

Principal JKPS Kunjwani conducts Inspiring Orientation Programme for B.Sc. (Hons) Nursing students at AIIMS Jammu



Rajesh Rathore, Principal, JK Public School Kunjwani along with other dignitaries during the orientation programme at AIIMS Vijaypur.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a spirited initiative to ignite the academic journey of B.Sc. (Hons) Nursing First year students in the domain of Communicative English & Personality development, an Orientation Programme was conducted at AIIMS Vijaypur, Jammu, led by Rajesh Rathore, Principal, JK Public School (JKPS), Kunjwani.

The event was graced by the esteemed presence of Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta, Founder Executive Director & CEO, AIIMS Jammu, and Dr. Rimple Sharma, Principal, College of Nursing, alongside the distinguished faculty and the enthusiastic batch of 57 students.

Principal Rajesh Rathore meticulously

ly curated and delivered the modules on Communicative English and Personality Development, ensuring an engaging and transformative learning experience.

He congratulated the students for their exceptional achievement in securing admission to one of the country's premier medical institutions and lauded their unwavering commitment, perseverance, and clarity of purpose.

Sharing his reflections, Rathore expressed deep admiration for the caliber and promise demonstrated by the batch, describing them as torchbearers of a bright future. To foster greater interaction and feedback, he invited a few students to articulate their learning

experiences post-completion of modules.

Students voiced their heartfelt emotions, reflecting on their enriching journey through intensive modules with special emphasis over phonetics, the art of pronunciation. It's pertinent to mention here that Written English deals with 5 vowels, whereas spoken English deals with 23 vowels, namely, 12 monophthongs (single vowels), 08 diphthongs (double vowels) & 03 triphthongs (triple vowels).

A systematic exposure to various technicalities pertaining to phonemic transcriptions made the students enthralled. It was indeed a roller coaster ride for students while learning the

technicalities of the specialised branch of language proficiency in a short span of time. The students cherished the special training imparted to them, as it was a new learning experience for them.

Modules also included Vocabulary enhancement (synonyms, antonyms, idiomatic phrases, proverbs, one-word substitutions etc), and key writing skills such as formal and informal letters, notices, descriptive essays, report writing, dialogue writing, story expansion, paragraph writing, presentation skills, theatrical skills and many more.

Addressing the gathering, Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta praised the students for their eloquence, competence, and self-confidence. He urged them to

relentlessly pursue their aspirations, emphasizing the importance of research as a cornerstone of professional excellence. He motivated students to tap into the wide array of research opportunities funded by the Government of India, engage in global training programmes, and develop leadership profiles by studying the life journeys of eminent world leaders.

Prof. Gupta also highlighted the vast resources available at AIIMS Jammu's Central Library, one of the finest in the nation, encouraging students to make it a pivotal part of their academic pursuits. Commending Mr. Rajesh Rathore for his exemplary efforts, he noted the seamless, impactful, and student-cent-

tric approach adopted in delivering the sessions.

Dr. Rimple Sharma, Principal, College of Nursing, proposed a heartfelt vote of thanks. She expressed deep gratitude to Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta for his inspiring address and gracious presence.

She also extended special appreciation to Rajesh Rathore, acknowledging his substantial contribution in refining the communicative and leadership skills of the students.

Dr. Sharma further applauded the collective efforts of the faculty in shaping the future caregivers of the nation and wished the students an enriching and rewarding journey ahead.

Dr Jitendra holds interaction with Udhampur civil society, offers reassurance amid security concerns



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh interacting with civil society members and public representatives in the wake of security concerns at Udhampur on Sunday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh visited Udhampur on Sunday, where he held a comprehensive interaction with public representatives and local citizens, and offered reassurance amid security concerns.

During the meeting, while reassuring the citizens about reinforcement in security deployment, Dr. Jitendra also emphasized the government's initiatives for the all-round development of the district.

He highlighted several key infrastructure and public welfare projects in the region which are being expedited because of their security rele-

vance as well.

