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IUST NEWSLETTER - 2026

VOLUME 2

ISSUE 5

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION

MAY 1-31, 2026

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IUST MARKS PRESS FREEDOM WEEK WITH STREET THEATRE

MEDIA STUDENTS RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT SENSATIONALISM, MISINFORMATION



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/IUST

To mark the World Press Freedom Week, the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication (DJMC), Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), organised a street theatre on May 6.

The street play—*News or Noise?*—was performed by IUST’s media students and directed by Dr. Haifaa Mohammad, Assistant Professor, DJMC.

Welcoming the guests, Dr. Rabia Noor, Head, DJMC, said that the event aimed at generating awareness among people about the difference between professional journalism and sensational content. “The street play is likely to leave the audience with a simple takeaway that everything that appears on their mobile screens is not news,” she said, adding that news is something which is based on proper verification, journalistic ethics and facts.

Through compelling storytelling, the students highlighted the growing challenges posed by misinformation, sensationalism and the rapid spread of unverified content on digital platforms.

The play drew an engaged audience comprising of Controller of Examinations, Finance Officer, Dean Outreach, Dean of Students, Deans of Schools, Heads of Departments, faculty members, officials, research scholars and students, who responded with appreciation to the thought-provoking performance.

Addressing the gathering, Dean, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Dr. Afroz Bisati, said, in the current digital age, street theatre plays a vital role in raising awareness among young people, as its messages reach audiences directly and leave a lasting impact.

Dean Outreach, Dr. Ruheela Hassan, said, nowadays,

anyone with a mobile phone, claims to be a journalist, which is a huge concern. “This street play has highlighted why training is essential for media professionals,” she said.

Dean of Students, Dr. Monisa Qadiri, said, there are many misconceptions about journalism at present, and it is the time that “we take the charge of the narrative and lead it towards a positive change.” Controller of Examination, Prof. Rumaan Bashir said such events are especially important in today’s social media landscape to help people distinguish between news and noise.

Prof. Mahmood Ahmad Khan, Head, Department of Education, said, the street theatre forms an integral part of experiential learning under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, providing students with a valuable opportunity to apply classroom knowledge in a real-world setting. Finance Officer, Samer Wazir, said, at a time when misinformation spreads rapidly, such creative efforts help audiences understand the value of credible news and encourage more responsible media consumption.

Speaking on the occasion, Shabir Ahmad Bhat, Senior Multimedia Journalist, working with Sheharbeen programme of Radio Kashmir Srinagar, said people nowadays choose noise over news, which the street play highlighted accurately. “This street play is a timely and impactful initiative that shall help address the growing misconceptions surrounding journalism,” he said.

The street play was held twice during the day. The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Sayar Ahmad Mir, Assistant Professor, DJMC, and felicitation of the students and play director.

DJMC'S STREET THEATRE 'NEWS OR NOISE?' SPARKS DEBATE



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/IUST

In an era dominated by social media and an overwhelming flow of information, the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication (DJMC), Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), presented a thought-provoking street theatre performance. The performance not only entertained audiences but also sparked meaningful discussions about the growing challenge of distinguishing credible journalism from misinformation.

The title *News or Noise?* itself posed a critical question to the audience: Are people consuming verified news, or are they being overwhelmed by an endless stream of unverified and sensational content? Performed by media students to commemorate the World Press Freedom Week, the street theatre highlighted the impact of fake news, sensationalism, clickbait content and the unchecked spread of rumours on digital platforms.

The play attracted considerable attention from media outlets and veteran journalists, who praised the innovative use of street theatre as a tool for public awareness. While several mainstream media organisations highlighted the underlying message of the play, some went a step further by publishing editorials commending the department’s initiative and its efforts to generate awareness about contemporary media issues.

The street theatre went viral on social media, attracting millions of views. It sparked a widespread debate on the social media on issues of sensationalism and fake news, and the responsibility of news consumers in the digital age. The powerful performance of the students also encouraged viewers to reflect on their media consumption habits, and the responsibility of both journalists and audiences in promoting factual information.

As misinformation continues to challenge societies worldwide, performances such as *News or Noise?* serve as a reminder that the fight for accurate information begins with awareness, critical thinking and a commitment to responsible communication.

