



Campus Jottings

UPCOMING
EVENTS

- **National Faculty Development Program on Entrepreneurship Development form from 12th – 24th Dec, 2016.**

PATRON

Prof. Sanjeev Jain

Vice Chancellor

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SMVDU Condoled the demise of Former VC & Former Chancellor

A joint condolence was held in the campus of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University to pay homage to the departed soul of Sh. S.K. Sinha, the former Governor of Jammu and Kashmir and second Chancellor of University. All the faculty and staff assembled and remembered the contribution of the former Chancellor, Sh. S.K. Sinha, who during his varied career, as Lt. Gen Sinha, Statesman and Ambassador and as an awardee of Param Vishist Sewa Medal in 1973, took various visionary steps to lay foundations of University as Chancellor from 2003 to 2008. As a prolific writer, he authored five books including one on Jammu and Kashmir Operation in 1947-48 and his autobiography, "A Soldier Recalls". The University fraternity also offered their condolences at the sad demise of the first Vice Chancellor of University, Prof. B.B. Chattoo and observed silence for two minutes to pray for peace to the departed souls in the presence of Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sanjeev Jain and Registrar, Mr. Ajay Khajuria.

**Chancellor Inaugurated Technical Festival "Titiksha"**

The Annual Technical Festival of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University – Titiksha and the 3rd International Conference on "Recent Trends and Advancements in Engineering and Technology" were inaugurated by Hon'ble Governor Sh. N. N. Vohra on 17th November at Matrika Auditorium. Titiksha – the Annual Technical Festival of the University provides a platform to students and participants of other institutions to exhibit their technical and innovative skills and to compete with each other to find out solutions for problems of our society. 32 colleges and institutions took part in the Festival including school students from Jammu region participated in the fest. The 3rd International Conference on "Recent Trends and Advancements in Engineering and Technology" received papers from 7 different countries like Germany, Italy, UK etc., and institutions of repute from India like IIT's, NITs, CSIR Labs etc. The conference focused upon IOT, 5G, Robotics and Renewable Energy, Energy Harvesting, Genetics and Network and Information Security. In the Inaugural Address, Governor Sh. N. N. Vohra called upon the faculty to allow students to discuss ideas.

He expressed his satisfaction that number of institutions are participating in the festival as well as in the conference. He also reminded of the PM's initiative 'Make in India' as a force that can draw young minds towards entrepreneurship and to do new things in a new ways. He also highlighted that the residential set up of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University which gives the students an opportunity to do things together - to identify the problems of society and come up with possible solutions. He emphasized the need to focus much upon incubation, conservation of energy, conservation of water resources, utilization of solar energy, protection of environment etc.

The formal welcome was extended by Dr. Rakesh Kumar Jha, President Board of Professional Activities. The Vice Chancellor Dr. Sanjeev Jain in his address welcomed the delegates of the conference and wished success to the festival. Registrar Sh. Ajay Khajuria, Dean of Students Dr. Yugal Khajuria, Dean of various faculties, staff and students were present on the occasion. Prof. N. K. Bansal, former Vice Chancellor of SMVDU was the special guest on the occasion. The stage was conducted by Ms. Bisma Bilal and Vote of Thanks was delivered by Mr. Chaitanya, Secretary, Board of Professional Activities.

One-Week National Level Training Programme for IFS Officers



'It is never too late to be what you might have been ". With this aim, One-Week Training Programme on 'Creating Sustainable and Motivated Organization 'for IFS Officers at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University was inaugurated on 21st Nov, 2016. The programme was organized by School of Business, Faculty of Management with the financial support from Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India. Mr. A.K.Singh, PCCF, J&K was the Guest of Honour of the inaugural ceremony. While addressing the officers, he discussed the golden history and development of forest affairs in J&K and the milestones achieved by the state in the forest areas. Appreciating the resources and scenic beauty of University, he mentioned that University has made commendable efforts in organizing of such kind of training programme on a regular mode.

Earlier during the function, organizing secretary, Dr. Supran Kumar Sharma extended warm welcome to the participating IFS officers nominated by MoEF for training programme. While introducing the aim of the programme to the participants, he underlined that it will help in exploring and understanding the ways in which motivation can help the organization, especially the employees to act as conduit with the organization on the way of excellence. Prof. Sanjeev Jain also conveyed his best wishes for the programme. Prof. V.K.Bhat, Dean, Faculty of Management and Registrar, Mr. Ajay Khajuria congratulated the organizing team for the regular conduction of such kind of programmes at SMVDU. The training programme comprised of various interactive sessions by esteemed resource persons to highlight the development of building of willingness among employees to work which can help the organizations in securing best possible utilization of resources. One day field visit was also a the part of this one-week training programme. The participants of the programme belonged to different parts of the country including Gujrat, Karnataka, Madhya Pardesh, Assam, Chattisgarh, Maharashtra, J&K, etc. The resource persons from corporate, academia as well as public sector for the event include Major Geneal (Retd.) Dhir, Prof. W.C.Singh, Ashok Bhan, Alok Gupta, etc. besides inhouse resource persons.

2nd North Zone Declamation Contest organized

The 2nd Inter-State (North Zone) Declamation Contest for the Silver Rolling Trophy instituted by Governor Sh. N. N. Vohra was organized at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University on 30th November. Total 38 participants from the northern States like J&K, Haryana, Punjab, Himanchal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi participated in the declamation on the theme “Does religion defy rationality?” The speakers boldly highlighted that in the age of reason all religions, beliefs, established convictions have to be examined and what does not appeal to human understanding cannot be accepted. The declamation begun with a welcome note by Dr. V. K. Tripathi President Board of Cultural Activities and inaugural address by the Dean of Students Dr. Yugal Khajuria.

