

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **Two Weeks Refresher Course on "Emerging Industrial Technologies" from 1st -13th July, 24.**
- **Faculty Development Programme on "Machine Learning and Statistical Data Analysis using MATLAB" 8th -13th July, 24.**

PATRON

Prof. Pragati Kumar
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor

EDITOR

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Chairperson, Media Cell

DESIGN & DRAFT

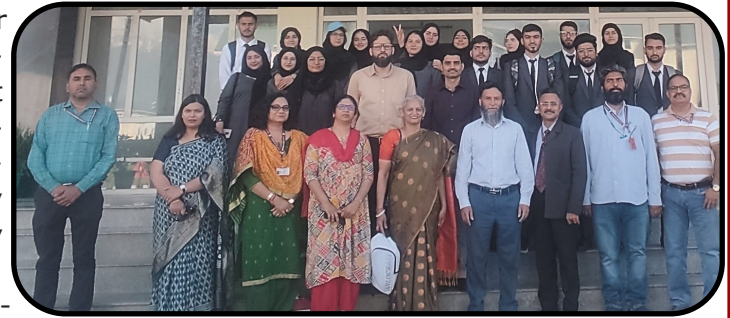
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Mr. Om Parkash

SMVDU Faculty interacts with Kashmir University Design Your Degree Team

The Design Your Degree (DYD) Faculty Team from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) recently engaged in a dynamic and insightful interaction with Faculty Mentors and Students from Kashmir University (KU). This collaborative session marks a significant step in advancing innovative educational practices under the national policy of NEP-2020. Key figures from Kashmir University Main Campus, including Prof. Khursheed Butt, Dean College Development Council; Prof. M. Tariq Bandy, Director of IoT, Zakura; and Prof. Syeda Afshana, Academic Coordinator of DYD, were present alongside other faculty mentors. Representing SMVDU were Dr. Sharada M. Potukuchi, the Nodal Officer, accompanied by Team Members from 9 different Schools namely, Dr. Sumeet Gupta, I/c Examination, Dr. Rashi Taggar, Dr. Isha Malhotra, Dr. Meenakshi Gupta, Dr. Sandeep Bhogal, Dr. Mir Irfan ul-Haq, Dr. Madhu Mangal Chaturvedi, Dr. Pankaj Biswas and Dr. Sudesh Kumar. The KU team highlighted the unique features of their DYD program, which emphasize enhanced student engagement, interdisciplinary learning, practical skill development, and adaptability. This program spans eight semesters, employing a unique pedagogy that replaces traditional exams with continuous project-based assessments. Students during their face-to-face interaction expressed their satisfaction with the program, noting increased enthusiasm and influence among peers to join the initiative. They shared their excitement about the continuous assessment model, which allows for real-time application of skills and knowledge. Both teams expressed their gratitude to Prof. Nilofer Khan, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Kashmir University, for facilitating this valuable and insightful interaction. The team was motivated by SMVDU Vice Chancellor Prof. Pragati Kumar, who believes that these interactions are part of a meticulous preparation for the launch of SMVDU's own four-year DYD program from the Academic Session 2024-25 onwards. Applications are now open for this innovative Bachelor's program, which aims to provide students with the opportunity to explore their talents and make a societal impact. The program promises holistic development through exposure to diverse fields of Engineering, Sciences, Humanities and management while providing hands-on training and multiple exit options.

**SMVDU Outreach Program held at GCW Parade**

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) conducted an interactive outreach program for the students of Govt. College for Women Parade, to foster a strong connection with students and faculty. This initiative was taken up under the active patronage of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Pragati Kumar to take the opportunities available under various research projects especially those supported by Higher Education