These, the Minister said, include the widening of the Dhar Road for smooth movement of security forces and the much-anticipated Ujh Multipurpose Project which is also proved vulnerable for cross border infiltrations and is being pursued by both the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Jal Shakti. He expressed optimism about positive progress on the project.

Dr. Singh also revealed that Udhampur's long-pending dream of an operational airport is close to reality, a development expected to significantly boost local connectivity both for civilians as well as the Army which has

its Northern headquarters over here and also the economic prospects.

Adding to the infrastructure push, he informed that the proposed Chatargala Tunnel project is on the agenda, promising to further improve road connectivity in the region and avoid its turning into a militant hideout particularly when it is snow clad and cut off. He said that efforts are underway to improve mobile connectivity in Udhampur, with the installation and streamlining of mobile towers across the district.

Addressing the needs of youth, the Minister announced that army recruitment drives have

resumed, and discussions have already been held with the incoming General Officer Commanding (GOC), Lt Gen Prateek Sharma, who will soon assume charge.

He further underscored Udhampur's growing importance in the upcoming Shri Amarnath Yatra, particularly as train services will directly connect pilgrims to the area.

Dr. Jitendra called for the formation of a Civil Society Committee to facilitate regular feedback, timely inputs. He added that such a mechanism will enhance participatory governance.

Speaking on security concerns, Dr. Singh said that appropriate security responses will be ensured. "We will address all concerns and constraints to ensure peace and safety. Miscreants will be dealt with firmly," he added.

Dr. Jitendra also expressed his appreciation to the district administration, particularly the Deputy Commissioner, for their ongoing efforts in maintaining law and order and supporting developmental initiatives.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dogri Sanstha Jammu and Shri Dinu Bhai Pant Memorial Trust in a simple but an impressive function organized at K. L. Saigal Hall, Abhinav Theatre Jammu presented the prestigious Dinu Bhai Pant Memorial LifeTime Achievement Award for the year 2022 and 2023 to veteran Dogri litterateurs Prof. Veena Gupta and Prakash Premi respectively, in which Justice Pramod Kohli, former Chief Justice Sikkim High Court and Chairman Central Administrative Tribunal was the Chief Guest.

It is pertinent to add here that prior to these awardees, eminent Dogri litterateurs Padmashri Padma Sachdev, Ved Rahi, Padmashri Narsingh Dev Jamwal, Dr. Om Goswami and Dhian Singh have already been honoured with this significant award. On this occasion, while welcoming the Chief Guest and gathering, Prof. Lalit Magotra President Dogri Sanstha said that the advent of Dinu Bhai Pant on the horizon of literary scene of Jammu in 1940 was by all means a miraculous occur-



Veteran Dogri litterateurs Prof. Veena Gupta and Prakash Premi receiving awards.

rence and it was undoubtedly the immense popularity of his Dogri poetry that proved a game changer in Dogri and 'Shehar Pehlo Pehl Ge' was the leading one.

He further added that this award in collaboration with the Shri Dinu Bhai Pant Memorial Trust acknowledges the contributions of celebrated Dogri litterateurs and Prof. Veena Gupta and Prakash Premi truly deserve the same.

Rattan Prabha, Trustee, Shri Dinu Bhai Pant Memorial Trust also spoke on this occasion and shared his views about the feel behind starting this award for acknowledging the achievements of Dogri Writers through lifetime achievement award that carries a shawl, citation, medallion and a cash

award of Rs51,000.

Rajeshwar Singh 'Raju' an eminent Dogri, Hindi and English writer read a citation about Prof. Veena Gupta and well known theatre activist Raj Kumar Behrupia read a citation about Prakash Premi. He also recited a popular poem written by Dinu Bhai Pant.

The Chief Guest, Justice Pramod Kohli while congratulating the awardees said that both of them are icons of Dogri literature and inspire many to pen down their creative works in their mother tongue.

However he expressed his concern that the young generation is not inclined towards Dogri, which is a threat to the future existence of mother tongue.

