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सरदार पटेल विश्वविद्यालय मण्डी

(हि.प्र. सरकार द्वारा स्थापित विश्वविद्यालय)

SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY MANDI

(Established by H.P. Govt.)



FROM VICE CHANCELLOR'S DESK



Dear Students, Faculty, and Esteemed Members of Our University Community ladies and gentlemen who are reading this newsletter of Sardar Patel University Mandi.

It is a matter of immense pride to witness the steady progress and growth of our university as we continue our journey toward academic excellence, cutting edge research and innovation. This newsletter serves as a vibrant reflection of the university's achievements, aspirations, and the dynamic spirit of our students and faculty. It is with great pride and enthusiasm that I share some remarkable milestones in our university's journey. As we continue to build a strong foundation for academic excellence, this year marks several historic firsts for our institution.

The most momentous occasion in the history of Sardar Patel University was the First University Convocation, held on 12th September 2024 which was a significant event that celebrated the achievements of our students and the vision of our university. Hon'ble Chancellor cum Governor Himachal Pradesh Sh. Shiv Pratap Shukla ji who was the chief guest on the occasion bestowed the medals to the achievers of batch 2020 and 2021. He blessed the pass outs with his vibrant and dynamic convocational address and urged them to explore their full potential. This convocation symbolized our commitment to nurturing future leaders and scholars.

Another key achievement has been the successful convening of the First Finance Committee Meeting held on 4 November 2024 and the Framing of the First Academic Council, followed by its maiden meeting. Sardar Patel University for the first time conducted entrance examinations for all the courses running in its campus and its affiliated colleges and institutes. These are critical steps in shaping the governance and academic framework of our university, ensuring transparency, efficiency, and a dynamic learning environment.

We have also actively engaged in capacity-building initiatives, organizing various workshops on the National Education Policy (NEP) and other academic advancements. These discussions have been instrumental in aligning our curriculum with national and global educational standards, equipping faculty and students with innovative teaching and learning methodologies. A number of MOUs have been signed with various institutes of higher learning and industry to equip our young minds with necessary skills through training and internship.

Each of these milestones reflects our collective commitment to academic excellence, research, and holistic development. I sincerely thank all faculty members, students, administrative staff and all stake holders for their unwavering support and dedication in making these achievements possible.

As we move forward, let us continue to uphold the values of knowledge, integrity, and innovation. Together, we will build a university that not only imparts education but also inspires transformation.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the editor of the Newsletter and all contributors for their efforts in bringing this publication to life. May this platform continue to inspire and connect us all.

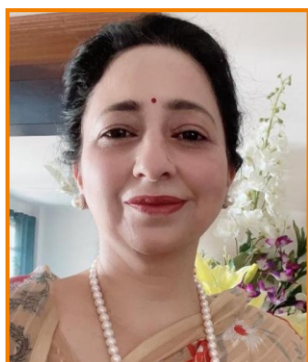
Wishing you all success in your academic and professional endeavors!

Prof. Lalit Kumar Awasthi
Vice Chancellor

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MESSAGES



Dear Students, Faculty and Esteemed Members of the Sardar Patel University Community, It is with great enthusiasm that I extend my warm greetings to you all through this edition of Mandav Chronicle - University Letter. Our university is steadily progressing on the path of academic excellence, research innovation and holistic student development. As we continue to nurture a culture of knowledge and creativity, I urge our students to seize the numerous opportunities provided by the university-be it in academics, research, extracurricular activities or community engagement. Our faculty's dedication and unwavering commitment to education have been instrumental in shaping the bright futures of our students and I deeply appreciate their contributions. This year, we are expanding our initiatives to enhance interdisciplinary learning, foster industry-academia collaboration and promote research that addresses realworld challenges. I encourage everyone to actively participate in these initiatives and contribute towards making Sardar Patel University a center of excellence. I look forward to witnessing the remarkable achievements of our students and faculty in the coming months. Let us work together to uphold the values of knowledge, integrity and innovation that define our university. Best wishes to all.

