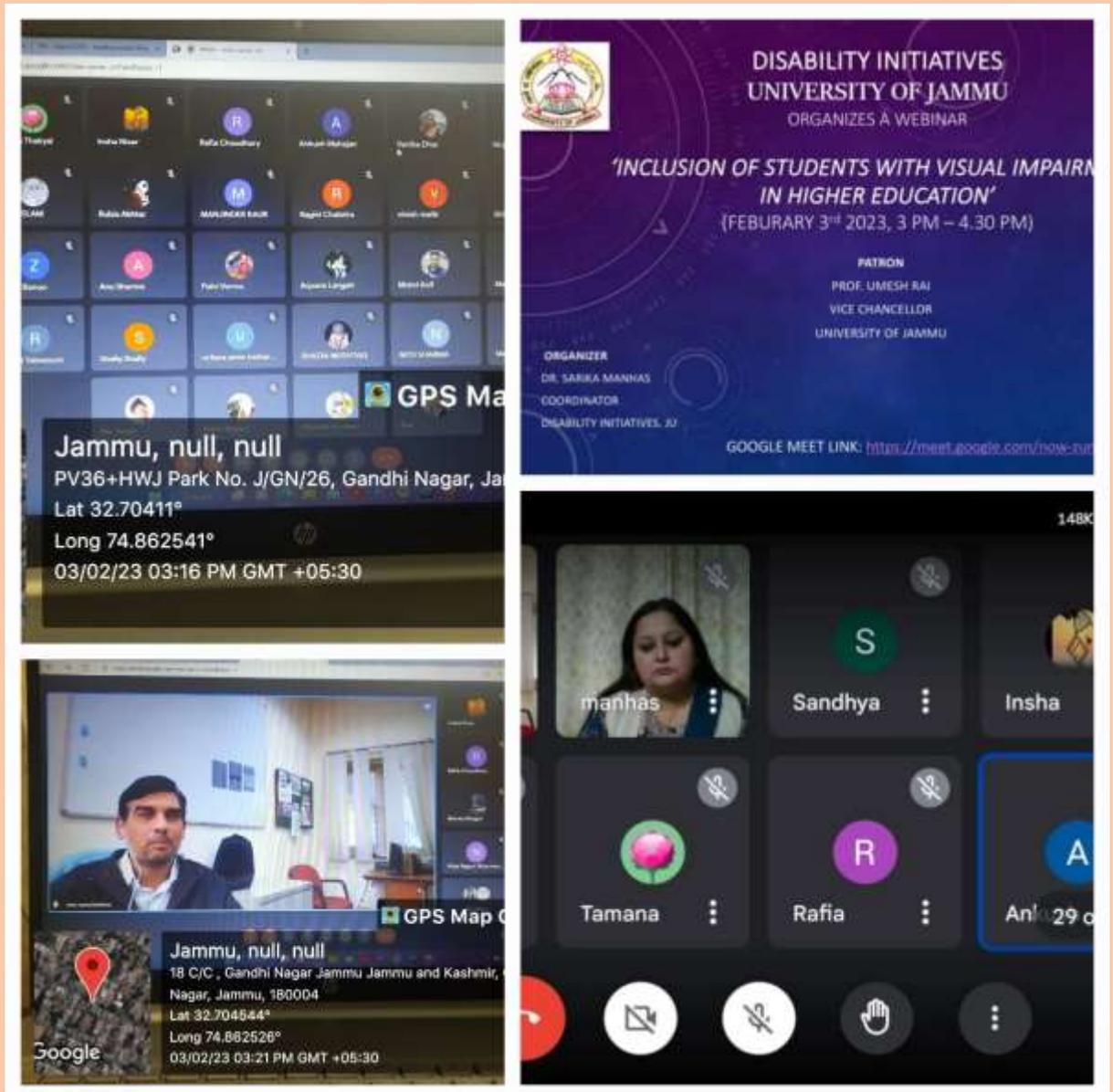


### *Clothes Distribution Activity*

## **Activity 4: ‘Inclusion of Students with Visual Impairment in Higher Education’ webinar**

Disability Initiatives, University of Jammu organized a webinar ‘Inclusion of Students with Visual Impairment in Higher Education’ on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023. The webinar was carried out with the objective of creating awareness about the challenges encountered and resources available to persons with visual impairment at higher education. Dr. Tata Rama Krishna, Faculty, STRIDE IGNOU, New Delhi was the resource person for the webinar. In his interactive session he mentioned that there are issues related to physical accessibility and material accessibility that are often disadvantageous for the visually impaired. He talked about the reservation policy for Persons with Disability available both in higher education institutions as well in employment. He also shared information about the transport related concessions, dealership benefits, scholarships/ fellowships available to PwDs, and escort and scribe facilities. He further exhorted upon the need for having University grievance cell to ensure timely action in matters pertaining to its differently abled students and research scholars. Dr.

Sarika Manhas, Coordinator, Disability Initiatives, Jammu University introduced the resource person and also emphasized on the need for collaborative and concerted effort by all stakeholders to ensure that a supportive environment is available in higher education institutions for students with disabilities.



***Webinar Photographs***

Sh. Umesh Sharma, Chairman, Disabled Care Foundation & Disability activist highlighted the practical problems faced in ensuring rights of disabled. He called for synergistic linkages between higher education students and NGOs for better understanding of challenges encountered by disabled students at higher education level. Prominent among those who attended the webinar included Ms. Sandhya Dhar (Nari Shakti Awardee and President, JIGER,

Dr. Muzamil Jan (Kashmir University), Dr. Bharti Tandon (MIER College of Education), Dr. Ankit Mahajan (Jammu University), Dr. Deepti (Department of Higher education, J&K UT), Dr. Nitu Sharma (Department of Higher education, J&K UT), Ms. Upasana (SSM College, Dinanagar, Punjab) The students and research scholars with disabilities enrolled for various departments of University of Jammu also attended the webinar.

