



# IUST NEWSLETTER

## IUST HOLDS WORKSHOP ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION



Photo: Owais Yousuf Rah/IUST

The Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) organised a two-day capacity-building workshop on 'Disaster Risk Reduction in Urban Planning, Development and Monitoring: Building a Disaster-Resilient Jammu and Kashmir' on December 23-24. The workshop was jointly organised by IUST's Department of Planning and Geomatics, Centre for Disaster Risk Reduction (CDRR), and Department of Architecture in collaboration with the Department of Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction

(DMRRR), Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

Speaking at the inaugural session, Prof. Ayaz Hassan Moon, Dean Academic Affairs, IUST, stressed the necessity of institutional partnerships for "effective disaster risk reduction". He highlighted the university's continued involvement and commitment towards supporting initiatives aimed at creating a disaster-resilient Jammu and Kashmir.

The workshop featured a series of technical presentations and interactive sessions by experts including Raj Bhagat Palanichamy, Senior Programme

Manager, Geo Analytics for Sustainable Cities and Transport, WRI India, Amir Ali Khan from the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), Gulzar Ahmad Dar, Joint Commissioner (Planning), Srinagar Municipal Corporation, and Sabzar Bashir, Senior Programme Associate, WRI India. The sessions focused on disaster-development linkages, risk-sensitive urban planning, infrastructure resilience and the integration of climate resilience into urban planning frameworks.

## IUST HOSTS INT'L SEMINAR ON ARABIC LANGUAGE

To mark World Arabic Language Day, the Department of Arabic Language and Literature, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), organised a one-day international seminar on December 18. The seminar was held in accordance with the UNESCO theme 'Innovative Pathways for Arabic Policies and Practices for a More Inclusive Linguistic Future.'

In his keynote address, Prof. Abdul Haq Bilabid of University of Qatar, stressed the need to align Arabic language education with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Focusing on SDG 4 (Quality Education),



Photo: Owais Yousuf Rah/IUST

he highlighted the role of Arabic language in promoting inclusive, multilingual and value-oriented education, drawing on its extensive literary, scientific and philosophical traditions. Addressing the audience, Prof. A. H. Moon, Dean Academic Affairs, IUST, who graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, underscored the importance of integrating technology, digital resources and innovative teaching methodologies "to promote and preserve Arabic in the contemporary era."

Head, Department of Arabic, Abdul Wahid Sheikh, outlined the objectives of observing World Arabic Language Day and highlighted the global importance of Arabic as a language of knowledge, culture, and civilisation. Coordinated by Dr. Infani Rahim and Dr. Inayat Rasool, Associate Professors, the event saw enthusiastic participation from faculty members, university officials, scholars, students and staff.

Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, IUST, Dr. Afroz Ahmad Bisati, talked about the rich heritage of the Arabic language and offered constructive suggestions for its preservation and wider outreach within modern academic contexts.

## DJMC ORGANISES SESSION WITH ECONOMIC TIMES EDITOR

The Department of Journalism and Mass Communication (DJMC), Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), hosted an interactive session with Hakeem Irfan Rashid, Senior Assistant Editor, Political Bureau, The Economic Times, and recipient of the prestigious Ramnath Goenka Award for Excellence in Journalism, on December 15.

Welcoming the resource-person, Head, DJMC, Dr. Rabia Noor, underscored the growing relevance of ethical, responsible and critically informed journalism in a rapidly

changing media environment.

During the session, themed 'Journalism in Times of an Evolving Media Landscape,' Irfan deliberated on the rapid transformation of the media ecosystem, impact of digital

technologies and algorithms on newsrooms, and the growing importance of credibility in an era marked by information overload.

Emphasising that journalism is fundamentally an ethical profession, he urged students to become critical thinkers and media-literate individuals before entering

the field. Irfan, who is also a World Press Institute Fellow at the United States, advised aspiring journalists to identify their choices and privileges, remain disciplined, continuously train, upgrade skills and adapt to emerging platforms, "as journalism is constantly evolving."

The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Haifa Mohammad, Assistant Professor, DJMC, who expressed gratitude to the resource person for sharing his valuable experiences. Dr. Mujeeb Liyakat, Assistant Professor, DJMC, was also present on the occasion.



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/IUST



# VICE CHANCELLOR INSPECTS ONGOING WORKS

Vice-Chancellor, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, undertook a detailed inspection of the university campus and reviewed the functioning of various offices on December 19, 2025.

Prof. Romshoo was accompanied by Prof. Abdul Wahid Makhdoomi, Registrar, IUST, Sameer Wazir, Finance Officer, Shahijahan Mohammad, University Engineer, Dr. S. Iqbal Qureshi, Estates Officer and other officials.

