

## **Governor inaugurates 2-day Workshop**

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SRINAGAR, SEP, 3 |Mr. N. N. Vohra, Governor, has emphasized the need for making collaborative efforts by the Government agencies, NGOs and parents of differently abled children for the development of physically challenged to enable them to lead productive lives.

The Governor, as Chief Guest, was addressing the inaugural session of the 2-day Workshop on “Mental Retardation” organized by “PARIVAAR”, the National Confederation of Parents’ Organizations for Persons with Intellectual and Development Disabilities and sponsored by the National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad, here today. The Humanity Welfare Organization HELPLINE NGO, Bijbehara, is hosting this Regional Parents’ Meet.

Referring to the special abilities of the physically challenged children, the Governor said that there have been opportunities to invite groups of such children to the Raj Bhavan and he has observed that they possess special talents which need to be optimally developed. He said that during a recent visit to the Raj Bhavan these children played a cricket match and solved mathematical problems like other talented children.

The Governor said that because of the difficult terrain and geography of Jammu and Kashmir, and the people living in far-flung and remote areas, significant effort is required to be made by the concerned governmental functionaries to reach out to the physically challenged children, residing in such areas. He hoped that this Workshop would help in generating greater awareness among all the stakeholders and society at large about the issues relating to the differently abled children. He also emphasized the

need for most effective utilization of all the available resources for the welfare, education and vocational training of such children. Referring to the suggestions made by various speakers on the occasion for implementation of the provisions of the National Trust Act 1999 in Jammu and Kashmir, he observed that he would discuss this matter with Ms. Sakina Ittoo, Minister for Social Welfare, and later with the Chief Minister, so that the State has adequate legal, administrative and financial provisions for the development, growth and proper care of the physically challenged.