Jenab Naeem Akhtar, Hon’ble Minister for Education J&K State was the Chief Guest in the valedictory session in the evening. In his address he highlighted that there is no necessary contradiction between



faith and reason but we need to understand their due roles in life. Rationality is that we don’t allow religion to become barrier or to create difference between people. If we have mutual doubts about each other in society, our all speeches and preaching will not be effective. We need to remove these doubts particularly in a country like us where there is space for believers of every sect and religion. Intolerance in the name of religion is irrational. Dr. Sanjeev Jain, the Vice Chancellor SMVDU called upon students to take a leading role in the new age of education when employment generation, entrepreneurship acumen and converting ideas into reality are much needed. At the end, the evaluations made by the jury members namely Swami Nirantarananda from Ramakrishna Mission Jammu and Mr. David Devadas a well known writer, was disclosed and announced. Mr. Suraj Kumar from Govt. Degree College Dharmashala bagged the Silver Rolling Trophy and emerged the Best Speaker. The second positions went to Shivika Thakur from University of Jammu and Dunger Ram JNV University Jodhpur jointly and third position went to Prabhjot Kaur Central from University of Jammu. Ramneet from University of Jammu and Jhilmil Mengi from GCW Gandhinagar were awarded the consolation prizes. Shivika Thakur and Ramneet Kaur from University of Jammu bagged the Best Team award. Mr. Abhinav Dwivedi ... thrilled the audience with their musical performances. Dr. Rakesh Kumar Vice President BCA presented a vote of thanks. Registrar Mr. Ajay Khajuria, Prof. V. Verma Dean Engineering, Prof. V. K. Bhat Dean Sciences, Dr. Vandhana Sharma Dean Humanities, Dr. Sumeet Gupta Dean Academic Affairs, faculty, students and staff were present on the occasion.



‘Anukriti’ Enthralls SMVDU with Theatrical Performances



A reputed theatre group ‘Anukriti Rangmandal’ from Kanpur staged two legendary theatre shows in Matrika Auditorium at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University on 11th –12th Nov, 2016. *Jaanch Padtaal* adapted by Sanjay Sahai in Hindi revolves around the Nocho-lai Vaslowich Gogol’s *The Government Inspector*. It is a story about a small township in India, where corruption rules. The latest news in the town is that the centre is sending a senior person to inspect the wrong doings in the township. The mayor calls an emergency meeting where magistrates, civil servants, school inspector, postmaster and the *kotwali* head, all the officers are called. They mistake a youth who is staying in a hotel as the inspector who has come from Delhi. When the young man, Kumar, disappears after having taken a lot of money from all the guilty officers in the town, the Mayor realizes that he has been fooled. In the meantime, the peon from the circuit house comes and tells the officers and the mayor that the inspector general, sent by the centre, has arrived.

On the second day, ‘Purush’ is a question on male-dominated society where a man prefers to defeat a women by committing rape instead of facing her courageously. The play is weaved with sacraments given by an ideal teacher to his daughter. Although a house hold wife has different views with his teacher husband but she always supports him unconditionally. Although this powerful Marathi play is scripted by famous prominent contemporary writer late Jaiwant Dalvi, it is effectively translated by Sudhakar Karkare with same spirit & tempo with highly appreciable efforts. The play also reveals the ugly face of inebriated politics. This drama gave an emphatic message towards gender sensitization and empowerment of women, which is a quite contemporary subject. The play concludes with a unique revenge taken by educated and courageous daughter of the ideal teacher.

The team was welcomed by Dr. V. K. Tripathi, President Board of Cultural Activities of the University. The shows were directed by Dr. Omendra Kumar and Krishna Saxena, conceptualized by Nisha Verma. The main artists and actors were Mahendra Dhuria, Suresh Srivastav, Anil Nigam, Samrat Yadav, Yogesh Pandey, Rajeev Tiwari, Vijay Bhan Singh, Priya Mishra, Deepika Singh, Sanjay Sharma, Akshay Kumar, Shubham Bhadauria, Ajay Chauhan, Abhilash Tiwari, Mahesh Chandra, Raghavendra Prajapati, Geetika Lalwani, Tripti Raghav, Disha Verma. The back-stage team included Sirish Bahadur Sinha, Jolly Ghose, Akshay, Samrat, Anil, Deepika and Ajay. Faculty, staff, students, officials from CRPF camp Dheerti witnessed the show. Anukriti will also conduct a workshop on theater art for SMVDU students for coming ten days.

Professional Development Programme on Soft Skills conducted for Non-Teaching Staff

One day Professional Development Programme for Enhancement of Soft Skills for Non-Teaching Staff of SMVDU was organized by Internal Quality Assurance Cell of SMVD University on 5th Nov, 2016. The objective of this Professional Development Programme was to improve their soft skills so as to enhance their performance as well as personality. This is the second Professional Development Programme organised by IQAC of SMVDU under the Chairmanship of Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, and SMVDU. While welcoming the workshop participants, Prof. V.K. Bhat, Director, IQAC, SMVDU emphasised on the importance of stress and time management in office. Expert lectures were conducted on topic covering stress management, time management, team management, inter-personal relation and performance enhancement techniques by Dr. Suparn Kumar Sharma, Associate Professor and Dr. Ashutosh Vashist, Associate Professor from SoB and Dr. Balbir Singh from Department of Mechani-



During the inaugural ceremony, Workshop Coordinator Dr. Balbir Singh shared their experience and highlighted various approaches to improve quality of life personally and professionally. More than 80 non-teaching staff members of SMVDU working at various designations including Assistant Registrar, Section Officer / Office Assistant / Technical Staff/Assistant Accounts Officer/ Account Assistant/Junior Engineers/ Para-Medical Staff/Library Staff / Workshop Operators/ etc. in various administrative / academic sections of the University participated in this workshop.

