

# Reflections on vision, mission & social commitments of JKPS Kunjwani

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: JK Public School (JKPS), Kunjwani is a CBSE affiliated, child-centric, value-driven, co-educational, Senior Secondary school, which enjoys the privilege of being the FIRST CBSE school (direct affiliation) of Jammu. Stretched over a period of three decades, JKPS Kunjwani has emerged as a trendsetter, a model of excellence imparting 21st century holistic education to children on its rolls. JKPS Kunjwani introduced 18 Clubs to groom students in variety Co-scholastic domains. Members of one of the Clubs, namely, Rajat Sharma Club of Jr. Journalists, interviewed the Principal Mr. Rajesh Rathore. Here are the excerpts of the meaningful transaction between the Jr. Journalists (JJ) and the Principal Rajesh Rathore (RR).

JJ: What is your concept of an ideal JKian?

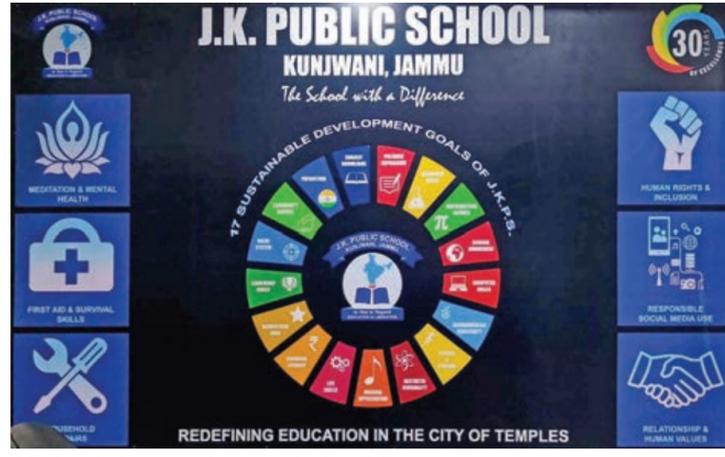
RR: An ideal JKian is the one, who can always be spotted in a group, who has a distinctive flavour to his/her personality; has a lively interest in topical events and the world around; speaks and writes fluently in English and in at least one Indian language; has sufficient mastery over Mathematics and Science to understand and appreciate the scientific basis of modern civilization; is well informed and forms his/her own judgement; knows that being educated means abiding by certain standards or refutes the ideas of an opponent on a

makes efforts to master the use of his/her hands in some form of creative activity; has developed a love of reading for its own sake; plays games and has learnt that sportsmanship is a quality that must be cherished in day-to-day life; is not afraid to speak the truth without being offensive and has greatest regard for the rule of law and justice; is well mannered, sensitive and smart in his/her dress and deportment; cherishes the freedom of the mind, the humanity of the heart and the integrity of the individual; loves truth, beauty and goodness. In short, he/she is the epitome of what a cultured person aspires to be!

JJ: Which features of the Institution do you admire the most?

RR: JK Public School, Kunjwani is one of the finest Institutions in the UT of J&K. Its infrastructure is an architectural marvel. Classrooms are quite spacious, well lit, & it's equipped with well-designed smart boards & soft boards. Since JKPS emphasizes on the holistic grooming of every child, so we have hand-picked, talented teachers in our Art, craft, Music, Dance & Sports faculties.

Here merely being a scholar is not eye-catching but when a scholar plays guitar/drum/keyboard or shakes the scientific basis of modern civilization; is well informed and forms his/her own judgement; knows that being educated means abiding by certain standards or refutes the ideas of an opponent on a



debating platform or makes the audience burst into peals of laughter during a comic skit or makes the audience sob during a poignant scene of a tragic play, that catches the fancy of the gallery of spectators. We keep raising the bar.

Though it's a day school, yet it is spread over a vast expanse giving ample space for all the sports activities, like, Football, Cricket, Volley-ball, Basketball, Mini Olympic-size Swimming pool, Skating rink, Cricket practice nets, Badminton court, Squash courts, Tennis court, and indoor games, like, Judo, Karate, Taekwondo, Gymnastics, Table Tennis (6 Nos.), Yoga, Carom, Chess etc.

JKPS is a wonderful school, wherein students are very decent, respectful and adorable. Teachers are quite knowledgeable, dedicated and committed. Their communication skills are very strong; whether it be written or verbal expression

JJ: How do you define an ideal teacher?

