

Training programme on ‘Addressing Child Centric Vulnerability, Enhancing Capacity & Promoting Resilience’ concludes

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Five-Day Training Programme on "Addressing Child Centric Vulnerability, Enhancing Capacity and Promoting Resilience" organized jointly by National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), CCDRR centre and State Council of Educational Research and Training, JK, Divisional Office Jammu, concludes on Friday at Teacher Bhawan, Jammu.

The programme was organized under the guidance of Principal Secretary to Govt. School Education Department, B.K Singh and under the overall supervision of Joint Director, SCERT JK UT, Divisional Office, Jammu.

The morning session of the program included presentations by six groups of the participants constituted by the Program Officers, CCDRR, NIDM, New Delhi, Dr. Kumar Raka and Ranjan Kumar. The presentations were



Dignitaries at the closing ceremony of five-day training programme on 'Addressing Child Centric Vulnerability, Enhancing Capacity and Promoting Resilience' at Jammu.

based on the observations of the Field-visit to GHSS Pargwal on the third-day of the program. The presentations were based on the first-hand experience of the participants about the infrastructure, availability of Disaster Risk Reduction Mechanism and other non-structural aspects regarding preparedness of staff as well as students for any emergency like situation in such disaster-prone areas.

Certificates were awarded to all the participants during the evening session, which was graced by the presence of the Chief-Guest, Special Secretary,

DRRR, Suraj Rakwal. The Chief Guest was formerly welcomed by Joint Director H.R. Pakhroo and Feedback about the program was provided by the participants and the Program Coordinator Dr. Kumar Raka. The later insisted upon the dissemination of the training up to the grass-root level and initiate the process as soon as possible. The Chief guest urged the participants to connect to the children for making them aware about the Disaster Risk Reduction.

He assured the Joint Director for providing cooperation and coordina-

tion to the SCERT in order to attain the objective of percolating the trainings at the zonal level.

The main objective of the five-day program was to develop the knowledge, skills and perspectives of the participants towards Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction. The five-day program included sessions on Concept of Disaster Management, Understanding Vulnerabilities of Children in Disasters and Emergencies, Impact of Disasters and Emergencies on Children, Mental health issues and

psychological first aid etc. Dr. Kumar Raka and Ranjan Kumar, Program officers, CCDRR, stressed that the disaster risk reduction education should be integrated into school curriculum right from primary classes to give a fillip to the culture of disaster preparedness. Dr. Abhishek Chowhan, Faculty Psychiatry, GMC, Jammu; Dr. Nidhi Yadav, Indian spinal Injuries Centre, New Delhi; and Dr.Romesh Kumar, Head of Counselling Cell, DSE, Jammu were among the other resource persons who delivered sessions during this programme. The programme was successfully organized by the team constituting Professor Swaran Singh, Kuldeep Kumar, Sr. Academic Officer and Rakhi Atri, Sr. Academic Officer.

Vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Neeraj Jandial, Associate Professor. The programme concluded with the National Anthem.



BJP all set to form full majority Govt in J&K: Ravinder Raina

BJP's 3-day training workshop culminates at Patnitop

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

PATNITOP: Exhorting BJP leaders to work extra hours, J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina stated that BJP is all set to form full majority Government in Jammu & Kashmir on its own on the final day of Jammu & Kashmir Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) 3-days training workshop being held at Patnitop.

BJP National Secretary Dr. Narinder Singh, MP Jugal Kishore Sharma, General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul, former Dy. CM Dr. Nirmal Singh, former Dy. CM Kavinder Gupta, BJP J&K Seh-Prabhari Ashish Sood, former MP Shamsher Singh Manhas, former Minister Sat Sharma, General Secretaries Sunil Sharma, Adv. Vibodh Gupta & Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal and other senior BJP leaders were present in the training workshop.

National Training convener Dr. Mahesh Sharma addressed the 1st session which was chaired by Secretary Veenu Khanna.

RSS Prant Karyavah Dr. Vikrant Sharma addressed the 2nd session which was chaired by Pawan Sharma.

Ravinder Raina addressed the 3rd and the concluding session of 3-days Training Workshop which was chaired by MP (Lok Sabha) Jugal Kishore Sharma.

Speaking on the importance of these training workshops, Ravinder Raina, said that these sessions carry indepth knowledge of party ideology, policies and principles.

These training sessions lead to the steady maturity of party activists. He said that the activist of BJP must reflect the party principles in his/her day to day activities and this training enables the party activist to imbibe these teachings, principles in his/her heart.

He asked all the party leaders to pass on the



J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina speaking at workshop.

crux of these sessions to other party activists in their respective areas. He also spoke on the strong national and international policies adopted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi led government which is progressing on the "Nation First" policy.

He added that by the virtues of this dedicated army of Nationalist BJP activists, the party will ensure that the Nation is strengthened both internally and externally and is ready to lead the entire world as its leader.

He exhorted BJP leaders to work extra hours now, stating that with their dedicated efforts, BJP is all set to form full majority Government in Jammu & Kashmir on its own.

Dr. Vikrant Sharma elaborated on the prominent role of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) in Indian society and its inception by Dr. Hedgewar.