IUST JOINS ICT ACADEMY TO STRENGTHEN STUDENT SKILLS, INDUSTRY READINESS

To strengthen industry-oriented education, skill development and employability at the campus, the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), has secured institutional membership with Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Academy, a premier organisation dedicated to fostering industry-academia collaboration, technology education and professional skill development across the country.

The initiative reflects the university’s continued commitment

to equipping students and faculty with industry-relevant competencies and exposure to emerging technologies. The institutional membership was formally taken by Prof. Sheikh Ajaz Bashir, Dean Academic Affairs, IUST. The initiative was coordinated by Dr. Asif Ali Banka, Head Department of Computer Sciences, Dr. Sajaad Ahmed Lone, Coordinator, ICT Academy, and Imran Amin Mir, Relationship Manager, ICT Academy.

Through this institutional membership, students, research scholars and faculty members—particularly from the

Department of Computer Science and Engineering and allied departments—will gain access to a wide range of opportunities, including skill development programmes, internships, industry certifications, placement-oriented training, innovation and entrepreneurship initiatives, technical workshops, hackathons, and Faculty Development Programmes (FDPs).

The collaboration will particularly focus on emerging and advanced technology domains, such as Artificial Intelligence,

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IUST CELEBRATES MOTHER'S DAY WITH CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS, TRIBUTE TO MOTHERS

The Islamic University of Science and Technology celebrated Mother's Day, with a cultural programme on campus to honour the invaluable contributions of mothers to families and society. The event was organised by the Dean of Students Office through its Cultural Committee. Dean Academic Affairs, Prof. Sheikh Aijaz Bashir, who was the Chief Guest on the occasion, appreciated the university's initiative in organising the celebration and emphasised the importance of developing a gender-sensitive environment on campus. He also highlighted his vision for strengthening a student-centric academic ecosystem.

Speaking on the occasion, Controller of Examinations, Prof. Rumaan Bashir, and Dean Research, Dr. Abid Shalla, reflected



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/ IUST

on the pivotal role of mothers in nurturing progressive and empathetic communities, while underscoring the cultural and social significance of the occasion.

Earlier, the welcome address was delivered by Dr. Monisa

Qadri, Dean of Students. The programme featured a variety of performances presented by the university's Cultural Committee, including solo singing, speech competitions, skit performances, and group singing.

A special highlight of the event was the heartening skit and group song presented by students of the Zeba Aapa Institute of Inclusive Education, which received warm appreciation from the audience.

Another highlight of the programme was a maternal appreciation segment in which university sanitation staff members shared heartfelt reflections and experiences, adding an emotional touch to the celebration.

The event concluded with a prize distribution ceremony recognising winners and participants, followed by a formal vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Farhana Mehraj Allai, Coordinator, Cultural Committee.

IUST CONDUCTS PROGRAM ON AERO-THERMAL ENGINEERING

The Department of Mechanical Engineering, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), organised an interactive programme with Taqwa Qadri, an Aero-Thermal Engineer at a leading jet engine manufacturing company under the Industry Connect initiative of the Office of the Dean Outreach on May 13. The programme aimed to strengthen academia-industry engagement and provide students with practical insights into emerging industrial and professional requirements. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Majid H. Koul, Head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, IUST, who highlighted the importance of industry interaction in enriching engineering education and preparing students for professional challenges. Dean Outreach, Dr. Ruheela Hassan, appreciated the department for organising the programme and underscored the need for sustained

collaboration between academia and industry to enhance students' exposure to real-world applications and career opportunities.

During the session, Qadri shared her professional journey and encouraged students to develop strong fundamentals in core engineering subjects while cultivating resilience and adaptability in their careers. She advised students to view challenges as opportunities for growth and emphasised the importance of internships, effective communication, presentation skills, and industry-oriented project work.

The programme also included an interaction session during which students discussed career pathways, innovation in engineering, and the technical demands of the aerospace industry with the speaker. The event concluded with a vote of thanks presented by Dr. Mahvash Afzal, Coordinator of the programme.

