

Times@SMVDU



Volume 12, Issue X

Monthly e-newsletter

October, 2024





Vision

Establishment of a scientific and technical University of Excellence to nurture young and talented human resource for the service of Indian Society and world at large preserving the integrity and sanctity of human values.

Mission

The mission of the University is the pursuit of education, Scholarship and Research at the highest levels of Excellence.

Objectives

- **Provide education and training of excellent quality both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.**
- **Ensure that the university achieves and maintain an international standing in both teaching and research.**
- **Promote study and research in new and emerging areas and encouraging academic interaction of the faculty and students at national and international levels.**
- **Encourage close collaboration with industry and facilitate the application of research for commercial use and for the benefit of society.**

National Level Training Program on Decision Making for IFS Officers Inaugurated at SMVDU



The School of Business, Faculty of Management, Shri Mata Vaishno University is conducting a one-week National Level Training Program for Officers of Indian Forest Services (IFS) entitled "Effective Decision Making: Strategies & Techniques" with a financial support from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), GoI. During the inaugural session of the event attended by IFS Officers from all across the country, Prof. Jyoti Sharma, Program Coordinator highlighted the need for officials to manage their day-to-day decision making strategies for effective conduct at work places for making them conducive for one and all. Commensurate with the belief that how quality of decision can affect quality of life, she highlighted the importance of acquisition of decision making competencies for all level of officers. Prof. Ashutosh Vashishta, Dean Faculty of Management, while extending a formal welcome to all the participating officials, introduced the University ambience and its facilities. He elaborated upon how SMVD University is emphasizing on the quality aspects to ensure the healthy work culture amongst members of different strata - Faculty, Staff & Students. He also highlighted about the series of training programs organized since the past 15 years at SMVDU with the funding of MoEF&CC and how it has benefitted the participants in personality development activities. The Guest of Honor of inaugural function Mr. B.K. Singh, PCCF, J&K elaborated upon the kind of wild life in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and measures being taken by the Department in conservation of the natural biodiversity of the region keeping in mind the ongoing technology oriented urban developmental activities for promotion of eco-tourism. Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU and Chief Guest for the event emphasized the relevance of conduction of this type of training program which are not only relevant for trainees but also the trainers for better learning to take place. Prof. Kumar congratulated the School of Business for organizing such kind of training programs continuously with relevance of the training on this theme in all walks of life. He wished the officers a happy and productive lifelong learning in this celebrated training program. IFS officers from different parts of the country including Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Telangana, Orissa, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, etc. are participating in this training program. The participants shall have fruitful interactions with eminent personalities including Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM, Jammu; Prof. Supran Kumar Sharma, Former Dean, Faculty of Management, SMVDU; Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU;

Prof. Anita Lal Tripathy, FMS, Delhi; Dr. Munninder, senior forest officer; Dr. Ashok Bhan, Retd., IPS; Prof. Lakhwinder Singh, Guru Nanak Dev University. The training program's pedagogy consists of lecture method, case discussion and analysis, role plays, virtual tours, etc. Besides, the schedule also includes field visits to Patnitop, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, adjoining areas of Reasi district, a panel discussion on improvement in the working of forest departments need for career development through training and improvement of skills.