Prof. Anupama Singh
Pro Vice-Chancellor

Dear Students, Faculty and Staff,

It is with great pride that I address you through this edition of **Mandav Chronicle – University Letter**. As Registrar of Sardar Patel University, I am committed to ensuring the smooth and efficient functioning of the university's administrative and academic framework. Our collective efforts in governance, infrastructure development and student welfare continue to strengthen the foundation of this institution.

The university is rapidly evolving and we are taking significant steps to enhance our academic programs, digital governance systems, student services and research ecosystem. Our administrative team is working tirelessly to streamline processes, ensure transparency and create a more accessible and student-friendly academic environment.

Key administrative initiatives are underway to improve examination system, student support services and affiliation processes for the colleges under our jurisdiction. We are also focusing on leveraging technology to make university operations more efficient, ensuring a seamless experience for students and faculty members alike.

I urge students, faculty and staff members to actively engage with the university's initiatives and contribute towards making Sardar Patel University a centre of academic excellence and innovation. Let us work together in shaping a brighter future for our university and its stakeholders. Best wishes for continued success and growth.

Dr. Madan Kumar (HPAS)
Registrar



I am delighted to welcome each and every one of you as the Controller of Examinations (COE) at Sardar Patel University Mandi. The examination is one of the ways to assess the student's learning. The prime responsibility of Examination Cell is conduction of all examinations in a fair and systematic manner. Examinations are a crucial component of your academic journey. They serve as a benchmark to gauge your knowledge, competencies, and understanding of the subjects you are studying at SPU, we prioritize maintaining high academic standards and upholding a robust examination framework to ensure its integrity. My role involves overseeing and managing the entire examination process to ensure fair and transparent assessments for all students. Our team remains committed to ensuring a smooth, transparent, and efficient examination process that upholds the academic integrity of our institution.

I encourage you to approach the examination process with a positive attitude. View exams as an opportunity for self-assessment and growth. They are not just about achieving a specific grade; they also serve as a way to solidify your knowledge and refine essential skills that will be invaluable in your future endeavors.

The Examinations Department, under my direction, is here to support you every step of the way. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding examinations, please do not hesitate to reach out to our team. We are readily available to address your inquiries and provide any necessary assistance. I extend my best wishes to all students for their academic success and encourage them to prepare diligently. Best wishes

Dr. Suneel Verma
Controller of Examinations



Sardar Patel University is committed to fostering an environment of academic excellence and holistic development. As a vibrant hub of learning, SPU aims to empower students with knowledge, skills, and values that prepare them for the challenges of a rapidly changing world.

The Finance Office in Sardar Patel University plays a vital role in maintaining the University Funds, which may be both Revenue & Capital including Grants & Contributions. The Finance Officer functions under the overall control of the Vice-Chancellor and looks after the financial matters of the University and required to exercise general supervision over the funds of the University. The finance officer holds the responsibility of the preparation of Annual Accounts, Financial Estimates, and the Budget, besides the proper maintenance of the accounts of the University and for making arrangements of the audit and bills. Finance officer is the Member-Secretary of the Finance Committee of the University

My colleagues in Finance and Accounts Department are striving hard with full devotion and enthusiasm in bringing the excellence and innovation. We are working on the improvement of processes and procedures to bring in the flexibilities in operations. We also continue to review financial management and related processes to identify areas for improved efficiency, financial and performance data integration and internal controls to ensure unmatched reliability in financial activities.

I wish you a fulfilling and successful journey at Sardar Patel University Mandi!

Best wishes,

Sh. Hans Raj Saini
Finance Officer



MESSAGES



I would like to take an opportunity to congratulate the entire family of Sardar Patel University, Mandi on its 3rd Foundation Day. During this journey of three years the university has achieved many mile stones and has added many feathers to its cap.

The University's vision is to create, disseminate and proliferate knowledge to all section of society by developing a centre of academic excellence and to be a key factor for the economic and social transformation of the people of this region in particular and state and nation in general. The Dean Academic Affairs office functions under overall control of the Vice-Chancellor and look after the academic and administrative matter of the University. The Dean Academic Affairs is responsible for making the academic calendar, schedule of admissions and teaching.