Equal opportunity Cell organized lecture on SSB for entry to Defense Services



Equal Opportunity Cell in association with Training and Placement Cell in SMVDU organized a special lecture for students who are preparing for selection in Defense Services. Lt. Col. Bhaskar Gupta spoke on various schemes for getting into defense services for boys and girls. Service Selection Board (SSB) is the only gate for entry in Officer Cadre into defense services. Furthermore, the expert had interactive session with students on various aspects of SSB. Event Coordinator, Dr. Balbir Singh, Assistant Professor from Department of Mechanical Engineering, being Ex-IAF personnel, highlighted the quality of life in defense which is incomparable, and inspired students to join defense services.

One Day National Student Seminar on Current Issues and Challenges of Indian Economy

One day national student seminar on "Current Issues and Challenges of Indian Economy" was organized by the Department of Economics, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University. The Chief Guest for this seminar was Professor V.K Bhat, Dean, Faculty of Management. Dr. Kakali Majumdar, Head, Department of Economics was the Guest of Honour for the occasion. Prof. Bhat encouraged the students to exploit the opportunity and discuss various issues and challenges of the Indian economy during the two sessions. Welcoming the participants to the seminar, Dr. Kakali Majumdar encouraged and appreciated them for availing the benefit provided to them by the Department of Economics through this seminar. Adding to the details about the program, Dr. Pabitra Kumar Jena, faculty advisor of the seminar enlightened the participants about the current issues and challenges of the Indian economy and how the seminar aims at detail and comprehensive debate and discussion on the challenges prevailing in the



economy as well as framing policy suggestions in the present era. The seminar consisted of two technical sessions where the participants presented their research papers. Various topics were discussed during this seminar which included FDI, vicious circle of poverty, terrorism in J&K, make in India, financial inclusion, GST, inflation, public debt, NITI Aayog, black money, PDS, ICT, privatization, deficit budget, payment banking, entrepreneurship, public private partnership, digital India, and start up India. Around 20 papers were presented during the two sessions by participants both from the SMVD University as well as from various other institutions such as Jammu University, Jiwaji University, Gwalior, etc. This one day national student seminar ended to be very informative and productive as various economic problems were discussed by the participants. The formal vote of thanks presented by Mr. Amarjit Singh, faculty coordinator of the seminar. He thanked administrative staffs of the University and students of the Department of Economics for conducting the seminar as well as the participants from various institutions for their active participation. The seminar concluded with the certificate distribution to all the participants. The competition for the research paper presentation took place in the seminar where first, second and third prize was awarded to Mr. Vimarsh Padha, Kanika Gupta & Anjali Sharma and Bhumika Shama & Himja Sharma respectively. The event was sponsored by SMVDU TBIC, Masterprep, Cost 2 Cost computers, Cyber Infotech and Dominos.

Youth Must Be Trained To Find Solutions: Prof. Agrawal

An Eminent Lecture on the theme “Opportunities for Students in Emerging Economy” by Prof. D. P. Agrawal was delivered at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University in the Matrika Auditorium. Prof. V. Verma, Dean Faculty of Engineering welcomed and introduced the speaker. Prof.

Prof. Agrawal, former Chairman Union Public Service Commission, Educational Advisor to Ministry of HRD and Founder of the National Institute of Information Technology and Management,



Gwalior, addressing the large audience of students and faculty of the University and emphasized upon the role of students in the emergent global economy. In the talk, Prof. Agrawal said that the world today is completely changed and the youth has to play a key role in the pace of progress not only in terms of contributing to economic and technical growth but in terms of meaningful existence and protection of the environment. He further stated that the curricula of the university education have to change - it is to be changed in conformity with the need of the future. The academia have to see how an engineering graduate, a scientist, a management professional perceives the world, foresees the challenges, finds out the solutions and envisages the course of future. India is the fastest growing economy in the world today and if we have to develop as a nation, we should have more literacy, more education, and more employability.

Prof. Agrawal commented upon the objectives of the 'Neeti-Aayog' and emphasized that in view of the objective of equipping the youth with skills the youth have to think out of the box and come up with solutions. In the same spirit, the academic curricula have to be reviewed from the point of view of the objectives of the 'Neeti-Aayog'. Today's challenge is also to cut down the carbon footprint, meet the energy requirements etc. through the non-conventional sources of energy. One has a role towards every emergent problem of the society. It is therefore our responsibility to identify the problems of society, creating solutions, not necessarily perfect solutions but even working solutions, which at least trains the youth towards developing a mindset of finding solutions – this training is important. He also expressed an urgent need of making repository of the conventional knowledge of the nation, the conventional technologies which can be improvised to meet the current crisis. The advantage is that when the national knowledge is made relevant to current problems, it brings a national pride. The session was followed by interactive session. Dr. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor SMVDU, felicitated the speaker and Dr. Anil K. Tewari delivered the vote of thanks. Dr. Sanjay Mishra, Dr. Suparn Sharma, Dr. Yugal Khajuria, Dr. Pankaj Bishwas, Dr. Sumeet Gupta, Dr. Balbir Singh, Dr. V. K. Tripathi and many other faculty members were present on the occasion.

SMVDU Faculty Forum Organized First Lecture

Prof. N.K. Bansal, former Vice-Chancellor of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, visited the University campus on the special request of the Faculty Forum of SMVDU from 17th – 18th Nov., 2016. He graciously interacted with the faculty and staff in the session organized under the title "SMVDU towards Excellence: The Role of Faculty". He highlighted the need of excellent academic institutions being the incremental requirement of the youth of the country. He mentioned the contemporary challenges before the education system of India which was once the centre of great learning in the world with the Universities like Takshashila and Nalanda. He said that the dearth of good teachers, imbalance between teaching and research, lack of thrust for innovation are some of the challenges before India. He also remarked that we cannot afford to be a socially and culturally divided community.



