

## **Border School Fest Season 2: GMS Sharchay Hailed as Model of Excellence Despite Connectivity Hurdles**

Kargil, December 2, 2025: Government Middle School, Sharchay celebrated Season-2 of the Border School Fest today at Sharchay. Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC), Kargil, Imteeaz Kacho graced the occasion as Chief Guest, while the Zonal Education Officer (ZEO), Kargil, Nargis Bano, attended the event as Guest of Honor while and the Chief Executive Officer of rZamba Trust, Saldon Shifa, was the special guest.

Officials of School Education Department, representatives of rZamba Trust, 17000 Feet Foundation, village elders, Village Education Committee (VEC) members, school students and villagers attended the event with enthusiasm.

The guests trekked for approximately one hour to reach the school, underscoring the spirit of perseverance required in this far-flung area which currently lacks road and network connectivity.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Guest, Imteeaz Kacho, expressed delight over how well the event has been organized in such a remote part of Kargil District. He saluted the courage and hard work of the students, teachers and villagers for their innovation and hard work in turning the school into a role model and a living example for the entire District, especially despite its remote location and the harsh topographic conditions. He specifically lauded the efforts of the Headmaster, Mohammad Abass Pintoo, whose innovative efforts had visibly transformed the school through adoption of new teaching methods, development of new infrastructure and complete mobilization of the community for the welfare the school.

Kacho also informed the gathering that the Administration has chalked out a fair and transparent transfer policy for teachers to ensure that every school in the District gets a better chance to grow and every teacher gets a chance to serve in all schools.

While appreciating the efforts of the teachers, villagers, and students, the Zonal Education Officer, Kargil, expressed hope for positive and growth and more progress in the coming days. She advised the school management to update the UDISE portal to register their requirements for the school in terms of infrastructure, toilets, libraries and other needs. She praised the Headmaster and VEC members for their sincere efforts in making the school a centre of excellence.

CEO rZamba, Shifa Saldon, briefed about the activities that her NGO is carrying out at the school. She said that such initiatives and progress in a remote area encourage the organization to continue their activities in other schools of the District.

Arif Ladakhi, a local representative, presented a memorandum demanding fencing for the school and accommodation for volunteer teachers visiting the school from time to time. He highlighted other important issues of the school before the gathering. He also appreciated the efforts of Mohammad Abass Pintoo, whose work was instrumental in transforming the school into a model school despite the lack of road and communication.

Ahmad Qadri of 17000 Feet Foundation briefed about the organization's initiatives like the establishment of a Digi Lab and a Library.

The School's Headmaster spoke about his journey in the transformation of the school. He credited the dedication of the teachers, the sincerity of the villagers and the hard work of the students for bringing laurels to the school and turning it into a model institution.

On the other hand, the students presented colourful cultural performances that thrilled the audience. An ethnic food stall, managed by the school students, showcased the unique local cuisine.



