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IUST HOLDS 12TH IQAC MEETING TO REVIEW ACADEMIC QUALITY



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/ IUST

The Islamic University of Science and Technology held its 12th meeting of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) on February 2. The quarterly meeting highlights the leadership's commitment to periodic quality review of various issues in the University. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, Vice Chancellor, IUST. Welcoming the members, he emphasized the critical role of IQAC in strengthening academic quality, governance, transparency, sustainability and student-centric services in the University. Director, DIQA, Dr. Peer Bilal, apprised the Committee of key institutional achievements during 2025 that included IUST's first time entry in three categories of NIRF-2025 and the 6th National Water Award bagged by IUST in the Best Institution category for its initiatives in the water conservation. The Director also presented major academic and institutional milestones, including the introduction of new undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in emerging and interdisciplinary areas, a nearly 70 percent increase in student admissions over the past two years, and placements reaching 75 percent. To mention, significant progress in research and innovation

has been achieved this academic year with faculty publishing 376 Scopus-indexed research papers, attracting 9,975 citations, and the University's Scopus h-index rising to 75. During 2025, 35 patents were published and granted, and IUST retained its 4-Star rating under the Ministry of Education's Institutions Innovation Council framework. The IQAC reviewed the Action Taken Report of the 11th IQAC meeting and deliberated on agenda items including a Gender Audit, strengthening of the Plagiarism Policy with AI-related provisions, adoption of a University-wide Waste Management Policy, review of the Student Satisfaction Survey, and implementation of a uniform examination pattern. The Chair emphasised the need for sustained collective efforts, regulatory compliance and evidence-based planning to further strengthen IUST's quality assurance framework and national standing. The meeting was attended by the Dean Academic Affairs, Registrar, Controller of Examinations, Dean Outreach, Deans of Schools, faculty members, University officers, external members, and a student representative. The vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Athar Ud Din, Deputy Director, DIQA.

IUST'S CENTRE FOR AYUSH SCIENCE: WHERE ANCIENT WISDOM MEETS MODERN SCIENCE

NAZAKAT ASLAM

On a quiet stretch of the Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) campus, a unique healthcare initiative is steadily transforming how traditional medicine is understood, researched and delivered in Kashmir. The Centre for AYUSH Science, established on June 5, 2023, is not only reviving age-old systems of healing, but also grounding them firmly in scientific research and



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/ IUST

community service. The Centre works on the principle that traditional medical systems—Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy—can coexist and complement modern medicine. Beyond laboratories and research papers, it has also opened its doors to the public through a fully functional health and wellness Centre, offering free and affordable care to thousands.

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IUST STUDENTS EXCEL IN JUNIOR ENGINEER RECRUITMENTS

More than 50 students of Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) have figured in the recently issued selection lists for the posts of Junior Engineer in various departments. Over 30 students have been selected for the post of Junior Engineer (Civil) in the Public Works (R&B) Department and the Jal Shakti Department, while 20 students have been selected for the post of Junior Engineer (Electrical). The University congratulated the selected students on their outstanding achievement and appreciated the dedicated efforts of the faculty members for their continuous guidance and support.

IUST SIGNS MOU WITH GPC BUDGAM



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/ IUST

To promote structured academic cooperation, the Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Government Polytechnic College Budgam (GPCB) on February 18. The MoU was signed by Prof. Ayaz Hassan Moon, Dean Academic Affairs, IUST, and Er. Javaid Iqbal, Principal, GPCB. The agreement was coordinated by the Centre for Career Counselling and Placements (CCCP), IUST. The MoU aims to establish a collaborative framework for academic exchange, skill-based development and mutual institutional support. The partnership will promote the exchange of knowledge, expertise and the best practices between the two institutions. It will also facilitate training programmes, skill development initiatives and internship opportunities for students.

Under the agreement, both institutions shall organise joint workshops, seminars and capacity-building programmes in areas of mutual interest. The MoU further provides for shared access to laboratories, technical facilities and academic resources to strengthen research and practical learning. Collaborative projects aimed at enhancing innovation, industry readiness and employability of students will also be encouraged, thereby strengthening institutional linkages and academic quality.

