

‘Community Outreach’: Need to encourage healthier lifestyles, access to education: KU VC

Varsity organises daylong health camp at Mir Behri



Srinagar, Oct 31: As part of its community outreach campaign, the University of Kashmir (KU) Thursday organised a daylong medical camp in ‘Endocrinology and Geriatrics Medicine’ at Kani Mohalla, Mir Behri, Saidakada, an area adopted by the Directorate for developmental initiatives.

The camp, organised by the varsity’s Directorate of Lifelong Learning (DLL) in collaboration with Sher-e-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura, aimed at encouraging healthier lifestyles and sustainable health practices in the community.

On the occasion, KU Vice Chancellor, Prof Nilofer Khan, highlighted the role of the initiative in extending vital healthcare to the nearby communities.

“We need to encourage healthier lifestyles and access to education with a special focus on empowerment opportunities for girls in the area,” Prof Khan said, asserting that the initiative is essential for addressing local health concerns.

Dean, Academic Affairs, KU, Prof Shariefuddin Pirzada, expressed gratitude for the active participation of the community while acknowledging the value of collaborating with other institutions to enhance the region’s welfare.

“Collaborative efforts with institutions like SKIMS are significant for enhancing community welfare and supporting the health needs of marginalised regions,” he added.

KU Registrar, Prof Naseer Iqbal underscored the significance of regular healthcare interventions in underdeveloped areas and, said: “The large turnout reflects the community’s need for these essential services and we hope to make such initiatives a regular part of our outreach.”

Dean, School of Open Learning Prof Mushtaq Ahmad Dar, emphasised the impact of expert medical care for the community. “Our commitment is to ensure that residents have access to quality healthcare services close to home,” he maintained.

Extending her appreciation to local community leaders for their cooperation, Director, Directorate of Lifelong Learning, KU, Prof Shazia Manzoor, said: “The university is dedicated to making a lasting impact beyond the campus and our collaboration with SKIMS strengthens our outreach in Mir Behri.”

Community leaders and residents expressed gratitude to the University of Kashmir and SKIMS for organising the camp, while acknowledging the significance of accessible healthcare in their locality.

The camp featured consultations, free medications, diagnostics and health counselling to around 500 residents, with a focus on endocrine and age-related health issues, including diabetes, metabolic health and bone density.

Specialists from SKIMS offered valuable advice on managing these conditions, promoting long-term well-being.

Volunteers from KU’s Department of Social Work and Health Centre also contributed to support awareness efforts aimed at promoting long-term well-being in the community.