



Jammu, 14th August, 2024.

The Certificate Course in Theatre organized by Skill Incubation Innovation & Entrepreneurship Development Centre (SIIEDC) in collaboration with the Department of Students Welfare, University of Jammu culminated today with an impressive performance by the participants. Prof. Umesh Rai, esteemed Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu was the Chief Guest and Padmashri Balwant Thakur, eminent theatre personality was the Guest of Honour. Participants were awarded certificates by Prof. Umesh Rai and Sh. Balwant Thakur in presence of Prof. Alka Sharma, Director SIIEDC, Prof. Prakash Antahal, Dean Students Welfare, Prof. Monika Chadha, Chairperson Campus Cultural Committee and Prof. Garima Gupta, Coordinator SDCPV.

Prof. Umesh Rai appreciated the team behind the course. He congratulated the participants who have been transformed during this course. As he has always advocated experiential learning, he remarked that this performance is an example of how one's personality gets transformed by doing creative activities. He also dwelt about the 12 Clubs which offer immense opportunities to the youth of Jammu in finding their inner-self and utilize it for overall personality development. He also spoke about the importance of skills, incubation and innovation.

Padmashri Balwant Thakur expressed his gladness over watching such a wonderful performance. He complemented Prof. Umesh Rai under whose visionary leadership; the University of Jammu is making all round progress. He also congratulated the University of Jammu for being the first institution of JKUT to formally start this unique course which offers multifaceted benefits to the participants, this was, in fact a long pending requirement of the region which has been now full-filled by the University and this initiative will go a long way in channelizing the energies of the youth towards positive pursuits.

In her address, Prof. Alka Sharma, informed that this Certificate Course in Theatre was designed for students to give them a better understanding of the art forms and provide them an opportunity to get acquainted with the immense benefits of theatre which refine us physically, mentally and spiritually. Moreover, Theatre has been acknowledged as one of the most effective tools for personality development and this course has apparently

sharpened the soft skills of the students which will help them in their academic pursuits also.

In her welcome address, Prof. Monika Chadha, informed that the Course was designed to make students aware about their innate creative and aesthetic capabilities & provide an opportunity to get acquainted with the immense benefits of theatre for the overall Personality Development and it was apparent from the feedback and performance of the participants that the goal is well achieved.

The course was envisaged under the guidance of Prof. Garima Gupta, Coordinator Skill Development and Career Planning Vertical. Sumeet Sharma, Drama Instructor at the Department of Students Welfare, University of Jammu was the course coordinator. Being professionally qualified and having an extensive experience of theatre, Sumeet has provided invigorating knowledge of theatre to the participants. Visiting faculty of the course included Mr. Krishan, Ms. Vaishali Chowdhary, Mr. Kamal Sharma, Dr. Kuldeep Raina, Ms. Nitika Aggarwal, Mr. Sanjeev Gupta & Mr. Gaurav Jamwal.

A scintillating performance of the play "Pollution Ka Solution" was also presented at the occasion which received accolades. The play was brilliantly written and directed by Sumeet Sharma. The event was ably conducted by Ramneet Kaur. The participants included Arjun Pratap Singh, Avni Sharma, Riya Jandial, Mahi Gupta, Rishiv Prabhakar, Malvika Kalra, Kartik Kumar, Sumakshi Pandita, Medha Gupta, Dyutima Kesar Sohana Gorka, Subani Kaur, Kakun Mahajan, Dr. Arun Gupta and Kananpreet Kaur. The sound was looked after by Kulbhushan Thakur and Arif Paul. Hall Management was looked after by R. P. Singh, Sachin Sharma & Jatinder Singh.