The role of teachers is, therefore, of a great value in the present society. Teachers are required not only to impart factual knowledge to the students but also to infuse and to motivate the students for project-based learning. In order to inspire the students, the teachers must demonstrate a high moral character apart from having full commitment and constructive approach towards their profession. He encouraged the faculty and staff to strengthen solution-oriented mechanism and be open-minded towards interdisciplinary learning. Prof. Bansal remarked that SMVDU has a great potential to fill the gap of excellent institutions in the country especially in the state of Jammu & Kashmir. He also urged all the departments of the University to identify various topics of research in which they are going to engage themselves in near future. The focus of research should be to make original contributions to expand the horizons of knowledge rather than producing low quality works. He congratulated the incumbent Vice-Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain for bringing fresh winds to the campus and said that he hopes that the University will grow exponentially under his leadership. Prof. V. Verma, Dean Faculty of Engineering felicitated Prof. Bansal. Dr. V. K. Tripathi, interim President Faculty Forum extended welcome and Dr. Kamini Pathania delivered Vote of Thanks. The session was followed by extensive interaction session in which Dr. Sumeet Gupta, Ar. Aditya Singh, Dr. Manju Jaidka, Dr. Saurabh, Dr. Anil Tewari participated.

Professor Tej from Texas USA Delivered Talk

Dr. Tej Pandita, Professor and Scientific Director Department of Radiation Oncology Houston Methodist, Texas USA visited SMVDU from 19th - 23rd of November 2016. Dr. Pandita earned his Ph.D. in Cytogenetics from Panjab University in 1980. He

held faculty appointments at Columbia University in New York, Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, and the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, Texas before becoming a member of the Houston Methodist Research Institute in 2014. As a member of the Cancer Research Program, he directs a research program focusing on DNA repair and radiotherapy. In SMVDU, he delivered a talk on “DNA damage and Stem cells”. Dr. V. Verma HoD Biotechnology, welcomed the speaker. Dr. Rakesh Kumar, accompanied him for the visit to the different research labs in department of Biotechnology. He also interacted with the faculty and scholars of the department. He laid stress on finding the niche areas of research and particularly collaborative



and inter-disciplinary research. He had long discussion regarding the work going in the laboratory of Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Assistant Professor in the department of Biotechnology and showed keen interest in collaboration and also suggested that MoU between the two institutes can be a future possibility.

IIT Mandi Faculty delivered a Special Lecture on Network Control



Dr. Maben Rabi, Faculty at Indian Institute of Technology Mandi delivered a special lecture on “Networked control: Event triggered sampling” on 21st of November at Department of Computer Science & Engineering, SMVD University. He talked about allocation of communications and decision-making among the parts of a networked system. He emphasized on different models, and design tools to be developed to analyze, design, and verify a networked system. He further addressed the design challenges in manufacturing plants, with limited communication between the sensor and the controller. Further he also discussed the effect of several event-triggered loops using a common wireless medium. The lecture was followed by interactive question-answer session. Students and faculty members from various departments participated this two hour long session. The welcome address and vote of thanks was given by Dr. Sakshi Arora and Dr. Ajay Koul.

Adjunct Professor Prof. Bijoy Boruah from IIT Delhi visited SMVDU

Bijoy H. Boruah, Professor of Philosophy in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Delhi and an Adjunct Professor of the Department of Philosophy & Culture of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, visited SMVDU from 1st – 8th Nov. 2016. In his week-long visit, Prof. Boruah delivered five lectures apart from the interactions with the faculty and research students of various departments. The first lecture was held on 2nd November on “The Aesthetics of Architecture” which was essentially meant for the faculty and students of the Department of Architecture and Landscape Design. In his talk, Prof. Boruah lucidly the aesthetic relevance of the artifacts particularly the architectures. He remarked the double aspects involving utility and beauty



of architectural designs. The second lecture was held on 3rd November 2016 as part of the Thursday Mind-Meet on the theme “The Political Morality and Citizen Agency”. The Thursday Mind-Meet is initiated by the Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain to facilitate a weekly platform for the exchange of ideas on the themes of contemporary relevance. In his expert lecture in the 2nd Meet, Prof. Boruah made a distinction between ‘nationality’ and ‘citizenship’, the former being a cultural concept and the latter being a legal concept. His third lecture on 4th November on the theme “Narrative and the Self” was meant for the faculty and students of the Department of Languages and Literature. He used Argentine short-story writer Jorge Luis Borges’ story titled “Borges and I” to illustrate his points. The fourth lecture was on “The Idea of Interdisciplinary Research” which was held on 7th November. The PhD students and faculty of various Departments were inspired by his ideas and experiences. His fifth lecture in the evening of 7th November was based on the idea of value education. He discussed “the values of being a Human Person”. The lecture was attended by more than 700 students including those registered in “Discourse on Human Virtues”, a compulsory course meant to impart value education among the students of SMVDU. On the last day of his visit on 8th November, Prof. Boruah had an intensive meeting with the faculty and students of the Department of Philosophy & Culture for the future development of teaching and research in the department.

Workshop on Film-Making

A three-day workshop on film-making was conducted at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University from 25th to 27th November. The workshop was organizing keeping in view the need for imparting the basic cinematographic skills among students as one of the basic skills for any technical graduate today. The main instructor Mr. Tripurari Nath Tiwari – a freelance cinematographer and an emerging advertisement designer from Delhi and his team comprising of Mr. Govind Kumar Singh and Mr. Mithun Kumar laid their emphasis on converting concepts into script, technical aspects of shooting, cinematographic skills, editing and use of editing software, basic lighting techniques and adding music to films etc. The participating students in the workshop were divided into three groups each comprising six students and they were assigned shooting on the ideas created and discussed in the training sessions. The teams worked throughout days and nights and the eagerness for learning among students was seen at its peak.