### **Activity 5: Two-day Self Development workshop organized for differently abled students and scholars**

Two-day self-development workshop focusing on self-improvement and personal development was conducted on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of November 2022 at University of Jammu. This workshop was organized as part of the Disability welfare initiatives of the University. 30 differently abled post graduate students, and research scholars pursuing Ph.D and M.Phil degree courses in the various departments /centers of Jammu University, along with those belonging to other Universities of Jammu such as Cluster University, Central University and Parade College (Autonomous) participated in the workshop. Ms. Sandhya Dhar, Nari Shakti Awardee and President of JIGER Ngo was the chief guest on the inaugural event. Prof. Rajnikant, Dean Research Studies, Jammu University was the chief guest at the valedictory ceremony.



*Resource person interacting with students with disabilities*

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The second panel discussion

Spice Money and Virender Pratap Singh, Senior HR Manager, NTPC.

## Self development workshop for differently abled students held at JU

*Excelsior Correspondent*

JAMMU, Nov 19: A two day self development workshop focusing on self improvement and personal development concluded today at University of Jammu.

This workshop was organized as part of the Disability welfare ini-

ed.

Sandhya Dhar, Nari Shakti Awardee and President of JIGER NGO, was the chief guest at the inaugural event. She stated that lack of empathy for the disabled leads to their marginalization and discrimination.

The workshop was conceptualized and organized by the Coordinator, Disability Initiatives, J a m m u University Dr Sarika Manhas. In her address she mentioned that the University is making earnest endeavor to provide equal opportunities to



Participants of workshop for differently abled students & scholars at JU.

tiatives of the University. 30 differently abled post graduate students and research scholars pursuing Ph D and M Phil degree courses in the various departments /centers of Jammu University, along with those belonging to other universities in Jammu such as Cluster University, Central University and Parade College (Autonomous) participated in the workshop.

Prof Rajni Kant, Dean Research Studies JU was the chief guest at the valedictory ceremony. While speaking on the occasion, he mentioned that higher education institutes need to be role models for creating accessible environment for students with disabilities. He also emphasized on the need of having synergistic interlinkages among all stakeholders of the society so that a better social ecology can be creat-

ed all its students especially to those with disabilities. While tracing the activities under the initiative she mentioned that efforts are being made to create accessible and inclusive ecosystem at the University.