He hoped that we will realize our duties towards our mother tongue and will make all efforts to preserve and promote it.

On this occasion, the awardees Prof. Veena Gupta and Prakash Premi also shared their literary journey as well as memoirs about their association with the legend Dinu Bhai Pant.

The proceedings were conducted by eminent theatre activist and dogri poet Pawan Verma whereas Rajeshwar Singh 'Raju', General Secretary Dogri Sanstha Jammu presented vote of thanks. A number of litterateurs, Dogri lovers, family members of Prof. Veena Gupta, Prakash Premi and Dinu Bhai Pant participated in the award ceremony.

Natrang presents Hindi play 'Do Kalakaar'

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Do Kalakaar, a play in Hindi written by Bhagwati Charan Verma and directed by Neeraj Kant was staged here today at Natrang Studio in its weekly Sunday Theatre series.

Though coated with a thick layer of comedy, the play had a very relevant message to share with the audience which was revealed very artistically.

In the play, 'Churamani' and 'Martand' are two friends, both are artists (one poet and another painter) they had once aspired to rule the Bollywood with their respective creative strengths. The poet had dreamt of becoming the top Hindi Film lyricist and the painter had set a goal for himself to become the most sought after art director of the tinsel town. But destiny lands them in a situation where both are forced to use their creative energies in creating situations and cooking stories just to escape the harassment of their landlord who has not been paid the rentals of a dingy room for the last six months. The playwright has beautifully portrayed the tragic fate of the creative people who are expected to create magic and electrifying artistic experience through their unlimited creative energies are shown wasting their creativity just to ensure survival. The play opens at a situation where both the poet and the painter have locked themselves in a room which is being visited by the landlord to collect



the rent from them. The landlord forcefully makes his entry despite all-out unsuccessful efforts to hold him back are made by them. When caught at the corner both take shelter of their creative mind and start cooking highly logical excuses to impress the landlord so he allows them to continue till they are able to realize their unfulfilled dreams. Both sell him the dreams to the extent that the room rented out to them will once become a museum which once hosted the great genius of the world of poetry and painting. Finding the distance beyond measurement between their dreams and reality, the landlord refus-

es to buy their arguments and throws them out of the room to face further rejection and dejection of the society. Both the poet and the painter get this realization at this point of the time that despite having a civilization of thousand years at our back this world is not meant for creative people.

Natrang artists who presented a wonderful performance included Aadesh Dhar, Mihir Gujral, Adakash Bagal, Aryan Sharma and Kartik Kumar. The lights of the play were executed by Neeraj Kant. The play was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen and the presentations were done by Simran Bhagat.

Nukkad meeting of Congress Party held at Jammu; new members join Party

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Nukkad meeting was held by Congress party on Sunday at Bawe Wali Galli, Ward No. 6, Shaheedi Chowk, Jammu, chaired by senior Congress leader and former J&K Minister Yogesh Sawhney.

The meeting witnessed the joining of several new members into the Congress party. It was organized by Ward President Amit Gupta along with Surjeet Singh and others.

Various locals and prominent leaders were present at the meeting to discuss important local issues and participate in the joining program of new members, demonstrating strong grassroots support for the Congress party.

Block President Ajay Kumar Kaka, Raj Kumar Sodhi, and a host of other prominent Congress activists and youth leaders were present at the event. Pawan Dev Singh, Ajay Kumar, Raj Kumar Sodhi, Amarjeet Singh, Amit Gupta with Surjeet Singh, Surjit Singh, Kundan Kumar, Irfan Malik, Asif Mir, Farooq Choudary, Jamshed Chib, Janjew Bhatt, Akram Khan, Tawrej Chiba, Babbar Chib, Jatini Kohli, Anjad Khan, Neha Gupta, Preeti Rajput, Sidaarth, Paras Basson, and



Congress leaders during the Nukkad meeting.

Kamakshi Basson were also in attendance.