Entrepreneurship Skill Development Program Successfully Concluded

Addressing the valedictory function of Entrepreneurship Skill Development Program (ESDP) conducted by Entrepreneurship Development Cell, SMVDU in collaboration with MSME Development Institute, Jammu, J&K, Mr. Chander Parkash Minister of Commerce and Industry, J&K state, called for technology based business to be initiated by the youth. Mr. Parkash distributed certificates to the participants and blessed them for their bright future and success. Mr. Prakash advised the participants to keep away from lofty business ventures and stressed on product quality consciousness while starting any business. Mr. Chander Parkash also highlighted about the rapid changes in trend pattern occurring in the business world. While asking for positive and effective youth energy, Mr. Parkash emphasized on intelligent waste management and by-product management. He also emphasized on improved

work culture in the society and imbibing modern and advanced business skills to compete in the market. Earlier, during the function Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU emphasized on ethics in business to achieve top notch position in their area of business ventures for long-run business success. Prof. Jain also highlighted the importance of intellectual property rights. Prof. Jain also encouraged first generation entrepreneurs to submit their proposal for business incubation center of the University for different kinds of support to encourage

their business opportunities and success. During the valedictory function, Dr. Suparn Kumar Sharma, Chief Coordinator, Entrepreneurship Development Cell, also gave details of the different sessions and industrial visits made during the event. Director, MSME, Mr. Virinder Sharma highlighted the different inputs given during the 30 working days training program in terms of marketing skills, production management, human resource management, etc. The program has also contributed towards the knowledge of various schemes available for finance, marketing, production, raw material to the participants. The students of ESDP gave excellent feedback of different training sessions attended by them in this program. The prize winner business plan was also presented by the participants of the ESDP. Registrar, SMVDU, Mr. Ajay Khajuria Prof. V.K. Bhat, Dean FOM and Dr. Sushil Mehta were also present during the session apart from other dignitaries.



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Talk delivered by Dr. Kisor Kumar Chakrabarti, Professor of Religion and Philosophy

Dr. Kisor Kumar Chakrabarti, Professor of Religion and Philosophy (retd.) from Davis & Elkins College, Elkins, West Virginia, United States, visited SMVDU from 25th Nov. - 12th Dec. 2016 as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Philosophy and Culture. He has initiated a regular discussion on the Karikavali of Nyayacharya Vishvanatha Panchanana with the faculty and research scholars of the Department. He has also planned to deliver some popular lectures for the benefit of the students of SMVDU



5th Thursday Mind-Meet

A panel discussion was organized on the topic "Demonetisation and its Impact on Common Citizens of India" in the 5th Thursday Mind-Meet on 24th Nov. 2016 in Lecture Theatre D. The panelists included Dr. Kakoli Majumdar, Head DoE, Dr. Pabitra Kumar Jena, AP, DoE, Dr. Saukat, AP, DoE, Dr. Kirti Ranjan Palta Singh, AP, DoE, Mr. Amarjeet Singh, AP, DoE, Ms. Bisma Bilal (15MMC003), an M. Tech. Student of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Mr. Amit Suhag (2013EME10), a B. Tech. Student of Mechanical Engineering. Dr. Sanjay Kumar Mishra, AP, SoB was the moderator in the session. It was remarked that the move of the Government of India should not be seen as merely demonetization. One can see all the three processes, namely, demonetization, re-monetization and monetization: Rs. 1000 note was demonetized, Rs. 500 note was re-monetized and Rs. 2000 note was monetized. The pros and cons of the move were extensively discussed. Whereas some speakers were apprehensive of the positive effects of the move on Indian economy, majority were of the view that it will certainly create an environment where transparency of transactions will increase and the influence of unaccounted money would be minimized. The faculty and students participated in the discussion.

Adjunct Professor Dr. Ranjana Mittal Delivered Lectures at DoALD

Adjunct Professor-DoALD Prof. (Dr.) Ranjana Mittal, Professor at SPA-Delhi visited SMVDU for Expert lectures to the students and faculty of the department from 11th-13th November-2016. Her visit was initiated with the meeting with the faculty for overall academic growth of department, chaired by Prof. V. Verma (Dean, FOE). Lecture series was conducted by Adjunct Professor for Semester III & V Students of the department on the subject "History of Architecture". Prof. Mittal shared her vast knowledge in Hindu Temple Architecture and also gave a brief about her research work in Hindu Temple Architecture in India. Students had a interactive session of questions after the Lecture. The Visit also included a knowledgeable and Interactive session on Urban Design for Semester IX Students of B.Arch course, DoALD. Prof. Mittal also met with Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor and give way her

Faculty Update

Architecture Faculty of SMVDU Attended International Conference at USA

Ar. Anoop Sharma, Asst. Professor of the Department of Architecture presented his Research proposal about 'A pilgrimage town as an Impetus for the urban development in surrounding Fringes: Potentials & Proposals' in prestigious International Annual Conference namely "SPACES & FLOWS" held at historic and reputed University of Pennsylvania, USA from 10th-11th November 2016. The conference was held for two days and divided in varied interactive sessions for a healthy output, accompanied by parallel paper presentation sessions. The research proposal highlighted the urban growth pattern of Katra in last 20-25 years critically and further, with the help of judicious case studies of pilgrimage towns like Madurai, Kanchipuram etc. Stress was laid upon the advance strategy for the future urban development pattern of potential surroundings of Katra with safety, ecology and image of the area without harming the economic benefits of pilgrimage for the state and country at large. Proposal regarding pilgrimage architecture of Katra and its surroundings was also touched upon in the proposal with judicious examples/studies. The research proposal by Ar. Anoop Sharma invited healthy discussion amongst the participants and earned fair appreciation from one and all presented over there. Apart from researchers from IIT-Kharagpur, IIT-Roorkee, SPA-Delhi, conference saw participation of around 100. The visit was supported by SMVDU's travel grant funds from University Grants Commission under 12th F.Y. Plan assistance.