Short-Term Training Program on Mathematical Methods Inaugurated at SMVDU

A weeklong Short-Term Training Program (STTP) on Mathematical Methods inaugurated at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU). The program is being organized by UGC-Malviya Mission Teacher Training Centre, SMVDU. During the inaugural function Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU highlighted the significance of Mathematics in various fields of Science and Engineering. Prof. Pragati Kumar also talked about some of emerging methods in Mathematical Sciences such as fuzzy methodologies, chaos, fractals, etc., which have immediate real-time applications. The chief guest further motivated the participants to take the advantage of this STTP in their teaching and research. Prof. Suparn Kumar Sharma, Director, MMTTC, SMVDU addressed the participants about various programs and departments at the University, various programs being conducted by MMTTC-SMVDU and essential requirements for getting the certification of the STTP. Prof. Sharma has also motivated the participants for sincere and active participation for effective and mutual learning. Dr. Surender Singh, Faculty member, School of Mathematics and Coordinator of the STTP briefed the participants about the program. Dr. Sandeep Bhogal, Assistant Professor, School of Mathematics proposed the vote of thanks. Director, MMTTC appreciated the efforts of the organizing Team of the STTP and conveyed his thanks to the administration for their support to organize this STTP. A total of 106 Faculty Members from 25 States and UTs across India have been shortlisted out of 350 applicants. The program is aimed to focus on interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary aspects of Mathematical Methods in line with NEP 2020. Resource persons from IITs, NITs, reputed Central and State Universities have been invited to conduct sessions in this training program of faculty members. At the completion of STTP, the participants are expected to update their knowledge and skills for teaching and research.



Hindi Pakhwada Samapan and Prize Distribution Ceremony Held at SMVDU



The Hindi Pakhwada Samapan and Prize Distribution Ceremony was held with great enthusiasm at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University at Matrika Auditorium. The event celebrated the spirit of Hindi as the official language, promoting its use in administrative and academic spheres. The ceremony was graced by esteemed dignitaries, with Prof. Pragati Kumar, Honorable Vice Chancellor, serving as the Chief Guest. Swami Yagyadharanand, Secretary, Ramakrishna Mission, Jammu was present as the Special Guest, offering his blessings and thoughts on the importance of language in cultural and spiritual unity. The Guest of Honor, Shri Sanjiv Verma, IAS, highlighted the significance of Hindi in governance and administration, encouraging the youth to actively contribute to its promotion. The event commenced with a warm welcome address by Dr. Anurag Kumar, Nodal Officer and I/c Hindi Cell, who emphasized the role of Hindi as a medium of communication in diverse fields and the importance of Hindi Pakhwada in reinforcing its usage. In attendance were various faculty members, staff, and students, with special presence of Prof. A.K. Das, Dean, Humanities and Social Sciences. A cultural program was held as part of the event, showcasing the talents of students through songs, poetry recitations, and bhajan, all aimed at celebrating the richness and beauty of the Hindi language. The performances captivated the audience, reflecting the creativity and cultural pride of the participants. The ceremony concluded with the vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Madhumangal Chaturvedi, who expressed gratitude to all the dignitaries, participants, and organizers for making the event a grand success, highlighting the special role of student volunteers, particularly Mr. Dheeraj Kumar and his team. Prizes were distributed to the winners of various competitions held during the Hindi Pakhwada, recognizing their excellence in essay writing, poetry, debates, and more. The efforts of the participants were applauded, with encouragement to continue nurturing the love for Hindi. The event was a resounding success, strengthening the collective commitment to promoting Hindi in academic and administrative spaces.

SMVDU Students Visit the India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2024 & India Blockchain Summit (IBS) 2024



A group of 27 students from the School of Computer Science Engineering, School of Electronics & Communication, and School of Biotechnology at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University attended the India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2024, Asia's largest digital technology event, which was held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, India and India Blockchain Summit, India's first Blockchain Summit which was held at Talka-

