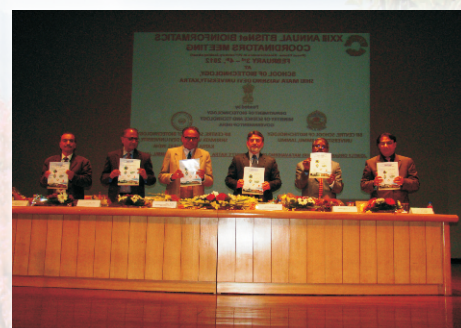




Vol.5 July, 2012

# SMVDU Chronicle

A Bi-Annual Newsletter



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**SHRI MATA VAISHNO DEVI UNIVERSITY**  
SUB POST OFFICE 182 320 - J&K





# SMVDU Chronicle

A Bi-Annual Newsletter

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## Editorial

Standing at the threshold of knowledge boom, today, every institution of higher learning faces the challenge of imparting holistic education. It has been universally realised that interdisciplinarity should be the guiding principle in universities with a focus not only on the specialized subjects but also on fostering interdisciplinarity. Pt. Nehru's words spoken at Allahabad University in 1947, "A university stands for humanism, for tolerance, for the search of truth. It stands for the onward march of the human race towards ever-higher objectives. If the universities discharge their duties adequately, then it is well with the Nation and the People" echo the intellectual evolution of human race.

Based on this premise, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University since its inception has always been striving to provide an ambience for holistic development of students which is reflected in a vast array of academic activities organised in the campus on regular basis. International conferences, seminars, expert talks, students activities and participation of students in the activities across the country is what SMVDU has been laying emphasis upon.

The current issue aims at chronicling all these activities which happened in the first six months of the year 2012.

- Vandhana Sharma



# Campus Life







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# INSIDE SMVDU





# XXIII ANNUAL BIOINFORMATICS COORDINATOR'S MEETING

## XXIII Annual Bioinformatics Coordinator's Meeting

was held at Matrika Auditorium, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra on Feb 3rd – 4th, 2012 with the focal theme: Bioinformatics in 21st Century – looking ahead. The meeting was addressed to collect the progress made under the Biotechnology Information System Network in India (BTISNet- India). The Inaugural programme was held on Feb 3rd, 2012 chaired by Prof. R.N.K Bamezai, Vice- Chancellor, SMVDU and presided by Prof. M. Vijayan, Chairman, Bioinformatics, Computational Biology and Systems Biology Task Force, DBT, Dr. T. Madhan Mohan, Adviser DBT and Prof. A. S. Kolaskar, Vice Chancellor, KIIT University, Bhubaneswar. The meeting was jointly organized by the Bioinformatics Coordinators from J&K Prof. V. Verma, Dean, College of Sciences & Director, School of Biotechnology, SMVDU, Katra and Prof. Manoj K. Dhar, HOD, School of Biotechnology, University of Jammu, Jammu.

The welcome address detailing the developments in the BIF Centre at School of Biotechnology, was presented by Prof. V. Verma. Dr. T. Madhan Mohan, briefed the august gathering about the vibrant network and the progress of BTISNet all over the country with regard to capacity building, infrastructural development, Human Resource training and research activities. He proposed for the integration of Bioinformatics activities with experimentalists all over the country in the forthcoming 12th Plan. He appreciated the work performed by the centers in terms of research publications and presentations in conferences. Prof. Kolaskar, detailed the efforts taken by BTISNet under the funding of DBT and applauded the contribution of the BTISNet Centers of Excellence, Distributed Informatics Centers, Sub- Distributed Informatics Centers and Bioinformatics Facilities Centers all over the country. He launched the Reengineered BTISNet Website on the occasion.

Prof. R.N.K Bamezai, inaugurated the Website on Micro-RNA prepared under the joint collaboration of School of Biotechnology, SMVDU, Katra and National Centre for Human Genetics, JNU, Delhi. The website has been designed by a Research scholar Mr. Kalai under the guidance of Prof. Bamezai, detailing the genes and functions of 1825 proteins for target predication for micro-

RNA and mitochondrial genome. The presidential address was delivered by Prof. Vijayan who pointed out that Indian Science would flourish with less bureaucracy and hierarchy as well as liberalization and participation. The meeting was attended by DBT members Task Force members Dr. Vijayan, Prof. Kolaskar, Prof. M.R. N. Murthy, Prof. Indira Ghosh, Dr. Pinakpani Chakrabarti, Dr. K. Sekar, Dr. Debasish Mohanty, special invitees, officials from DBT. A total of 200 Coordinators and Co-coordinators from all parts of the country attended the meeting. The various coordinators presented the progress made by their centers in five technical sessions. A colorful cultural evening hosted by Natrang Team from Jammu lightened the moods of the participants. The Vote of thanks on the occasion was presented by Prof. Manoj Dhar.

Two technical Sessions were held on 4th February 2012 where in 13 Coordinators of various BIF centers presented their reports. A panel discussion chaired by Prof. Bamezai, Prof. Vijayan, Dr. Madhan Mohan accompanied by Prof. Verma and Prof. Manoj Dhar was held to address the constraints and problems faced by some of the Coordinators present. The recommendations and action plan prepared by the Chairpersons and DBT officials present were shared by Dr. Madhan Mohan who praised the excellent arrangements made for the successful conduct of the National Meeting at Jammu and Katra. The salient recommendations made included: Network connectivity of various centers through the National Knowledge Network system which was already BTISNet operational in Central Universities and DBT sponsored Institutions would be extended to all the centers; resource sharing and setting up of a National Bioinformatics Society should be finalized during the forthcoming 12th Plan period; provisions have been initiated for enhancement of funds for the centers keeping in mind the changes made in the 6th Pay Commission; incorporation of Mission-mode projects in order to keep pace with the competitive world of science and the incorporation of novel Algorithms for Bioinformaticians in the country. All the



participants appreciated the efforts taken by the organizers Prof. Verma and Prof. Manoj Dhar in

making their stay fruitful & comfortable and successful completion of the meeting.

## INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON BIOTECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES IN CANCER BIOLOGY (ISBAICB-2012)



International Symposium on Biotechnological Advances in Cancer Biology (ISBAICB-2012) was held at Matrika Auditorium, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra on Feb 13th, 2012 which was a Satellite Symposium of the Ataxia Telangiectasia International Workshop held in New Delhi from Feb. 7-11, 2012. The Symposium was jointly organized by School of Biotechnology, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University and National Center of Applied Human Genetics, JNU, New Delhi. SMVDU hosted this International Symposium to address diverse research areas focused on DNA damage, mechanisms of mutagenesis and genetic instability, and the relationships between genetic instability and human cancer. The Symposium was supported by University Grants Commission, Department of Science and Technology, GOI and J&K State Council for Science and Technology, J&K Govt.