Department of J&K Government for the students of Degree Colleges of the UT. The event was held recognizing the potential impact of such engagements in overall development of student community while underscoring the university's commitment to community engagement and academic excellence. Dr. Shafaq Rasool, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, provided an insightful introduction to SMVDU, highlighting the university's mission, vision, and values. Attendees were then given a virtual tour of the SMVDU campus, highlighting its state-of-the-art facilities and vibrant student life. Dr. S. K. Wanchoo, Dean, Faculty of Sciences engaged the participants in an insightful discussion and explained what sets SMVDU apart, focusing on unique academic programs and cutting-edge research opportunities besides four new programs B. Tech in Biotechnology, B. Tech in Mathematics and Computing, Design Your Degree, and Bachelor of Design from the Academic session 2024-2025. Dr. Naveen Gondhi, Faculty in charge of the Network Centre, gave a brief overview of the digital space at SMVDU, ensuring seamless communication and access to resources for students and staff. A panel consisting of Dr. Sharada Potukuchi (School of Biotechnology), Mr. Ashish Suri, (School of Electronics & Communication Engineering), and Dr. Rakesh Kumar (School of Biotechnology), shared insights into the research-driven potential activities available for students at SMVDU. They highlighted various ongoing projects and encouraged students to engage in research activities that can significantly enhance their academic and professional growth. Dr. Rashmi Tagar (School of Business), Dr. S. S. Sharma (School of Philosophy and Culture) Dr. Isha Malhotra (School of Languages and Literature), Dr. Sandeep Sharma (School of Mathematics), Dr. Arif B. Dar (School of Economics) also interacted with the students and faculty on the side-lines of the event. Prof. Ravindra Tickoo, Principal GCW Parade while addressing the attendees appreciated the efforts put in by the team in reaching out to the students and faculty of his college and expected that this will be helpful to them. He appreciated the work done by the University and made a mention of some prominent alumni who are spread across the globe. He urged the University to deepen its engagement with students and faculty members of the Degree Collages of the UT for their benefit, An interactive session with more than 150 students was conducted, allowing them to ask questions and gain clarity on various aspects of life at SMVDU. In a gesture of goodwill, SMVDU presented a token of gratitude and appreciation to Prof. Ravindra Tickoo, Principal GCW Parade, acknowledging his support and cooperation in facilitating this outreach program. The session concluded with feedback from the participants and a group photograph to commemorate the event. The event was coordinated jointly by Dr. S. K. Wanchoo, Dr. Shafaq Rasool from SMVDU and Dr. Gurpreet Kour and Prof. Ravindra Tickoo from GCW Parade. This outreach marks a significant step in SMVDU's mission to provide valuable growth opportunities and foster future leaders.

Human Genetics Research Group, SMVDU investigates Multiple Muscular Dystrophy Cases in District Reasi

In response to reports of a mysterious disease affecting several families in the Panasa area of Reasi district, the Human Genetics Research Group from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) in Katra has launched a detailed investigation. The disease, presumed to be a type of muscular dystrophy, has

alarmed both local residents and healthcare authorities. A team comprising researchers from SMVDU, Doctors from District Hospital Reasi, World Health Organization (WHO) officials, and aided by the District Legal Service Authority (DLSA), visited the affected families to conduct an extensive assessment. This collaborative effort aimed to gather essential data and offer immediate support to the patients. During their visit, the team conducted thorough examinations of the patients, documenting symptoms and medical histories. They also carried out pedigree analyses to understand the hereditary patterns of the disease, a crucial step in uncovering potential genetic links. Samples were collected for further genetic testing and analysis. Dr. Rakesh Kumar, head of the Human Genetics Research



Group at SMVDU, highlighted the significance of this study: "Understanding the genetic basis of muscular dystrophy in these families is crucial. Our goal is to identify prominent mutations and other genetic factors contributing to the disease. This will not only help in providing accurate diagnoses but also pave the way for potential treatments and interventions." The samples collected are set to undergo rigorous genetic analysis at SMVDU's advanced laboratory. Researchers aim to identify specific genetic mutations associated with the disease, providing valuable insights into its cause and progression. This data will also contribute to the broader scientific understanding of muscular dystrophy, potentially benefiting affected individuals globally. The cooperative approach, involving local authorities, healthcare professionals, international organizations like the WHO, and support from Mr. Reyaz and Mr. Balbir from DLSA, Reasi, underscores a strong commitment to addressing this health crisis. The support from District Hospital Reasi comprising Dr. Yusuf Khan, Dy CMO, Dr. Bilal, Dr. Adil, Dr. Meenali Rajput, has been pivotal in facilitating fieldwork and ensuring patients receive necessary medical attention. Dr. Ajmat From WHO did further investigation from disease perspective. As the investigation continues, there is hope that the findings will lead to significant breakthroughs in understanding and combating muscular dystrophy. The dedication of the research team is expected to bring new insights into the genetic underpinnings of this disease, offering hope to the affected families and contributing to global medical knowledge. Dr. Rakesh along with his team of Dr. Ruchi, Mr. Rajeshwer and Mr. Bhawani thanked the prompt action of CMO Reasi Dr. Ravinder Singh and Prof. Pragati Kumar, Honourable Vice chancellor of SMVDU, Katra for mitigating this local health burden.