A need was strongly felt to unite the society which can successfully protect the boundaries of Nation in future as well.

Slowly led by the strong Nationalist policies and deep thought processes, many more organisations working in different areas came into existence, which continuously work for uniting the society and strengthen the Nation. Similarly earlier Jana Sangh and then BJP were formed to provide a strong Nationalist political force to reinstate Bharat as "Vishva-Guru".

He insisted that every single activist from any of these organisations works with "Vasudev Kutumbakam" principle in mind believing whole world as his/her family.

Enumerating various such organization's, their working areas and working styles he said that all these progress with single aim to strengthen Nation, ensure world peace and ensuring policies for the welfare of all.

Dr. Mahesh Sharma explained the concept of "Ekamta Manav-vaad" or "Integral Humanism".

He said that during pre and post independence era, a debate was going on in between adoption of "Vayakti-vaad (individualism) and Samaaj-vaad (socialism)", but both the concepts were incomplete and they led to conflicts and exploitations.

He said that Integral Humanism was then advocated by Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay ji, which believed that Individual, Society, Universe/Nature and Supreme power are all integrated and cannot be separated.

Hence, before taking any action, we must consider its impact on all of these 4 aspects believes Integral Humanism.

This concept will also lead to "Antodaya" benefit to the last person in society and "Sarvodaya" ensuring benefit to every individual. Training department Incharge Dr. Parneesh Mahajan conducted the meeting proceedings.

Bar Association holds interaction, oath taking function for new entrants



Jammu Bar members during an oath taking function of new entrants.

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JAMMU: J&K High Court Bar Association Jammu under the leadership of its President Senior Adv M K Bhardwaj organised an interaction, counseling and oath taking function for new entrants in Conference Hall of Lawyers Chambers, wherein all office bearers namely Mohinder Pal Singh Palli, Surjeet Singh Andotra, Aditya Sharma, Amandeep Singh, Rohit Sharma (YLA President), Gagandeep Singh Lucky Yaseer Farooq Khan, Karanjeet Singh Johal, Naresh Kumar and many other senior and young members of Association participated. The function

was started with reciting of National Anthem.

Speaking on the occasion, M K Bhardwaj advised all new entrants not to indulge in any illegal and unlawful activities in any manner whatsoever throughout their career. He gave them a 'Mantra' that 'hard work is the only key to success' besides advising them to work hard for achieving heights in legal profession. Quoting examples of numerous Advocates from Bar Association, who made substantive progress in their professional career through hard work, he asked young advocates to follow their footprints. He

also presented a set of books containing criminal manual, CPC and Specific Relief Act as a token of love for new members enrolled in Bar Association.

Later, newly enrolled members were administered oath that they shall uphold the sovereignty and integrity of Bar and Bench, and that they shall bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India as by law established and shall fully discharge their professional duties. The function was coordinated by Surjeet Singh Andotra, General Secretary while vote of thanks was presented by Aditya Sharma, Joint Secretary.

Identify big hands behind SI recruitment scam: Congress

Role of Youth activists, media deserve to be appreciated

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Expressing serious concern over SI recruitment scam, playing with the future of nearly one lakh youth who appeared in selection test, Congress



has said that the big hands behind the alleged multi crore scandal should be identified. Congratulating the youth for identifying and highlighting the bungling in the result forcing government to order enquiry, leading to substantiating the allegations, JKPC also sought the monitoring of the CBI investigation by the high court as public perception is that some highly influential hands are suspected to be involved. The SI recruitment scam exposed the claims of the government about foolproof fairness, it has shaken the confidence of the youth in various recent selections under present regime. The present scam surfaced due to the efforts of the youth who could pinpoint large scale

bunglings in the performance of few selected candidates and also lauded the media and social media, for a campaign, forcing the government to order an enquiry. JKPC

Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma said that the enquiry committee has rightly recommended the CBI investigation into the major scam, however the probe needs to be monitored by the high court for a completely fair and independent investigation.

He said that the selections of 3400 class IVth posts is still pending because of certain irregularities and illegalities in the list which, had to be recalled by the board while rest of selected are serving for eight months. Similarly there are allegations of candidates in the selections in fire services too. In view of this situation, it is desired that all such allegations should be looked into and enquired to ascertain the facts.

Court awards 15-yr RI in NDPS case

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Additional Sessions Judge Udhampur S C Katal on Friday awarded 15 years rigorous imprisonment and a fine Rs 1.5 lakh to one Harvinder Singh, from whom about 4 Kg heroine and 2 Kg Poppy Straw were recovered.