During the visit, the Vice Chancellor was apprised of the status of several ongoing



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/ IUST

developmental works, including the campus entrance, compound wall, Science Block and installation of furniture.

Prof. Romshoo directed the University Engineering Wing to ensure strict adherence to stipulated timelines, while also laying emphasis on sustainability and quality in development works.

He further examined the proposed design of the main entrance of the University and highlighted the need to prioritise sustainable practices and the incorporation of traditional elements in both planning and construction. The Vice Chancellor also interacted with employees from different wings of the university during the visit.

## IUST HOLDS YOUTH ON-AIR PROGRAM



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/ IUST

To create awareness among young people on relevant issues, the IUST Community Radio Station in association with the Centre for Health and Wellness has been airing a series of radio programmes from December 23.

The radio series features talk shows involving students, faculty members and subject experts, who share personal experiences, coping mechanisms and practical insights to ensure wider reach and resonance among the youth.

In one of the sessions focusing on women's safety, Prof. Yasmeen Syed Ashai, Coordinator, Centre for Health and Wellness, talked about the issues related to women's security, awareness of legal rights and the importance of timely reporting. Urooj Manzoor, University Counsellor and curator of the programme, also addressed themes of emotional resilience, highlighting the need to prioritise self-care and mental well-being.

## IUST'S MANTAQI COLLEGE OBSERVES WORLD AIDS DAY

Syed Mantaqi Memorial College of Nursing and Medical Technology, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), observed World AIDS Day on December 26 in line with the global theme 'Overcoming Disruptions, Transforming the AIDS Response.'

The programme focused on raising awareness, promoting prevention strategies and fostering informed dialogue on

## IUST CONDUCTS OUTREACH PROGRAM IN ANANTNAG'S TRIBAL VILLAGE

The Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) organised a Diabetes Screening and Awareness Camp at Dudoo, Marhama—a tribal village in Anantnag district—under its SSR Outreach Initiative, supported by the DST-PURSE programme, on December 24.

The camp aimed to create awareness about diabetes and other non-communicable diseases (NCDs), with a special focus on the Gujjar Bakerwal community. Participants were sensitized about risk factors, complications, prevention and management of diabetes, as well as the alarming global rise in the disease, particularly in low-and-middle-income countries. The programme also emphasised the importance of early detection through community-level screening.

## CDRR COORDINATOR CONFERRED WITH K. R. GUPTA GOLD MEDAL

Coordinator, Centre for Disaster Risk Reduction (CDRR), Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), Dr. Irfan Maqbool Bhat, has been conferred with the prestigious 'K. R. Gupta Gold Medal' by Geological Society of India (GSI). The award was presented to him on December 15 in recognition of his significant contributions to the field of Earth Sciences for the year 2025.

Dr. Bhat received the honour during the Annual Convention of the Geological Society of India, held at the Department of Geology, Centre of Advanced Study, Kumaun University, Uttarakhand. The convention witnessed participation from distinguished geoscientists, academicians and researchers from various parts of the country. The university extended congratulations to Dr. Bhat on receiving this national-level recognition.

HIV/AIDS among students and faculty.

A range of academic and awareness-based activities were organised to observe the day, including poster presentations, group discussions, debates on modes of transmission, prevention, myths and facts related to HIV/AIDS, and the importance of empathy and social support for people suffering from HIV.

The activities also focussed on contemporary challenges in HIV/AIDS control, stigma reduction and the crucial role of healthcare professionals in strengthening the AIDS response.

## IUST HOSTS AWARENESS PROGRAM ON DIGITAL SCAMS



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/ IUST

The Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) organised an awareness programme on 'Growing Risks of Financial Frauds and Digital Scams' at the Rumi Library Conference Hall on December 30. The programme aimed to sensitise students and staff to increasing incidents of online financial frauds and to promote safe digital banking practices in the campus community.

Welcoming the participants, Finance Officer, IUST, Sameer Wazir, emphasised that financial literacy and cyber-hygiene have become essential life skills for students, who are extensively using UPI, internet banking and online marketplaces for their daily transactions.

Dean Academic Affairs, IUST, Prof. Ayaz Hassan Moon, who was the Chief Guest on the occasion, underlined the need to remain vigilant against unsolicited links and fraudulent calls seeking personal banking information.

Prof. Abdul Wahid Makhdoomi, Registrar and Guest of Honour, appreciated the initiative of the Directorate of Students' Welfare and the Finance Office for choosing a highly relevant theme in the present digital era.