Celebration and Day Observed

10th International Yoga Day celebrated at SMVDU



The 10th International Yoga Day celebrated at SMVDU. Professor Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU graced the occasion with active participation and congratulated all members for celebrating International Yoga Day at SMVDU. Prof. Balbir Singh, Dean of Academic Affairs, Prof Suparn Sharma, Director DQA, Prof Jyoti Sharma, Head of School of Business, Mr. Ajay Khajuria, along with students, faculty, staff and their family members participated in Yoga Session. Shri Gurmel, a trained Yoga instructor, coordinated the sessions with performance of various Aasan and explained their benefits to lead healthy life. Prof. Balbir Singh expressed a vote of thanks to all members for celebrating the International Yoga day in SMVDU.

Faculty/Staff Updates

Paper Presented/Published

Taray, S., S. K. Singh, Y. Singh, F. Naaz, P. Hazra, Design and power optimization of a QCA-based universal reversible logic gate architecture using cell interaction approach, *Microelectronics Reliability*, Vol. 159, pp. 115446, .2024 , <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.microrel.2024.115446>.

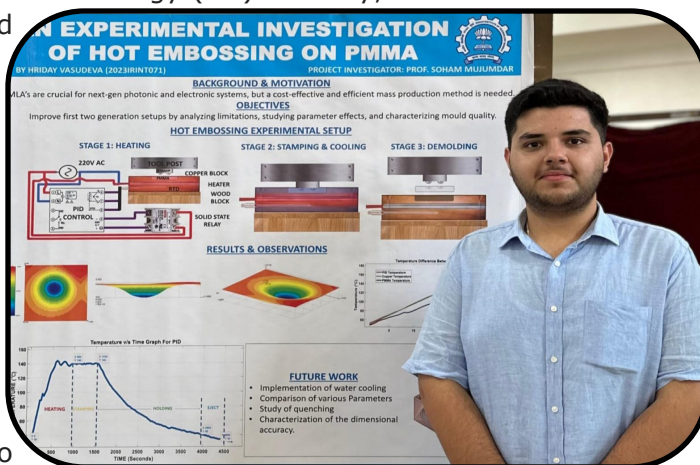
Mahajan, Rubby, S. Sharma, Ram Prakash. "Spectroscopic study of yellowish white light emitting MgP2O6: Dy3+ phosphor" *Journal of Molecular Structure* 1316 (2024) 139053. (SCIE and Scopus) DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.molstruc.2024.139053>.

Srijan, Gupta, A.K. (2024). Numerical Investigation of Behaviour of Geosynthetic Encased Stone Column in Soft Clay Bed. In: Jose, B.T., Sahoo, D.K., Puppala, A.J., Reddy, C.N.V.S., Abraham, B.M., Vaidya, R. (eds) *Proceedings of the Indian Geotechnical Conference 2022 Volume 3. IGC 2022. Lecture Notes in Civil Engineering*, vol 478. Springer, Singapore. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-97-1745-3_14.