Talkatora, Indore Stadium. The students were accompanied by faculty member, Dr. Gyanesh Singh and staff members, Mr. Anil Kumar, Mrs. Neelam. The students had the opportunity to experience the latest technologies in mobile, 5G, Internet of Things (IoT), Satellite Internet, Smart Agriculture, XR, MR, Artificial Intelligent and Cybersecurity along with other emerging fields. They also attended keynote addresses by global leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with panel discussions and workshops on a wide range of topics, and exhibits and demonstrations from over 400 companies and institutions such as Airtel, Reliance Jio, Dell, Intel, and organizations like ISRO, DTU, IITs, including personalities. The students also had the opportunity to attend India Blockchain (IBS) 2024, taking place at Talkatora Indoor Stadium, New Delhi, where the future of Blockchain takes centre stage. Investors, policymakers, tech influencers, CXOs, and entrepreneurs converge to shape the Blockchain landscape with forward-thinking strategies. IBS was a platform to engage with the vanguard of Blockchain, contributing to the evolution of the digital economy. The students also had the opportunity to network with potential employers and investors at the event. They were particularly interested in learning about the latest trends in the digital technology industry and how they can apply their skills to solve real-world problems. The students' participation in IMC 2024 was made possible by the inputs of Vice Chancellor, Prof. (Dr.) Pragati Kumar, Registrar, Sh. Ajay Kumar Sharma and Dean of Students' Welfare, Prof. R. K. Mishra. The visit was organized under the supervision of the Head of SoCSE Dr. Baijnath Kaushik, Head SoECE Dr. Anil Bhardwaj (Assistant Professor), Dr. Gyanesh Singh (Assistant Professor), Faculty Advisor Dr. Vikram Singh (Assistant Professor), Dr. Neeraj Tripathi (Assistant Professor), Dr. Sudesh Kumar (Assistant Professor) along with various faculty members and staff. The students were also grateful to the student coordinators, Aditya Kanodiya and Sonu Kumar, for their help in organizing the trip. The students' experience at Both IMC 2024 & IBS 2024 was truly inspiring. They were amazed by the latest technologies on display and the potential of these technologies to change the world along with different Blockchain companies that was being addressed by their founders. They were also motivated by the success stories of entrepreneurs and innovators who are using technology to solve real-world problems. The students returned to the SMVDU with a renewed sense of purpose and a deep understanding of the digital technology industry. They are now eager to apply their skills and knowledge to make a positive impact on the world. The students were grateful to SMVDU for giving them the opportunity to attend IMC 2024 & IBS 2024.

One-day Investor Awareness Program in Collaboration with the National Stock Exchange of India Held at SMVDU



The School of Economics, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University conducted a one-day Investor Awareness Program in collaboration with the National Stock Exchange of India. The program was inaugurated by Prof. Ashutosh Vashishta, Dean Faculty of Management by extending a formal welcome to the invited

dignitaries. He introduced the aim of the program to the audience which included students and faculty members from different departments of the university. The dignitaries included Shri Krishnan Iyer, Senior Vice President – Regulatory, NSE India Ltd; Mr Vivek Dua, Chief Manager, Investor Service Cell, NSE India Ltd. and Mr Ankush Goja, Officer Incharge, Investor Services Centre, Jammu and Kashmir. The chief guest of the occasion, Shri Krishnan Iyer deliberated at length over the various investment options for new entrants into the equity market. He informed the audience about the ever increasing size of the NSE in India vis-à-vis the number of investors and the companies listed providing diversity and confidence in equity investing for those interested in the market. Additionally, he highlighted some red flags concerning investment in the market and informed about safe investment practises. In addition, Mr. Ankush Goja provided his personal experience in the market and touched upon the importance of the equity investment at the earliest. The program was coordinated by Dr. Arif Billah Dar, Assistant Professor, School of Economics and co-coordinated by Dr. Pabitra Kumar Jena, Assistant Professor, School of Economics and Dr. Gopinathan R., Assistant Professor, School of Economics. Dr. Pabitra Kumar presented the vote of thanks. The program was concluded with the felicitation of the guests by the Head, School of Economics, Dr. Roop Lal Sharma. The successful conduct of the program was congratulated by Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU.

