

CGPWA Conducts Plantation Drive at GHSS School Channi Himmat

Jammu August 4:- In the second phase of the plantation drive, the Central Govt Pensioners' Welfare Association, Jammu (CGPWA) today planted one hundred plants in the premises of Govt Higher Secondary School, Channi Himmat (GHSS). The drive was inaugurated by the President of CGPWA, Kuldeep Khoda, former DGP & CVC J&K who planted a sapling of Gulmohar. Dr Ashok Bhan, former DGP and Life Member of CGPWA who was also present, planted a Neem sapling. In all, one hundred plants were planted by the students, teachers and members of CGPWA & BALGRAN.

To ensure post-plantation care, the school will form student groups to nurture the saplings and the CGPWA will award the group that raises the best-grown plant.

The plants planted in today's drive included Amla, Behra, Gulmohar, Bahunia (kachnar), Guava, Acacia and Neem. These plants were supplied by Urban Forestry.

An arrangement was reached between the CGPWA and GHSS, Channi Himmat under which the CGPWA will organise an awareness Lecture on Nasha Mukht at the school to sensitise teachers and students about this dreaded menace. Senior members of the CGPWA will conduct interactive mentorship sessions to help senior students crack UT- and national-level competitive examinations.

Speaking on the occasion, Khoda apprised the students of the purpose of planting trees, stating that trees are linked to our survival as they provide oxygen to human beings. Appreciating their interest in the plantation, he said, they should plant trees wherever possible, including at their residences and nurture them well so they grow into trees.

Calling young students the future of India, he said they are the focus of the entire country, as they will steer the country to new heights in the future. This calls for hard work, dedication, and a spirit of nationalism. He advised the students to distance themselves from social media as it takes away the creativity of young minds. He said that it is okay to acquire knowledge from this technology but don't become its 'slave'. He said that by becoming creative, technologically enriched, disciplined and self-confident, they can develop their own ventures and provide jobs to others rather than hankering after them.

Dr Ashok Bhan, in his brief address, asked the students to see the shade of the grown-up trees under which they were standing, noting that these plants were planted many years ago and today they are reaping the benefits. Similarly, the plants they planted today will grow into trees that will benefit coming generations. So, they must plant more and more saplings to benefit future youth besides improving the ecosystem of the area. He talked about photosynthesis and said that all human beings and animals depend on plants for their food and plants use energy from sunlight to make or rather synthesise the food they need through photosynthesis. Photosynthesis is important for two reasons: it is the primary source of all food on earth. It is also responsible for the release of oxygen into the atmosphere by green plants. He said that trees are vital for human survival.

Dr Sudharshan Kumar, Vice -President of CGPWA also spoke on the occasion and complimented the teachers and students for joining with the CGPWA in launching the plantation drive at the school. He also explained the significance of green cover in fast expanding cities.

V K Raina, former Forest Officer and chief coordinator of the plantation drive, explained to the students how important these trees are for everyone and said that over the years the human beings have, in pursuit of development and division of families, have led to the wanton destruction of vegetation and expansion of concrete structures. Now to save the humanity, it has become essential to increase green cover, and the plantation drive was launched to achieve this purpose. He said that even the PM Modi has called for planting a tree in the name of Maa which represents the roots of human beings.

Earlier, the principal of the School Mrs Kiran Pradhan welcomed the President and members of the CGPWA and expressed her profound gratitude to them for selecting their school for much needed eco-initiative

V K Padha, member of the Executive Committee of CGPWA, presented the formal vote of thanks and conveyed the Association's appreciation to the Principal, staff and students for their whole hearted involvement in this noble cause.

Present on the occasion were O P Sharma, S C Sharma, Sunil Kumar Sharma V K Magotra, R N Koul, Anil Sharma and K B Jandial.

