

GANPATI EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2024



GES Celebrates International Yoga Day

Ganpati Educational Society (GES), Kunihar, Solan District, Himachal Pradesh, celebrated International Yoga Day on June 21st with differently abled children and their parents. The event attracted around 40 current and former students, along with their families. Mr. Sanjeev Harnot, a certified yoga teacher from Sri Sri Ravi Shankar's Art of Living organization, led engaging and playful yoga asanas, which the special children thoroughly enjoyed. This gathering served dual purposes: providing a social platform for children to interact with peers and introducing yogic techniques to enhance their daily routines.

Dr. Roshan Lal, Director of GES, highlighted the significance of International Yoga Day and invited former students to share their accomplishments. Notably, Mr. Avinash Kaundal, who represented India in the Berlin Olympics, shared his inspiring journey, showcasing the positive impact of GES on differently abled children's lives. His story motivated current

Ganpati Educational Society (GES) Contributes to Groundbreaking Himalayan Flood Database Workshop

On June 5, 2024, GES participated in a pivotal workshop at Himachal Pradesh University, focusing on the UGC-UKIERI project HiFlo-DAT - a comprehensive Indian Himalayan Flood Database for Disaster Risk Reduction. This UKINDIA Education and Research Initiative event showcased a pioneering database documenting over 100 historical floods in Kullu District from 1846-2020, particularly relevant given the district's recent flood-landslide events in summer 2023.

The workshop united diverse stakeholders, including government agencies, NGOs, archivists, media organizations, research funders, and academics. Discussions centered on the database's applications, its potential for expansion across the Indian Himalaya, and strategies for maintaining an open-access resource.

Importantly, this initiative aligns with UN Sustainable Development Goals and contributes to national and regional disaster risk reduction targets. By systematically capturing disaster loss data, it aims to enhance local-level disaster management strategies.

GES was represented by Dr. Roshan Sharma (Director) and Dr. Daman Ahuja (Public Health Expert), underlining the organization's commitment to disaster preparedness and community resilience. The event, inaugurated by the Officiating Vice Chancellor of Himachal Pradesh University, featured notable speakers including Associate Prof. Richard Johnson (Cumbria University, UK) and Prof. Devdutt Sharma (Himachal Pradesh University).

This collaborative effort marks a significant step towards improved flood risk management in the Himalayan region, with potential far-reaching impacts on policy, research, and community safety.



GES Organised Legal Rights Orientation for differently Abled Children

Key Highlights:

- Legal Rights Presentation:
 - Speaker: Advocate Mr. Sunil Thakur, District Legal Cell
 - Topics covered: • Non-discrimination for differently abled children • Right to free education until age 18 • 3% reservation provision • Free health facility and legal services • Free legal aid for physical or sexual violence cases
- Organizational Updates:
 - Dr. Roshan Lal: Elaborated on the organization's activities
 - Mrs. Anjana Thakur (Special Educator): Presented the yearly report
- Expert Contribution:
 - Dr. Daman Ahuja: Shared expertise on Public Health and Community Engagement

Attendance:

- 40 students with their parents
- Staff members: Mrs. Chandrakanta (Special Educator), Mr. Balak Ram, Mr. Suriender
- Total participants: Approximately 120