The signing ceremony was attended by senior officials from both institutions, including the Dr. Kaiser Giri Dean, School of Technology, IUST; Dr. Peer Bilal Ahmed, Director, DIQA, IUST; Dr. Ruheela Hassan, Dean Outreach, IUST; Dr. Zahoor Ahmed Head, CCCP, IUST; Er. Arshid Ahmad Dar, Academic Affairs, GPCB; and Er. Sobiya Sidiq, Training and Placement Officer, GPCB.

IUST HOSTS 2-DAY CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM TO STRENGTHEN ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCY

The Centre for Good Governance and Policy Analysis (CGG&PA), Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), in coordination with the Office of the Registrar, organised a two-day Capacity Building programme aimed at enhancing administrative efficiency and institutional governance. The event was held at the Conference Room of Rumi Library on February 4-5. The inaugural session was chaired by Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, Vice Chancellor, IUST, who stressed the importance of administrative competence in modern institutions. "For maintaining accountability, transparency and sustainable institutional growth, a sound understanding of rules, regulations and effective use of technology has become the need of the hour," he remarked.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof Abdul Wahid Makhdoomi, Registrar, IUST, stated that continuous capacity building



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/IUST

plays a vital role in achieving improved service delivery and better administrative outcomes.

Earlier, welcoming the guests and participants, Dr. G. N. Itoo, Director CGG&PA, underscored the broader vision

of the initiative. "This programme is part of a sustained effort to strengthen administrative capacity at IUST. CGG&PA will continue to organise thematic capacity-building sessions to support efficient, rule-based and technology-driven governance," he said.

The event attended by Deans, Heads of various departments and University officers, focussed on administrative rules, financial procedures and digital governance tools. The first day of the event featured expert sessions on managerial skills, secretariat procedures, and e-Office implementation, while the second day will focus on financial rules, treasury procedures and Government e Marketplace

(GeM). The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Peer Bilal, Director DIQA.

IUST IFACTORY CONDUCTS 5-DAY TRAINING PROGRAM IN SMART MANUFACTURING

The iFactory Lab, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), conducted a five-day intensive training programme for students and faculty members from Kashmir Government Polytechnic College.

The programme combined expert lectures with hands-on practical sessions, covering key areas such as smart factories

and digital transformation, sales and production planning, shop-floor operations, quality management and real-time simulations. Participants received practical exposure to intelligent assembly lines, collaborative robots (cobots), and Automated Guided Vehicles (AGVs), equipping them with skills aligned to modern Industry 4.0 practices.

The training was coordinated by Dr. Mohamad Junaid Mir, Coordinator, iFactory, IUST, who highlighted the importance of such initiatives in strengthening technical education and preparing the local workforce for emerging manufacturing technologies.

from Page 1..... (Ayush)

A Vision Rooted in Integration

According to Dr. Arshad Ganai, Coordinator of the Centre for AYUSH Science, the idea behind the Centre was clear from the beginning. "The AYUSH Centre set up at IUST was a very important project of our Honourable Vice Chancellor, Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo. Its basic purpose was to integrate modern medicine with ancient medicine," he shares.

The Centre functions through two main wings: patient care and research. While the research wing focuses on clinical trials and academic programmes, the patient-care wing caters to people from surrounding areas and beyond.

"Till now, we have treated over 50,000 patients. Most of them complain of joint pain and hypertension, and people are benefiting a lot from the treatments provided here," Dr. Ganai notes.

Equipped with state-of-the-art regimental therapies such as shirodhara, hijama (cupping), massage therapies and Turkish bath (hammam), the Centre has also established diagnostic laboratories, where tests are conducted at nearly 70 percent lower rates than the market.

"We also conduct awareness, screening and medical camps in the community," says Dr. Ganai, adding that within just two years, they have also introduced a PhD programme in AYUSH.

