

DIET Kud holds District-Level National Science Drama Contest

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
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District Institute of Education and Trainings (DIET) Kud organised the District-Level National Science Drama Competition 2026 under the guidance of Principal DIET Kud, Irvin-der Kour.

Addressing the gathering, Programme Nodal Officer Bishan Sharma, HOD DIET, said science provides a rational and scientific approach to addressing challenges of daily life and contributes towards resolving societal issues.

District Coordinator Dr. Rashpal Singh, Senior Lecturer, highlighted the theme “Science and Society”, with sub-themes including Artificial Intelligence, Interstellar Planets, Electric Vehicles and Ocean Conservation.



As many as 23 student teams from across Udhampur district participated in the competition and presented performances based on the prescribed evaluation parameters of National Science Drama, New Delhi. The performances

were judged by Shamsher Singh, Principal HSS Damnot, and Mohan Lal, Principal HSS Mongri. Prizes and trophies were distributed among the winning teams.

The programme was anchored by Saguna Khajuria,

while Ajay Thakur, Teacher, Zone Panchari, handled photography and videography. Nodal Officer Bishan Sharma appreciated the efforts of the zonal coordinators and team members for successfully conducting the event.

J&K GCC Summit to showcase region as emerging global capability hub

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Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, in collaboration with the Government of Jammu and Kashmir and NASSCOM as Knowledge Partner, will host the two-day J&K GCC Summit 2026 on October 9–10 at Mandapam, IIM Jammu, aimed at positioning Jammu and Kashmir as an emerging destination for Global Capability Centres (GCCs).

The summit, being held on the theme “Unlocking J&K’s GCC Potential for Building Growth Ecosystem & Catalyzing Investment,” will bring together over 300 delegates, around 45 companies and more than 55 industry leaders from government, industry, academia, investment and the technology ecosystem.

Speaking at a press conference held ahead of the summit, IIM Jammu Director Prof. B.S. Sahay said the initiative was aimed at creating awareness about J&K’s potential as a GCC destination and facilitating



meaningful engagement between industry and the government. He said GCCs could generate employment across technology, finance, human resources, analytics and other knowledge-based sectors, while institutions such as IIM Jammu and IIT Jammu could contribute towards developing skilled manpower.

Secretary, Labour and Employment Department, J&K Government, Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, said GCCs could create sizeable employment opportunities for the region’s growing pool of skilled and educated

youth. He stressed the need to build a strong local talent pool aligned with emerging industry requirements.

The summit will feature high-level discussions on policy, investment, technology, infrastructure, skilling, talent development and industry-academia collaboration. The deliberations will also examine successful GCC models from other states and explore a roadmap for attracting investments to J&K. Prof. Jabir Ali, Prof. Nitin Upadhyay and Dr. Sandeep

Ananthanarayanan also highlighted

the importance of stronger industry-government-academia collaboration, innovation, research and technology in building a sustainable GCC ecosystem.

The inaugural session on October 9 will feature an address by Chief Secretary J&K Atal Dulloo, followed by addresses by senior industry and government representatives, including NASSCOM President Rajesh Nambiar. The summit is also expected to facilitate investment discussions, employment proposals and other tangible outcomes for the region.

MODI@25 exhibition showcases 25 Years of PM Modi’s journey of public service

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An exhibition titled “MODI@25”, showcasing the 25-year journey of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in public service, good governance, development and nation-building, was inaugurated today at Jagat Resort, Jammu.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Chief Guest Sat Sharma, Rajya Sabha Member and President, BJP Jammu & Kashmir, along with Rajya Sabha Member Ghulam Ali Khatana, BJP J&K General Secretaries Sanjita Dogra and Gopal Mahajan, MLAs Sham Lal Sharma, Arvind Gupta, Vikram Randhawa, Prof. Garu Ram Bhagat, Mohan Lal Bhagat, Rajiv Bhagat, Surinder Bhagat and Devyani Rana, State Office Bearers, senior party leaders, District Presidents along with their teams, party workers and school children.

The exhibition highlights 25 years, 300 months and



9,131 days of Shri Narendra Modi’s public life and his journey of public service, governance, development and nation-building.