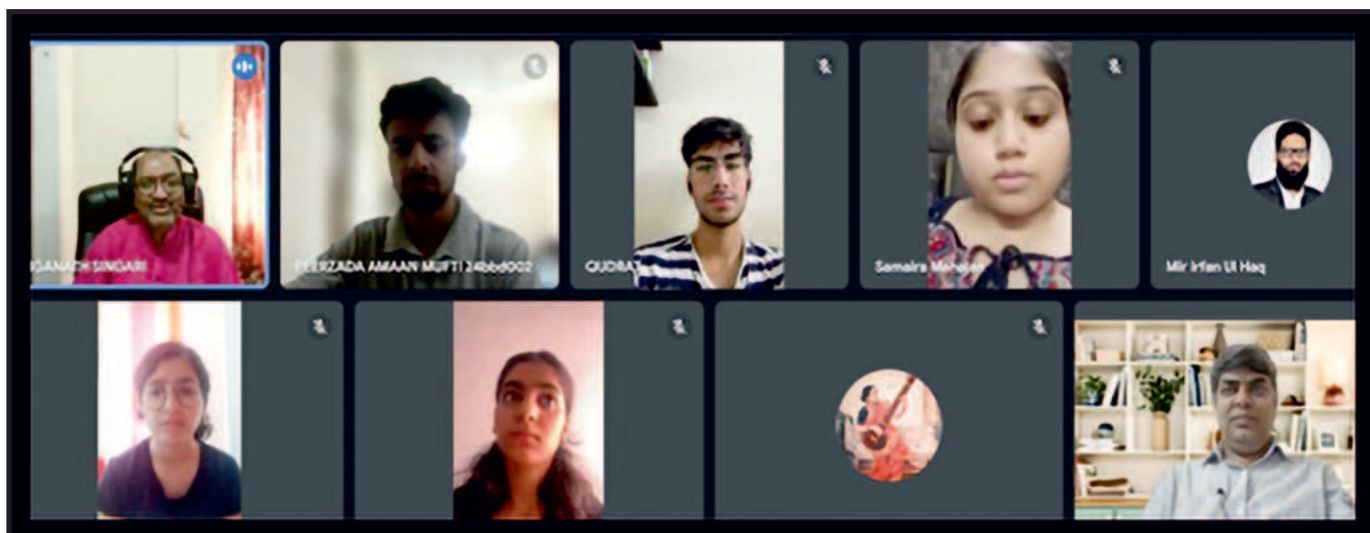
Celebration and Day Observed

The Vigilance Awareness Week Celebrated at SMVDU



The Vigilance Awareness Week was celebrated across the country from 28th October to 3rd November 2024. The University endeavored to promote integrity and eradicate corruption with the active support and participation of all citizens. For the past three years, there has been a campaign in the run up to the week with preventive vigilance initiatives as focus areas. Every year Vigilance Awareness Week is observed in the week in which the birthday of Bharat Ratna Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel falls in. It is pertinent to mention that Integrity Pledge was administered by the Registrar of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, Shri Ajay Kumar Sharma, JKAS to the all faculty and staff of the University on 29th October 2024. The Registrar informed the employees of the SMVDU about the theme of this year's Vigilance Awareness Week i.e. "Culture of Integrity about Nation's Prosperity" and reiterated to maintain integrity in daily life and stand united to create corruption free work culture.

External Experts



Prof. Ranganathan from DTU, New Delhi Delivers Lecture to Bachelor of Design Students at SMVDU

Prof Ranganath. M. Singari, Founding Head, Department of Design at Delhi Technological University delivered an online lecture related to various aspects of design. This session was organized for the first batch of students of Bachelor of Design at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra. SMVDU is the first university in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir to offer a Bachelor of Design course. The talk aimed to the key principles, methodologies, and trends in design, providing students with a solid foundation for understanding how design can shape industries and impact the world around us. The session provided students with invaluable insights into the world of design and its significance in both academia and industry. Prof. Ranganath M. Singari introduced core design principles and inspired students to think critically about how design shapes our world. The talk was also attended by Ms. Monica Singh (DTU, New Delhi). Prof. Ankush Anand (Coordinator, Bachelor of Design), Ar. Abhiney Gupta (Head, School of Architecture), Dr. Mir Irfan Ul Haq (Assistant Professor, SME) also attended the session and conveyed gratitude to Prof. Singari for his insightful talk.