Highlight of the inaugural session was the Keynote lecture delivered by Prof. R.N.K Bamezai, Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU which dealt broadly with the complex nature of Cancer; using breast cancer as a model. Prof. Bamezai underscored the details about the contributions made by his research group in this niche area in past 20 years.

Apart from Prof. Bamezai the other invited speakers, who are at the forefront of their respective fields and come from a variety of disciplines included Prof. Jessica Tyler, Prof. Walter N. Hittelman, Prof. Bin Wang, Prof. Junjie Chen, Prof. Leslie A. Krushel, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, USA; Prof. Peter M. Burgers, Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics, Washington University, St Louis, USA; Prof. Tanya Paull, Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator, University of Texas, USA; Prof. Martin Lavin, Queensland Institute for Medical Research, Australia; Prof. Peter McKinnon, Prof. Sachin Katyal, St Jude Children's Research Hospital, USA; Prof. Thomas Ludwig, Columbia University, USA; Prof. Tej Pandita, UT Southwestern Medical Centers, USA; Prof. Altaf Wani, Ohio State University, Columbus, USA; Prof. David A. Boothman UT Southwestern Medical Center, USA and Prof. Nobuo Horikoshi, UT Southwestern Medical Center, USA.

Over 130 participants from various institutions participated in the Symposium. There were four sessions which were held during the proceedings of the day which included understanding Ataxia Telangiectasia, DNA damage response, aging and cancer. The symposium focused on new findings concerning the role of the DNA damage response and cell cycle control in cancer and to discuss new insights in the area of cancer biology and the latest trends in cancer research. Cutting edge research

was presented and deliberated upon on the molecular mechanisms involved in the repair and processing of DNA lesions, genome instability, and cancer etiology.

The symposium presented a unique opportunity for faculty, post-docs and students in this field of research to interact with the invited speakers, and got an opportunity to learn about their research activities. The symposium also provided an excellent opportunity for young investigators to participate in a forum and interact with leading investigators in this important area of biomedical research.

All the participants appreciated the efforts put in by the organizers, especially the Organizing Secretary Dr. Samantha Vaishnavi and the other members of the event management committee for organizing an International Event in this important area.

## NATIONAL FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP

School of Innovation and Community Development, SMVD University organized a two week National Faculty Development Programme on Entrepreneurship. The programme was held in collaboration with Entrepreneurship Development Institute (EDI) of India and College of Management, SMVDU. The programme was inaugurated by Prof. R. N. K. Bamezai, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, SMVD University on 12th March, 2012. In his inaugural address he stressed on the need for such programmes and asked all the participants to utilize the two weeks to in such a manner that they are able to organize more programmes on Entrepreneurship at their respective institutional level for the students and faculty. He said that Entrepreneurship should not be taken only in the context of producing successful business but we should be able to inculcate the Entrepreneurial values and behavior among the student community. The inaugural session was also graced by Prof. V. Verma, Dean College of Sciences, Prof. D. Mukhopadhyay, Dean College of Management, Shri Raman Gujral, Senior faculty, and head, Central Regional office of EDI at Bhopal and Dr. S. K. Wanchoo, Director I/c SICD.

This was first such programme organized by EDI, Ahmedabad in the state. A total of 20 participants from nine different states of the country took part in the FDP. The Programme was designed to train and develop professionals in entrepreneurship development so that they can act as resource persons in guiding and motivating young S&T persons essentially students to take up entrepreneurship as a career. FDPs provided inputs on process and practice of entrepreneurship development, communication and inter-personal skills, creativity, problem solving, achievement motivation training, and inputs on resource and knowledge industries. The training methodology included case studies, group discussion, games and simulation exercise and classroom lectures. The resource persons for the programme included Prof. B. B. Siddiqui, Distinguished Faculty, EDI, Ahmedabad, Shri Raman Gujral, Senior faculty, EDI. In addition to these two faculty members lectures were also delivered by a



number of special invitees from academia and industry.

A special session on Role of Achievement Motivation in Self Development was conducted by Prof. B. B. Siddiqui, Distinguished Faculty, EDI, Ahmedabad for the faculty and staff members of the University which was attended by over 80 participants.







## UGC SPONSORED NATIONAL SEMINAR ON WIRELESS COMMUNICATION & NETWORKS



Seminar on Wireless Communication & Networks with Special emphasis on Adhoc & Sensor Networks was organized by School of Electronics & Communication Engineering of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University on 24th -25th March 2012.

The focus of the seminar was on providing a platform for the Researchers, Academicians, Industry personnel and students from various part of the country to interact and learn about the new inroads being made in the field of Wireless Networks & Sensor Networks. Prof. Vinod Kapoor, HoD of E&CE, NIT Hamirpur while delivering the keynote address, emphasized the importance of Optical Communication & Networks in the field of day to day communication and the establishment of the Internet

backbone. Dr. Vipin Kakkar, Director, School of E&CE started the proceedings of the Seminar and gave a brief overview of the importance of Wireless Communication, Wireless Networks, Adhoc and Sensor Networks. Convener of the Seminar, Asstt. Professor Sumeet Gupta welcomed the participants and said that it was the duty of technical University like SMVDU to provide platform for such excellent interactions in the exciting field of Communication & Sensor Networks in J&K which generally is seen as being technologically backward.

Prof. Dilbagh Singh from NIT Jalandhar spoke about the application of Wireless Communication and Networks in the field of Tele-medicine and Body Area Networks. Prof. Narottam Chand expounded on the technical aspects of Wireless Adhoc & Sensor Networks while Mr. K S Nagla, NIT Jalandhar, spoke about Robotics. Dr. Ankur Gupta from MIET spoke about the advances in the field of Network Management while Dr. Vipin Kakkar from SMVDU gave an overview of the area of Wireless Sensor Networks and the research challenges in this field besides VLSI aspects in Sensor Networks. A session using Qualnet Simulation Software & Sensor Node Test Bed and e-content development was arranged.

