

17 SDGs, an alchemy of producing future leaders: Principal 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 itself into a trendsetter; a model of excellence imparting 21st century holistic education to children on its rolls.

JKPS Kunjwani introduced 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to groom students in variety domains. Members of one of the Clubs, namely, Rajat Sharma Club of Jr. Journalists, interviewed the Principal Rajesh Rathore. Here are the excerpts of the meaningful transaction between the Jr. Journalists (JJ) and the Principal Rajesh Rathore (RR):

JJ: Sir, what inspired you to design 17 SDGs for JK Public School Kunjwani, which reminds us of 17 SDGs of United Nations?

RR: Actually 17 SDGs of the UN stands for the vision of UN at a glance. The impressive circle depicting 17 goals of the UN in the form of coloured sectors always inspired me. I started making list of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for my school and I fixed the number to 17. These 17 SDGs will help us design a blueprint for a sustainable grooming of our students for all the future needs. It will also act as a light-house to set the sail of our ship. We have a comprehensive plan to see its effective implementation in all the domains of school life.

JJ: How will you define the very first SDG, that is, Sound knowledge base?

RR: Knowledge is power in today's world of professionalism and excellence. Knowledge helps an individual understand the world. It gives an upper edge to every gatherer. It paves the way to evolve a well-reasoned perception. It gives us power to equip, energize and empower ourselves. Without knowledge, we can't think vertical, lateral, divergent, convergent, critically, creatively, and judiciously.

JJ: how do you interpret the second SDG, namely, Polished expression?

RR: Every child may not be gifted with linguistic intelligence. Hence it's the moral duty of every Institution as well as teachers to empower every student in terms of strong communication skills. Inculcation of written and verbal skills

are easier, only if one focusses on extensive reading and speaking. Every child must be very sound in English and Hindi both: whether it be written or verbal expression.

JJ: Scientific Quest sounds very interesting. Your take on it. (3rd SDG)

RR: Every natural phenomenon taking place in the universe has got a definite scientific reason behind it. We need to foster the spirit of inquiry and exploration in every child. No individual should be credulous and take anything on its face value unless examined properly and arrived at a conclusion. Scientific quest refers to a critical examination and creative solution. It keeps an individual away from the clutches of superstition.

JJ: How can you impact the 'Mathematical acumen' of students? (4th SDG)

RR: NCF 2005 converges on the idea: how to mathematize the thinking of students. Scoring good marks in Maths may not be the litmus test for an individual to exhibit mathematical acumen. JKPS focuses on empowering every child with the requisite tools for performing the basic operations, namely, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Dodge tables will be mastered by every child. Teachers are training students for learning mental Maths. Competitive exams calls for speed and accuracy in Maths. Hence the mantra at JKPS today is speed and accuracy to every child to evolve mathematical sharpness in them.

JJ: How are you equipping children for 'General Awareness'? (5th SDG)

RR: In today's world, every child must be a well-informed person. Learning of a few concepts from the languages, science, maths, social science and computers will not be sufficed. One must broaden the ambit of one's learning. Current affairs, national, international affairs, sports news make an individual well groomed. Children must be trained for general awareness in a systematic manner. Knowledge is the sum total of myriads branches of learning.

JJ: How much importance will you attach to the acquisition of Computer Skills? (6th SDG)

RR: In today's hi-tech world, every child must be computer savvy. Mastery over the basic operations is expected from every child. One must develop proficiency in variety basic operations, namely, word, excel, PPT and various



coding languages. Acquisition of extraordinary skills in computers can be an added advantage and an asset to the organization.

JJ: How are you planning to make your students Environmental Sensitive? (7th SDG)

RR: The most gratifying experience is to make students aware and informed about their future role in strengthening the society and the nation. Matured reflections from students pertaining to environmental sensitivity fills me with pride and admiration. We wish every child to be a green warrior. They must plant some saplings from an early age. They are being groomed for the judicious use of water and electricity. They are being trained for carbon footprinting. JKPS has tied up with a national agency to emerge a Green school, fulfilling all the points laid down.

JJ: How will you ensure Fitness & Stamina in every child? (8th SDG)

RR: It's truly stated, "catch them young". Children are a bundle of energy. They never feel tired and look forward earnestly every moment to go outdoors to unleash their physical energy. If they are imparted a befitting training as per their interest area, they can bring lau-

rels to the school. JKPS has taken a pledge to groom every child as an athlete and no child should look obese.

JJ: How can you enhance the Aesthetic Sensibility of a child? (9th SDG)

RR: Every progressive and futuristic institution must instill the elements of aesthetic sensibility in children. Teachers must tap the potential of children in art & craft. They must impart systematic training to children during their formative stages with lot of appreciation. Praiseful training may activate some dormant skills in children. Colours, patterns, visualization & spatial intelligence need deft touches from an observant guru. Thus we can enhance the aesthetic sensibility of every child on the rolls.