IUST SIGNS MOU WITH UPICON TO ESTABLISH CENTRE IN EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/ IUST

Islamic University of Science and Technology signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Uttar Pradesh Industrial Consultants Limited on May 19 for collaboration in establishing a state-of-the-art Centre in Emerging Technologies at the University. The proposed centre shall focus on areas such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), Cloud Computing, Cybersecurity and Semiconductor Electronics, along with incubation and innovation support facilities.

The MoU signing ceremony was presided over by Prof. Shakil A. Romshoo, Vice Chancellor, IUST. The agreement was signed by Prof. Shamim Ahmad Shah, Registrar, IUST, and Praveen Singh, Managing Director, UPICON in the presence of Deans, Directors, Controller of Examinations, Heads of Departments, Coordinators from the School of Engineering and Technology,

and officials from UPICON.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Romshoo stated that IUST is actively participating in various national initiatives and programmes aimed at promoting quality education, innovation, skill development, entrepreneurship, and industry-oriented learning. He added that a dedicated core committee would be constituted for effective implementation and monitoring of the collaboration framework. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Singh appreciated IUST for its progressive vision and commitment towards innovation-driven education and skill development.

The MoU envisages consultancy and project execution support for setting up advanced technology and skill development facilities, promoting industry-academia interaction, incubation and innovation activities.

IUST ORGANISES 2-DAY TRAINING PROGRAM ON ADVANCED HYDROLOGICAL MODELLING

Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) organised a two-day hands-on training programme on 'Fundamentals and Applications of MIKE SHE in Hydrological Modelling' through the Department of Environment, Sustainability and Climate Change (DESCC), in collaboration with DHI India Water and Environment Pvt. Ltd. The programme aimed to impart practical and advanced knowledge in hydrological modelling and integrated water resource management.

The inaugural session was attended by Dr. Farooq Hussain Bhat, Dean, School of Sciences, as Chief Guest, while Dr. Asif Ali Banka attended as Guest of Honour. Dr. Yasir Altaf, Convener of the programme, emphasised the growing relevance of hydrological modelling in addressing environmental challenges, such as floods, droughts, groundwater depletion, watershed degradation and climate change impacts.

Dr. Sumira Nazir Zaz, Coordinator, DESCC and Organizing Secretary, highlighted the department's commitment towards promoting interdisciplinary education, technical skill development and research-oriented learning. Dr. Dharam Chand, Co-Convener, stressed the importance of practical exposure to globally recognised hydrological modelling platforms.

The technical sessions were conducted by Dr. Kuldeep Preta from DHI India Water and Environment Pvt. Ltd., focusing on practical applications of MIKE SHE in hydrological simulations and watershed studies.

The programme conducted under supervision of Prof. Humayun Rashid saw participation from research scholars, faculty members, and professionals from institutions including Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, University of Kashmir, JK DEERS, and EPTISA.

students for evolving global technological challenges. He stated that IUST remains committed to creating an academic ecosystem that integrates quality education with practical skills, innovation and industry engagement.

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Machine Learning, Data Science, Cloud Computing, Cyber Security, and the Internet of Things (IoT), among others.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Sheikh Ajaz Bashir emphasised the importance of strategic academic partnerships in preparing

IUST HOLDS INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

Continuing its efforts to strengthen the student welfare and communication, the Office of the Dean of Students held a comprehensive interactive session with the members of the Council of Students IUST on May 13.

The meeting, chaired by Dr Monisa Qadri, Dean of Students, was attended by the members of the Advisory Committee of the Council of Students. During the session, Dr. Qadiri highlighted the council's mandate to function as an active bridge connecting the student community with academic and administrative leadership. Dr Peer Bilal, Coordinator, Advisory Committee, and

Director of the Directorate of Internal Quality Assurance (DIQA), outlined the various mechanisms in place in the university to ensure a quality academic and research ecosystem.

The council representatives from various departments and centres engaged in a detailed interaction and shared their suggestions about different aspects of the university. The meeting was attended by other Advisory Committee members, including Shazana Andrabi, Dr. Aamir Hussain Dar, Dr. Ahsan Hussain, Dr. Shumila Cheshti, and Dr. Sheikh Shueb.

IUST'S FIGHT AGAINST DRUG ABUSE

IUST HOLDS 2-DAY WORKSHOP AIMED AT DRUG-FREE SOCIETY



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/ IUST

The Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) held a two-day workshop titled 'Drug-Free Society: Call for Collective Action' on May 4-5. The workshop was organised by the Centre for Good Governance and Policy Analysis, IUST.