Healthcare Beyond Campus Boundaries

For Dr. Tabassum Fatima, a Research Associate at the Centre, the impact of the AYUSH Centre is best seen in its growing reach among local communities.

"The dispensary is for University employees as well as the local public. We provide treatment, conduct therapies, and also offer Unani treatment to patients," she explains.

The Centre is equipped to conduct biochemical investigations, ECGs and other routine tests. Over time, its services have reached far beyond the campus.

"We have conducted camps in several areas including Tral and Anantnag. Earlier, people outside did not know about this Centre, but after awareness camps and advertisements, people from Awantipora and nearby wards now come over here, especially for therapies," says Dr. Tabassum.

She adds that a significant number of patients now travel from outside areas, reflecting growing trust in the Centre's work.

Backbone of Safe Treatment

Behind every prescription and therapy is a system ensuring patient safety and a responsibility carried by the Centre's pharmacy unit. The pharmacy is deeply involved in regimental therapies, where traditional ingredients are

carefully prepared and administered.

"Our main therapies include natool, hijama, and Turkish bath. In these therapies, we use crude drugs like nakhoona, babuna, gul-e-tesu, and others," says Asif Manzoor, a pharmacist.

Several oils and foreexplained such as babuna oil, badam shireen oil, roghan-e-surkh, and roghan-e-surjan are either prepared or customised at the Centre itself.

Healing Future by Remembering Past

With a special focus on tribal medicine, non-communicable diseases and lifestyle disorders, the Centre for AYUSH Science is emerging as a bridge between inherited knowledge and contemporary healthcare needs in Kashmir. As medicine continues to evolve rapidly, the Centre stands as a reminder that the future of healthcare lies in understanding and refining its roots.



Photo:IUST



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/IUST

IUST CELEBRATES WORLD RADIO DAY, HOSTS SYED HUMAYUN QAISAR

NAZAKAT ASLAM

The Department of Journalism and Mass Communication (DJMC), Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), commemorated World Radio Day on February 13 by hosting an interactive session with veteran broadcaster, Syed Humayun Qaisar, former Director, Radio Kashmir Srinagar, a prominent station of All India Radio. The theme of the programme was ‘Radio and Artificial Intelligence: AI is a tool, not a voice.’

With a distinguished career spanning over three decades and more than 10,000 programmes to his credit, Mr. Qaisar shared his professional journey and reflected on the transformative power of radio as a medium of information, education and social connection. Drawing from his experiences, he emphasized that while private radio often leans heavily toward music-driven formats, content creation and socially relevant programming remain the backbone of meaningful broadcasting. “Today, as we discuss ‘Radio and Artificial Intelligence,’ we must remember that technology can assist us, but the human voice and human sensitivity remain irreplaceable,” he said.

Earlier, while welcoming the guest, Head, DJMC, Dr. Rabia Noor, said, it was an honour to host a broadcaster, “whose voice, I am sure, we all have grown up listening to.” “His journey mirrors the growth of radio in

highlighted iconic programmes, like Yuva Vani, which provided a vital platform for youth expression and engagement.

He underlined that aptitude and creativity are extremely important to pursue a career



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/IUST

Kashmir and his experiences continue to inspire young media professionals,” she said. Mr. Qaisar spoke extensively about the evolution of broadcasting in Kashmir, recalling milestones such as the launch of the first phone-in programme in 1996, which marked a new era of audience interaction and participatory communication. He also

in radio. “This medium demands passion, presence of mind and the ability to connect authentically with listeners. Whatever you have, use it to the best of your ability,” he advised students.

He further added that radio has evolved with time, and evolution is essential for survival. From covering historic moments like the

Green Revolution to reporting during the 2014 floods in Kashmir, radio has been a constant companion in every major event, he remarked.

The session witnessed active participation from PhD scholars and students of the Master’s programme in Journalism and Mass Communication, who engaged in a lively interaction with the speaker. Students raised questions on ethical broadcasting, role of private versus public broadcasters, and the integration of AI and new media technologies within traditional broadcasting frameworks.