The programme commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, followed by Vande Mataram. The dignitaries were formally welcomed and felicitated on the occasion.

A special film documenting Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s 25-year public journey was also screened. The approximately 30-minute film presented glimpses of his public life,

governance initiatives, development programmes and major milestones associated with his journey.

Speaking on the occasion, Sat Sharma highlighted various aspects of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s public life and his vision for India’s development.

He said that the MODI@25 exhibition provides an opportunity, particularly for young people and students, to learn about the Prime Minister’s journey and the major initiatives undertaken during his years in public life.

The exhibition presents different phases of Shri Narendra Modi’s journey, highlighting themes of public service, good governance, development and nation-building, while providing visitors an opportunity to explore key milestones through photographs, audiovisual presentations and other exhibits.

The programme was coordinated by Pawan Sharma along with Munish Khajuria, under the guidance of BJP Jammu & Kashmir State General Secretary Gopal Mahajan.

Special Olympics JKUT celebrates World Sight Day

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Special Olympics Bharat, Jammu & Kashmir organized an Eye Check-up Camp at Sahyog India Complex, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, to commemorate World Sight Day. The camp was specially organized for Special Athletes and Persons with Disabilities, promoting the importance of healthy vision and regular eye care.

The camp was jointly inaugurated by Thakur Jagdish Singh Prabhu Ji, along with Social Activist Advocate Jia Singh, CEO SAHYOG INDIA & Advisor Special Olympics Bharat JKUT, Ms Vandana Jora social activist; and Dr. Abhishek Sachdeva, Director, Sachdeva Netralaya, Dr M P Singh, Dr A V Himadri

Around 157 participants, including 58 Special Athletes, received comprehensive eye check-ups during the camp.

*This year’s World Sight Day theme, “Love Your Eyes,” emphasizes the importance of protecting our vision and making eye



health a priority throughout the year and across the world.*

Eminent eye surgeons Dr. Abhishek Sachdeva and Dr M P Singh from Sachdeva Netralaya under expert guidance of Dr Sanjay Sachdeva generously extended their professional services. They conducted eye examinations and guided participants and families on maintaining healthy eyes, preventive care, and the importance of regular check-ups.

The dignitaries appreciated the continuous efforts

of Special Olympics Bharat, Jammu & Kashmir, in empowering persons with intellectual disabilities and creating inclusive opportunities for their health, dignity, and well-being.

The parents of Special Athletes expressed their heartfelt gratitude for such meaningful initiatives and appreciated the vision and leadership of Dr. Ashwani Jora, Founding President & Area Director, Special Olympics Bharat Jammu & Kashmir.

Thakur Jagdish Singh Prabhu Ji and Advocate Jia

Singh CEO SAHYOG INDIA also addressed the gathering and appreciated the efforts made towards inclusive healthcare.

The programme concluded with a Vote of Thanks delivered by Sahil Badyal, Program Manager, Special Olympics Bharat Jammu & Kashmir, expressing gratitude to all dignitaries, doctors, volunteers, parents, athletes, and everyone who contributed to the success of the camp.

Event gracefully managed by Mrs Poonam Raina special educator

HDFC Bank Highlights Strong Growth Momentum as RBI Reaffirms India’s Economic Resilience

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India’s economic growth momentum remains resilient despite ongoing global headwinds, supported by robust domestic fundamentals and a strong economic outlook, according to analysis from HDFC Bank following the Reserve Bank of India’s (RBI) latest monetary policy announcement. Commenting on the policy measures, Sakshi Gupta, Principal Economist at HDFC Bank, emphasized the positive momentum in the domestic economy. Reflecting this strength, macroeconomic projections for FY27 have been revised upward, with economic growth expectations raised by 40 basis points to 7.1%.”Growth momentum remains resilient,” said Sakshi Gupta, Principal Economist

at HDFC Bank. “The RBI’s revised macro forecast reflects this strength, with the full-year growth forecast revised up by 40 basis points to 7.1%.”“We expect cumulative rate hikes by the central bank to the tune of another 50-75bps over the next few months. The risk of a more aggressive rate hike cycle hinges on whether the current West Asia conflict and rise in oil prices continue to linger on for longer. We expect inflation to average at 5.4% in FY27 with 6.3% expected in the current quarter. On growth, we hold on to our expectations of 7.1% growth in FY27,” she added. While global commodity price movements and West Asia conflict risks remain key factors to monitor, HDFC Bank maintains a positive outlook on the country’s broader economic perfor-

mance.