Faculty Awarded "Apsi International Plant Scientist Award 2016"

The Academy of Plant Sciences, India (APSI) presented Dr. Sharada M. Potukuchi, Associate. Prof., Department of Biotechnology, SMVDU with the prestigious APSI International Plant Scientist Award 2016 in appreciation of her outstanding contribution and research in the field of Plant Tissue Culture and Genetic Engineering at the impressive Inaugural Ceremony of the APSI Scientists Meet & "National Conference on Emerging Trends in Biotechnology for Agriculture, Medicine and Environment" organized at Mahila P. G. Mahavidyalaya, Jodhpur, Rajasthan from 18th -19th November, 2016. Considering the very sincere efforts of Dr. Potukuchi for her outstanding and extraordinary achievements in various fields of Plant Sciences, the Academy takes this opportunity of honoring her with a Medal, which is a token of Academy's recognition of the rare distinction, she has earned in this specialized field of research. The Conference was also attended by M. Sc. & Ph. D. students of Biotechnology of SMVDU working under the supervision of Dr. Potukuchi and Dr. Raju Shankarayan who presented research papers.



Papers Published/Presented/Invited Talks

Dr. Vandana Sharma, Dean/C, FOHSS and Head, DoL&L delivered an Invited Talk on "Women as Crime-doers and Victims of Own Crimes" in Refresher Course on Gender Justice and Role of Police on 17th November, 2016 at Sher-I-Kashmir Police Academy, Udhampur, J&K.

Dr. Vandana Sharma, Dean/C, FOHSS and Head, DoL&L delivered an Invited Talk on "Teaching and Research: An Interface" Orientation Programme for College Teachers on 4th November, 2016 at Government College for Education, Canal Road, Jammu.

Dr. Anil Kumar Tewari, Asst. Prof., DOPC, was invited to judge the performance of students in the Preliminary Round of 7th Annual Inter-Collegiate (Northern Zone) Declamation Contest on the topic: "Is practice of liberal values the only way to end the politics of hate and harm?" on 10th Nov. 2016.

Dr. Anil Kumar Tewari, Asst. Prof., DOPC, was invited to deliver a Motivational Lecture for the students of B.Sc. (Nursing) 1st Semester, by SMVD College of Nursing, Katra on 22nd Nov. 2016.

Dr. Varun Kumar Tripathi was invited to judge the performance of students in the Final Round of 7th Annual Inter-Collegiate (Northern Zone) Declamation Contest on the topic: "Is practice of liberal values the only way to end the politics of hate and harm?" on 25th Nov. 2016

Dr. Anil Kumar Tewari, Asst. Prof., DOPC, presented a paper titled 'The Relevance of Samayamatrika in Present Era' in the National Seminar on "Relevance of Kashmiri Acharya Kshemendra in Present Era", organized by PG Department of Sanskrit, University of Jammu, Jammu, from 25th – 27th Nov. 2016.

Mr. Pankaj Biswas, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics presented a research paper entitled "Spectral Investigations of $\text{KCaVO}_4:\text{Sm}^{3+}$ Nanophosphor for Applications in Solid State Lighting under n-UV Excitation" in the 3rd International Conference on Recent Trends and Advancements in Engineering and Technology (ICRTAET) held at SMVDU from 17th-18th November, 2016.

Dr. Indu Bhushan, Assistant Professor, Department of Biotechnology Published the Springer's Book "Conservation Agriculture, An Approach to Combat Climate Change in Indian Himalaya" in which my chapter entitled "The Indian Himalayan Ecosystem as Source for Survival"

Ar. Abhimanyu Sharma, Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture & Landscape Design (DoALD) published paper "Identification of Seismic Damages in Reinforced Concrete Structures & There Recommendations" in International Journal of Science & Technology & Engineering (IJSTE), Paper ID: IJSTE314071/Volume-3/Issue-04/October 2016. ISSN (Online):2349-784X, Impact Factor of 3.905, Pages(s): 138-143.

Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra delivered an invited talk entitled, "Recent Advances in Queuing Modelling with Customers' Impatience" in a National Seminar on "Recent Advances in Mathematics and its Computational Aspects" at Department of Mathematics, Shaheed Mangal Pandey Govt. Girls P.G. College, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh during November 11-12, 2016.

Dr. Ram Prakash, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics, presented a Paper entitled "Structural, magnetic and electronic properties of Fe doped Eu_2O_3 thin film" at the National Conference on "Study of Matter Using Intense Radiation Sources and Under Extreme Conditions" held at UGC-DAE Consortium for Scientific Research, Indore from 3rd to 6th November, 2016. The conference was attended by ~400 delegates from different parts of country.

Dr. Narendra K Bairwa, Assistant Professor, Department of Biotechnology delivered a talk in the national symposium on "Bioinformatics & Computational System Biology" organised by Centre for Computational Biology & Bioinformatics, School of Life Sciences, CUHP, Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh, India from 12th-14th November, 2016.

Dr. Narendra K Bairwa, Assistant Professor, Department of Biotechnology, delivered a talk in the national conference on "Fungal Biotechnology and 43rd Annual Meeting of the Mycological Society of India" organised by Birla Institute of Scientific Research, Jaipur- 302001, India from 16th-18th November, 2016.