About 120 participants from Karnataka, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Delhi and J&K attended the Seminar where Research papers were presented by number of faculty and student researchers highlighting the progress being made in their respective areas

Co-Convener Mr. S B Kotwal & Mr. Ashish Suri said that they were extremely encouraged by the feedback of the participants and would ensure that such events would be organized regularly for the benefit of the academic community at large in J&K. Mr. S B Kotwal presented the Vote of thanks at the valedictory function and thanked the administration and all wings of the University including Guest House, Transport, Security and staff for their support in organizing this seminar.





## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MYTH, ORALITY AND FOLKLORE IN THE WORLD LITERATURE (WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO RABINDRANATH TAGORE)

Three days International Conference on Myth, Orality and Folklore in World Literature (with Special Reference to Rabindranath Tagore) was inaugurated at Matrika Auditorium of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University on 29 March, 2012. Organised by the School of Languages and Literature of the University, the conference was partially funded by Ministry of Culture under Tagore Commemoration Scheme, University Grants Commission and Indian Council of Philosophical Research. Padmashree Prof. R.N. K Bamezai was chief Guest on the occasion. In his inaugural address, Prof. Bamezai dwelt upon the relevance of revisiting the past in order to reshape the future. He further stated that Oral Tradition has been enriched in the present world by electronic revolution.

Prof. Indranath Choudhury, former secretary Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi delivered the Keynote Address. In his address Prof. Choudhury said that "True criticism is an act of worship, puja. The true critic is a worshipping priest, who merely gives expression to his own mingled wonder and adoration or that of public at large." This keynote was an act of worship, puja of the theme of the conference. Prof. Choudhury dwelt at the length and breadth of the theme encompassing folk

tradition, mythology with special reference to Tagore. Unlocked by the keynote address by an erudite scholar, eminent scholars from different parts of the country and abroad deliberated on various aspects of issues relevant to the study of Myth, Orality and Folklore in the works of the writers of the world in all their diversity and complexity.

In the welcome address, the conference coordinator, Dr. Vandhana Sharma, Director of the School of Languages and Literature highlighted the genesis of the conference which aimed at juxtaposing Gurudev Tagore with other writers of the world for a more deeper understanding of the writer. Dr. Sharma said that conference also aimed at deliberating on the study of folklore which helps us to form and express identity in the midst of an always complex, sometimes confusing social context, in which our sense of who we are is frequently questioned and challenged. She underlined the major deliberations in the conference which were on the works of writers from all over the world with a great deal of focus on the Indian iconic writer Rabindranath Tagore, author of the celebrated Lok Sahitya and numerous masterpieces of valuable community literature, music and art. Dr. Neeru Sharma



delivered the vote of thanks, which was followed by an exhibition laid out by the J&K Arts and Craft Academy.

Other special features of the Conference were a spectacular performance, Astanyika by Prof. Mahua Mukherjee. Prof. Mukherjee is a professor of dance at Rabindra Bharti University, Kolkata and her performance was based on the use of myth in the songs



Jenaab Masood Choudhary, Former Vice Chancellor Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University was chief Guest in the valedictory function. In his address, Jenaab Choudhary congratulated the conference coordinator Dr. Vandhana Sharma for undertaking such a mammoth task and for taking an initiative for providing a platform for deliberations on theme which is of significant relevance. He particularly appreciated the performance of Bawa Jitto in English which has been an innovation of its kind in the folklore of Jammu and Kashmir.

Prof. Mohit K Ray, an eminent Tagore scholar and researcher delivered the valedictory address. In his address Prof. Ray mapped out the range, depth, variety and complexity of Tagore's use of myth, orality and folklore with copious illustrations from the writings of Tagore.

In her address, the conference coordinator, Dr. Vandhana Sharma, Director of the School of Languages and Literature expressed her gratitude to all the participants and said that although conference is coming to a logical ending but it is an ending which is going to have many positive and productive results. The three day deliberations had been stimulating as they

of Rabindranath Tagore. In addition to this, the students of the University performed the English adaptation of the famous Dogri play Bawa Jitto written by Padmashree Prof. Ramnath Shastri and translated into English by Dr. Vandhana Sharma, Director of the host school and coordinator of the conference. The play was directed by Mr. Neeraj of Natrang. Students from different Schools of the University enacted in the play.



ranged from oral traditions and folklore to mythology to Gurudev Tagore.

A galaxy of scholars from different parts of the country and abroad participated in the conference and 110 scholars made paper presentations. Prominent amongst them were Prof. Alan Johnson from Idaho State University, U.S. A, Prof. Jay Hansford Vest from University of North Carolina Pembroke, Prof. Jasbir Jain, University of Rajasthan, Prof. Tutun Mukherjee Head, Centre for Comparative Literature, University of Hyderabad, Prof. Usha Chaudhari University of Delhi, Prof. Mahua Mukherjee from Kolkatta.





## FACULTY & STAFF FELICITATE PROF. R.N.K. BAMEZAI

The faculty members and staff of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University organized a felicitation function in the honour of the Vice Chancellor of the University Prof. R.N.K Bamezai who was bestowed the prestigious Padma Shri Award by the President of India for his outstanding contribution in Science and Technology in 2012. The function was a gesture of the university employees to rejoice at the outstanding achievement of the Vice Chancellor which has brought great recognition not only to the University but the entire state.

Speaking on the occasion, the Registrar of the University, Mrs. Roop Avtar Kaur, IFS said that it is undoubtedly a great occasion of celebration for SMVDU on the recognition bestowed upon Prof. Bamezai. The Finance officer, Sh. S.K Sadhotra in his address said that Scientists of the caliber of Prof. Bamezai play a great role in shaping the future of nation.

Prof. Bamezai is a Member of the International Association of Environmental Mutagen Societies and Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences (FNASc), National Academy of Medical Sciences (FAMS) and International Medical Sciences Academy (FIMSA). He is credited with more than 30 years' experience of teaching and guiding research in various Universities in the country and has trained more than 300 researchers in the past seven years in the area of Human Genetics and Genomics.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Bamezai thanked all the faculty members and staff of the university for such an overwhelming gesture and stated that the honour bestowed upon him by the Government of India does not belong only to him but is shared by each and every member of the university and the state. The programme ended with concluding remarks by Dr. Vandhana Sharma, Director, School of Languages and Literature .





