

Film and Television Institute of India, Pune

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PRESS RELEASE

FTII TEAMS UP WITH INDIAN ARMY TO BEGIN SHORT COURSE IN SCREEN ACTING IN BARAMULLA, KASHMIR.

In a first, Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) Pune has joined hands with the Indian Army to start short courses in Baramulla, Kashmir.

The first of the courses, FOUNDATION COURSE IN SCREEN ACTING, was inaugurated in Baramulla today, jointly by Major General G S Rawat, GOC, 19 Infantry Division and Bhupendra Kainthola, Director, FTII, Pune in the presence of Brigadier Girish Kalia, Commander, 79 Mountain Brigade; Brigadier A Sreedhar, Commander, 19 Artillery Brigade ; Phonsok Ladakhi, FTII alumnus and Course Director and several other senior Army, police and civil officials.

"The best film education institute in the country---FTII--- has joined hands with one of the most respected institutions in the country---Indian Army--- to bring entertainment education to Baramulla in North Kashmir. This is the first time that FTII has teamed up with the Army to empower the Kashmiri youth with film education skills. The FTII courses provide an opportunity for artistic expression to the creative talents of young Kashmiris. The Indian Army has been conducting various personality-building and skill oriented activities for them. It is a matter of honour and pride for FTII to be now associated with the Army by introducing the dimension of entertainment skills to the empowerment process", said Bhupendra Kainthola, Director, FTII Pune.

79 Mountain Brigade of 19 Infantry Division is the nodal Army unit for the FTII courses. The area comes under 15 Corps, headquartered in Srinagar, J&K.

Phonsok Ladakhi (Acting, 1975), Course Director, is a veteran Screen Acting teacher.

Ladakhi is a rare combination of an actor, Yoga teacher and Vipassana practitioner. He has devised a unique teaching approach to acting; one that integrates the skills and practice of Yoga and Vipassana with Stanislavski's method acting. His design uses the subconscious mind both as a source of creativity and also for unfolding the deepest potential of every individual. Mime and movement are his forte.

A Yoga master since the last 35 years, he regularly conducts Yoga sessions for the Indian Army in Ladakh on International Yoga Day, 21st June. Phonsok Ladakhi is also a singer, having sung over 100 songs on Doordarshan and All India Radio. He is a Member of the Central Committee,

Jammu and Kashmir Academy for Art Culture and Languages. Phonsok Ladakhi has conducted Screen Acting short courses for FTII in Nagpur and Rudraprayag (Uttarakhand).

Two more courses are in the offing in Baramulla. They are, FOUNDATION COURSE IN SMARTPHONE FILM MAKING (two batches, July 21-30 & Aug 1-10) and FOUNDATION COURSE IN SCREENPLAY WRITING (August 11-Sept 1).



