



*Public Relations and Media Centre*

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***Chief Secretary inaugurates Governance & Policy Analysis Centre at IUST, lauds university's academic and research initiatives***

Awantipora, May 21: Shri Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary of Jammu & Kashmir visited Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) on Wednesday and inaugurated the Centre for Good Governance & Policy Analysis (CGG&PA) during a series of engagements aimed at strengthening policy research, governance innovation, and institutional collaboration.

During the visit, the Chief Secretary toured Campus I and Campus III of the university and inspected various laboratories and academic facilities. He also interacted with officers and faculty members. The Chief Secretary appreciated the efforts of the faculty and staff in the growth and academic advancement of the university, particularly its introduction of high-end and emerging programmes in frontier sciences and artificial intelligence in line with the objectives of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. He also lauded the university's initiatives in strengthening industry linkages, promoting research, and fostering innovation-driven academic collaborations.

Congratulating Prof. Shakil A Romshoo Vice Chancellor IUST and his team for the achievements made by IUST, he expressed confidence that the Centre for Good Governance & Policy Analysis would further strengthen the university's contribution towards policy research and institutional development. He remarked that IUST possesses immense potential to contribute towards improving ease of living for the people through meaningful collaborations with the government and national-level institutions.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Shakil A. Romshoo highlighted the university's achievements and outlined its vision for academic excellence, innovation, and public engagement. He stated that IUST has emerged as an active contributor to several flagship national missions through its work in sustainability, emerging technologies, entrepreneurship, healthcare, and community development. He also thanked the Government for its continued support, which, he said, has enabled the university to strengthen its academic and research ecosystem and expand its engagement with society and industry.

Earlier, Prof. G. N. Itoo, Director, Centre for Good Governance & Policy Analysis while welcoming the dignitaries, said that the Centre would serve as an important platform for promoting evidence-based policymaking, interdisciplinary research, and meaningful collaboration between academia, government institutions, and society to address contemporary governance and developmental challenges. A documentary showcasing the university's academic, research, innovation, and outreach initiatives was also screened.

The programme concluded with a formal vote of thanks presented by Prof. Shameem Ahmad Shah, Registrar IUST who expressed gratitude to the Chief Secretary for his visit and valuable insights on governance, policy innovation, and institutional development. The Chief Guest also planted a tree on the university campus as part of the institution's environmental sustainability initiatives.

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