The event brought together policymakers, law enforcement officials, healthcare professionals, academicians, civil society members and students to deliberate on the growing challenge of substance abuse in Jammu and Kashmir.

The inaugural session was presided over by Prof. Shakil A. Romshoo, Vice Chancellor, IUST. In his address, Prof. Romshoo said, while institutional mechanisms were vital, the role of society was equally important. "Rehabilitation of drug addicts must be community-driven, where families and society actively support individuals in overcoming addiction and reintegrating with dignity," he said.

The workshop witnessed participation from students, scholars, faculty members, university officials and other key

stakeholders. Dr. M. Muzafar Khan delivered the keynote address, while Dr. Abdul Majid presented the special address. Prof. G. N. Itoo, Director, Centre for Good Governance and Policy Analysis, and Mr. Mushtaq Ahmad Lone, ADC Awantipora, also addressed the participants.

Speakers highlighted the urgency of addressing substance abuse as a serious social, economic and public health concern. Meanwhile, a documentary film, depicting real-life experiences of addiction and its human and societal impact, was screened on the occasion. Students actively engaged in awareness initiatives were also felicitated, reinforcing the pivotal role of youth as catalysts for change.

The initiative aligns with the ongoing Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan—a 100-day campaign focused on awareness, prevention and community engagement. Emphasis was laid on moving beyond awareness towards coordinated and action-oriented interventions involving institutions, governance systems and communities.

NMBA BADGE DISTRIBUTION HELD AT IUST



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/ IUST

As part of the University's online campaign envisioned by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, the Dean of Students Office, IUST, organised a badge distribution ceremony among the Student Council members and faculty members of the university under the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan. The badge distribution was organised in collaboration with the Centre for Good Governance and Policy Analysis, IUST. The programme, which is a part of a sensitisation series under the campaign, coordinated by Dr. Monisa Qadiri, Dean of Students, was presided over by the Controller of Examinations, Prof. Rumaan Bashir and was attended by Dean Outreach, Dr. Ruheela Hassan, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, Dr. Afroz Ahmad Bisati, and senior faculty members, Dr. Asifa Baba, Dr. Ashraf Parray, Dr. Farhana Allai and Dr. Mujeeb Liyakat along with staff members from offices of Dean of Students and Public Relations and Media Centre.

The ambassadors pledged to create an anti-drug ecosystem in and outside the university and vowed to keep themselves and their communities drug-free.

'RUN FOR HEALTH' HELD AT IUST UNDER NASHA Mukht BHARAT ABHIYAAN



Photo: Zahoor Ahmad/ IUST

As part of Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan, a health awareness event—'Run for Health'—event was organised by the Directorate of Physical Education and Sports, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), in collaboration with the Centre for Mental Health and Wellness and Dean Outreach, on May 14.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from university faculty members, administrative officers, staff members, students and local elderly residents, reflecting a collective commitment towards health, fitness and a drug-free society. The programme also saw active participation from the Town Welfare Committee Awantipora, Awantipora Forest Division, Sabir Abdullah High School and Mantaqi Higher Secondary School.

The run was flagged off by senior university officers along with

Dr. Iqbal Quraishi, Officer Incharge, Directorate of Physical Education and Sports. It commenced from the University Main Campus and culminated at the Synthetic Athletic Track of the university.

The event concluded with a basic fitness session conducted by Dr. Hilal Ahmad Rather, Assistant Director, Physical Education and Sports, who emphasised the importance of regular physical activity in maintaining a healthy lifestyle and preventing substance abuse.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Quraishi thanked all participants and collaborating organisations for their wholehearted support towards the initiative and reiterated the university's commitment to promoting wellness, fitness and awareness against drug abuse.