# CELEBRATIONS



# & DAYS OBSERVED



# REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION

The 63rd Republic Day was celebrated at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University with the unfurling of the Tricolor by Prof. R. N. K. Bamezai, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor. In his address, Prof. Bamezai extended warm greetings to the faculty and other employees and students of the university present on the occasion. He said, "The Republic Day is a significant occasion for every Indian to retrospect and introspect as our Constitution gives us rights as Citizens of India which must make us think of our duties as well". By sheer dint of hard work, focussed attention and dedication in respective disciplines of engineering, management, architecture, biotechnology, humanities and the energetic and qualitative support of the students, teaching and



non-teaching staff, the institution has shown exemplified growth. A colorful and thought provoking cultural programme was also organized in Matrika Auditorium by the students of the University.





# NATIONAL SCIENCE DAY

National Science Day was celebrated on Feb 28, 2012 at School of Physics, Shri Mata Vaisho Devi University, Katra to mark the discovery of Raman Effect by Sir C.V. Raman for which he received Nobel Prize in 1930. The event was inaugurated by Dr. Yugal Khajuria, Director, School of Physics. In his inaugural speech he encouraged the students to pursue career in scientific research and developments. It was followed by a brief talk on "Life and works of Sir CV Raman" by Mr. Nitin Sehgal, M.Sc. student of the school.

The debate and quiz competition was organized involving students from various colleges of SMVDU. All programmes and activities revolved round the theme of event "Physics: The Essential Science". The students from M.Sc (Physics II semester, IV



semester) and B.Tech (EEC) secured first, second and third position, respectively. Shamli from B.Tech (IBT), Arjun Singh and Surbhi Mahajan from M.Sc. (Physics) won first, second and third prize in debate competition. All winners were felicitated with cash prizes and certificates.

Coordinator of the event, Dr. Vinay Kumar said that the motive behind organizing such event was to enhance the knowledge and awareness of Science and Technology among the students.

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## LITERARY FESTIVAL 'LITLIFE' CELEBRATED



With the slogan 'Literature reflects life and lit our life' SMVDU Literary Fest- 'LITLIFE' was organized by the School of Languages and Literature to commemorate the foundation of the School. It was observed with the spirit of celebrating Literature by the teachers, post graduate students of masters in English, research scholars and students from other disciplines of the University in the university campus.

Prof. M.L Garg, Dean COHSS was the Chief Guest and Mrs. Roop Avtar Kaur, Registrar was the Guest of Honor in the inaugural ceremony. Speaking on the occasion, the Director of the School, Dr. Vandhana Sharma highlighted the

significance of celebrations of such dimensions which not only add color to life but also add value and meaning to life as Literature adds to reality by not simply describing it but enriching the necessary competencies that daily life requires. She appreciated the effort made by students in organising Lit Life and wished that the day long celebration with the events like Literary Quiz, Poster Making, Slogan Writing, Software games will be entertaining as well as enriching for the students of SMVDU and other participants from the PG department of English, University of Jammu and other affiliated colleges. The Chief Guest Prof. M.L Garg lauded the efforts made by the School and wished them all success. Ms. Roop Avtar Kaur in her address highlighted the significance of such fests which bring positivity in the environment and appreciated the efforts of the School in bringing about such kind of changes in the campus.



The Special Feature of the Festival was the initiation of Literary Circle in SMVDU which is an attempt to foster reading habits amongst students which are at a decline in the present age of net surfing and net blogging. The Director of the School Dr. Vandhan Sharma inaugurated the Literary Circle and said that such consistent efforts too make a difference in the thinking and personality of students which is for good. Approximately 50 students formed part of the Literary circle after its' inauguration and *Revolution 2020* was announced to be the Book for the Month. Literary Circle would be a group of students who would be meeting periodically to have discussion on the Book of the Month. *Revolution 2020* was declared as the book for the month.



## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATED

The International Women's Day celebrated on 8th March is a commemoration of the achievements of women the world over. This day is a tribute to the economic, social, cultural and political achievements made by women. The day was celebrated in the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, under the auspices of Gender Sensitization Committee or GS CASH at Sanskriti Kash. The Committee is a body in the university which works for the awareness and deterrence of any gender based malpractices. Dr. Vandhana Sharma, the Director of School of Languages and Literature and Chairperson of GSCASH organized a thought provoking programme which included a debate on "Empowering Rural Women: A Dream or a reality" followed by a presentation on women achievers and self-composed poetry recitation during the event.



The debate aimed at mapping the rehabilitation of rural women, is it still a dream or a reality. A presentation was also displayed by the scholars of the same department. It journeyed through the historical and contemporary women personages all over the world. The scholars contributing to it were: Vaishali Sharma, Quleen Kaur and Simranpreet Kaur. The university student secretary Surabhi Mengi delivered the vote of thanks.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Vandhana Sharma dwelt on the UNO theme for Women's Day for the year 2012 which focused on empowering rural women and said that empowerment at grass root level is really the need of the hour. She greeted everyone present on the occasion and said that such programmes provide productive forums for debate on the issues related to the general sensitization of people on women issues in the world which has innate tendencies of gender bias.





## BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF SRINIVASA RAMANUJAN

School of Mathematics celebrated the Birth anniversary of Srinivasa Ramanujan by organizing a series of expert lectures.

Professor Hari M. Srivastava, Professor Emeritus, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Victoria, Canada and Professor Rekha Srivastava, University of Victoria visited School of Mathematics, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University during March 17-21, 2012.

Dr. V. K. Bhat, Director, School of Mathematics extended a warm welcome to Prof. Hari M. Srivastava and Prof Rekha Srivastava.

Professor H. M. Srivastava delivered a talk on "Elementary approach to fractional calculus and its applications". He gave a lucid description about the applications of fractional calculus. He also gave details of the literature available in this area.

Prof Rekha Srivastava spoke on "Some glimpses of Hindu (or Vedic) Mathematics and Srinivasa Ramanujan". She gave a description about the results proved by Indian Mathematicians since the Vedic period. She also gave details about the life and contribution of Srinivasa Ramanujan to Mathematics.

The lectures were attended by Prof V. K. Verma, Dean College of Sciences, all faculty members, research scholars and students of the school. The lectures were interesting and students showed interest in some notions (like fractional derivatives) described during the lectures. Some facts and known results related to fractional calculus and Vedic Mathematics were noticed by the students.





members Prof. V. Verma, Dr. Sharada Potukuchi and Dr. Samantha Vaishnavi.