RR: An ideal teacher has to be very knowledgeable, as it establishes the credentials of a teacher in the classroom. Without a profound knowledge, no teacher can stand firmly on his/her feet. Strong communication skills are always a crucial hallmark for a teacher. Explanation of a theoretical concept stays with a child forever, if it is articulated well by a teacher irrespective of the subject or the class. A teacher, being a classroom leader, has to be a practitioner, not merely a preacher. It's truly stated that values are to be caught, not to be taught. A teacher has to be competent, responsible, punctual, regular, well-organized, value-driven, well-attired, compassionate, forgiving and generous, if

he/she wishes to see these qualities in his/her students. We can never expect students to exhibit those qualities or skills, which are found missing in their teachers.

JJ: How do you encourage and motivate the staff?

RR: I encourage my staff members by citing examples from my 31-year long gratifying teaching career. Words of appreciation and motivation fill the members of my staff with renewed vigour, passion and determination. When Titans clash on a common platform, then clinching one of the coveted top three positions brings laurels to the institution. Addition of every accomplishment makes our hearts heave high with pride and admiration. We felicitate the members of the staff on special occasions for their meritorious services and outstanding contributions. We organize capacity building programmes to

empower our teachers on a regular basis.

JJ: How do you recruit and maintain quality teachers?

RR: The selection procedure for the recruitment of teachers has been quite stringent at JKPS Kunjwani. First of all, we shortlist candidates with brilliant academic background, schooling, strong communication skills in English alongwith suitable experience from renowned CBSE schools. Then we conduct a written test to evaluate the subject knowledge, written expression, relevance, reflection, hand writing and the presentation of the candidates. It is followed by a live demo, wherein a subject expert thoroughly discusses the subject-related, class-specific concepts with the candidates. Then, we conduct an interview, wherein we discuss about the areas of interest of a candidate in Co-curricular and sports activities, teaching experience, professional training programmes, capacity building workshops and overall personality. Finally the short-listed candidates get the privilege of having an Interaction with the Chairman & the Director.

JJ: What would be your ideal school environment and how would you encourage that kind of culture?

RR: An ideal school environment ensures a holistic growth profile to every student. School should not merely focus on a sound knowledge base, language acquisition, personality development and fitness &

stamina, whereas it should also focus on developing finer sensibilities in every child. Today the hallmarks of our Institution are the development of environmental awareness, community outreach programmes, creative thinking, critical thinking, decision making and problem solving skills among students. JKPS Kunjwani has designed 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which will act as a lighthouse to set the direction of grooming from the entry stage to the passing out stage.

JJ: Outline the role that parents should play in the school?

RR: Parents' community is a great asset and one of the most important stakeholders for any institution. Parents must feel connected to the Institution and teachers. Parents and teachers together can ensure holistic grooming of students. They must be constantly in touch with the subject teachers, Class Teacher, Coordinator and the Principal. A regular feedback rather a 360 degree feedback is the need of the hour. Decency, dignity and mutual respect can always nourish the bonding between parents and teachers. Good parent-teacher bonding always fetches desired results and forms life-long relationship.

Parents need to be very rational in today's world. They should not be credulous to whatever their wards narrate at home. They must clarify on certain inputs from their wards. Even school staff feels very happy

and satisfied, when they receive a call from parents. Believe me, whenever I speak to parents over phone, it cements the bonding between us. They appreciate teachers for their meaningful contributions and share their observations/suggestions on how to take the Institution to greater heights.

JJ: How do you visualize the future of your school?

RR: With the strong backing of an enlightened Management team, educational think-tanks, extremely talented Staff, superbly supportive parents & immeasurably talented & promising students, JK Public School Kunjwani enjoys the reputation of being one of the finest institutions in the entire North India. It's committed to ensure that a competent, compassionate, creative, responsible global citizenry passes out from its magnificent portals every year. AMEN!

JJ: Thanks a lot sir for sparing your valuable time and for reflecting your vision and strategies to help students design their roadmaps to reach their dream destination. Your unique vision and passionate endeavours will certainly put the JKPS Kunjwani on a new trajectory. Wishing you the best of luck!

RR: Thanks a ton, my beloved students. This institution is reaching its pinnacle of glory due to your sincerity, dedication, commitment & focussed approach. I wish you a very bright future. Good luck!