JJ: What do you mean by Musical Appreciation in every child? (10th SDG)?

RR: Music is the elixir of life. Its therapeutic powers are phenomenal. At JKPS, every child is given a sound training for Raagas. We are imparting successful training to children in both the domains: whether it be vocal or instrumental. We give equal weightage to classical as well as western music. Let

every child develop an appreciation for music.

JJ: What is your strategy for equipping JKians with Life Skills? (11th SDG)

RR: School grooms students not merely for jobs but for the entire life. JKPS has integrated the components of life skills into its curriculum & adopted the culture in letter and spirit, as suggested by WHO. Each child is being equipped with the tools of self-awareness, effective communication skills, empathy, inter-personal skills, critical thinking, creative thinking, decision making, problem solving, coping with stress and emotions. We wish every JKian to take on the future challenges effectively and emerge a victor.

JJ: Financial Literacy is a buzzword these days. What is your vision for the school? (12th SDG)

RR: Money matters in today's materialistic world. Thus, it's the duty of every progressive institution to equip its students with the tools of financial literacy. It includes paying off debt, creating a budget, and understanding the difference between various financial instruments. Financial literacy has a material impact on families as they try to balance their budget, buy a home, fund their children's education, or ensure an income for retirement. Let every child be empowered to conquer the future financial hurdles of life.

JJ: The real success of an Institution lies in giving a Competitive Edge to its students. Kindly reflect on it. (13th SDG)

RR: Only a good performance in the Board exams can't be the motto of lead schools like JKPS. Students must be imparted a special training for the competitive exams. JKPS adopts an integrated approach to give competitive edge to its students. Teachers are developing Foundation courses for Maths & Science, matching with the modules of top coaching institutes. We are quite excited about this feature of our school, which makes us unique in Jammu.

JJ: Imparting 21st century Leadership Skills to students is sine qua non for every futuristic school. (14th SDG)

RR: The motto of JKPS Kunjwani is 'Grooming Future Leaders'. Students are empowered with the requisite leadership traits, like, knowledge, oratory, confidence, sense of initiative, courage, creativity, responsibility,

social contribution & global citizenship.

JJ: Inculcation of age-old Value System is a bare necessity to live a happy life. What is the JKPS advantage? (15th SDG)

RR: Redefining success, the greatest scientist of the 20th century Albert Einstein said, "Success in real sense is giving more to the society than receiving from it". We need GenNext to be groomed with honesty, sincerity, compassion, co-existence, respect for elders, poor & downtrodden. Let every child be a Charity ambassador of the school. In a nutshell, every JKian should an epitome of what a cultured person aspires to be!

JJ: Holistic grooming is not possible without exposing students to Community Services. Your reflection, please. (16th SDG)

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VC releases Souvenirs' for 3x3 Basketball event on JU Campus

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: New Education Policy (NEP)-2020 gives special attention to sports-integrated learning for students, said Prof Umesh Rai, Vice-Chancellor (VC), University of Jammu (JU) while releasing Souvenirs' for the 3x3 Summer State Showdown (Basketball event) 2022 commencing from June 27 on JU Campus, here.

Prof Rai emphasized on holistic education and said that there was a strong interconnection between sports and education.

Vice-Chancellor said, "Sincere efforts will be undertaken by the University to ensure that the sports infrastructure



VC JU, Prof Umesh Rai releasing Souvenirs' for 3x3 Summer State Showdown (Basketball event) 2022.

is further augmented and the sportspersons get the best of the facilities".

Prof Umesh Rai said that studying Sports Management, Organisation and Administration as core subjects, the event titled 'Get in The Game' shall help students get needed

exposure and thus help them implement their theoretical knowledge, said Vice-Chancellor.

Vice-Chancellor also wished the forthcoming event a great success.

The event is being organised by students of Bachelor of Physical Education (BPEd),

Semester IV, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education, JU.

The organising team included Komal, Hritik Khullar, Muskan Rajput, Neeraj Manhas, Kajal Sharma, Kiran Kour, Shivam Sharma and Manisha Manhas.

Later, Director, Directorate of Sports and Physical Education thanked the VC for providing this opportunity to students for hosting sports competitions which help them learn how to manage the facilities, allocating and utilising the resources, scheduling the activities of the event, inviting guests, media, approaching participants as well as execution of the event.

PDTA celebrates International Olympic Day



Budding taekwondo players posing with dignitaries during Olympic Day celebration at Poonch.

STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: Poonch District Taekwondo Academy (PDTA) celebrated International Olympic Day in which all the coaches, players of the Academy participated.

Premparkash Luthra (Retd) DYSS officer and Senior Vice President PDTA accompanied by Nirodosh Kumar Incharge Manager Sports Stadium Poonch, Amit Sharma Organising Secretary PDTA

also took part in the celebration.