A total of 100 participants interacted with the distinguished faculty to further the cause of plants and plant science research. Teachers and students from DPS, Katra, Govt. Higher Secondary School, Panthal and Faculty, Staff and Research Scholars from SMVDU participated in the event and were appreciative of the efforts made by the organizers in igniting interest in the young and impressionable minds who can be motivated to take up plant science research as a career. The event was organized under the initiative of Prof. R. N. K. Bamezai, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU by Dr. Sunil Wanchoo, Director SICD, Dr. V. K. Tripathi, Coordinator NSS and Dr. Sharada Potukuchi, Assistant Professor, School of Biotechnology

## FASCINATION OF PLANTS DAY

On the Occasion of the first "Fascination of Plants Day" being celebrated internationally under the umbrella of European Plant Science Organization (EPSO), School of Innovation and Community Development (SICD), SMVDU; organized an interactive awareness session on May 18, 2012. The Fascination of Plants Day has been adopted by 39 countries, 29 from Europe and 10 from North- and South America, Asia, Australasia and Africa. More than 580 institutions - ranging from botanical gardens to plant research centers - are hosting different kinds of public and media events which are all closely related to basic plant science, agricultural research, environmental conservation, biodiversity, education and arts. The goal of this activity is to get as many people as possible round the world fascinated by plants and enthused about the importance of plant science for agriculture, in sustainably producing food, as well as for horticulture, forestry and all other non food products.

On the occasion, lectures were delivered by faculty and plant scientists from various Institutions in and around Jammu: namely by Dr. Gandhi Ram and Dr. Suphla Gupta from IIIM Jammu; Prof. D. P. Abrol, SKUAST, Jammu; Dr. Aftab Mir, State NMPB Jammu; and in-house faculty







## 'TITIKSHA' TECHNICAL FESTIVAL

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University celebrated its annual Technical festival TITIKSHA 2K12, on 25th – 26th March 2012. The slogan for TITIKSHA 2012 was "Innovating the Inventions". This year the event witnessed participation from across the country with zeal and enthusiasm.

The event was inaugurated by Dr. Vipan Kakkar, Dean of Students and Convenor Titiksha 2K12. In his inspiring words, Dr. Kakkar appreciated the efforts of the students and hoped for its exponential rise. The Guest of Honour was Prof. Mukopadhyay, who motivated the students for the best. The faculty Coordinator, Mr. Anuj Mahajan enlightened the audience with this year's concept and events.

More than 50 events were organized by the soon to be engineers of university showcasing their talents. Competitions were classified under various categories. While the Mega events like INNOVATIA, BLUEPRINT provided a platform to display the research done by students; TECH MANCH and SAMADHAN aimed on understanding and applying them on Social issues. The School of Electronics introduced the latest entrants to the field with a workshop on Integrated Circuits and tested them on their designing skills. Computer Sciences and engineering department fused various concepts of programming and encouraged the study of intricacies of hardware.





Mechanical engineers flaunted their flashy robots while Biotech students competed in case studies. The School of Architecture held a plethora of events varying from CAD skills and landscaping to mask painting and tattoo designing.

The SMVDU family, this year, extended its arms across the country. Around 40 students from various institutes participated in these competitions to check their technical competence. The participating institutes were Arya College of Engineering & Technology Rajasthan, NIT Srinagar, Punjab University, MBS CET Jammu, GCET, Jammu.

## TATVA : THE MANAGEMENT FEST

National Level Management Fest, Tatva'12, was inaugurated at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra on 12th April, 2012. Tatva' 12, a two day event organized by College of Management, aimed at providing excellent opportunity to students from multitude of backgrounds to show their talent and compete with best of brains. Mr. Sudhir Sharma, DGM Tata Docomo, Ms. Roop Avatar Kour, Registrar SMVD University, Dr. Vipan Kakkar, Dean of Students and Prof. Mukhopadhyay, Dean College of Management honoured the event by their gracious presence. Mr. Sudhir Sharma emphasized the importance of the word 'Tatva' and asked the students to build in, believe in, follow and have faith in it which will act as a guiding principle in their life.

Plethora of events were organized to satisfy all competitive itches. Sponsored by Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd., JK Channel, Retailme.in, Myjammu.com, Shalimar Cattle Feeds, VLCC, VS Flowers, this event witnessed participants applying their competencies in Jingle Making, Ad-Mad Show & Launch a Product, Smart Sim, Recycle Bin, Business Quiz, Welcome to Hell, Future CEO, and Barter King. About 100 students from various business schools like ARNI University, Himachal Pradesh; Doon Business School, Dehradun; Central University of Kashmir, Kashmir; The Business



School, University of Jammu; Kathua Campus, Baderwah Campus, University of Jammu; SET Business School, Jammu; IIPS, Jammu; MBS, Jammu; MIET, Jammu were participated in the event. This event provided an invigorating experience to the budding managers.





## RESURGANCE : THE ANNUAL YOUTH FESTIVAL

The Annual Youth Festival Of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, Resurgence 2012 began with a great enthusiasm on 5th April, 2012. The gala event was inaugurated by Prof. M.L. Garg, Dean, College Of Engineering. The opening ceremony witnessed a Gaudiya Dance by Prof. Mahua Mukherjee and her team from Rabindra Bharti University, Kolkata. It was followed by a Punjabi folk dance by SMVDU Bhangra Club. The Festival had various cultural and sports events from 6th April – 8th April, 2012. The cultural events included various performances of music, dance, theatre, literary and fine arts genre. To increase the participation of students in these events, the student community was grouped into 5 houses called Aakash, Agni, Jal, Prithvi and Vayu. The teams of these houses were competing with one another and the winner participated in the Inter-university events organized on 8th April, 2012. Various universities /institutions were invited to participate in the cultural events.



