

## **“International Day of Specially Abled Persons”**

*“Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.”*  
- Helen Keller

Army Public School Jammu Cantt organized “Fusion Grandeur” for Children with Special Needs to mark the occasion of ‘International Day of Specially Abled Persons’ on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024. A total of twelve schools (Eight Army Public Schools and four Govt. & Private Schools) were invited to celebrate the event. The participants include Children with Hearing Impairment, Intellectual Disability, Muscular Dystrophy, Visual Impairment, ADHD, Cerebral Palsy and Locomotor Disability- as notified under RPwD Act, 2016.

To celebrate the high spirits and will power of children with special needs, everyone came together to mark this special day. Ms Priyanka Andotra extended a hearty and warm welcome to the Chief Guest- Brig. Harjot Singh (Chairman APS Jammu Cantt), the Guest of Honour- Col. Shivam Goswami (Vice-Chairman APS Jammu Cantt), Principal- Ms Puneet Kaur, Vice Principal- Ms Manmeet Kour and to all the teachers, students & parents present in the event. The programme commenced by lighting the auspicious lamp by the Principal of the school Ms Puneet Kaur and Special Educators from different schools.

The event was conducted under the guidance of Mr Ashish Anand, Special Educator of Army Public School Jammu Cantt. To inspire and encourage all the Special Needs students to keep excelling consistently and to keep moving in life all the time, exciting sports activities and a group dance competition were conducted. Miss Kavita Arora from APS Jammu Cantt pleased all the audience with a motivational poem. There were solo dance & music performances also in the event. The program grew more exhilarating as the kids went to perform melancholy songs and scintillating dance performances signifying their talent which received thunders of applause from the audience. All these activities brought fun, happiness, entertainment and a sense of unity among all.

APS BD Bari bagged 1<sup>st</sup> position in Group Dance event. APS Jammu Cantt and APS Miran Sahib secured 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> positions respectively in the Group Dance competition. Master Mohit Sharma from APS Damana was the winner in Balloon Buster Game and Master Aadit Anand from APS Samba bagged 1<sup>st</sup> position in Floating Balls Game.

Parent of Master Manpreet Singh- ex student of APS Jammu Cantt expressed her gratitude for the services & facilities being provided to her child in the school and felicitated Mr Ashish Anand (Special Educator of APS Jammu Cantt) with an ‘Appreciation Certificate’ in front of the dignitaries for his extra-ordinary efforts in making a notable difference in the child’s educational journey with a special mention that the child was able to learn and perform the things in APS Jammu Cantt only which he was not able to learn from the past 10 years.

The program moved towards its closure when Ms Puneet Kaur- Principal APS Jammu Cantt motivated all the children with her encouraging words signifying the talents of Children with Special Needs followed by the valuable words from the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour. Prize distribution ceremony was performed to felicitate the winners by the Chief Guest of the programme which ended with a vote of thanks by Mr Ashish Anand with the message of providing more opportunities to Children with Special Needs to perform and shine in their journey of life.