The programme concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Haifaa Mohammad, Assistant Professor, DJMC, who expressed gratitude to Mr. Qaisar for his enlightening session and to the faculty, staff and students for their enthusiastic participation. Faculty members, including Dr. Monisa Qadiri, Dr. Mujeeb Liyakat and Dr. Sayar Ahmad Mir, were also present on the occasion, underscoring the academic and professional significance of the event.

The event reaffirmed DJMC’s commitment to bridging academia and industry while celebrating the enduring legacy, adaptability and societal impact of radio.

IUST OBSERVES INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY

The Habba Khatoon Centre for Kashmiri Language and Literature, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), celebrated International Mother Language Day in collaboration with Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages and Young Dramatists Society of Kashmir on February 25.

The programme was presided over by Prof. Shakil A. Romshoo, Vice Chancellor, IUST. Padma Shri awardee (2026), Prof. Shafi Shauq, was the Chief Guest, while renowned Kashmiri scholar, Prof. Majrooh Rashid, was Guest of Honour for the programme. The event was attended by Dean Academic Affairs, Prof. Ayaz Hassan Moon, deans, heads of departments, and representatives of the collaborating institutions.

In his address, Prof. Shauq highlighted the rich literary and social contributions of the Kashmiri language, describing it as



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/IUST

a living language that must adapt to technological platforms to remain relevant in the digital age.

Prof. Romshoo emphasized the importance of mother tongues in fostering learning, creativity, and cultural continuity.

He appreciated the Centre’s efforts and proposed introducing technology-oriented and language-based courses to enhance both linguistic engagement and employability. He also suggested forming a consortium of relevant institutions across Kashmir to promote the Kashmiri language.

Coordinator of the Centre, Dr. Afshana, underlined the significance of the day. Prof. Ayaz Moon stressed the responsibility of the younger generation in promoting Kashmiri language, while Prof. Rashid reaffirmed that the language continues to thrive, with nearly 100 books published annually.

Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, IUST, Prof. Afroz Ahmad Bisati, noted the language’s rich heritage from Lal Ded to Sheikh-ul-Alam. As part of the programme, literary discussions, cultural presentations and academic deliberations were also held.

CGG&PA ORGANISES MEETING WITH NCGG

The Centre for Good Governance and Policy Analysis (CGG&PA), Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), organised a meeting with the National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) on February 17 to deliberate on key issues pertaining to governance reforms, policy innovation and capacity building.

The meeting brought together academicians, policy experts and administrators to discuss contemporary challenges in public administration and the evolving landscape of governance in India. The deliberations focused on strengthening



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/IUST

institutional frameworks, promoting transparency and accountability, and enhancing citizen-centric service delivery mechanisms. The interactive session provided a platform for participants to exchange ideas on public policy research, governance indicators and strategies for improving public service outcomes.

The programme also emphasized the role of academic institutions in contributing to policy analysis and supporting government initiatives through rigorous research and stakeholder engagement.

IUST CONDUCTS NCD SCREENING, HEALTH CAMP UNDER DST-PURSE

The Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) organised a population-based Health Awareness cum NCD Screening Camp at Doodmarg, Tral, a remote tribal village in Pulwama district, under its SSR Outreach Initiative supported by the DST-PURSE Programme, on February 25.

The camp was organised under the banner of a ‘Comprehensive Epidemiological Survey of Chronic Diseases’ under Prof. Ayub Qadri. The initiative aimed to raise awareness among the general population, particularly the Gujjar and Bakerwal communities, about the risk factors, complications, prevention, and management of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), such as diabetes, cancers, neurodegenerative disorders, hypertension, chronic respiratory diseases (COPD), dyslipidemia and anemia.

Participants were sensitized to the rising incidence of these conditions at both national and global levels, with special emphasis on the increasing burden among tribal populations in Jammu and Kashmir due to changing dietary patterns and lifestyles. The outreach team conducted door-to-door screenings, provided free diagnostic tests and recorded key anthropometric indices.