IUST HOSTS FIRE SAFETY WORKSHOP TO STRENGTHEN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

The Centre for Disaster Risk Reduction (CDRR), Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), in collaboration with the Office of the Proctor and the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Club, organised a hands-on workshop on disaster preparedness on May 6. The workshop was designed to equip participants with the skills required to effectively manage and mitigate fire hazards in real-life situations. The event, titled 'Enhancing Fire Safety Skills,' focused on practical emergency response and fire suppression techniques. The initiative aimed to strengthen fire preparedness and risk reduction awareness among students, security personnel, and staff, in line with the University's commitment to fostering a culture of safety and resilience. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Irfan Maqbool Bhat, Coordinator, CDRR, and Dr. Waseem Qader, Assistant Professor, CDRR.

Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat, Security Consultant, IUST, delivered a detailed technical demonstration on Class A to F fires, explaining the characteristics of each category. He also provided practical training on the appropriate use of fire extinguishers for different types of fires, enabling participants to gain hands-on experience and essential safety knowledge. The training witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, faculty members and security staff.

Dr. Mir Hashim Rasool, Senior Proctor, IUST, appreciated the CDRR for organising such practical activities and emphasised that effective safety measures are essential for maintaining a secure academic environment.

IUST ORGANISES DENTAL HEALTH OUTREACH PROGRAM AT BRAKPORA

As part of its ongoing community outreach initiatives, Syed Mantaqui Memorial College of Nursing and Medical Technology (SMMCN&MT), Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), in collaboration with the Urban Health Training Centre Brakpora (PHC Brakpora, Anantnag), organised a Dental Health Screening and Awareness Programme at Brakpora, Anantnag.

Coordinated by Outreach Coordinator, Mubashir Bashir, the programme aimed to promote oral health awareness and preventive dental care among students. The initiative focused on the early detection of common dental ailments such as tooth decay and gum disease, while also educating students about oral hygiene practices and healthy dietary habits.

The screening activities included visual dental examinations,

oral health education sessions, demonstrations on proper brushing and flossing techniques, and preventive guidance on maintaining dental hygiene. The programme was conducted by senior dentists, healthcare staff, and nursing trainers.

Mohammad Azam Dar, Faculty, SMMCN&MT, coordinated the awareness sessions and guided students during the programme. The initiative aimed to foster greater awareness about oral hygiene and encourage preventive dental care practices among school students.

IUST'S MEDIA STUDENTS VISIT *Kashmir Life*

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 for its Master's students to reputed news organisation, *Kashmir Life*, at Press Enclave, Srinagar, on May 13.

The tour aimed to help students get acquainted with the functioning of various departments of a news organisation as well as understand the role of editors, reporters, designers and others in a newsroom. The tour was coordinated by Dr. Rabia Noor, Head, DJMC, IUST, who accompanied the students.

Interacting with the students, Editor-in-Chief, *Kashmir Life*, Masood Hussain, highlighted the need for campus ecosystems to evolve in ways that better align



Photo: Mehpara, DJMC, IUST

with practical newsroom environments.

Speaking about the functioning of the organisation, Hussain

multimedia studio and accounts section.

elaborated on its four verticals, 24x7 web operations, magazine journalism, audio-visual content and various reporting beats. Stressing the importance of preparation for aspiring journalists, he said, for grabbing opportunities in the media, they need to prepare themselves well.

Raashid Andrabi, DJMC alumnus, and Senior Content Editor, *Lumiere Education*, said, *Kashmir Life* offers flexibility to aspiring journalists, creating an environment that encourages learning and helps them gradually integrate into the profession. Students were later given a tour of various sections of the news organisation, including the newsroom,

IUST ORGANISES WEBINAR IN COLLABORATION WITH UNIVERSITY OF PHILIPPINES

The Department of Philosophy, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), in collaboration with the Department of Philosophy, University of the Philippines Diliman, (UPD), organised an international seminar titled 'Intersections: A Philosophy Webinar' on May 5, promoting meaningful academic exchange between South and Southeast Asian scholars.

The seminar brought together distinguished academicians to deliberate on key philosophical themes including epistemology, ethics, and contemporary social concerns. In her opening remarks, Prof. Lily Beth Lumagbas (UPD) highlighted the intrinsic connection between philosophy and lived experience, setting the tone for the discussions.

The webinar featured Prof. John Ian Boongaling's insights on a Filipino model of epistemic justification, alongside Prof. Lumagbas's exploration of relational moral attention

through the indigenous concept of Kapwa. Representing IUST, Dr. Javid Ahmad Mallah revisited the relevance of Ahimsa (non-violence) in today's fragmented world, while Mr. Ashish Pandya presented a critical perspective on testimonial knowledge in Indian philosophy.