Dr. Karan Gupta
Dean Academic Affairs

Dear all,

"If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail!" Benjamin Franklin

I am honored to write as Dean Planning of Sardar Patel University Mandi. Department of Planning & Development, SPU aims at realizing the full potential of all available resources to achieve the University Vision & Mission to ensure inclusive growth and development of all stakeholders through proper planning!

For Tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today...

As we move forward into another exciting year, I am pleased to share updates from the Office of Dean Planning on our university's growth and development. Our commitment to academic excellence and student success continues to guide our strategic initiatives.

This year, we are focusing on expanding campus facilities, enhancing research facilities, and fostering a more inclusive and sustainable environment. Together, we are building a future that supports our students, faculty, and staff in achieving their highest potential.

Thank you for being a vital part of our university's journey.

Best regards,

Dr. Saneel Kumar
Dean Planing



Dear Students,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Sardar Patel University, Mandi, a place of academic excellence, innovation and holistic development. As you embark on this transformative journey, we are committed to providing you with a vibrant and inclusive environment that nurtures both intellectual growth and personal well-being.

The Dean, Students' Welfare Office plays a pivotal role in ensuring a positive student experience by fostering a culture of discipline, cooperation and mutual respect. We strive to support students in every possible way through academic guidance, extracurricular activities, career counseling, or addressing concerns related to student welfare. Our aim is to empower you with the skills, knowledge and values necessary to excel in your chosen fields while upholding integrity and social responsibility.

At Sardar Patel University, Mandi, we encourage you to participate actively in various student led clubs, sports, cultural events and community service initiatives. These opportunities will not only enrich your university life but also prepare you for future challenges by fostering leadership, teamwork and critical thinking.

I urge you to make the most of your time at the university to embrace new learning experiences, engage in meaningful interactions and contribute positively to our academic community. Our doors are always open to support and guide you in your academic and personal endeavors.

Wishing you a rewarding and fulfilling journey at Sardar Patel University, Mandi (HP)!

Prof. Rajesh Kumar Sharma
Dean, Students' Welfare



Sardar Patel University Mandi (SPU) has grown significantly in the field of research and development (R&D) since its establishment. SPU Mandi believes that R&D is the foundation for creativity, innovations, new ideas, global knowledge and societal advancements. The main role of Dean Research Office is to promote and look after all the sponsored research activities of SPU Mandi, starting from project submission, project management, recruitment of research staff, interactions with the funding agency, technology transfer, etc. Moreover, this division helps the faculty to take up and implement new research initiatives planned by SPU Mandi or by National and International agencies. Dean Research Office also aims to foster Intellectual curiosity and experimentation among the researchers, interdisciplinary collaboration, and maintaining ethics and integrity in all the aspects of research.

Dr. Lakhveer Singh
Dean Research





Dear Readers,

It is with great pride and enthusiasm that we present to you this year's edition of our Mandav Chronicle Annual University Newsletter. As we turn the pages of time and reflect on the past academic year, we find ourselves immersed in a journey of achievements, challenges, and

transformative experiences.

Sardar Patel University Mandi, continues to be a hub of innovation, research, and holistic development, fostering an environment where students and faculty push the boundaries of knowledge. This edition of Mandav Chronicle encapsulates the academic milestones, cultural festivities, research breakthroughs, and extracurricular triumphs that have shaped our year. It is a testament to the unwavering spirit and dedication of our university community.

From thought-provoking lectures to spirited student initiatives, from seminars and workshops to the arts and sports—each story within these pages is a reflection of the collective effort that makes our institution a beacon of learning and progress. We also take this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed faculty, diligent students, and ever-supportive Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof Lalit Kumar Awasthi, Prof Vice Chancellor Prof Anupama Singh and administrative staff, whose commitment has been instrumental in upholding the values and excellence of our university.

As you browse through this edition, we hope you find inspiration in the narratives, achievements, and aspirations of your peers. May this newsletter serve as a chronicle of our shared experiences and a reminder of the vibrant academic community we are all a part of.

I extend my sincere thanks to all contributors who have worked tirelessly to bring this edition to life. Your words, creativity, and dedication are the driving forces behind this publication. I conclude the editors note with this quote which means so relevant during these hard times “Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.” Marie Curie Here's to another year of growth, learning, and success!