Student Update

Industrial Cum Academic Trip For Students Of Department of Biotechnology, Smvdu To Patanjli Food And Herbal Park, Haridwar

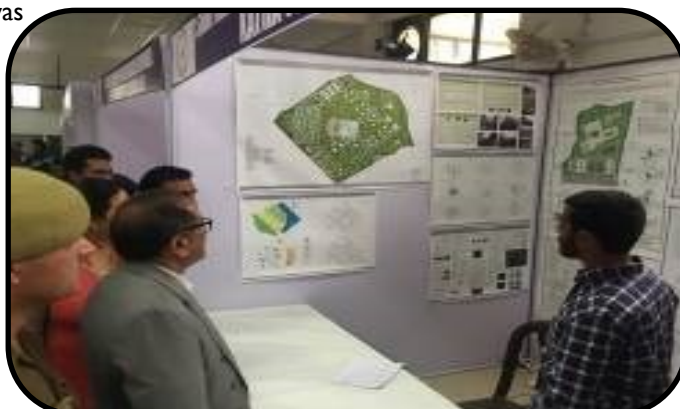
A four day Industrial cum Academic Tour was organized by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra for the students of Department of Biotechnology and 53 students of B. Tech. (Biotechnology), M. Sc. (Biotechnology) and Ph.D. Biotechnology, participated. Students were accompanied by Dr. Sharada Potokuchi and Dr. Swarkar Sharma. The team visited Patanjali Food and Herbal Park, the Mega Food Park under the Scheme of the Ministry of Food Processing Industry, Government of India. It is one of the largest food and herbal parks in the world equipped with world-class manufacturing machinery and R&D facility. It has spread across an area of around 260 acres and mainly divided in four Blocks. Sh. K.K. Mishra, Head Public relations personally hosted the team and made it aware of



various components of the park. He accompanied students to all the four 4 blocks, each with its own central Quality Control Laboratory and Quality Assurance unit. In the visit, students have been exposed to state of the art industrial technology processes. Students also had a chance to interact with with scientists & technicians of various laboratories where they have been introduced to advanced techniques and methods involved in processing and Quality Control. In addition, students visited Herbal Storage Area of 1 lakh sq. feet with 11000 tonnes capacity and have been informed that currently 550 herbs were in storage, including some very rare herbs. The overall trip was an academic bonanza for the students.

DoALD students represented SMVDU at National Conference at GCET, Jammu

The 2-day National Conference and Exhibition on “Emerging and Innovative Trends in Engineering Technology “(NCEEITET-16)” was organized by Govt. college of Engineering and technology (GCET), Jammu in collaboration with IIT-Kharagpur on Nov 11-12, 2016 at its campus at Chak Bhalwal, Jammu. The conference was inaugurated by Jenab Naeem Akhtar, Minister for Education, J&K Govt; in presence of state ministers Shri Bali Bhagat and Mrs. Priya Sethi. Dr.Nirmal Singh, Hon’ble Deputy Chief Minister J&K State graced the Valedictory Ceremony. Besides, the reputed industries like Powergrid, NHPC, NTPC, JK Bank, JKPDC, IRCON, Konkan Railways, Chenab Valley Power Projects, Siemens, BSNL, Yoyants, CADD, Sterlite displayed their exhibits. Paper presentations, student-industry interactive sessions & key note speeches by eminent speakers were the integral part of event.



A team of students of DoALD, SMVDU, Katra, comprising of Ashutosh Kumar Singh & Karan Sharma- B.Arch. Final Year along with Anchit Sharma- B. Arch. 2nd Year represented SMVDU Katra in the Conference. They displayed the selected work of highest quality and contemporary importance of students of Architecture. The work was deeply appreciated by all the visitors and dignitaries. Ar. Anoop Sharma and Ar. Chhavi Vatsalya; Asst. Professor- DoALD coordinated the said visit.

DoALD students competition entry shortlisted for reputed University of Westminster Design Trophy-2016

Project – Pagdandi, an initiative taken up by the students of Department of Architecture and Landscape Design (DoALD), SMVDU has been selected in Top - 19 (among SAARC Nations) in the International competition hosted by the University of Westminster (UoW), London. Through this initiative the students are doing their bit in making Sirah-Village (small village adjoining SMVD University Campus) a “model village” and give back what has unknowingly been taken away from the upcoming generation by helping the village cope with new challenges that have come along in this transition from rural to urban.



The students collaborated with the Block Development Authority (BDA, Block Panthal) and worked on waste management by getting 5 dustbins installed along the stretch, spread awareness against the burning of plastic waste, indulged in beautification of the market wall through informative graffiti and art work, planted Neem trees along the stretch. They have collaborated with Shrine Board in helping them design a boundary wall, an initiative taken under the CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) project for the primary school, Sirah which also provides a safe recreational zone for the village kids who are usually seen playing along the street or working in shops after the school hours.

University of Westminster, London through the competition has captured the creative energies of over 1500 registered participants from 87 colleges and Universities, enormous support from local communities and local authorities from 42 towns and cities, and has transformed 100 public spaces in South Asia within two years and strongly believes that these '100 Massive Small Changes' will inspire several more in the near future.

Pertinent to mention here that DoALD students entry “The Unknown Place” (implemented just behind the department building in SMVDU campus) was amongst the top 04 entries of the world in last year’s International competition hosted by the University of Westminster (UoW), London.

DoALD student invited to Dolby Digital Studios-Mumbai

Jigyasa Bora, A 5th semester student of DoALD is pursuing research under the guidance of Ar. Anoop Sharma, Dr. Ranjan Bordoloi, Ar. Aditya Kr. Singh, which is based on the aim to lower down the cost of sound production with the help of precise interior acoustics at a low cost.

As a part of this research, he won a chance to go to Mumbai to work under the guidance of Dolby Digital approved studios of Bollywood, where he received guidance from scientists, sound designers (including Mr. Jatin Sharma -A star sound designer having expertise in studio acoustics), composer and musicians to pursue further research work. He also received blessings from celebrity artists Angarag Mahanta (Papon) and Pritam Chakraborty, Anurag Saikia (Rajat Kamal Award Winning Music Composer). He also got a chance to work with experts from T-series and Yamaha as well. His Trip was fully sponsored by these Studios.



He received guidance regarding acoustic treatment for low frequency sound waves and guidance for series of experiments for the same. His final product of the research would provide chance to budding musician and other entrepreneurs related to sound production to record sound within a low cost.

