

## Kashmir University mourns Deeraj Koul's demise



**Srinagar, January 02:** To mourn the untimely demise of Deeraj Koul, a dedicated multitasking staffer who worked at the NEP (National Education Policy) Cell and to express heartfelt sympathies and condolences with the bereaved family, the Kashmir University Tuesday held a condolence meet.

Deeraj, 22, passed away at his residence at Barbarshah, leaving behind a legacy of commitment and service. He is survived by his mother, sister and grandmother.

Paying rich tributes to the departed soul and expressing her sympathies with the bereaved family, the KU Vice-Chancellor, Prof Nilofer Khan, remembered his father, Sanjay Koul and grandfather, Bansi Lal Koul, who also served the university in various capacities.

"I remember working with late Bansi Lal, who was a very dedicated and hardworking officer. As I worked at the Department of Home Science, I learned from him," Prof Khan said, adding that like his father and grandfather, Deeraj too was very committed and dedicated and "his sudden and untimely demise has shocked the whole fraternity".

Dean, Academic Affairs, Prof Farooq Ahmad Masoodi remembered the deceased as a gentle and polite human being who would always deliver to the best of his capabilities.

"Deeraj was a humble soul with excellent skills of official work. As a mark of respect, we have assembled here to acknowledge his contributions to the university functioning," Prof Masoodi said.

Chief Coordinator, NEP Cell, KU, Prof Mushtaq Ahmad Siddiqi, expressed his grief while sharing his recent interactions with Deeraj.

"We met just yesterday and discussed some official matters. I am completely shocked by his sudden death," he said, while extending heartfelt sympathies with the bereaved family and praying for peace and mercy for Deeraj's soul.

To pay homage to the departed soul, the university observed two minute's silence as a mark of respect.

Pertinently, Deeraj's father, Sanjay Koul also died in harness after a prolonged illness and acknowledging his services and recognising his family's contributions, the university had appointed Deeraj at the varsity's NEP Cell on compassionate grounds.

KU Registrar, Dr Nisar Ahmad Mir, Joint Registrar, Dr Ashfaq Ahmad Zari, chief Proctor Dr Imtiyaz and other university officials attended Deeraj's last rites and accompanied his body to the cremation ground to pay their final respects.