Student Updates

SMVDU Katra Student selected for Research Internship at IIT Bombay

Hriday Vasudeva, final year B. Tech student of the School of Mechanical Engineering has had the prestigious opportunity to intern at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay, where he would be engaged in a cutting-edge research project titled "Experimental Investigation of Hot Embossing on PMMA," under the esteemed guidance of Professor Soham Mujumdar. The project's cornerstone is the utilization of hot embossing as a cost-effective method for the mass production of micro-lens arrays (MLAs). The initial phase of his research is dedicated to refining the hot embossing process to enhance efficiency and reliability. This involves a comprehensive study of the parameters affecting the quality of embossing on polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA) substrates and the development of precise molds for the same. The endeavor aims to establish a standardized protocol that ensures the consistent quality of MLAs while remaining economically viable. As the project progresses, the focus will shift towards the production of high-quality MLAs. The current stage involves meticulous experimentation with PMMA to understand its behavior under



various embossing conditions and to create molds that can accurately replicate the desired microstructures. Subsequently, bulk metallic glasses (BMG) will be introduced as a mold material due to their superior strength and thermal properties. Once the BMG molds are perfected, they will be employed to stamp the intricate MLA patterns onto PMMA sheets. This transition from PMMA to BMG molds is expected to address the challenges associated with the scalability of MLA production. The research findings thus far indicate promising avenues for optimizing the hot embossing process, which could revolutionize the manufacturing of MLAs, making them accessible for a wider range of applications due to reduced costs. The knowledge gained from this study will not only contribute to the field of mechanical engineering but also pave the way for advancements in optics and photonics, where MLAs are integral components. The culmination of this project is anticipated to yield a set of best practices for hot embossing that could be adopted by the industry to produce MLAs with precision and economic efficiency.

SMVDU Student got Top Position in Go4Youth Green Olympiad from Jammu and Kashmir

Nipun Vij, a Student of M.A. Economics Integrated Course, School of Economics participated in Go4Youth Green Olympiad launched by TERI. He topped from Jammu & Kashmir in this all India level exam representing Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University. He scored 96 out of 100 marks and topped the Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory. This exam was conducted a month ago and the results were declared through a webinar which he participated in an online mode. It was an all India level exam in which he managed to secure the top position for our University in Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory. Around 5000 students from all over India took this exam and represented their respective schools and universities. The exam was conducted online with 50 questions to be answered and there was no negative marking. Many webinars explaining about Green Olympiad and environmental issues around the world were conducted before the exam date. It was an all India level exam in which 40 students were the main scorers and there was another list of state toppers where they got the highest marks. An e-certificate of distinction is also awarded along with the state representation. A medal, certificate and a cash prize of Rs 2000 will also be provided by post.



Seventy Four MBA Students of SMVDU earn NPTEL Certificate; Vansh Gupta in Top 1%

Seventy-four MBA students of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University have earned the NPTEL certificate in 'Yoga and Positive Psychology for Managing Career and Life', a course led by Prof. Ashish Pandey from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay. This 8-week course integrates methods to strengthen the physical, emotional, and intellectual aspects of oneself through Yoga and Positive Psychology principles and practices. Students explored yogic interventions for holistic life integration and well-being. Among these students, ten received silver medals, with Vansh Gupta standing out in the top 1% with an impressive 87% score. The School of Business is dedicated to developing future managers holistically and offers a 2Two-year MBA program, along with a newly introduced Four-year undergraduate program (FYUGP) in Business Administration. Admissions in both these programs are now open.



ALUMNI

SMVDU Alumnus from Institute for Plasma Research, Gujarat interacts with Students

SMVDU conducted an interactive session with Mr. Deepak Sharma (Class of 2006 Mechanical Engineering SMVDU) who is currently working as Scientific Officer (E) at Institute for Plasma Research, Gujarat.

The session was coordinated by the office of the Dean International and Alumni Affairs and was attended by students and scholars of SMVDU. The speaker discussed various research initiatives being taken up by the Institute for Plasma Research, Gujarat. He also spoke about heat transfer applications, cooling channels and advanced materials for nuclear applications. Further, he motivated the students to undergo internships in institutes like IPR and extended his support for mentoring the current students of SMVDU. The event ended with a Q&A session. The alumnus was also accompanied by Mrs. Saifali Sharma (Scientific Officer (E) at the Institute for Plasma Research, Gujarat). The alumnus also visited various labs of the school of Mechanical Engineering and also interacted with faculty and staff members of the school. Dr. Yugal Khajuria (Dean International and Alumni Affairs), Dr. Yatheshth Anand (Head, School of Mechanical Engineering) and Dr. Mir Irfan Ul Haq (Associate Dean International and Alumni Affairs) were also present and conveyed their best wishes to the alumni. The coordinators thanked Prof. Pragati Kumar (Vice Chancellor SMVDU) and SMVDU administration for his support.