The deliberations were further enriched by scholarly contributions from Mr. Dar Irshad Hamid, Dr. Muzaffar Ali Malla, Prof. Ma. Liza Ruth Ocampo, and Dr. Enrique Benjamin Fernando III, who served as respondents and facilitated a vibrant cross-cultural dialogue. In his concluding remarks, Dr. Muzaffar underscored the significance of diverse Eastern philosophical traditions in addressing contemporary global challenges and described the collaboration as a milestone in international academic engagement.

IUST CONDUCTS CYBER SAFETY OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), organised an outreach programme titled 'Digital Shield: Online Safety Awareness Program for Students' under the aegis of Community Connect (Dean Outreach on May 5).

The programme aimed to promote awareness about cyber safety, responsible digital behaviour, and career opportunities in Computer Science and Engineering. Students and faculty members participated enthusiastically in the event.

The sessions were conducted by Dr. Iraq Ahmad Reshi, Sabha Mushtaq, and Sheebah Raheem, who discussed safe online practices and highlighted common cybercrimes such as phishing, identity theft and social media frauds.

Head, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Dr. Asif Ali Banka, said that such outreach initiatives are vital for equipping young students with the awareness and skills needed to navigate the digital world safely and responsibly. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Sahil Sholla, Coordinator Outreach.

IUST iFACTORY LAB CONDUCTS i4-DIVE IN TRAINING FOR ITI TRAL STUDENTS

The iFactory C4i4 Lab, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), conducted a five-day intensive training programme titled 'i4-Dive In Training Programme' for students of the Mechanic Motor Vehicle trade from Government Industrial Training Institute, Tral, on May 12. The programme blended expert lectures with hands-on practical sessions aimed at enhancing students' understanding of emerging manufacturing technologies and Industry 4.0 practices. The training focused on skill-based learning, innovation-oriented activities and practical exposure to advanced industrial technologies.

As part of the programme, participants received hands-on training on collaborative robots (cobots) and Automated Guided Vehicles (AGVs), enabling them to gain industry-relevant competencies aligned with contemporary manufacturing ecosystems.

The programme was coordinated by Dr. Mohammad Junaid Mir, Coordinator, iFactory Lab, IUST, who emphasised the significance of such initiatives in strengthening technical education and preparing the local workforce to meet evolving technological and industrial requirements.

IUST ORGANISES EXPOSURE VISITS FOR PM SHRI HSS STUDENTS

The Office of Community Connect, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), under the aegis of the Dean Outreach, organised a series of exposure visits for students from PM Shri Higher Secondary institutions across Jammu and Kashmir as part of its outreach and academic engagement initiatives.

During two such recent programmes, the University witnessed the participation of around 400 students and faculty members from both the Jammu and Kashmir divisions of the Union Territory. The visits aimed to familiarise students with the University's academic environment,

research facilities, laboratories, and higher education opportunities across diverse disciplines.

During the visits, students toured several academic departments and facilities of the University, including Multimedia Studio and Multimedia iMac Lab, where they gained exposure to professional audio-visual production tools, broadcasting techniques and digital content creation processes. The students also visited Rumi Library and other facilities of the University. The exposure visits were coordinated by Dr. Shaika Nasreen, Coordinator, Community Connect, IUST.

IUST ORGANISES LECTURE ON INSURANCE MODELLING TECHNIQUES

The Department of Mathematical Sciences, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), organised a programme on 'Count Data and Claim Frequency Models in Insurance: Classical GLM and Artificial Neural Network Approach (ANN).'

The session was delivered by Dr. Deepesh Bhati, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Statistics, Central University of Rajasthan, who highlighted modern statistical techniques and machine learning approaches for modelling

insurance claim data, focusing on both Generalized Linear Models (GLMs) and ANN-based methods.

During the programme, Dr. Peer Bilal Ahmad, Head, Department of Mathematical Sciences, IUST, underscored the importance of such expert lectures in strengthening research and applied understanding among students, scholars and faculty. The programme witnessed active participation and concluded with an engaging discussion session.

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

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Published by Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, IUST