NSS SMVDU Organizes Expert Talk on Role and Importance of Music in Society

The National Service Scheme of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University organized an enlightening expert talk on the topic "Role and Importance of Music in Society" by Dr. Bharat Bhushan, Head of Department at Girdhari Lal Dogra Memorial Degree College, Hiranagar, Kathua. The session aimed to highlight the significance of music in shaping individuals and society, especially among the youth. Dr. Bharat Bhushan, a trained vocalist in Hindustani Classical Music under the tutelage of Sangeet Natak Academy Awardee Pandit Vidhayada Vyas, delivered an inspiring lecture. He emphasized the vital role of music in holistic personal development, discussing how music not only fosters emotional well-being but also deepens one's connection to culture and spirituality. He elaborated on the transformative power of music, stating, "Music is a medium that transcends boundaries, connects us to our roots, and brings us closer



to God". Dr. Rajiv Kumar, NSS Programme Coordinator, and Dr. Varun Dutta, NCC Coordinator, were instrumental in coordinating the event. They emphasized the profound influence of music and cultural engagement in the lives of young people. Dr. Rajiv Kumar stated, "Music has the power to shape values, build emotional intelligence, and foster a sense of community." Dr. Varun Dutta further added, "Incorporating music into one's life nurtures creativity, discipline, and a deeper understanding of our heritage." The expert talk received an overwhelming response from students, sparking a meaningful dialogue on the importance of integrating art and culture into education and everyday life. The event underscored the university's commitment to fostering a well-rounded, culturally enriched environment for its students.

Faculty/Staff Updates

Talk Delivered

SMVDU Faculty Delivers Expert Lecture at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Dr. Pabitra Kumar Jena, Assistant Professor at the School of Economics, Faculty of Management, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, shared his expertise as a resource person during an Indian Council of Social Sciences Research (ICSSR)-sponsored "Two-Week Capacity Building Programme (CBP) for Assistant Professors" during 30th Sept. to 11th Oct. 24. This course is hosted by the UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre at the Centre for Informal Sector and Labour Studies (CISLS), School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi. This programme provided a platform for Dr. Pabitra Kumar Jena to deliver two inclusive lectures on the selection of appropriate statistical tests for data analysis and the interpretation and understanding of logit and probit models. Dr. Jena explored various Parametric and Non-Parametric tests for data analysis during his sessions. He also demonstrated how Logit and Probit models can measure qualitative variables as dependent variable in multidisciplinary research. Delegates across India from various universities have participated in the two-week Capacity Building Programme. Prof. (Dr.) Pragati Kumar, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of SMVDU, Professor Ashutosh Vashishtha, Dean, Faculty of Management, Dr. Roop Lal Sharma, Head, School of Economics, congratulated Dr. Pabitra Kumar Jena and wished him a bright future.



Student Updates

SMVDU Sports Teams Shine at IIT, Jammu Sports Festival

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University sports teams achieved significant success in the sports festival organized by IIT, Jammu. The university teams secured gold medals in 400m, 4x100m relay, 4x400m relay, javelin and e-sports (valorant). The teams attained runner-up positions in badminton, long jump, 200m and 800m. The event witnessed participation from eight different institutions of Jammu region and the SMVDU teams participated in 10 different events. The teams were accompanied by sports wing officials of the university namely, Mr. Sudershan Sharma, Mr. Sumit Sharma, Sports Coach, Mr. Balbir Singh, Sports coach, Dr. Kamaldeep, Vice-President, Board for Sports Activities and Dr. Parvez





National Level Training Program



on Decision Making for IFS Officers

Singh Slathia, Faculty, Incharge Sports and President, Board for Sports Activities. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Pragati Kumar congratulated the winning teams of the university and encouraged the students to take part in such sports tournaments for holistic development.