Swati Basotra, founder Talkeasytakeasy and former Consultant training and placement, IIT Jammu was the resource person for the workshop. Through her interactive and interesting hands on activities spread over two days, she infused a sense of 'Self' in the participants. She emphasized that the differently abled need to focus on their wholesome self rather than on their limitations.

The participants during the course of the workshop also shared their personal experiences, and the challenges encountered. The workshop was ably conducted by Vinish Malik and Dr Arpana Langeh.

were the adjudicators and Pallavi Arora was the Te Incharge of the event.

In Cartooning, partici were given two topics, viz 'City' and 'This Dustbin Something'. Skanda Sharma Ruhani Bhau, both from In

## Ashok el Swarn

*Excelsior Correspondent*

RAJOURI, Nov 19: A Naggi once again electe president of Swarnkar San the Sunderbani Sub-divi here today.

It was decided during the joint meeting of Sub-divi-sion, Sunderbani and Kalakote, Tehsil including Teryath and Pouni held at Hotel Shivam in Sunderbani.

The members included Tarlochan Singh, Om Prakash, Gourav Saraf, Shiv Kumar Naggi, Karamjeet Singh (Goldy) and others unanimously re-lected Ashok Naggi as president of Swarnkar S. Naggi has been serving S



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*Excelsior*

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### Press Coverage of Self Development workshop

The objectives of the workshop were to help channelize the potential of students with disabilities and provide them an opportunity to enhance their 'self'. The workshop was directed towards the better understanding of one's own self and developing inner potential to overcome the limitations of the body.

The workshop was conceptualized and organized by the Coordinator, Disability Initiatives, Jammu University Dr. Sarika Manhas. Ms. Swati Basotra, founder Ttalkeasytakeeasy and former Consultant training and placement, IIT Jammu was the resource person for the workshop. A team of research scholars from the Department of Home Science, Jammu University namely, Dr. Arpana Langeh (Contractual faculty), Ms. Vinish Malik and Ms. Insha, Ms. Meghna, Ms. Syyeda, Ms. Pooja, and Ms. Mamta also attended the workshop.



*Self Development Workshop's glimpses*

### **Activity 6: Consultation Meet on Draft National Policy for PwDs-2022**

Under Disability Initiatives, University of Jammu a consultation meet on the draft National Policy for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) developed by Department of Empowerment of Person with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Government of India was held on 26th July 2022.

GOI had invited recommendations and suggestions from policy stakeholders, academicians, corporates and professionals in the social sector on the draft national policy for persons with disabilities till 30<sup>th</sup> of August 2022. The objectives of the consultation program were to assist the policymakers in the process by inviting relevant stakeholders from across Jammu to discuss and deliberate upon aspects such as identification of disabilities, disability certification, accessibility, education, health, skill development and employment, sports, culture and recreation. The suggestions and recommendations emanating were compiled in the form of a report and forwarded to the concerned Ministry and Department of Disability Affairs.



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**JU organizes consultation meet on Draft National Policy for PwDs-2022**

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28/07/2022

Jammu, Jul 27: Under Disability Initiatives, University of Jammu a consultation meeting on the draft National Policy for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) developed by the Department of Empowerment of persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Government of India was held today.

### *Press Coverage of Consultation meet*

After exhaustive discussion some of the recommendations conscripted were those related to use of one comprehensive ID cards for PwDs, role of CSE centers and PRI in mapping person with disabilities, mandatory provisions for identification of preventable disabilities, inclusion of disability in school curriculum, designing and transacting university level courses in disability, adequate emphasis on mental health and well-being, creating accessible sport facility, provisions for one nation-one pension, life insurance cover for PwDs and availability of sign language interpreters.