# Student RoundUp





## SMVDU STUDENTS MOUNTED ON THE TRIKUTA HILLS ON 63RD REPUBLIC DAY

Seven students with an adventurous zeal mounted on the Trikuta Hills on 26th Jan. 2012 to mark the celebration of 63rd Republic Day of India:

- **Gagandeep Chahar** (2011 EEC 52)
- **Gaurav Pandey** (2011 EEC 53)
- **Kumar Satyajeet** (2011 EEC 56)
- **Manish Pandey** (2011 EEC 38)
- **Avinash Yadav** (2011 EEC 35)
- **Bam Bam Kumar** (2011 EEC 12)
- **Vikash Chandra** (2011 EEC 78)



## VEHICLE MADE FROM SCRATCH LEFT FOR INDORE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIONAL LEVEL EVENT



An year long dream of the members of SAEINDIA SMVDU COLLEGIATE CLUB came to reality when the All Terrain Vehicle, designed and fabricated by the team "The MechaniX", to participate in famed automobile competition BAJA INDIA 2012, which was bid off for Indore by Prof. R N K Bamezai, Hon'ble Vice

Chancellor and Mrs. Roop Avtar Kaur, Registrar, SMVDU. 17 student members from the club as a team of "The MechaniX" viz Akhil Mahajan, Sidharth Mahajan, Vivek Sharma, Hitesh Sharma, Varun Sharma, Nipun Sharma, Aditya Badyal, Sushant Sharma, Aditya Kerni, Sanchit Koul, Manik Sharma, Nitin Badyal, Keshav



Salgotra, Akshay Bakaya, Aakash Sharma, Ritish Sharma and Dixit Gupta, all third year students from mechanical engineering department of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra along with their faculty advisor Dr. Malhotra, left for Indore to participate in BAJA INDIA 2012, the national automobile competition organized by Society of Automotive Engineering, India where they were to compete with different teams from across the country in various static and dynamic events going to be held from 17th Feb to 20th Feb 2012 in Pithampur, Indore.

The group was working for over an year on the designing and fabrication of an All-Terrain Vehicle according to set of rules laid by SAE, India. On 2nd February the team got the final green signal from the BAJA 2012 organizers to race on the track, after the

successful completion of technical inspection of the fabricated vehicle. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and the Registrar along with faculty and workshop staff of School of Mechanical Engineering congratulated the Chairperson of the Club, Mr. Prabhat Shankar and the team captain, Mr. Akhil Mahajan for this achievement and wished the team with luck for the coming event. The team got their first success when they got selected in top 100 in Virtual Baja Competition among the 350 odd colleges across the nation. Talking about the sleepless nights of the team, Dr. Navdeep Malhotra and Mr. Yatheshth Anand told "Work is never measured in number of working hours; it is analyzed in terms of internal satisfaction", which was the key motivation for the entire team who has made this day possible.

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## FIELD TRIP FOR MBA STUDENTS TO LEARN RETAIL MANAGEMENT

In a significant developmental effort by the College Of Management of the University, students of final semester MBA were taken to Udhampur under the guidance of Dr. Hari Govind Mishra (Assistant Professor, Marketing) and Mr. Ankush Verma along with Ms. Divya Sharma as student coordinators to provide the students with an exposure of the prevalent retailing concepts in the city. The whole trip was divided into two phases – former being the selling of the products to unorganized retailers and later being the visit to explore the retail formats in big organized stores like Bharat Big Bazar, Vishal Mega Mart and Easy Day. The city was divided into three areas namely Primary, Secondary and Tertiary and the students in different groups were assigned the task of selling products to retailers. The main areas covered by students were Adarsh Colony, Chabutra Bazar, Gole Market and Bus stand. In the second half of the day students got to know the relevance of the visual merchandising, product line, product assortment and shelf management by their accompanied faculty Dr. HG Mishra. He also appraised the students about the various problems and modalities involved in retailing business.



## MBA STUDENTS AT NATIONAL LOGISTICS TALENT HUNT

Faced with a huge deficit of almost 4.0 lakh skilled manpower and trained managers in logistics industry the T2P consultants a division of DTDC along with the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport(CILT) organized a National Level logistics Talent Hunt., an event for the Logistic Industry. The Talent Hunt was supported by organizations like First Flight, Mahindra Logistics, Blue Star Aviation, Aramex and many others.

The objective of the contest was to provide a platform for Management Students to interact with top executives and recruiters from the industry and for providing an exposure and opportunity to students to present their fresh ideas and display their potential to the industry. This event also presented an opportunity for Universities to present their product (students) and promote their presence and brand to potential recruiters.



The following two teams were nominated from SMVDU: SMVDU Five - : Tarun Sharma (Team Leader); Akhil Verma; Sahil Bhagotra; Sahil Sharma; Sudhir Manhas with Topic\_Logistics Challenges of E-Commerce & Brighter India- Team Members: Puneet Gupta (Team Leader), Ashish Dharmat, Hansika Bhat,Puneet Kour Bali, Shevetaank Sharma with Topic- Public Distribution System –Logistics Solution

The two teams were mentored by Dr.Sunil Giri for preparation of their white papers and presentations and were facilitated by Mr.B K Bhatia, T&P Officer. Each team was expected to present a white paper followed by a presentation on their topic. Over 150 institutions from

across the country filled their nominations out of which 60 were allotted topics. Out of the 60 teams only 28 were called for presentation and 05 teams were selected for the awards in the various categories.

Based upon the presentation and queries the SMVDU Five team won the first prize in the category of Logistics Challenges of E-Commerce and the team Brighter India stood the runner up in the category of Public Distribution System –Logistics Solution. The winning team was awarded Trophies & certificates besides a Cash award of Rs 25000 and Placement assistance for the winning team members. Vice-Chancellor Prof. R N K Bamezai felicitated the Team and expressed satisfaction on the efforts made by faculty members to inculcate industry relevant concepts among students. Winning this program will help the university in establishing its MBA program specifically the Supply Chain Specialization, as specialization in SCM is given in only few institutions in India and worldwide.

## WORKSHOP ON THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

A One-Week Workshop on the Constitution of India was organized by the office of the Dean of Students from 19th – 25th Jan. 2012. The Workshop dealt with the basics on the basis of their performance in the test conducted after the workshop, the following students were given the prizes mentioned against their names:

- **Ms. Anshila Raina** [2009 EEC 29] First Prize – a big-size memento and certificate
- **Mr. Dharmendra Kumar** [2009 EEC 26] Second Prize – a middle-size memento and certificate
- **Mr. Manish Kumar** [2010 EEC 18] Third Prize – a small size memento and certificate

The prizes were distributed by Prof. R. N. K. Bamezai, Honb'le Vice Chancellor, after the cultural programme on 26th Jan. 2012.





## SMVDU : A HUB OF PLACEMENTS IN J&K



**Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University** over the years has made itself a **hub of placements** in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. As envisaged by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. R.N.K Bamezai who had issued special instructions to the T&P Cell of the University to cater to the needs not only of the University but of the entire state, the university has been striving for the placements not only of its own students but also for the students belonging to various engineering colleges of the state. All major IT companies, like, **TCS, HCL, Infosys, L&T , Capgemini**, have kick started their campus recruitment much ahead of schedule for the current session. As per latest available information, the total hiring of freshers for the session 2012 is expected to be more than 2 lacs.