## Statehood Day of Tripura, Manipur, Meghalaya celebrated

### Economic growth, peace, tourism rise under PM Modi in region: LG Sinha



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha speaking at celebration of Statehood Day of Tripura, Manipur and Meghalaya at Lok Bhavan.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Jammu Kashmir Lok Bhavan on Wednesday celebrated the Statehood Day of Tripura, Manipur and Meghalaya, at Jammu. The cultural evening, celebrating the spirit of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat', brought together students, security personnel, and the people of Tripura,

Meghalaya and Manipur living in the UT of Jammu & Kashmir. In his address, the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha extended his heartfelt greetings to be the people of Tripura, Meghalaya and Manipur on the occasion. He paid tribute to the iconic personalities of the three states and recalled

their monumental contribution to nation building. The Lieutenant Governor stated that the cultural diversity and rich heritage of Tripura, Manipur and Meghalaya is working as powerful engines for the region's growth and fostering innovation, economic vitality, and social resilience.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the region has seen historic development, which is not only driving economic growth and ensuring peace but also safeguarding and celebrating the region's unique cultural identity, attracting tourists and boosting hospitality sectors. Today, the local economies of Tripura, Manipur and Meghalaya is flourishing. Heritage preservation and infrastructure development, enhanced connectivity, new premier educational institutions are sparking pride, motivating youth to innovate while honoring roots and reviving art and crafts. May these states scale new heights of progress in the times to come," the Lieutenant Governor said.

## Satish meets Union Minister Dr. Jitendra

Pushes for enhanced infrastructure, sports, transport, human resource development in J&K

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Transport, Information Technology, Youth Services & Sports, Satish Sharma, on Wednesday met Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Dr. Jitendra Singh and held comprehensive discussion on a wide range of developmental issues pertaining to Jammu and Kashmir.

Satish Sharma apprised the Union Minister of the ongoing development initiatives being undertaken by the UT administration. He highlighted the requirement for enhanced coordination and central support to further accelerate the

pace of growth across key sectors in the region. A detailed discussion was held on infrastructure development, wherein Satish Sharma emphasized the need to expedite major projects related to road connectivity, public utilities and urban infrastructure. He underlined that strengthened infrastructure is vital for economic growth, improved service delivery and balanced regional development, particularly in rural, border and far-flung areas of the Union Territory. The Minister also raised issues concerning the sports sector, stressing the importance of developing modern sports infrastructure, upgrading existing stadiums and playfields besides expanding training and coaching facilities at the grassroots level. He

enumerated that focused investment in sports is essential for harnessing youth potential, promoting fitness and enabling young sportspersons from Jammu and Kashmir to compete at national and international platforms. Likewise, matters related to the transport sector formed an important part of the discussion. Satish Sharma highlighted the need for strengthening the public transport services, modernising transport infrastructure and improving inter-district and inter-regional connectivity. He emphasized that enhanced transport facilities are crucial for public convenience, tourism promotion and economic activity, especially in remote and hilly regions. The Minister further discussed issues pertaining to human resource develop-

ment, underscoring the importance of capacity building, manpower augmentation and skill upgradation across departments. Satish Sharma also highlighted the role of information technology in governance and called for greater integration of digital platforms to enhance transparency, efficiency and citizen-centric service delivery. Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh, while responding to the issues projected during the meeting, assured full cooperation and appropriate support from the Government of India for addressing the developmental requirements of Jammu and Kashmir. He reiterated the Centre's commitment towards the holistic and inclusive development of Jammu and Kashmir.

## DYSS celebrates Sehajdeep's Board prize in Chess



**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) appreciated Sehajdeep Singh for his performance in the recently held Chess at the 69th National School Games at Ranchi in Jharkhand. Despite team's debacle, Sehajdeep performed well individually in under-14 boys category winning Bronze medal. Board prize in Chess means, one of the player doing well individually winning matches thus rewarded for his performance. Accompanied by team coach, Nitin Sethi, Sehajdeep's was congratulated by the Director General DYSS, Anuradha Gupta for his individual achievement at the National level, a handout issued here today informed.

Notably, she is the only ANO from across the country to receive this distinguished honour this year. The commendation was

## ANO from J&K & Ladakh honoured with COAS Commendation at RDC 2026

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Assistant Professor Lt. Rukhsana Kousar, Associate NCC Officer (ANO) from the Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh NCC Directorate presently serving in PSPS GCW Gandhi Nagar Jammu has brought laurels to the region by being honoured with the prestigious Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Commendation Card during Republic Day Camp (RDC) 2026 in New Delhi. Lt. Rukhsana Kousar



conferred in recognition of her exceptional dedication, sustained mentoring, and continuous motivation of NCC cadets. Lt. Rukhsana Kousar

played a pivotal role during the Pre-RDC training camp at Nagrota and throughout RDC 2026, where her focused psychological guidance and leadership significantly enhanced cadets' confidence and performance. Her efforts enabled cadets to overcome the rigours of intense training and represent Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh with distinction at the national level. Senior NCC officials lauded her contribution as instrumental in shaping disciplined, confident, and high-performing cadets. The achievement stands as a proud moment for the Higher Education and the NCC fraternity of the region, underscoring the vital role of dedicated mentors in nurturing future leaders of the nation.