According to case, on May 16, 2017 Mushtaq Ahmed (Sgt) in connection with

investigation of FIR No. 57/2017 registered under sections 8/15 of NDPS Act brought a docket at Police Station Chenani. According to police, during checking of vehicles at about 5.30 PM, a vehicle bearing registration No. JK02AU- 3131, coming from tunnel side and going towards Udhampur, was signaled to stop but driver of vehicle,

instead of stopping it, accelerated the speed and fled away. On this, the alert cops chased the vehicle and caught driver a few meters away. During investigation of case, SHO Paramjit Singh himself visited the site and prepared site plan. Heroin was found in four polythene packets, wrapped in tattered clothes. The contraband & recovery

memo produced by SI Balbir Chand was seized and packets were weighed. First packet was weighing 910 gm while 2nd packet was 1 Kg 10 gm, 3rd packet was 985 gm and 4th packet was of 1 Kg. Accused Harvinder Singh further disclosed that he has hidden two plastic packets in rear doors of vehicle. During search of

vehicle, 2 Kg poppy straw was also recovered and after completion of investigation Challan was presented. Additional Sessions Judge Udhampur SC Katal after hearing APP Himanshu Parkash with Inspector Paramjit Singh then SHO Chenani convicted accused and awarded 15 years rigorous imprisonment along with a fine of Rs 1,50,000.

Often parents are heard saying ‘Aajkal Bachchon Ki Padhayee Ke Kharche Bahut Badh Gaye Hain, Why ?

Why not have Indian School Education Services / State Education Services like we have Indian Forest Service ?

■ DAYA SAGAR

Allahabad (now Prayagraj) bench of UP High Court had on August 18, 2015 (Judgement Court 34 of Justice Sudhir Agarwal, J) had among other things also directed the Chief Secretary UP Government to take appropriate action in the matter in consultation with other Officials, responsible in this regard to ensure that the children/wards of Government servants, semi-Government servants, local bodies, representatives of people, judiciary and all such persons who receive any perk, benefit or salary etc. from State exchequer or public fund, send their child/children/wards who are in age of receiving primary education, to Primary Schools run by Board. Surely that was due to poor delivery of services by government schools. It was reported by PTI in Oct 2018 that a plea was also filed by advocate Shiv Kumar Tripathi before Apex Court challenging the Allahabad High Court's order refusing to initiate contempt proceedings against the state

government for not complying with the earlier judgment that had directed that kids of government servants, local bodies' representatives, judicial officers, who receive perks and salary from the state exchequer, should study in schools run by the Uttar Pradesh Board the present status of that could not be retrieved at the time of writing this story. Anyhow surely the order of 2015 has not been implemented in letter and spirit till date.

So often parents these days are found opining that they are very much hard pressed with the expenditure on education (even school education) of their children. Those who had educated their children in 1960s or 1950s may ask why pleading like that since in their times they never felt burden of at least the school education of their children.

True these days the expenditure on the education of the children/wards has increased firstly since desire for better education has percolated deep in almost all the social and economic segments of

community , secondly youth & parents have become more ambitious and education is surely the best available ladder that could possibly be used for lifting the socio-economic status of an individual and thirdly because there has been increase in number of aspirants for higher education / job status many times in comparison to what it was in 60s & 70s & so has increased the need for high academic scores even at secondary school level/ college level.

The expenditure that the parents are required to make on the basic school/ secondary school education, coaching for entrance examinations, professional education, higher education and competitive exams could be briefly categorized atleast in four segments (i) upto secondary School (ii) Preparation for entrance examination of graduate level professional / general education (iii) professional / university education (iv)



A Look through the Mist Part-I

coaching for competitive tests/ examinations.

The question that has been taken up here for addressing first is difficulties being expressed by a very large segment of parents for the education of their children even while they are in secondary school level and that too by even those also who live in cities / towns like Jammu, Srinagar, Ludhiana, Delhi etc in a democratic/ socialist country like India. In India both the Union as well as the State / UT Governments spend fortunes out of the state revenue (which includes the tax paid on a match box even by a beggar) on school education where a very large amount of the expenditure is made on the salaries / allowances paid to the teaching and supervisory staff. Whereas even in cities like Jammu (what to talk of remote villages)even the senior teachers / Senior Officers of Education Department may be minutely found sending their own children in the government schools

where they themselves teach or the schools they themselves super wise / administer. And of course the general public too follows the stream thinking that may be the level of teaching in government schools is not good. Hence parents are made by the circumstances to spend high amounts of money in private schools even on school education of their children which they would have otherwise got almost free of cost.

It is not out of place to mention here that most of the government schools up to secondary level (that too in cities) could be found equipped with teachers with much better qualifications as compared to private school / academies , the teachers in government schools have better job security / prospects and the salaries paid (pay scales and allowances) to government school teachers are in general much superior in comparison to salaries paid to most of the primary / secondary school teachers in private schools. Not only that it is also found that most of the parents who

send their children to costly private school / academy also simultaneously spend additional money on arranging private tuition for their children (before or after school hours) on regular basis. Ofcourse some students may need additional support and that may be provided to them but these days it has become a forcing need for almost all parents (whether they can afford it or not). Had the government school education infrastructure been delivering in proportion to the inputs from state exchequer many parents would have been relieved of atleast Rs.1000 to 5000 / per child unnecessary financial burden but that is not happening . Hence so often parents are heard saying "Aajkal bachchon ki padayee k ekharche bahut bad gaye Hain". Position of government schools/ school education administration was much much better in 1960s/1970s.

To be continued (The author is Sr Journalist, social activist and analyst J&K affairs dayasagr45@yahoo.com).