The campus placement season at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University commenced in a spectacular manner with a massive recruitment drive by Indian Multi-national giant TATA Consultancy Services and HCL who selected a record 74 and 11 in complete Engineering students respectively from **Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University amounting to 70% placement of the total strength** of the outgoing batch. GCET Jammu also participated in TCS campus drive held at SMVDU where **27 students of GCET were also placed**.

After a policy change by **NASSCOM**, **TCS** chose **SMVDU** as one among the first institutions in the country to initiate the recruitment process for this year. A high level 11 member team from TCS

conducted the Campus placement exercise at SMVDU campus. The intense competitive and exhaustive recruitment process was spread over two days with On-line written test followed by two levels of interview. The students have been selected for the various positions including **Associate Software Engineer and Graduate Engineering Trainees** with an annual package of **Rs.3.25 Lakh**.

The TCS team was extremely impressed with the quality of students recruited which they insisted has improved significantly over last year. Last year TCS had hired 39 students from SMVDU. **Vice-Chancellor Prof. R N K Bamezai** expressed his satisfaction at such large number of selections by TCS and assured all support for such drives in future which would help in seeking employment opportunities for the students of J&K. **Prof. Bamezai congratulated the selected students and asked them to act as brand ambassadors for SMVDU at TCS.**

Mr. B K Bhatia, Training & Placement Officer, SMVDU expressed satisfaction at the selection of large number of students from SMVDU by TCS and HCL and indicated that this was just the beginning of the placement session at SMVDU and more such opportunities were lined up for the students. In a **pool drive of L&T Infotech**, the university had invited a **smart number of students from J&K and approximately 800 students were expected to participate** from the different parts of the state.



# CLUB ACTIVITIES

## INTRA-UNIVERSITY EVENTS

There were 40 events organized under culture in Dance, Music, Theatre, Literary, Fine/ Visual Arts, Beyond the Line Events. There were 16 new events introduced this year, namely, Jive-Group Dance (Theme Based) the theme for which was Comic Dance Form, Qawali (The Divine Search), TwistyWood (Bollywood Movie Enact) in which each House had to present an improvised version of a scene from any Bollywood movie, Composition (essay writing), Ver-Sus (Overcoat) in which a speaker was required to speak both for and against the topic back to back, Naqashi (Soap Carving), Picturesque (Outdoor sketching), Do-it-yourself Fashion (Costume Designing) whose theme was Masquerade, 3-D Bonanza (Decoration), Sculpt-ur-own (model making), Cut-Paste-Create (collage making), Tattoo Making, Face Painting, Spotting the hidden talent, Flash Mob, Mehndi Competition.

## VANGUARD SOCIETY

The Students of the University formed the Vanguard Society in April 2012 as a platform to discuss various issues related to the campus life and the life in society at large. The meetings of the Society are normally held in the evening of every Monday at any hostel premise where students gather to express their opinion and concerns on various issues. The meetings are facilitated by the Cultural Coordinator. The following issues have been discussed after the formation of this Society: The Necessity of 75% Attendance, Optimum Utilization of the Non-Teaching Hours, Women Reservation Bill in Parliament, The Effectiveness of Classroom Teaching, and Mentorship of Students etc.



# Social Responsibility



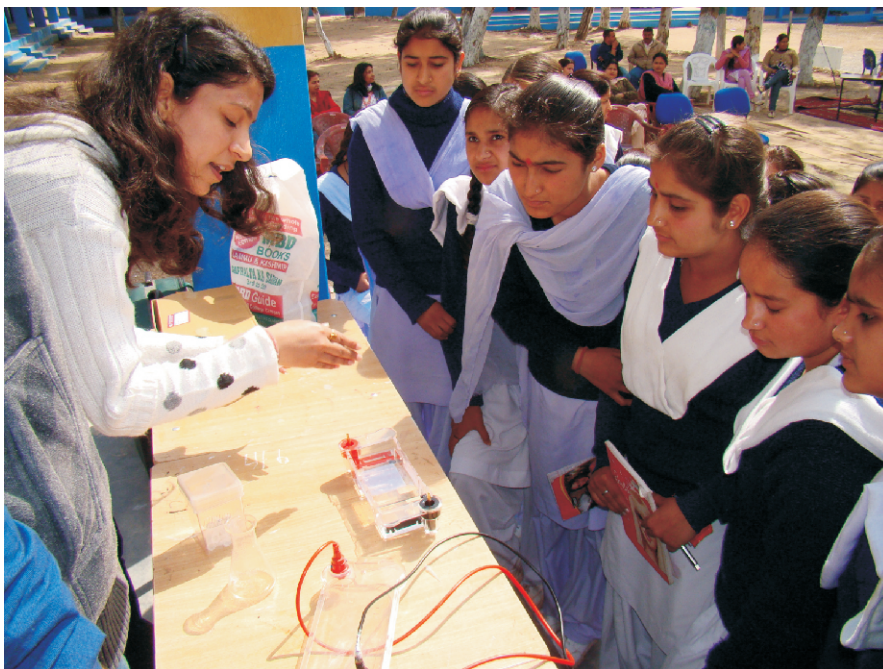


# SCIENCE DAY AT GHSS PANTHAL

In observance of National Science Day, i.e., 28th of February, 2012, the School of Innovation and Community Development (SICD) and NSS of the University along with a number of student volunteers conducted a series of events and demonstrations at Govt. Higher Secondary School, Panthal, so as to orient young minds. Initiating the program, Dr. S. K. Wanchoo, Director I/c SICD, laid emphasis upon the importance of teaching of science and community development. Mr. Mineesh Gulati, a leading young teacher from the region, gave demonstrations on the theme 'Science in Day to Day Life'. Around 200 students of the school took active part in the demonstration.

The demonstration was followed by orientation sessions on Mathematical Sciences, Computer Education, Life Science around us, in which various shows were conducted by the volunteers and faculty members from SMVDU. A team of students and faculty from the School of Biotechnology, SMVDU, also took active part and introduced to the students about the details of DNA technology and the recent advancement brought about in the field of life sciences through the said technology. A Science Quiz competition was also conducted in which 25 students participated and top six students were given prizes according to

merit. Dr. V. K. Tripathi, Dr. Ajay Kaul, Dr. Sharda Potukuchi, and Dr. Samantha Vaishnavi conducted group interaction with the young students on the occasion. The SMVDU team thanked the Principal and the staff of the school for their excellent cooperation extended in organizing the event. The refreshment and gift hampers on the occasion were sponsored by Café Nescafé.