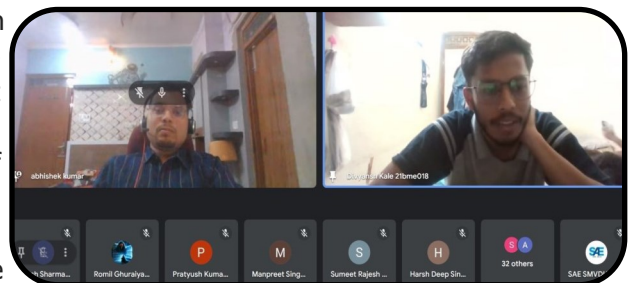
SMVDU Katra Alumni commissioned into Indian Army as an Officer

Nikhil Sharma a former student of the School of ECE 2018-22 batch got commissioned into the Indian army as an officer on 08 June 2024 from Indian Military Academy, Dehradun. The POP of the 154th Regular and 137th Technical Graduate Course was held at IMA on Saturday morning. After the oath ceremony at IMA, they took their first step of serving in the army as lieutenants. Out of the total 394 cadets who passed out from IMA, 39 were foreign cadets. 355 Indian cadets will join different corps of the army and go to serve in every corner of the country. SMVDU alumni Nikhil Sharma was also one of these cadets, who made the university proud with his success. 355 Gentleman Cadets took a pledge to maintain the rich traditions of the Indian Army and always keep the national flag high before being appointed as officers of the Indian Army. The SMVDU continuously keeps honing the talent of its students. Students passing out from SMVDU are making the university proud by getting posted in various institutions in the country and abroad. This achievement of Lt. Nikhil Sharma has made the university family proud. SMVDU Vice Chancellor Prof. Pragati Kumar sent his best wishes to the alumni. Lt. Nikhil Sharma thanked his professors and University for guiding him to make this possible.



SMVDU hosts Alumni Interaction on Automotive Sector Trends

The SAE Collegiate Club of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), in collaboration with the office of International and Alumni Affairs department, organized an engaging online session to highlight recent trends in the automotive sector. This event was particularly aimed at aspiring engineers preparing for the BAJA SAE 2025 competition. Mr. Abhishek, an alumnus of SMVDU's School of Mechanical Engineering (Class of 2018) and current engineer at ZF Group, shared his expertise and experiences from participating in the BAJA SAE 2018 competition. The



session began with an introduction by Mr. Achint Raj, a student from the School of Electrical Engineering, setting the stage for an informative exchange. Mr. Abhishek recounted the journey of the SAE BAJA SMVDU 2018 team, offering a detailed narrative of the design and fabrication process for their All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV). He discussed the challenges faced during project planning and competition, providing valuable insights into overcoming obstacles with innovation and perseverance. The interactive format of the session encouraged lively discussions, with students actively seeking guidance on vehicle design, manufacturing, material selection, and transmission mechanisms. Mr. Abhishek addressed these queries with precision, sharing practical knowledge from his professional and competition experiences. Commending the students for their enthusiasm and initiative, Mr. Abhishek urged them to harness their potential and strive for excellence. His words of encouragement and practical advice left a lasting impact, inspiring the participants to pursue their goals with renewed vigor. Students of various engineering schools in general and members of SAE BAJA collegiate club attended the event. The event also featured remarks from Dr. Yugal Khajuria (Dean of Alumni and International Affairs), Dr. Yatheshth Anand (Head, SME), Dr. Ankush Raina (President of BPA, SMVDU), and Dr. Mir Irfan Ul Haq (Associate Dean and Faculty Coordinator, SAE Collegiate Club), who all praised the students' dedication to reviving the SAE BAJA event at SMVDU. Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor of SMVDU, conveyed his best wishes to the SAE BAJA 2025 team, expressing confidence in their ability to achieve great success in the upcoming competition.

Glimpses of Yoga Day