Speaking on the occasion, Rajinder Singh, Taekwondo Coach from Department of Youth Services and Sports and Chairman PDTA, said that today was the day when Olympic Movement started in the world. "This day teach us to develop professionalism towards Olympic Sports and spread the feeling of oneness, brotherhood," he said and congratulated all on the occasion of international Olympic Day.

Premparkash Luthra requested sportspersons not to involve in any drug activity and develop professionalism in them.

Over 100 budding boys and girls of taekwondo also participated in taekwondo bouts and Poomsae activity.

Vote of thanks was presented by Ashaq Hussain, Organising Secretary PDTA.

National Rowing Championship: 63 races held in Sub Jr, Senior categories



Participants competing in Rowing Championship at Dal Lake.

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: On the third day of ongoing 23rd Sub-Junior and 5th Inter State Challenger National Rowing Championship at Dal Lake here, around 63 races were held.

The event was inaugurated by Lieutenant Governor J&K, Manoj Sinha. The heats in both the championships Sub-Junior and Inter-State Challenger championship had started on Monday with athletes; both male and females from 25 States and Union territories vying for the podium place.

Around 700 players and officials belonging to 25 States, and Union Territories have arrived in Srinagar for the event.

parted in two heats in which they finished first and second respectively by which both the teams have qualified for finals.

The event is being conducted by J&K Rowing and Sculling Association under the auspices of Rowing Federation of India and sponsored by J&K Sports Council, Khyber with active support from J&K Police, Tourism, J&K Administration, Health, LAWDA, SKICC, SDRF, NDRF and SMC.

JKOA organises Olympic Day run in Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Led by octogenarian, Dr Ashutosh Sharma and accompanied by celebrity wrestler, Dushyant Sharma, the Olympic Day Run held at Jammu under the banner of J&K Olympic Association (JKOA) this morning.

Today's was the day when Olympic Movement started in the World and to commemorate the day, Olympic Day Run is held throughout the country and world.

The JKOA organised the mega event under the umbrella of International



President JKOA, Dr Ashutosh Sharma flagging off run.

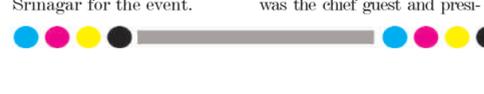
Olympic Committee (IOC). A big crowd of senior citizens, office bearers of the sports associations, sports clubs,

coaches, athletes across different age groups and a contingent of 'Brahma Kumaris' are a spiritual movement' were part of the successful Run.

Flagged off from the Manda by senior most participant and President of JKOA, Dr Ashutosh Sharma, the run passed through the BC Road to finally culminate outside the Sports House, MA Stadium, Jammu.

Pertinent to mention that hundreds of children's both Boys and Girls took part in the run. Their presence showed lot of enthusiasm among elderly participants and spectators along the

Hockey J&K organises matches on Olympic Day



Hockey players posing for a photograph with officials.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Hockey J&K organised matches of Junior men and women teams to mark the International Olympic Day at K K Hakku Stadium, here on Thursday. Brig JS Shekhawat was the chief guest and president of the Association, Rajeev Sharma was guest of honour. The chief guest stressed upon the players to work hard to achieve the desired results. Over 200 players were present to celebrate the day. General secretary of Hockey J&K, Dr

Taran Singh said that J&K needs more play fields for Hockey in the periphery of Jammu and Srinagar cities. Others present were Tejinder Singh, Gurjeet Singh, Ishan Sharma, Harmanan Singh, Angat Singh, Gurdeep Singh.

Arun Trust celebrates World Handball Day

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Arun Sharma Sports and Social Welfare Trust celebrated World Handball Day in a well attended function at Handball training centre of Sanatam Dharam Sabha School Campus, Old Rehari, here on Thursday. A brief friendly match was also played between teams of young trainees. The game of young trainees was witnessed by senior international players, including Akshay Khajuria, Dheeraj Nagpal, Dheeraj Pathania and Kartar Dogra. These super seniors also guided young talented



Players posing with officials during Handball Day celebration.

stuff in terms of technique and ability to stay fit and perform better under difficult conditions. Dheeraj Nagpal told young trainees about the importance of World Handball Day while highlighting the spread of the

game world over.

Meanwhile, the Arun Trust felicitated Sub-Inspector with J&K Police and former Handball player, Lalit Sharma for being helpful and supportive in the development of ground at the SD Sabha School.

The Trust also honoured Yoga Instructor, Brij Sharma for his inspiring words and guidance to be fit during the International Day for Yoga celebrated at the SD Sabha School. Later, International Football player from Jammu, Arun Malhotra presented sports kits to Arun Sports Trust for presenting to the budding players. Among those prominent who attended the function included Sanjeev Sharma, Chandan Singh Chohan, Ashish Sharma, Birban Singh, Kapil Sagotra, Atula Rajput, Jyoti Sharma and Bachan Dogra.