# VIKALP



“We believe that the various problems that the society faces have a common error source that is lack of elementary education. Everything else is distributed out of the same, poverty and over-consumption, unemployment and agricultural crisis, social injustice and middle class apathy, health and environmental degradation, and so on. Hence the approach to address these should be holistic, and we at VIKALP believe that the youth can play a pivotal role bringing about a change”.

The students at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University initiated the Vikalp program in 2008, with a small team of thoughtful and motivated students, whose main aim was to bring about an overall social change in the society. Today the program has reached a point where more and more people have chosen to become a part of this program. That the program has become successful beyond everyone's expectations is best illustrated by the observations of the sophomore students of B.Tech(CSE) who say ““VIKALP ... an alternative , this step taken by the SMVDU family to provide education to the underprivileged children , has played the role of a candle in their dark lives”

The main objective of the Vikalp program is to extend basic education to the under-privileged children of the nearby villages and to the children of the of the construction workers on the campus. The objective is to take care of their overall growth including their medical care. VIKALP is committed to social justice, sustainable development and human rights and undertakes development activities and programs for the literacy of

children, and adults who belong to poor and rural areas; provides occupational training and guidance for rehabilitation. The team at Vikalp is also planning to conduct surveys and social research work for the weaker sections.

One of the major projects taken up by the team is to improve the condition of deprived living in poor human condition in slum cluster of Kakryal and Sira villages, adjoining the University campus, in Reasi District of Jammu and Kashmir. The team conducts classes focusing on the issues of personnel hygiene and general cleanliness for the students of the rural community in and around of the university premises.

## SUMMER WORKSHOP ON LEARNING LANGUAGE THROUGH LANGUAGE LAB

School of Languages and Literature organised a Two weeks' summer workshop on Learning Language Through Language Lab for the students of DPS Katra from June 4-16, 2012. Thirty students from tertiary and secondary level participated in the workshop which aimed at enhancing Listening , Speaking , Writing and Reading skills of Learners. The workshop was primarily language lab based in which participants were given an opportunity to enhance English language through the use of software like Active Listening in English, Read up-Speed up and English Grammar in use etc. Dr. Vandhana Sharma was the coordinator of the workshop and four research scholars of the school, Ms. Vaishali Sharma, Ms. Quleen Kaur , Ms. Simranpreet kaur and Ms. Priyanka conducted the workshop under the supervision of the coordinator.



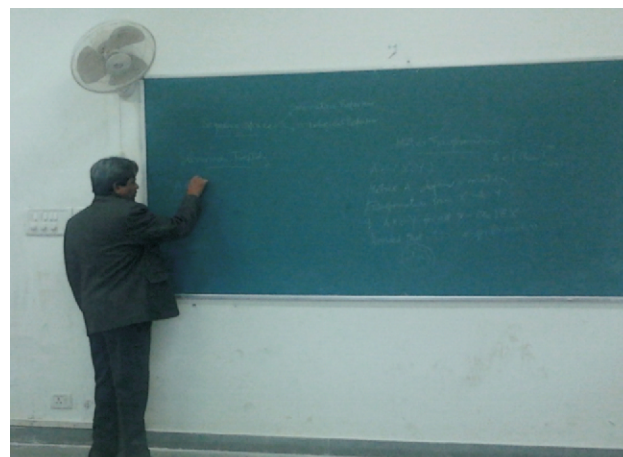


# EMINENT VISITORS



## **Prof. Anil Raina**

from Punjabi University, Chandigarh delivered a lecture on the topic "Understanding Modernism and Post Modernism" on 17<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2012



## **Prof. Mursaleen**

Deptt. of Mathematics, Aligarh Muslim University, delivered a lecture on the topic "Sequence Spaces" on 23<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2012

## **Prof. J. K. Gupta**

Director, IET Baddal, delivered a lecture on the topic "About the economic restraints under which this design was executed and these restraints led to design features on built form very distinct in its own right" on 24<sup>th</sup> of Feb, 2012



## **Dr. N. D. Das**

Scientist & Professor, Mechanical Department Skyline Institute of Engineering & Technology, Greater Noida delivered a lecture on the topic "Development of Submerged Arc Welding & Under Water Welding" on 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2012





# EMINENT VISITORS



## **Prof. Saroj Mishra**

Department of Biotechnology & Biochemical Engineering, IIT, Delhi delivered a lecture on the topic "Use of Pichia species as an expression vector for industrially important proteins" on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2012



## **Prof. H. M. Srivastava**

Professor Emeritus

Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Victoria, Canada, delivered a lecture on topic "Elementary approach to fractional calculus and its applications" on 17<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>th</sup> March, 2012

## **Prof. Rekha Srivastava**

Professor Emeritus, Department of Mathematics and Statistics University of Victoria, Canada, Spoke on the topic "Some glimpses of Hindu (or Vedic) Mathematics and Srinivasa Ramanujan" 17<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>th</sup> March, 2012



## **Prof. Alan Johnson**

Idaho State University Pocatello

U.S.A, delivered a lecture on the topic "Recent Trends in Research in Languages and Literature in U.S" on 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2012





# NEW APPOINTMENTS



**AR. ADITYA KUMAR SINGH**

Associate Professor  
Architecture & Landscape Design  
Date of joining: 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan, 2012  
Qualification: M.L.A, E.M.I.B, B.Arch.



**Dr. Shivani Vashist**

Assistant Professor  
School of Languages & Literature  
Date of joining: 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan, 2012  
Qualification: Ph.D



**Mr. Ashoka Kumar Tarai**

Assistant Professor  
School of Philosophy & Culture  
Date of Joining: 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan, 2012  
Qualification: MA, Ph.D (pursuing)



**Mr. Madhu Mangal Chaturvedi**

Assistant Professor  
School of Philosophy & Culture  
Date of joining: 4<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2012  
Qualification: MA, PhD (pursuing)



**Dr. V. K. Bhat**

Professor  
School of Mathematics  
Date of Joining: 16.02.2012  
Qualification: Ph.D. Mathematics,  
University of Jammu and Qualified UGC-CSIR  
NET in 1993. He is Member of various academic  
societies including American Math. Society



**Mr. Swastik Gupta**

Assistant Professor  
School of Electronics & Communication Engineering  
Date of joining: 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2012  
Qualification: M.Tech(Electrical Engineering)



# INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

## Boys Gym



## Server Room



## Central Workshop



## Reading Hall

