

## **An Interactive Session with a Gallantry Award Winner Lieutenant Colonel Nischal Bhardwaj Inspires Class 9 Students as Part of Veergatha Project 4.0**

In an inspiring and interactive session held on 4 October 2024 at APS Akhnoor the students of Class 9 had the incredible opportunity to engage with Lieutenant Colonel Nischal Bhardwaj, Gallantry Award Winner from 130 Armed AQ, as part of the Veergatha Project 4.0., an initiative under the aegis of the Ministry of Education's 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations. The project aims to introduce students to the stories of gallantry award winners and inspire them to imbibe the values of courage, sacrifice, and patriotism.

This unique initiative, aimed at instilling patriotism and values of bravery among students, reached new heights with the presence of such an esteemed and experienced guest.

Lieutenant Colonel Nischal Bhardwaj, who has had a distinguished career in the Indian Army, shared his personal journey – from being a young student with aspirations to joining the armed forces and eventually becoming a decorated soldier. His moving stories of valour, courage, and selfless service on the battlefield deeply resonated with the students.

During the session, Lt. Col. Bhardwaj emphasized the importance of discipline, perseverance, and dedication in achieving one's dreams. He motivated both boys and girls to consider a career in the Indian Army, encouraging them to serve their nation with pride. His message was clear: the armed forces offer not just a career but a lifetime opportunity to protect the country and live with honor.

The interaction was filled with enthusiastic participation from the students, who were eager to ask questions about Lt. Col. Bhardwaj's experiences, challenges, and life in the Army. The gallant officer shared anecdotes of his time in the field, illustrating the courage required to defend the country in challenging situations.

The students left the session feeling encouraged, inspired, and motivated to pursue their dreams with the same dedication and spirit of service demonstrated by Lt. Col. Bhardwaj. The interactive session was a significant success, with both students and staff expressing their admiration and gratitude for his visit.

Speaking on the occasion, Mrs Geeta Devi, Principal of APS Akhnoor said, "We are extremely honored to have had the opportunity to host such a decorated officer like Lieutenant Colonel Nischal Bhardwaj. His words of wisdom and stories of bravery have left a lasting impact on our students. The Veergatha Project 4.0 has truly inspired our young minds to think beyond their limitations and aspire for greatness."

The session concluded with a vote of thanks and a token of appreciation presented to Lt. Col. Bhardwaj for taking the time to inspire the next generation of future leaders and defenders of the nation.



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