Prof. Rajni Dhingra, Dean Research Studies, JU was the chief guest on the occasion. The consultation meet was organized by Dr. Sarika Manhas, Coordinator Disability Initiatives, JU. Prominent among those who attended the meet included Prof. Samridhi Arora (HoD Home Science, JU), Ms. Sandhya Dhar (Nari Shakti Awardee and President, JIGER), Mr. Umesh

Sharma (Chairman, Disabled Care Foundation), Sh. Roshan Bhan (Principal, School for Hearing Handicapped), Dr. Bharti Tandon (Associate Professor, MIER College of Education), Dr. Kiran (Assistant Professor, Central University of Jammu), Mr. Chandeeep Singh (Renowned Para athlete), Mr. M.K Badyal (General secretary, National Federation of Blind), Dr. Shah Nawaz (Lecturer, Department of Pediatrics, GMC Jammu), Ms. Ritika (Chairperson, Beloved Grace Organization), Mr. Sushil Kumar (Chairman, All J&K Disabled Welfare Trust), Ms. Sunita Kumari (Secretary, Divyangjan Cricket team J&K), Ms. Neha Kalra (District resource person, IE, Jammu) and Sh. Charan Dass (Redt. Headmaster) among others. The students with disabilities enrolled for various courses at University of Jammu were also present. Dr. Arpana Langeh, Ms. Kanika Gupta and Ms. Vinish Malik, Research scholars from the Department of Home Science, JU helped in conduct of the meet.

### **Activity 7: Autism Awareness Webinar**

Disability Initiatives, University of Jammu in collaboration with Brainpreneurs- Child Development Centre Jammu organised a webinar on autism awareness on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2022. Autism is a neurological condition on which extensive research is being carried out to detangle the complex intertwined network of genes and environment leading to it. The incidence of autism globally is on the rise. There has been a 178 per cent rise in the prevalence of autism in the past 20 years. In India, every 1 in 100 children below the age of 10 has autism. With this as rationale this awareness-oriented program was organized.

Mr. Zaheer Jan, Pediatrics Rehabilitation Therapist and social worker and Ms. Aparajita Salathia, Clinical Psychologist were the resource persons on the occasion. Mr. Jan elaborated on the characteristics and red flags of children with autism and also talked about the various screening and diagnostic tools that can be used for identifying autism among children. He also shared about the role of intervention such as occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech therapy, behaviour modification, dance movement therapy and special education in catering to the needs of autistic children. Ms. Salathia in her technical session talked about virtual autism. She highlighted that excessive screen time is a major contributing factor towards the rising incidents of virtual autism among children. Both the resource persons answered the queries of the participants as well.



# Autism Awareness

Disability Initiatives, University of Jammu  
*in collaboration with*  
Brainpreneurs

## Patron



**Prof. Umesh Rai**  
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor,  
University of Jammu

## Chief Guest



**Prof. Rajni Dhingra**  
Dean Research Studies,  
University of Jammu

## Resource Person



**Aprajita Slathia**  
Child & Adolescent psychologist;  
Rehab Psychologist



**Zaheer Jan**  
Paediatric Rehab therapist

## Event Details

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>11:00 am - 11:15 am:</b> | Introduction  |
| <b>11:15 am - 11:50 am:</b> | Introducing to Autism spectrum disorder                                 |
| <b>11:50 am - 12:30 pm:</b> | Role & importance of early intervention;<br>Screen time and its effects |
| <b>12:30 am to 1:00 pm:</b> | QA round  |