DJMC HOLDS 2ND BOARD OF STUDIES MEETING ON FYUGP

To review and strengthen its academic framework in line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication (DJMC), Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), conducted its second Board of Studies (BoS) meeting on the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUGP) on February 10.

The meeting was chaired by Dr. Afroz Ahmad Bisati, Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, IUST, and convened by Dr. Rabia Noor, Head, DJMC, who extended a warm welcome to the Board members.

During the meeting, members deliberated on curriculum and credit framework, multiple entry and exit options, skill enhancement components, internship integration and interdisciplinary course offerings under FYUGP. Emphasis was laid

on outcome-based education, employability, and alignment with industry and societal needs.

The Board also discussed the inclusion of contemporary

and locally relevant content, experiential learning, research orientation at the undergraduate level, and assessment reforms to ensure academic rigor and flexibility for students.

To mention, the Board comprised of internal as well as

Head, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Government College for Women, Cluster University Srinagar, and Dr. Imran Muzaffar Parray, Head, Department of Media Studies, Government Boys Degree College Anantnag.

The internal members included Dr. Munejah Khan, Head, Department of English Language and Literature, IUST, and Dr. Muzaffar Ali Malla, Head, Department of Philosophy, IUST, besides faculty members of DJMC including Dr. Monisa Qadiri, Senior Assistant Professor, and Dr. Mujeeb Liyakat, Assistant Professor. The meeting was also attended by other faculty members of the department, including Dr. Sayar Ahmad Mir, Dr. Arif Hussain Nadaf and Dr. Haifaa Mohammad.

The BoS appreciated the efforts of the faculty in revising the syllabi and recommended further refinement of course outcomes to meet national standards and global benchmarks. The meeting concluded with a commitment to implement the approved recommendations to enhance the quality, relevance, and learner-centric approach

of undergraduate education at IUST under the FYUGP framework. Pertinently, the first BoS meeting on FYUGP was held by the department on March 5, 2025.



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/ IUST

external members. The external experts included Prof. Aaliya Ahmad, Professor and former Head, Media Education Research Centre, University of Kashmir, Dr. Suhail Ahmad,

ZOOLOGY DEPTT HOLDS MAIDEN BOS MEETING

The Department of Zoology, IUST, convened its first Board of Studies meeting on February 16 with the objective of reviewing and strengthening the academic curriculum in line with emerging educational reforms and national priorities.

The meeting was chaired by Dean, School of Sciences, Dr. Farooq Hussain Bhat. Head, Department of Zoology, Prof. Mohammad Farooq Mir, presented the agenda and deliberated upon key academic matters. Subject experts from various institutions also participated in the meeting.

The Board extensively discussed the introduction of the Four-Year



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/ IUST

Undergraduate Programme (FYUGP) in Zoology in alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP). The proposed syllabus, course structure, credit framework and semester-wise distribution were examined, with emphasis on conceptual clarity, skill development, research exposure, field-based learning and interdisciplinary integration. The introduction of open elective courses aimed at promoting interdisciplinary learning and addressing contemporary themes such as biodiversity conservation, environmental sustainability and applied Zoology was also deliberated upon.

IUST CONDUCTS INDUCTION PROGRAM FOR RESEARCH SCHOLARS

The Office of the Dean Research, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), organised an Induction Programme for newly admitted research scholars at the university campus on February 12. The programme aimed to familiarize scholars with the research ecosystem, academic regulations, and ethical standards of the University.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. Abid Hussain Shala, Dean Research, IUST, welcomed the scholars and



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/ IUST

emphasized the importance of originality, academic integrity and societal relevance in research. The session provided a comprehensive overview of the University's Ph.D. ordinances, coursework requirements, research progress evaluation mechanisms and publication guidelines.

The Induction Programme reflects IUST's continued commitment to strengthening its research culture and promoting high-quality, impactful research aligned with national and global priorities.

PROPRIETOR: IUST | **PATRON:** Prof. Shakil A. Romshoo | **EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:** Dr. Rabia Noor | **LAYOUT DESIGNER:** Dr. Sayar Ah. Mir

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