Happy Reading!

Dr. Gaurav Kapoor
Editor



IMPORTANT MOU'S



On May 27, 2024, Prof. Lalit Awasthi, Vice Chancellor of SPU Mandi, visited the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC) in Mohali. During his visit, Prof. Awasthi met with Mr. V.K. Sharma, CDAC's Director, and the Heads of Sections (HoSs) to discuss the ongoing entrance test project. Prof. Awasthi provided valuable suggestions to ensure the smooth execution of the exam process. Mr. Sharma also showcased CDAC's automation solutions, which Prof. Awasthi found beneficial and offered insights for further enhancement. Additionally, Prof. Awasthi explored various automation applications developed by CDAC, some of which are yet to be implemented at SPU Mandi, and discussed how they could drive innovation at the university. CDAC also

introduced training programs aimed at both students and faculty, focusing on the latest technologies to support academic growth and industry placements. Prof. Awasthi expressed interest in incorporating these programs to enhance employability for SPU Mandi students and alumni. The discussions also covered CDAC's ongoing research projects in artificial intelligence, agriculture, healthcare, and security. With his background in computer science, Prof. Awasthi showed keen interest in further research collaboration between SPU Mandi and CDAC. The visit concluded with an agreement to draft a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to formalize the partnership, with the goal of advancing research, education, and technological innovation for both institutions.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Orrizonate

On June 7, 2024, Sardar Patel University (SPU) Mandi signed its first-ever Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Orrizonate Technology Private Limited, Noida, marking the start of a long-term collaboration focused on student training and placement. The agreement establishes a "Pay After Placement" training program designed to equip IT students with in-demand skills in artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, and software programming. The 6-month program, exclusively for SPU Mandi's Computer Science Department students, will be offered by Orrizonate Technology. Students will pay a nominal registration fee and only pay the full course fee after securing placement. Initially launched on the SPU Mandi campus, the program will later extend to affiliated colleges. The MoU was signed by Er. Suneel Verma, Registrar of SPU Mandi, and Sri Ankit Agarwal, Director of Orrizonate Technologies. Prof. Lalit Awasthi, Vice Chancellor of SPU Mandi, highlighted the importance of such training programs for enhancing student employability and emphasized plans to expand this initiative to other fields and industries in the future.

On 26th November 2024, Sardar Patel University, Mandi hosted a significant event with the visit of the Times of India team, led by Mr. Vishal Sharma, DGM North India, and Mr. Rakesh Sukhija, DCM, Times of India. The event culminated in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between SPU and Times of India, in the presence of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Lalit Kumar Awasthi, Pro Vice Chancellor Prof. Anupama Singh, Registrar Dr. Madan Kumar, Dean Academic Affairs Dr. Karan Gupta, Dean and Head of the Department of Management Studies Dr. Pawan Kumar Chand, Dean Planning Dr. Saneel Thakur, Dean Research Dr. Lakhveer Singh, and Faculty member Dr. Balbir Singh Mangta. The MoU promises valuable internship and employment opportunities for students. Mr. Vishal Sharma delivered an expert talk on bridging the gap between industry and academia. During the visit, the Times of India team also offered internships to 30 MBA students, set to begin in January 2025 in Chandigarh.



UNIVERSITY WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

1. One-Day Workshop on how to Draft Quality Research Papers and Write Research Proposals (June 14, 2024)

This workshop aimed to enhance research paper writing among faculty members and Ph.D. students. The sessions covered essential aspects of research paper, understanding the peer-review process and preparing effective research funding proposals. Participants in SCI/Scopus-indexed journals gained insights into publishing opportunities. The event was conducted under the patronage of Prof. Lalit Kumar Awasthi, Vice-Chancellor, SPU, Mandi, with Prof. Hiralal Murlidhar Hamirpur, as the Chief Guest. The workshop was convened and conducted by Dr. Lakhveer Singh, Dean Research, SPU and Dr. Saneel K. Thakur, Dean Planning & Development, SPU, with assistance from co-convenors Dr. Chetan Chauhan, Dr. Manjula Sharma and Dr. Ashish Kumar from the Department of Chemistry.