SMVDU, BBA Students Shine at RBI Quiz 90



In a remarkable display of knowledge and teamwork, BBA 5th Semester students Viraj Singh Katoch and Krishn Singh clinched the top position at the regional level of the RBI Quiz 90, held at the Radisson Blue Jammu. Their outstanding performance earned them a cash prize of ₹1.5 lakh, highlighting their exceptional capabilities in management studies. The quiz, which attracted participants from various colleges, tested contestants on a range of topics including economics, finance, and current affairs. Viraj and Krishan strategic approach and quick thinking during the quiz allowed them to outshine their competitors. Two other students from their batch, Divanshu Badgal and Kavya Sharma, also participated in the regional level event, showcasing the strong talent pool among their peers. Their involvement further emphasized the dedication and enthusiasm of the BBA cohort in engaging with practical applications of their studies. Among the participants were fellow BBA students Manu Rajput, Kakhshan Mustafa, Anand, Dhriti Sharma, Aditi Sharma and Aditi Thakur, all of whom demonstrated impressive knowledge and competitive spirit throughout the quiz. The victory not only celebrated the individual achievements of Viraj and Krishan but also reflected the rigorous training and mentorship provided by their faculty. The event served as an inspiration for other students, encouraging them to pursue excellence in both academic and extracurricular endeavour. Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University congratulated the students and entire department for this remarkable achievement. He also that this victory has not only brought laurel to the BBA program but will also inspire other students to strive for excellence in their academic pursuits.

SMVDU Students Visit the Baglihar Hydropower Project

In an effort to enhance practical learning, a group of students of Skill Enhancement Course, Introduction to Hydropower, coordinated by Mr. Gautam Narula, from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University recently visited the Baglihar Hydropower Project. Students were from various branches like B.Tech Civil Engineering, Bsc. Hons Biotechnology, and students from Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA). The visit of students from multiple branches allowed understanding of multiple concepts in planning, design and operations of the Hydropower Project. The educational trip was organised by the School of Civil Engineering, aiming to provide students a comprehensive experience of how large-scale hydropower facilities operate. The Baglihar Hydropower Project, located on the Chenab River in J&K with a capacity of 900MW, plays a crucial role in boosting energy in northern India. During the visit, students



were given detailed insights by respected authorities of Baglihar Hydropower Project who enlightened students about the operation of hydropower plants, including the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity. He highlighted the technology used in the dams, turbines and generators. Dr. V.K. Dogra, Associate Professor and Head, School of Civil Engineering and Mr. Gautam Narula, Assistant Professor at School of Civil Engineering, SMVDU, led the whole site visit aiming to share knowledge and provide in-depth technical explanations to the students. This visit was made possible with the excellent support of Baglihar Officials.

SMVDU Tech Community Conducts Microsoft Ideathon Workshop



The Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Tech Community successfully organized a Microsoft Ideathon Regional Workshop on 'Getting Started with Technology' for 1st and 2nd year students and Placement Scenario for 3rd and 4th year Students' drawing over 400 students from various engineering disciplines and academic years. The Ideathon encouraged students to identify real-world problems and propose innovative solutions, promoting a hands-on approach to learning. Students actively applied their skills and critical thinking to tackle current tech challenges, making the event both engaging and educational. Prominent industry speakers, including Mr. Sarthak Jain, Head of Community at ID8NXT, and Mr. Dibyasom Puhan, Head of AI and Innovation, shared their expertise and insights, inspired participants to deepen their knowledge and passion for technology and innovation. The sessions covered essential topics such as Git and GitHub, Data Structures and Algorithms and various coding languages, along with a special segment on placement preparation for 3rd and 4th year students. This gave attendees valuable insights and tools to navigate their future careers successfully. The event was organized by student coordinators Mr. Anshul Upadhyay and Mr. Prem Aayush, along with faculty coordinators Mr. Swastik Gupta, Mr. Shashi Bhushan Kotwal. Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU, congratulated the team, acknowledging the importance of initiatives in fostering a culture of innovation and learning at SMVDU.

