

Film and Television Institute of India, Pune

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PRESS RELEASE

FTII-INDIAN ARMY SHORT COURSE IN SCREEN ACTING FOR LOCAL YOUTH ENDS IN BARAMULLA, KASHMIR.

The first-ever short course by Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) Pune in association with Indian Army has ended in Baramulla, Kashmir.

33 Baramulla youth, including 4 women, were presented participation Certificates at the closing ceremony of the 20-day FOUNDATION COURSE IN SCREEN ACTING attended by senior Army officers including Lt. Gen. A K Bhatt, GOC, Chinar Corps (15 Corps) AVSM, SM, VSM ; Maj. Gen. G S Rawat, GOC, Dagger Division (19 Infantry Division) YSM, SM; Brigadier Girish Kalia, Commander, 79 Mountain Brigade and Brigadier A Sreedhar, Commander, 19 Artillery Brigade.

Bhupendra Kainthola, Director, FTII, Pune; Course Director Phonsok Ladakhi and several other senior Army, police and civil officials were also present.

The Chief Guest of the function was actor, director and lyricist Gufi Paintal, best remembered for his unforgettable role as 'Shakuni Mama' in one of Indian television's greatest TV epic serial MAHABHARAT (Director : B R Chopra). He was also the Associate Director, Casting Director and Production Designer of MAHABHARAT.

Gufi Paintal has assisted Industry greats like HS Rawail, Rahul Rawail, Raj Kapoor, BR Chopra and Ravi Chopra. He has written jingles and copy for ad films and has acted in about 85 films and several TV serials (most recently KARAMPHAL DAATA SHANI) and has directed serials like EK SE BADH KAR EK, CHUNNI and MAHARANA PRATAP for Doordarshan. At present Gufi Paintal is part of a mega Hindi play on MAHABHARAT, launching in August this year.

Course Director, Phonsok Ladakhi (FTII, Acting, 1975), is a veteran Screen Acting teacher. He has devised a unique teaching approach---- one that integrates Yoga and Vipassana with Stanislavski's method acting. Ladakhi has conducted Screen Acting short courses for FTII in Nagpur and Rudraprayag (Uttarakhand).

46 RR with 79 Mountain Brigade of 19 Infantry Division are the nodal Army units for this unique FTII course. The area comes under Chinar Corps, headquartered in Srinagar, J&K.

Two more FTII short courses are in the offing in Baramulla. They are, FOUNDATION COURSE IN SMARTPHONE FILM MAKING and FOUNDATION COURSE IN SCREENPLAY WRITING.

Under FTII's film education outreach initiative SKIFT (Skilling India in Film and Television) 84 short courses have been conducted in 23 locations across the country covering 3800+ participants over the last 14 months.