Team of experts from ICICI Bank, including Waseem Hassan, Regional Head (Sales), Zuhaiib Vaid, Regional Head (Govt. Banking) and Asif Hussain Bhat, Regional Head (Retail), Javid Pandit, Regional Head (Sales) delivered talks and a presentation on common fraud patterns such as phishing, KYC-update scams, fake customer-care calls and unauthorised electronic transactions, and shared practical tips to safeguard bank accounts and personal data. The presentation was followed by an interactive question-and-answer session. Dean of Students, IUST, Dr. Asifa Mehraj Baba, presented a formal the vote of thanks.



# DJMC CONDUCTS INDUSTRIAL TOUR TO DIPR



Photo: Shabir Ali/IUST

As part of its Industry Connect initiative, the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication (DJMC), Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), organised an industrial tour to the Directorate of Information and Public Relations (DIPR), Srinagar on December 22. The visit aimed at providing postgraduate students a practical exposure to communication and media management.

The industrial tour was coordinated by Dr. Rabia Noor, Head, DJMC, while students were accompanied by Dr. Haifa Mohammad, Assistant Professor, DJMC. The tour involved two batches of PG students from Semester I and Semester III.

Addressing the students, Burhan Hussain (JKAS), Assistant Director and Cultural Officer, DIPR, encouraged them to actively explore emerging career avenues, stating that students should move forward and look for opportunities. "With the evolving media landscape, there are multiple avenues available today, including public relations, corporate communication, graphic designing and so on," he said.

Maheer Thakur (JKAS), Information Officer, briefed

the students on the administrative setup of DIPR and the role of public relations in governance. He highlighted the designing and publicity work undertaken by the department, citing examples from major government activities. He also elaborated on the functioning of the Social Media Cell, which disseminates information related to government policies, programmes, achievements and daily activities through platforms such as Facebook, X, YouTube and Instagram.

Joint Director Information, DIPR Kashmir, Syed Shahnawaz Bukhari, was also present during the interaction. As part of the visit, the students toured the Verification Section, Audio-Visual Unit, recording studio, and the editing room, gaining firsthand insight into content production and verification processes.

Later, Amir Ganai, Designer at DIPR, provided an overview of graphic designing, its types and career opportunities, demonstrating applications, such as CorelDRAW. The visit further included interactions at the advertising section, establishment section, and the divisional newsroom.

## IUST OFFERS WINTER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM 2026

The Kalam Academy of Skill Development and Training (KAST), Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), in collaboration with various departments of the University, has announced a paid Winter Internship Programme, 2026, scheduled to begin in the first week of January.

The one-month internship aims to provide students with hands-on, skill-oriented training in emerging and industry-relevant fields. The programme offers specialized training in Python for Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Blockchain Cryptography and Ethereum Development, Video Production and Content Creation, Business Development, Financing, Proposal Writing and Accounting Software (Tally), Optical Fiber Communication and Networking, and Cross-Platform Mobile Application Development using Flutter and Dart.

Designed to bridge the gap between academics and practical exposure, the internship will be conducted by expert faculty.

## IUST'S HOLDS OUTREACH PROGRAM TO MEERAS MAHAL

Under the University's Academic Outreach Programme and under the aegis of the Dean of Outreach, the Habba Khatoon Centre for Kashmiri Language and Literature (HCK L&L) organised an outreach visit to Meeras Mahal, Sopore, on December 24. Students from the Social Sciences and Humanities participated in the event, which aimed to familiarize them with the rich cultural heritage of Kashmir.

During the visit, Dr. Muzzafar, Assistant Professor, HCK L&L, provided detailed insights into the cultural traditions and legacy of the region. Participants expressed keen interest, noting that the programme significantly enhanced their understanding of Kashmiri traditions and material culture. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Afshana, Coordinator, HCK L&L.

## PHYSICS DEPTT ORGANISES EXTENSION TOUR FOR STUDENTS

Under its Industry Connect initiative, the Department of Physics, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), organised an educational tour for its M.Sc and FYUGP students to the Pahalgam Hydel Power Project on December 24. Operated by the Jammu and Kashmir Power Development Corporation (JKPDC), the project harnesses the waters of the Lidder River and consists of three generating units, each with a capacity of 1.5 MW, totalling 4.5 MW.

The primary objective of the visit was to bridge the gap between theoretical classroom concepts and real-world industrial applications. The tour aimed to familiarize students with the fundamental principles of hydroelectric power generation, specifically the conversion of hydraulic energy into electrical energy. The tour aimed to provide students with practical exposure to the generation of hydroelectric power and to bridge the gap between theoretical concepts and real-world applications.