enhance research paper writing among faculty members and covered essential aspects of research paper, understanding preparing effective research gained insights into publishing and identifying funding conducted under the patronage Vice-Chancellor, SPU, Mandi, Suryawanshi, Director, NIT

The workshop featured expert speakers, including Prof. Sushil Kumar Kansal (Panjab University), Prof. Venkata Krishnan (IIT Mandi) and Dr. Vikas Kumar (IIM Sirmaur), who provided valuable guidance on research methodologies and publication strategies. The workshop concluded with an interactive session, encouraging participants to refine their research approaches and aim for high-impact publications.

2) Online Workshop on “Intellectual Property Rights & its Importance”



Dean of research Dr. Lakhveer Sardar Patel University, Mandi, organized an online workshop on “Intellectual Property Rights & Its Importance” on 1st October 2024. The workshop was attended by faculty members and research scholars of the university. Dr. Runjhun Tandon, Founder and IP Incubator, led the session, where she provided valuable insights into the concept of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), its different types, and their significance. The workshop aimed to enhance participants' understanding of IPR and its vital role in fostering innovation and protecting intellectual assets.

3) Workshop on the “NAAC Accreditation Process”



As Sardar Patel University Mandi approaches its third anniversary in April 2025, making it eligible for NAAC accreditation, a workshop on the “NAAC accreditation process” was successfully held on 28th November 2024. The session was conducted by Professor Sunil Kumar Gupta, former Vice Chancellor of HPU Shimla. Prof. Gupta provided an in-depth lecture on the NAAC accreditation process, explaining the seven key parameters evaluated during the accreditation: Curriculum, Teaching Learning Process, Research & Innovation, Infrastructure, Student Support, Governance & Leadership, and Best Practices. He highlighted both the quantitative and qualitative aspects of these parameters and offered practical suggestions on how the university can meet these criteria. The workshop also focused on the crucial role of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) in the accreditation process. The event was held in two sessions and was attended by the Controller of Examinations and all faculty members of the university.

WORKSHOPS ON THE “NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY (NEP) 2020”

A workshop on the 2020 was successfully held at December 2024. Prof. Sarbjot Pradesh State Higher Education lecture on the implementation of Pradesh. Prof. Behl emphasized Industry linkages, which he He urged the university to MoUs with companies offering opportunities for students. importance of incorporating university's curriculum to enhance job opportunities for graduates. The workshop was attended by the Controller of Examinations and all faculty members of the university, contributing to a productive discussion on enhancing education in line with NEP 2020.



“National Education Policy (NEP)” Sardar Patel University on 16th Singh Behl, Chairman of the Himachal Council, delivered an insightful NEP 2020 in the state of Himachal the need for strengthening Academia- noted are currently limited in the state. increase these connections by signing internship and placement Additionally, he stressed the skill-based courses into the

The workshop was attended by the Controller of Examinations and all faculty members of the university, contributing to a productive discussion on enhancing education in line with NEP 2020.

Two Days National Workshop on NEP 2020



Two days National Workshop on NEP 2020 was organized by University on 7-8 March 2025. The workshop aimed to provide a platform for educators, policymakers, and stakeholders to engage in insightful discussions and deliberations on the effective implementation of NEP A Number of eminent speakers from academia and industry gave their expert talks highlighting the various aspects of NEP 2020. Prof Laxmidhar Behera Director IIT Mandi inaugurated the workshop whereas Prof Karunesh Kumar Shukla Director NIT Bhopal presided over the closing ceremony. The other Eminent speakers included Prof N P Padhy Director MNIT Jaipur, Rajasthan , Prof S C Jain Rtd. Prof Chemical Engineering, Panjab University Chandigarh , Prof Bhola Ram Gurjar Director NITTTR Chandigarh, Prof Mahesh Chandra Govil Director NIT Sikkim. Prof Chandra Shekhra retired professor IIT Delhi and Prof Prateek Sharma Vice Chancellor Delhi Technical University

Prof Lalit Awasthi said Vice Chancellor SPU Mandi said NEP 2020 is a landmark reform in the Indian education system, focusing on holistic and multidisciplinary learning. Prof Awasthi said NEP 2020 is a visionary framework that redefines our approach to learning, emphasizing flexibility, multidisciplinary education, skill development, and the integration of technology. The Key topics covered during the conference included academic Industry collaboration, curriculum restructuring, the role of technology in education, teacher training, and the integration of vocational education at different levels and to devise action plans for effective implementation. The workshop served as a significant step towards bridging the gap between policy and practice, ensuring that the vision of NEP 2020 is effectively realized for a brighter and more inclusive educational future.