NSS

NSS SMVDU Organizes Food Preparation Activity at Govt. Primary School



NSS unit of SMVDU Katra organized a food preparation event at Govt. Primary school in Kakryal village. The event was organized to educate students about a balanced diet. NSS volunteers reached school with all the raw materials and other equipment required for food preparation. Volunteers worked in different groups to prepare various food items. They prepared food items including green vegetables, poori, boondi raita and halwa in the school premises. Volunteers served the food to the school students and teachers. School students were very happy after having the special meal of the day. NSS volunteers regularly organize different events in all nearby Govt. Schools. NSS volunteers Sadhvi Sharma and Abhishek Sharma coordinated the event with other volunteers. The event lasted for three hours. NSS coordinator, Dr. Rajiv Kumar, was also present during the event. The School authorities thanked the NSS SMVDU team for organizing the event in the school. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Pragati Kumar appreciated the efforts of NSS volunteers.

NSS SMVDU Organizes Cleanliness Drive at Nau Devi Temple Katra



National Service Scheme (NSS) unit of SMVDU Katra organized cleanliness drive at Nau Devi temple Katra under the campaign "Swachhta Hi Seva". The campaign is currently being promoted throughout the country between 17th Sept. to 2nd Oct. 24. NSS SMVDU Katra volunteers had organized various events during the said campaign since 17th Sept. 24. Volunteers this time cleaned the surrounding areas of the Nau Devi temple in Katra. Volunteers enthusiastically worked for two hours and collected around

70 Kg of single use plastic from the temple surroundings. Volunteers also organized awareness session for the nearby shopkeepers to keep the area clean and safe. NSS student coordinators Sadhvi Sharma and Abhishek Sharma led the whole drive. NSS programme coordinator, Dr. Rajiv Kumar was also present during the drive. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Pragati Kumar appreciated the efforts of NSS volunteers for organizing the event.

Ph.D.

Ms. Niharika Qualifies for the Award of Ph.D.

Niharika d/o Mrs. Bharti and Prof. Bharat B. Gupta and w/o Aakash has been declared qualified for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra, UT J&K. She has worked on the topic "Effective Use of Feature Extraction Techniques and Learning Paradigms on Online Bio-medical Datasets for Disease Prediction" under the supervision of Dr. Baijnath Kaushik, Head, School of Computer Science and Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, SMVDU, Katra. Ms. Niharika has published various papers in SCI/SCIE-indexed journals and presented her research papers at various international conferences. The scholar extends her heartfelt gratitude to her parents, spouse, and supervisor for their invaluable guidance and support. She also acknowledges the School of Computer Science and Engineering, SMVDU, Katra, for providing exceptional facilities and resources throughout her research. Prof.(Dr.) Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of SMVDU, along with other committee members, extended warm congratulations to Ms. Niharika and bestowed their best wishes for her future endeavors.



Ms. Eva Sharma Qualifies for the Award of Ph.D.

Ms. Eva Sharma D/o Mr. Janak Raj Sharma and Mrs. Anju Dubey, has been declared qualified for the award of degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in English by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra, J&K. She has worked on the topic "Neoliberal Subjectivity and Precarious Bodies: A Biopolitical Analysis of Surrogacy Industry in Select Indian Novels" under the supervision of Dr. Isha Malhotra, Assistant Professor, School of Languages and Literature, SMVDU. Ms. Eva has published papers in SCOPUS-indexed journals and presented her papers at various international conferences. The scholar expresses her gratitude to her parents and supervisor for their invaluable guidance, as well as the School of Languages and Literature, SMVDU, for providing necessary facilities and support during her research. Prof. (Dr.) Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU, and other committee members congratulated Ms. Eva Sharma and wished her a bright future.



