Nine plays in 5 languages being staged Academy's Drama Festival to begin on Sunday

Jammu, March 16 2013

The annual Drama Festival organized by the J&K Academy of Art, Culture & Languages will take off on Sunday at the Government College for Women, Gandhi Nagar auditorium. During the festival, nine plays in different languages, including Hindustani, Dogri, Hindi, Punjabi and Kashmiri, will be staged by as many theatre groups of the State.

The plays will begin at 5.30 P.M. every day. There will be no play on March 20 and 23. Being a promotional activity, the interested persons and theatre lovers can watch the plays free. Giving details, Secretary Academy, Khalid Bashir Ahmad, said that the festival is held under an approved scheme of the Academy to promote and propagate theatre in Jammu & Kashmir. He said the entries are invited from theatre groups of the State which are evaluated for inclusion in the festival.

A panel of three theatre experts will watch the plays and adjudicate these for best awards in production, direction, costume, music, lighting, and set designing, he added. Pertinent to recall that the Academy is holding Drama Festival and Theatre Workshops since 1964.

The festival will open with *Hatak*, a play in Hindustani directed by Tapeshwar Datta, on March 17 and conclude on March 27, coinciding with the World Theatre Day. He said the other plays to be presented during the festival include *Us Noo Kahin* (Punjabi), directed by T. S. Premi, on March 18, *Raj Darshan* (Hindi), directed by Aaditya Bhanu, on March 19, *Rath Main Kanger Wuchh Main Dav* (Kashmiri), directed by Vijay Dhar, on March 21, *Solution X* (Dogri), directed by Vijay Goswami, on March 22, *The Government Inspector* (Hindi), directed by Abhishek Bharti, on March 24, *Do Kori Ka Khel* (Hindi), directed by Ifra Mushtaq Kak, on March 25, *Padav* (Hindi), directed by Vikram Sharma, on March 26 and *Abhigyan Shakuntalam* (Dogri), directed by Ravinder Sharma, on March 27.