**Date:** July 30, 2022  
**Time:** 11:00 A.M. - 01:00 P.M. (IST)  
**Platform:** Zoom

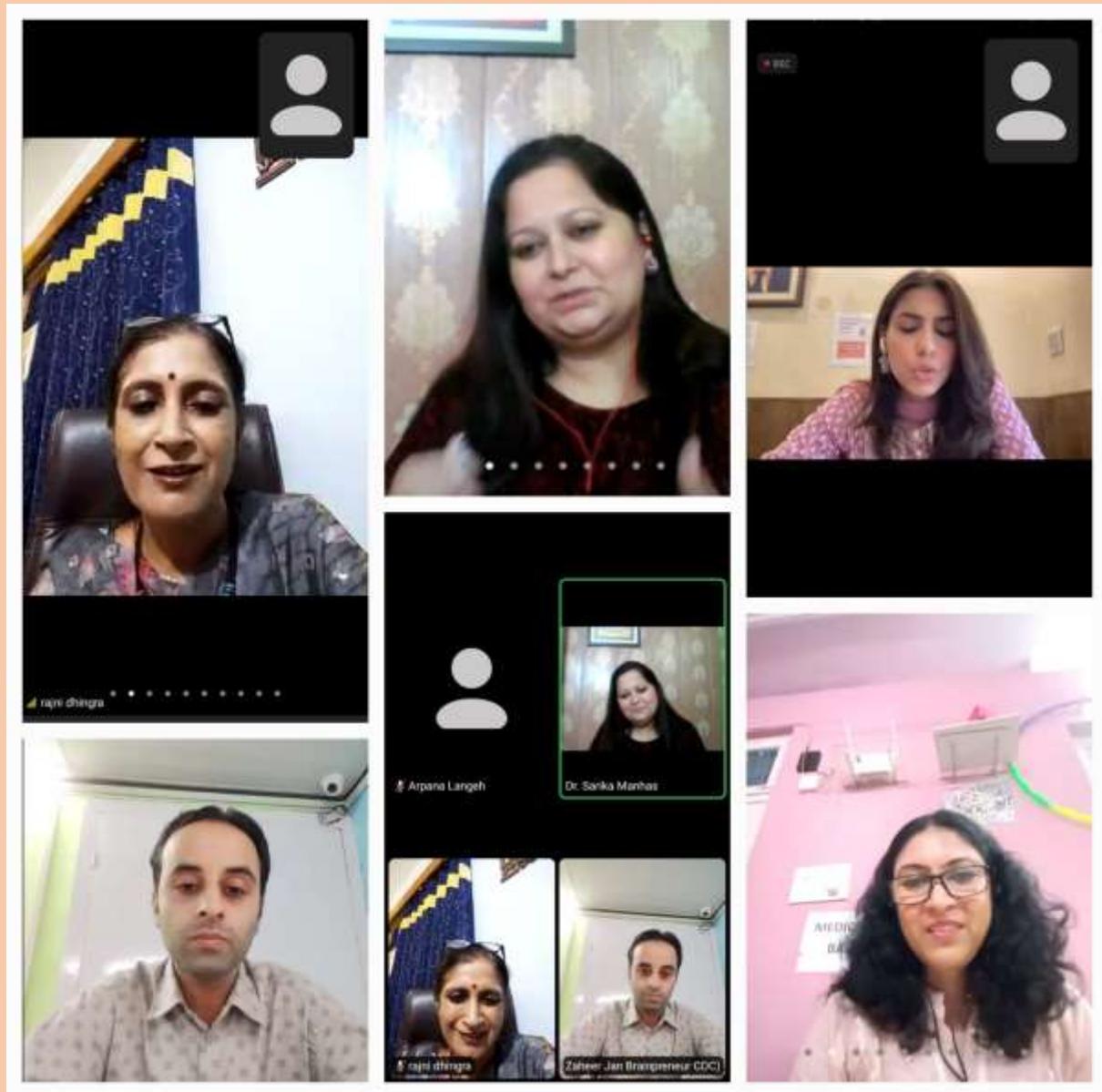
## Organizers

**Dr. Sarika Manhas**  
Coordinator, Disability Initiatives, JU  
9419255885

**Sunaina Tickoo**  
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The webinar was attended by 80 participants comprising of academicians, rehabilitation professionals, teachers, special educators, NGO representatives, parents, research scholars and university students. Prof. Rajni Dhingra, Dean Research Studies, University of Jammu was the chief guest for the webinar. Dr. Sarika Manhas, Coordinator Disability Initiatives, JU and Ms. Sunaina Tickoo, Founder and CEO of Brainpreneurs were the co-organizers of the event. Ms.

Lily Bhan presented the formal vote of thanks and Ms. Sanika from Brainpreneurs successfully moderated the webinar.