Social Responsibility

Nutrition Awareness Programme Held at Vikalp, SMVDU

Vikalp hosted a comprehensive nutrition awareness program organised by a team from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi College of Nursing. The event, attended by 56 students, aimed to educate young minds on the significance of adopting healthy eating habits for long-term well-being. The nursing team delivered an engaging and informative session focusing on the essentials of a balanced diet, emphasising the need for foods rich in key nutrients such as proteins, vitamins, minerals, carbohydrates, and fats. Students were taught how different food groups contribute to physical growth, energy, and disease prevention. The team also highlighted the role of protein in muscle development, the importance of vitamins and minerals in immune support, and how a well-rounded diet can prevent lifestyle diseases like diabetes and obesity. Through practical examples and interactive discussions, students learned how to make healthier food choices and incorporate nutritious options into their daily meals. The facilitators shared



tips on avoiding junk food, understanding portion control, and the importance of hydration. As a gesture of gratitude, the VIKALP team handed over a thank you token to the guest team. The program was well-received, with students gaining valuable insights on how to make healthier food choices and understanding the long-term benefits of maintaining a nutritious diet. The event was highly beneficial, leaving students equipped with the tools to lead healthier lives.

Vikalp SMVDU Organizes Village Contact Program

Vikalp – a students' initiative at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Katra, along with NSS volunteers embarked on a village outreach program to reconnect with the local community after the Diwali break. The initiative aimed to inform residents about Vikalp's reopening and encourage new student enrollments, reinforcing the organization's dedication to providing accessible, high-quality education to the destitute and poor. The campaign commenced at 4:00 PM from Gate No. 2 of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), where several enthusiastic volunteers set out to visit Sirah Colony, Sool, and nearby areas. Through direct interactions, the volunteers addressed community concerns regarding Vikalp's operations and shared the organization's



mission and goals. Over the course of the program, which concluded at 5:30 PM, the volunteers reached approximately 35 to 40 households. They provided crucial information about Vikalp's educational services, garnering positive feedback from the residents. Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor of SMVDU, and Shri Sumanta Sarathi Sharma, Faculty Coordinator of Vikalp, commended the students for their dedication and hard work. They also expressed gratitude to Dr. Rajiv Attri, Program Coordinator of NSS, for his invaluable support and coordination. Recognizing the beneficial impact of these efforts, Vikalp plans to conduct more outreach programs to further extend its reach and deepen community engagement. This ongoing initiative aims to boost student registration and enhance the community's access to Vikalp's educational offerings.

ALUMNI

SMVDU Computer Science Alumni Interacts with Students



The Office of Alumni and International Affairs SMVDU and SMVDU Tech Community organized an interactive session with Prabhav Dogra, an alumnus of the 2019- 2023 Computer Science engineering (Batch 2019-2023) who is currently serving as a Software Development Engineer (SDE) at Blinkit. mmPrabhav shared his remarkable journey from student life to professional success, offering invaluable insights to the attending students. During the session, Prabhav detailed his experience in securing internships while studying at SMVDU, discussing the challenges he encountered and the lessons learned along the way. He provided students with crucial advice on resume-building, emphasizing the need for a strong, well-structured resume to stand out in a competitive job market. Furthermore, Prabhav highlighted the importance of networking and maintaining professional relationships, stressing how these connections can significantly influence career progression. The session was met with great enthusiasm, as students actively engaged with Prabhav, seeking his guidance on career development and the tech industry. His candid responses and practical tips resonated with attendees, offering them actionable advice for their own professional paths. The success of the event was attributed to the efforts of Yuvraj Pathania, Student Coordinator from the Office of International and Alumni Affairs and Prem Aayush from the SMVDU Tech Community. The students extended their gratitude to Dr. Mir Irfan ul Haq, Associate Dean International and Alumni Affairs, and Dr. Yugal Khajuria, Dean International and Alumni Affairs. The Office of the International and Alumni Affairs conveyed their thanks to Dr. Baijnath Kaushik, Head, School of computer Science and Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of SMVDU, for their unwavering support in organizing initiatives that foster student development and industry exposure.

Upcoming Events

- **Training Program for Non-Teaching Staff Members on 7th Nov, 24**
- **NEP Orientation & Sensitization Programme from 18th - 27th Nov, 24**
- **3rd International Conference on Emerging Trends in Biosciences and Chemical Technology from 14th – 15th Feb, 24**

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Winners of RBI Quiz 90 with



Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU



NSS Volunteers Making Diyas during Pre-Diwali Festivities