## VC felicitates newly elected team of JU Alumni Association

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: A felicitation function was organised at the University of Jammu to honour the newly elected office bearers and members of Executive Committee of the University of Jammu Alumni Association (UJAA). The function was presided over by the Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu, Prof. Umesh Rai, who is also the Patron of UJAA. The elected office bearers include Prof. Neelu Rohmetra as President, Sh. Sanjeev Rana as Vice President, Dr. Suvidha Khanna as Secretary, Dr. Satwant Singh Rissam as Joint Secretary, Pankaj Gupta as Treasurer, and Dr. Atul

Hans as Publicity Secretary. The Executive Committee includes Subash C. Gupta, Former Judge and member PSC, Indu Kanwal Chib, Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Mubassir Latifi Ameer, DIG (Pers) PHQ, Prof. Kuldeep Singh Charak, Manish Pathania, and Dr. Ripu Daman Parihar. The elections to UJAA were held in accordance with the Vice Chancellor's vision that the Alumni Association should function through a fully elected and representative body from the Alumni, following the adoption of the new constitution and Bye-Laws of the Association. The recently concluded elec-



tions were the first to be held after the amendment and adoption of the revised Bye-Laws of the University of Jammu Alumni Association. The conduct of elections under the new Bye-Laws marked a significant step towards strengthening the democratic functioning, transparency, and representative character

of UJAA. Addressing the gathering, Prof. Umesh Rai, while complimenting the newly elected Alumni Association, said that the basic purpose of an alumni body is to connect young minds through mentoring. He called upon alumni to take ownership of the Association and stressed the need for regular, activity-based engagement to bring students and alumni closer. The Vice Chancellor also suggested involving alumni from medical colleges and engineering institutions to broaden the Association's professional reach and emphasised strengthening the visibility and role of UJAA. The Vice Chancellor also appreciated the efforts of the outgoing UJAA team, particularly for its role in getting the Alumni Association formally registered with the Registrar of Societies and for laying a strong administrative foundation for the Association. He also commended the outgoing team for amending the Bye-

Laws of the Association to make it more inclusive and democratic in nature. Expressing confidence in the newly elected team, Prof. Rai said he hoped the Association would work consistently towards strengthening alumni participation and contributing to the University's academic and social development. Among others present on the occasion included Sanjeev Mahajan, Controller of Examination, Prof. Anil Gupta, Director SHTM, Dr. Gippy Dogra, Director, DIQA, Dr. Gunet Singh Sudan, Director, Center for IT, Dr. Shalun Sharma, Dr. A.R. Manhas, Dr. Pritam Singh, Dr. Harleen Kour.

KIND ATTENTION RAIL PASSENGERS!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

RUN OF SPECIAL TRAINS BETWEEN DELHI-VARANASI-DELHI

For the convenience of rail passengers Northern Railway has decided run a Special Train between Delhi-Varanasi-Delhi as per the details mentioned below :-

04024/04023 Delhi Jn. - Varanasi - Delhi Jn. Superfast Special Express (4 Trips)		
Train No. 04024	STATIONS	Train No. 04023
ARR. DEP.		ARR. DEP.
--- 19:25	Delhi Jn.	08:50 --
20:08	Ghaziabad	08:00 08:02
22:30	Moradabad	05:17 05:25
03:30	Lucknow	00:20 00:30
04:55	Raebareilly Jn	21:58 22:00
06:35	Maa Belha Devi Dham Pratappgarh	20:20 20:25
09:40	Varanasi	--- 18:35

Days of run :- 04024 Ex. Delhi Jn. on 23.01.2026 & 25.01.2026 and 04023 Ex. Varanasi on 24.01.2026 & 26.01.2026.  
Accommodation : 2 Tier Ac, 3 Tier Ac, Sleeper and General.

Extension in periodicity of train no. 04081/04082 New Delhi - Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra - New Delhi Special Train with the existing timings, stoppages & Composition.

Train No.	From	To	Frequency	Additional trip on	Trips
04081	New Delhi	S. M. Vaishno Devi Katra	Daily	23.01.26 to 26.01.26	04
04082	S. M. Vaishno Devi Katra	New Delhi		24.01.26 to 27.01.26	04

For detailed information, please call RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or visit enquiry website: [www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in](http://www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in)

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