“On growth, we hold on to our expectations of 7.1% growth in FY27,” Gupta said, noting that inflation is expected to average 5.4% across FY27 as seasonal pressures normalize. Addressing liquidity and financial market conditions, Gupta noted that the central bank’s measured approach reflects confidence in natural market drivers, particularly with seasonal demand picking up.”On liquidity, the RBI abstained from announcing any new measures, and we expect the central bank to continue with routine market operations to balance excess surplus,” Gupta explained. “Moreover, as we move into the festive season, higher currency in circulation is also likely to support healthy liquidity balances.

Kotak Securities rebrands its retail business as Kotak Neo; Unifies Investing, Trading and Wealth Solutions

JAMMU, OCT 08: :

Kotak Securities Limited today announced rebranding of its customer-facing identity as Kotak Neo creating a unified and future-ready investment ecosystem. Kotak Neo is a reflection of a fundamental shift in how customers engage with financial markets today, seeking greater choice, seamless digital experiences and access to expertise, all in one place. The transition follows a multi-year transformation of Kotak Securities, marked by significant investments in new technology stack, product innovation, research and customer experience to address

the evolving needs of India’s investors and traders. The move brings the business under a single customer-facing identity, combining digital capabilities with research expertise and relationship-led engagement. Speaking on the launch, Shripal Shah, Managing Director & CEO, Kotak Neo, said “Investors’ needs have continued to evolve.

Today, they are not thinking only in terms of individual products like stocks, mutual funds or derivatives. They are looking at the bigger picture of how to build wealth, diversify their portfolios and participate

in different opportunities across the economy. But meeting all these needs often means dealing with multiple platforms, providers and advisors. With Kotak Neo, our aim is to bring more of that journey together within a single ecosystem.”A key differentiator for Kotak Neo is its ability to combine digital convenience with human expertise. Its digital-first platform sits alongside Kotak’s nationwide branch and partner network, research capabilities and relationship managers, giving customers the flexibility to engage through technology or human expertise depending on their needs.

PSPS GCW Gandhinagar Organizes Awareness Lecture on Social Evils of Dowry

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The Department of Sociology, Department of Social Work and NSS Unit-I of PSPS Government College for Women, Gandhinagar, Jammu, in collaboration with the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Jammu, organized an awareness lecture on “Social Evils of Dowry” under the patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Kulvinder Kour, Principal of the College.

The programme aimed to sensitize students about the social, legal and economic consequences of the dowry system and to encourage them to become advocates for gender equality, dignity and social justice.

Advocate Mamta Chib, Panel Lawyer, DLSA, the Resource Person of the event, apprised the students about the legal provisions related to dowry, the rights available to women, and the avenues of legal assistance in cases of dowry harassment, exploitation and domestic violence. She emphasized that dowry is



not merely a social custom but a serious social evil that promotes gender discrimination, financial exploitation and violence against women. She urged students to reject dowry and promote marriages based on equality, mutual respect and dignity.

Dr. Suraj Mohani Jamwal, Head, Department of Sociology, highlighted the significant role of education and youth in challenging regressive social practices. She encouraged students

to recognize their self-worth, pursue economic independence and actively contribute towards creating a more just and equitable society.

The programme was organised by faculty members from the Departments of Sociology and Social Work- Prof. Sunita, Head, Department of Social Work, Prof. Poonam Kesar, Dr. Shally Sabharwal and Dr. Haroon Rashid Wani.

The proceedings were hosted by Ms. Saloni Chib and Ms. Nancy Deonia,

while Ms. Netashi Sharma, NSS Volunteer, proposed the Vote of Thanks. A large number of students participated enthusiastically in the programme and actively engaged with the discussion.

The programme reaffirmed the College’s commitment to promoting social awareness, gender equality, legal literacy and responsible citizenship and concluded with a strong message: “Say No to Dowry — Build a Safer, Fairer Society.”