During the visit, JKPDC officials provided a comprehensive technical briefing. Students inspected the plant's key components, including the water intake and penstock systems, turbine operations, generators and central control room. This practical exposure allowed students to observe the critical engineering and safety measures required for maintaining power supply to the local region.



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/IUST



# CIR HOSTS SPECIAL SESSION ON COMMUNICATION

The Centre for International Relations (CIR), Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), organised a special lecture on 'Communication as a Transformative Process' on December 18. The lecture was delivered by Prof. Kaushik, Professor and former Director, Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution, Jamia Millia Islamia. The programme was attended by faculty members, research scholars and students of IUST.

In her lecture, Prof. Kaushik described communication as not just the exchange of information, but as a transformative force that shapes perceptions, influences relationships, and constructs social realities.

Drawing from her academic work in peace and conflict studies, she highlighted the ethical dimensions of communication practices, particularly in conflict resolution and peacebuilding contexts. She noted that communication can either reinforce existing

power imbalances or facilitate dialogue, reconciliation, and the

pursuit of sustainable peace.

In his introductory remarks, Dr. Syed Jaleel Hussain, Head, CIR, presented an overview of the academic and research initiatives undertaken by the Centre. He emphasised the analytical and normative importance of communication in present-day social and political settings, underlining its role in shaping discourse, mediating power relations, and addressing complex issues related to conflict and peacebuilding.

The lecture was followed by an interactive question-and-answer session, during which participants discussed themes related to communication, ethics, power, media, and their relevance to peacebuilding efforts. The session was moderated by Dr. Shahnawaz Mantoo, and the programme concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Javid Ahmad Ahanger.



Photo: Wani Suhaib/IUST

# IUST CELEBRATES NATIONAL MATHEMATICS DAY

To commemorate the birth anniversary of eminent Mathematician, Srinivasa Ramanujan, the Department of Mathematical Sciences, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), celebrated National Mathematics Day on December 24. The celebration aimed at emphasising the importance of Mathematics in contemporary science, technology, and innovation.

The programme brought together faculty, research scholars and students in an academically enriching setting, highlighting the role of Mathematics in scientific research, technological advancement



Photo: Fayouz Bashir/IUST

and interdisciplinary applications. It featured expert talks reflecting on Ramanujan's contributions, and the ongoing relevance of Mathematics in modern research and problem-solving.

Head Department of Mathematical Sciences, Dr. Peer Bilal Ahmad, emphasised the pivotal role of Mathematics in research, innovation and problem-solving. The event also featured presentations by research scholars and students, fostering academic exchange, critical thinking and scholarly engagement.

# IUST STUDENTS WIN SMART INDIA HACKATHON-2025

The Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) has added another feather to its cap as its student team, namely 'Team Passengers' emerged as national winners at the Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2025.

The student team from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE), secured a national-level victory at the Grand Finale of the SIH 2025 on December 14.

The team, headed by Mohammad Azeem Wani and comprising Amaan Ehsan, Faisal Hussain, Sabha Mushtaq, Tafheem Ul Haq, and Uzair Riyaz, all third-year students, participated under the guidance of Dr. Insha Altaf, Assistant Professor, CSE.

The 8th edition of SIH, conducted by the Innovation Cell of the Ministry of Education in collaboration with AICTE, recorded extensive participation nationwide, with 72,165 ideas submitted by 68,766 teams. Out of these, 1,360 teams, involving more than 8,000 students and over 1,300 mentors, advanced to the national finals organized across 60 nodal centres in India.

Representing IUST, the team competed at Graphic Era

Deemed to be University, Dehradun, where 20 teams engaged with four problem statements during a demanding 36-hour hackathon. After multiple evaluation stages and jury

Ministry of AYUSH titled 'API to Bridge AYUSH NAMASTE and ICD-11 for EMR Compliance.' Their solution effectively addressed interoperability challenges between traditional AYUSH healthcare systems and contemporary Electronic Medical Record (EMR) standards, facilitating the alignment of Ayurveda, Unani, and Siddha systems with global healthcare frameworks.

While congratulating the achievers, Vice-Chancellor, IUST, Prof. Shakil A. Romshoo, stated that the accomplishment highlights IUST's focus on innovation, hands-on learning and problem-solving. He added that such achievements at the national level underscore the dedication of both students and faculty, as well as the University's continued efforts to foster excellence and competitiveness.

For their commendable performance, the team received a cash prize of ₹1.5 lakh, which was shared with Code Vaidyas (VIT Chennai), another team that worked on the same problem statement. The recognition also provides internship opportunities for the winning teams.



assessments, Team Passengers was announced as one of the five winning teams at the centre.

The team worked on a problem statement floated by the

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