NATIONAL SEMINAR ON "SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL"



Sardar Patel University (SPU), Mandi, organized a two-day national seminar on "Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: National Unity and Unification of India" from 26 to 27 December 2024 to mark his 150th birth anniversary. The event was inaugurated by Sh. Chander Shekhar, MLA of Dharampur, and featured Professor ADN Vajpayee, former Vice Chancellor, as the guest speaker. Professor Lalit Kumar Awasthi, Vice Chancellor of SPU Mandi, presided over the seminar, with Dr. Mohan Sharma (Director, IGNOU Shimla) and Dr. Chetram Garg (Director, Thakur Ram Singh Research Institute) as special guests. Chander Shekhar emphasized the importance of such seminars in educating people about Sardar Patel's immense contribution to India's unity.

DEEKSHARAMBH



The seven-day 'Deeksharambh' program at Sardar Patel University (SPU) Mandi, which began on 14th August 2024, successfully concluded on 21st August 2024. The program aimed to inspire and engage new students as they started their academic journey. Dr. Pamita Awasthi from NIT Hamirpur was the guest speaker, delivering an interactive session on pursuing start-ups and government schemes supporting entrepreneurship. The session saw active participation from students, who engaged in insightful discussions. Prof. Lalit Kumar Awasthi, Vice Chancellor of SPU, congratulated the faculty and new students, encouraging them to seize the opportunities at the university.



INSPIRE INTERNSHIP CAMP



From August 6th to 10th, 2024, Sardar Patel University Mandi successfully conducted the five-day INSPIRE camp, aimed at igniting scientific curiosity among schoolchildren. The event, under the Department of Science and Technology's initiative, engaged 61 top-performing students from across Himachal Pradesh. Renowned professors, including Prof. Sunil Kumar from Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Prof. Deepak Kumar from Shoolini University, and Prof. Mahavir Singh from Himachal Pradesh University, led interactive sessions on a variety of scientific topics such as environmental science, nanotechnology, and drug discovery. The camp concluded with an inspiring speech by Prof. Lalit Kumar Awasthi, highlighting the importance of innovation in science. Guests of honor, including Prof. Shashi Kumar Dhiman (Vice Chancellor, HP Technical University) and Dr. Tamanna Arora (Scientist-C, DST), also participated in the closing ceremony. Students received certificates and prizes for excellence, fostering a deeper interest in science and research.

ROAD SAFETY AND BLOOD DONATION



Road Safety Awareness Initiatives-Organized By Road Safety Club SPU

To raise awareness about road safety, Sardar Patel University formed a Road Safety Club on campus. Dr. Hitesh Kumar, Nodal Officer for Road Safety, organized a blood donation camp to support injured road accident victims. Additionally, Dr. Richa Gupta, In-charge Blood Bank SLBPMC&H Nerchowck, delivered an expert talk on the Good Samaritan scheme, emphasizing the importance of timely trauma care for accident victims. She encouraged club members to donate blood and help save lives. The event was a significant step in promoting road safety and community support.



A research trip was organized by department of zoology for M.Sc. 4th Semester students to Aastha Hospital, Chakkar, Mandi, on 13th June 2024. The focus of the trip was to observe ultrasound scans and understand how genetic anomalies during pregnancy are detected at different stages. A well-known gynecologist shared her expertise, providing valuable insights into the various ultrasound procedures and their role in detecting genetic anomalies. The students gained a deeper understanding of Cytogenetics through this hands-on experience. The trip proved to be an enriching learning opportunity for all participants.