J&K Youth Congress Secretary Dr. Suhaib Manhas, Anmol Kohli, from NSUI J&K Mehul Abrol also attended.

Welcoming the new members, former Minister J&K and ex-MLA Jammu East Yogesh Sawhney stated that the Congress party can see growing trust and enthusiasm among the people, particularly the youth, who are stepping forward to work for the betterment of Jammu and Kashmir.

He said that the strength of the party lies in its grassroots workers and new members who bring fresh energy and ideas.

Sawhney encouraged the newcomers to stay connected with the people, understand their problems closely, and work towards strengthening the ideals of the Congress

Party at every level.

Further addressing the gathering, Sawhney strongly criticized the Centre and the BJP-led government, accusing them of gross mismanagement of Jammu and Kashmir's issues.

He pointed to the alarming rise in terrorism, referring to the most recent brutal Pahalgam attack and other tragic incidents resulting in civilian deaths.

He expressed grave concern over the deteriorating security situation, rising unemployment, lack of economic opportunities, and the growing instances of crime across the region. Sawhney emphasized that the Congress party stands firmly with the people of Jammu and Kashmir and will continue to oppose the BJP's policies that have failed to protect the interests of the Union Territory and its citizens.

NMC demands declaration of May Day as gazetted holiday

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: National Mazdoor Conference (NMC) president Subhash Shastri on Sunday demanded declaration of May Day as a gazetted holiday throughout the country Under Negotiable Instrument Act as befitting tributes to May Day martyrs and recognizing the valuable contribution of the working class in the all round development of the country.

Addressing a meeting of NMC workers here today, Shastri said that because of May Day martyrs, the working class got their rights throughout the world and India is the largest and most vibrant democracy across the globe and the front line welfare State should also

declare May 1, as gazetted holiday. He said that this will be a great full goodwill gesture and fulfill a most genuine and long pending demand of the working class.

Shastri expressed his concern that the then Government had declared May Day as a gazetted holiday in the country in 1990 but it was not done thereafter.

NMC chief hoped that the NDA Government at the Centre will announce a merger of 50% DA in the basic pay and pension, 20% Interim relief on the historic occasion of May Day

Shastri also demanded release of 2% DA besides enhancement of 2% HRA to JKUT employees and pensioners at the earliest.

Special Lok Adalat on Consumer cases held at Budgam



STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: For the amicable settlement of Consumer cases, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Budgam organised a Special Lok Adalat in district Budgam.

Special Lok Adalat was held under the directions of O.P. Bhagat, Chairman DLSA Budgam & under

the supervision of Nusrat Ali Hakak.

On the occasion, two special Lok Adalat benches were constituted at District Budgam that took up 65 matters for amicable settlement, out of these 19 matters were amicably settled.

Besides, an amount of Rs. 1,64,512 was realized in total in the settlement.

Kaith among many others, attentively listens PM Modi's Mann Ki Baat programme

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: R.L.Kaith among many BJP activists, attentively listened today's Episode of 'Mann Ki Baat' Programme wherein, the Prime Minister Narendra Modi stressed that the perpe-

trators and conspirators of the Pahalgam terror attack will be given a befitting reply. Mr Modi expressed anguish at the terror incident in Pahalgam, which occurred on the 22nd of this month. He stated that this attack shows

the desperation and cowardice of the patrons of terrorism. He said the enemies of India and Jammu and Kashmir were not pleased that peace was returning to Kashmir; democracy was getting stronger, and tourists were

increasing at a record rate. Mr Modi said the terrorists and the masterminds of terror executed the conspiracy

because they want Kashmir to be destroyed again. Mr Modi asserted that the biggest strength in this war against

terrorism is the unity of the country and the solidarity of 140 crore Indians. He added that this unity is the basis of the country's decisive fight against terrorism. He stressed the need to strengthen the resolve to face this

challenge, saying strong willpower has to be demonstrated as a nation.

Kaith termed 'Mann Ki Baat' a unique initiative of the Prime Minister to reach the masses across the country through Radio.