Ms. Heena Shoket, Research Scholar, Department of Biotechnology, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra presented a paper in national symposium on “Bioinformatics & Computational System Biology” organised by Centre for Computational Biology & Bioinformatics, School of Life Sciences, CUHP, Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh, India from 12th-14th November, 2016.

Ms. Priynaka Kashyap, Research Associate, Bioinformatics Support Facility at Department of Biotechnology, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra presented a paper in national symposium on “Bioinformatics & Computational System Biology” organised by Centre for Computational Biology & Bioinformatics, School of Life Sciences, CUHP, Dharamshala, and Himachal Pradesh, India from 12th-14th November, 2016

Ms. Monika Pandita, Research Scholar, Department of Biotechnology, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra presented a paper in the ICRTAET organised by SMVDU from 17th-18th November, 2016.

Mr. Ram Krishan, DST INSPIRE Fellow & Research Scholar, Department of Mathematics, SMVD University, Katra, presented a paper titled, "Boundedness and compactness of difference of composition operators between some spaces of holomorphic functions to the Dirichlet space" at the 3rd International Conference on Recent Trends and Advancements in Engineering and Technology (ICRTAET) organised by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra during 17th-18th November, 2016.

The Department of Philosophy & Culture takes pleasure in congratulating its three alums Dr. Dinesh Jamwal, Mr. Varun Sharma and Mr. Ramesh Chander for their success in getting Assistant Professorship of Philosophy through JKPSC. The result of their selection was declared on 29th Nov. 2016. These students completed their MA (Philosophy) degree from SMVDU. Dr. Dinesh Jamwal also obtained his PhD degree from SMVDU in 2013 under the supervision of Dr. Varun Kumar Tripathi, Assoc. Prof., DOPC. The other two students are pursuing their PhD from JNU, New Delhi.

Ms. Anuja Koul, Ph. D. Student presented a paper titled presented paper titled “Studies on Optimization of Conditions for Maximizing Biomass and Bacoside Production in Suspension Cultures of *Bacopa monnieri* (L.) Wettst” at “National Conference on Emerging Trends in Biotechnology for Agriculture, Medicine and Environment” organized at Mahila P. G. Mahavidyalaya, Jodhpur, Rajasthan from 18th -19th November, 2016.

Ms. Jyotsna Sharma, Ph. D. Student presented paper titled “High Frequency *in vitro* Regeneration System for Conservation of *Kickxia ramosissima* (Wall) Janch: A Medicinally Important Herb” at “National Conference on Emerging Trends in Biotechnology for Agriculture, Medicine and Environment” organized at Mahila P. G. Mahavidyalaya, Jodhpur, Rajasthan from 18th -19th November, 2016.

Ms. Savita Sharma, Ph. D. Student presented a paper titled presented paper titled “Influence of Nutrient Supplements on *in vitro* Shoot Regeneration of Medicinally Important Plant *Boerhaavia diffusa* L.” at “National Conference on Emerging Trends in Biotechnology for Agriculture, Medicine and Environment” organized at Mahila P. G. Mahavidyalaya, Jodhpur, Rajasthan from 18th -19th November, 2016.

Adjunct Professor Prof. M.V. Deshpande delivered Lectures at DoBT

Prof. (Dr.) M. V. Deshpande, Emeritus Scientist and Professor AcSIR, Biochemical Sciences Division, National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), Pune appointed as Adjunct Professor at Department of Biotechnology visited between 13-19 November, 2016. He delivered lectures on topics such as: Introduction to Fungal Biology, Chitinolytic Enzymes: An Appraisal as a Product of Commercial Potential, Fungal Realm in Biotechnology: From classical to exotic applications, What are Fungi & Fungal Dimorphism, *Metarhizium anisopliae*, an Entomopathogenic Fungus for Plant Protection: Concept to Commercialization, Host-pathogen Interactions (including endophytes), Antifungal Agents: Past, Present and Future, Recent Trends in Microbiology and also had discussions related to research activities with various Research Groups/Faculty Members and Ph. D. students of DoBT. Fungal Biotechnology has several applications and an interest has been generated towards its usage in sustained agriculture for the development of biocontrol agents and antifungal activities. Prof. Deshpande during his interactions with the faculty members and students discussed about various possibilities for collaborative research between SMVDU and NCL, Pune. The conduct of the lectures were coordinated by Prof. V. Verma, Dean, Faculty of Engineering & Head, DoBT and Dr. Sharada Potukuchi, Associate Prof., DoBT.

Alumni Corner

Sudhakar Kumar (2012EEC02)

Pursuing M.S (Master of Science)

Institute of Communications Engineering

National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan

The quest to delve into the domain of Communications Engineering urged me to pursue higher studies in an overseas University so that I could gain hands-on experience on latest tools and technologies along with international and industrial exposure. Thus, Taiwan became an obvious choice because here, the academic institutions have been rendering practical (industrial) exposure to its students in collaboration with the giants of electronics' industry.

The preparation for getting into one of top universities in Taiwan was challenging but enthralling. On one side, the elective courses such as, Advanced Communication Systems, Wireless Sensor Networks etc. during my Bachelor studies at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) enabled me to draft the Statement of Purpose (SoP) with trending research issues lying in the cusp of wireless communications, whereas on the other side the tutelage of the Faculty Members of the Department of Philosophy and Culture (DoPC, SMVDU) enabled me to hone my English in order to communicate formally with the Professors in Taiwan and to secure a decent score at TOEFL as well. Being an alumnus of SMVDU, I take this opportunity to assure my juniors that they are being nurtured well in the premises of the University. Nonetheless, the onus lies on them to avail themselves of the prospects being provided over there. I strongly encourage the students to have a clear vision of their career and they must act accordingly well in advance. It is known to all that “Rome was not built in a day” and therefore, your long cherished desire can't be accomplished in the wink of an eye.