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PRESS RELEASE
**CBSE Hosts Drug and Substance Abuse Awareness Workshop
to Empower Educators and Tackle Youth Challenges**

Gurugram, January 16, 2025 – The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), in collaboration with DAV Public School, Uppal's Southend, Sector-49, Gurugram, successfully conducted a transformative **Drug and Substance Abuse Awareness Workshop**. With over 150 principals from CBSE schools across Delhi NCR, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, and Rajasthan in attendance, the workshop served as a crucial platform to address the growing issue of substance abuse among youth.

The workshop was inaugurated by **Shri Ajay Kumar (IAS), Deputy Commissioner of Gurugram**, who graced the occasion as Chief Guest. In his keynote address, Shri Kumar emphasized the importance of early intervention in combating substance abuse. He called for a collective effort involving schools, parents, law enforcement, and community organizations to tackle the root causes of drug abuse and safeguard the future of the younger generation.

The workshop featured a distinguished panel of experts, including:

- **Dr. Anees Cheekunath, IRS, Deputy Director, Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Delhi**, who discussed the role of law enforcement in curbing drug use and provided practical measures for schools to adopt vigilance.
- **Ms. Pankhuri Kumar, SP, Haryana State Narcotics Control Bureau, Gurugram**, who shared strategies for identifying early signs of substance abuse and emphasized the need for close collaboration between schools and the wider community.
- **Prof (Dr.) Arvind Kumar, Chairman of Chest Surgery, Robotic Chest Surgery & Lung Transplantation at Medanta - The Medicity**, and Founder Trustee Lung Care Foundation who presented alarming data on the health consequences of substance abuse, particularly the impact of E-cigarettes on the respiratory health of youth under 18.

Adding to the discussion were **Ms. Shanti Krishnamurthy** and **Mr. Satish Kumar** from Chinmaya International Residential School, Coimbatore. Ms. Krishnamurthy stressed the importance of fostering open dialogue about substance abuse within schools and society, while Mr. Kumar delved into the far-reaching physical, psychological, and economic impacts of drug abuse.

Ms. Charu Maini, Principal of DAV Public School, acknowledged the collective efforts of CBSE, the Gurugram administration, the Health Department, and the Narcotics Control Bureau. She emphasized that addressing substance abuse requires a unified and collaborative approach among all stakeholders.

The workshop included in-depth sessions on practical strategies for identifying and addressing substance abuse, followed by interactive Q&A sessions. Participants discussed preventive measures, health education, and the importance of community engagement in tackling this pressing issue.

The event concluded with a collective pledge by all participants to create drug-free school environments, signifying a major step toward empowering educators to address substance abuse effectively.

This workshop marks a significant milestone in CBSE's continued efforts to nurture a healthier, safer, and more informed generation. By bringing together educators, experts, and policymakers, CBSE reaffirms its commitment to combating substance abuse and fostering a supportive atmosphere for students across the country.

SECRETARY, CBSE



Glimpses