*Glimpses from the Autism Webinar*

### **Activity 8: Disability Rights Activists conduct workshop on ‘Human Rights of persons with Disabilities’ at Jammu University**

Disability Initiatives, University of Jammu in collaboration with UGC-HRDC and Department of Home Science, University of Jammu organized an interactive workshop on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022 on the theme ‘Human rights of persons with disabilities. This workshop was part of the Refresher course in Human rights for college and University faculty being held at Jammu

University from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022. Students and scholars of the Department, and disabled students on the campus also participated in the workshop. Padam Shree Javed Ahmad Tak, Humanity Welfare Organization, Kashmir and Ms. Sandhya Dhar, President JIGER Ngo, Jammu, both prominent disability right activists were the resource persons. Jenab Tak elaborated on the various models of disability namely, the social model, charity model and the developmental model. He discussed at length the various rights that should be available for the disabled such as right to equality, right to marriage and family, right to informed consent, right to education, and right to liberty.



### *Press Coverage of the event*

Ms. Sandhya Dhar in her session mentioned that Persons with Disabilities Act of 1995 and RPwD Act of 2016 ensured that the disabled enjoyed their rights however, there were certain lacunae in the implementation of these Acts. She shared anecdotes from her journey as a disability activist and also as one affected by cerebral palsy to highlight that persons with disabilities are often marginalized and discriminated against. The lectures were presided over

by Prof. Rajni Dhingra, Dean Research Studies, JU and conducted by Dr. Sarika Manhas, Coordinator Disability Initiatives, JU.

On the occasion Sandhya Dhar gifted a Braille version and an enlarged font version each of the Rights of Persons with Disability (RPwD) Act to the University of Jammu. These RPwD Act versions have been prepared by an NGO, Sawabhiman from Bhubaneswar, Odisha. These were received on behalf of the University by Prof. S.K. Pandita, Director UGC-HRDC and Prof. Samridhi Arora, Head, Department of Home Science in presence of Sh. Ranjeet Kalra, Deputy Director UGC-HRDC and Dr. Sarika Manhas, Coordinator Disability Initiatives, JU.

### **Activity 9: Webinar on 'Rights and Challenges of Persons with Disability in India' organized by Disability initiatives, JU in collaboration with National Federation of the Blind, New Delhi**

Disability Initiatives, University of Jammu  
in collaboration with  
National Federation of the Blind, India

organizes  
WEBINAR  
'RIGHTS AND CHALLENGES OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN INDIA'  
on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 at 11.00 am

Prof. Kusumata Malik  
President, NFB, India

Prof. Manoj K. Dhar  
Vice Chancellor, JU  
Patron

Prof. Rajni Dhingra  
DRS, JU  
Chief Guest

Dr. Sarika Manhas  
Coordinator  
Disability Initiatives, JU

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/5y4hJGPwZ9oH2MNLA>

Google meet link: <https://meet.google.com/cmp-befd-rys>

Disability Initiatives, University of Jammu in collaboration with the National Federation for the Blind, New Delhi, India organized a webinar on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 on the theme 'Rights and Challenges of Persons with Disability in India'. Prof. Rajni Dhingra, Dean Research Studies, University of Jammu was the Chief guest on the occasion. Prof. Kusum Lata

Malik, President of National Federation for the Blind and the key resource person highlighted that accessibility should be ensured at all levels. Based on surveys conducted by NFB, New Delhi she mentioned that most children with disabilities face discrimination within their home and the society also fails to acknowledge the needs and requirements of such individuals. She also discussed the need for course redesigning in the higher education institutes.

Dr. Sarika Manhas, Coordinator Disability Initiatives, JU and organizer of the webinar mentioned that the University of Jammu envisions to create a disabled friendly campus/ barrier free environment based on dual principles of “Inclusion and Accessibility”. It is working towards ensuring that students with disabilities receive equal treatment and opportunities in all aspects of campus life and are not placed at a substantial disadvantage in their access to services, assessment and teaching.

Mohd. Ashfaq, Vishav Preet Singh, and Haleema Lone students with disabilities enrolled at Jammu University also shared their views and expectations.

Prominent among others who attended the webinar included Prof. Samridhi Arora, HoD, Deptt of Home Science, JU, Sh. Umesh Sharma, President Disabled Care Foundation, Ms. Sandhya Dhar, President, JIGER NGO, Sh. M.K. Badyal, Blind Home, Roopnagar, Ms. Megavika Changotra, special educator, Ms. Ritika, Beloveds Grace NGO.



*Some glimpses of the Webinar*