"Honoring Ram Prasad Bismil: Inspiring Youth for a Developed India"

Sardar Patel University's History Department celebrated the birth anniversary of revolutionary Ram Prasad Bismil with a special event on January 23, 2025. The ceremony began with a tribute to Bismil's portrait and the lighting of a lamp in honor of Goddess Saraswati. Prof. Lalit Kumar Awasthi, Vice Chancellor, emphasized the pivotal role of youth in shaping a developed India, urging students to identify their goals and contribute to national progress. He also called on faculty members to help students develop essential skills for becoming self-reliant. During the event, scholarships of ₹5,000 each were awarded to twelve economically disadvantaged students as part of the "Education Upliftment Scholarship". The ceremony was graced by special guests including Prof. Anupama Singh, Pro Vice Chancellor, and Engineer Sunil Verma, Exam Controller. Prof. Awasthi honored those who contributed towards the scholarship fund, while Dr. Rakesh Kumar Sharma, event organizer, highlighted the ceremony's importance. The event was enriched by research presentations and discussions on Ram Prasad Bismil's life and contributions to India's freedom struggle.

150th Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel



Sardar Patel University (SPU) Mandi celebrated the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel from October 24th to 31st, 2024. The event was inaugurated on October 24th, with Prof. Lalit Kumar Awasthi, Vice-Chancellor of SPU, as the Chief Guest, and Prof. Archana Nanauti, Registrar of NIT Hamirpur, as the Guest of Honor. The celebrations aimed to honor Sardar Patel's pivotal role in national unity and inspire the younger generation to follow his principles. Throughout the week, various departments organized activities to commemorate the occasion. Highlights included the "Run for Unity" marathon, organized by the Department of Physics with 60 participants on October 26th, and a Public Administration event

WORLD AIDS DAY



featuring debates, discussions, and lectures by distinguished guests such as Prof. Anupama Singh, IAS Om Kant Thakur, and Sh. B.R. Kaundal. The Department of Management Studies hosted a declamation contest on October 28th, reflecting on Sardar Patel's sacrifices and contributions. The celebrations culminated in a week-long tribute to Sardar Patel's legacy, reinforcing the importance of unity and integrity in the nation.

On 2nd December 2024, Sardar Patel University, Mandi, celebrated World AIDS Day, organized by the Red Ribbon Club in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the National Health Mission. The event aimed to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis (TB), and it was attended by distinguished dignitaries, faculty members, and students, all focused on combating these health issues. The program featured two informative sessions. Dr. Arindam Roy, a pathologist from Zonal Hospital, Mandi, provided insights into the causes, prevention, and treatment of HIV/AIDS and TB. In his address, Prof. Lalit Kumar Awasthi, Vice-Chancellor of SPU, highlighted the importance of such initiatives and encouraged everyone to promote awareness about health rights and prevention strategies. The event included an Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) Stall where pamphlets were distributed, and free HIV and Syphilis tests were conducted, urging participants to take proactive health measures. The event was a success, with strong participation from the university community.

NATIONAL SCIENCE DAY

Sardar Patel University, Mandi, celebrated National Science Day on February 28, 2024, with great enthusiasm. Organized by the Department of Physics, the event aimed to inspire students and faculty to embrace scientific thinking and innovation. Prof. Lalit Kumar Awasthi, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, delivered the keynote address, highlighting the role of science in addressing global challenges and emphasizing this year's theme: "Empowering Indian Youth for Global Leadership in Science and Innovation for Viksit Bharat." Prof. Anupama Singh, Pro Vice Chancellor, urged students to develop a scientific mindset for nation-building. A series of competitions, including a science quiz, poster-making, essay writing, and rangoli, were held. Winners were felicitated by Prof. Awasthi. The quiz competition was won by Lalit and Shanu (History Dept.), while Kanishka Thakur (Physics Dept.) took first place in poster making. Ankita Thakur (Botany Dept.) won the essay competition. The event reaffirmed SPU Mandi's commitment to fostering scientific curiosity and innovation among students for a brighter future.



IMPORTANT DAY CELEBRATIONS

76th Republic Day

76th Republic Day was celebrated with pride at Sardar Patel University, Mandi. Prof. Lalit Kumar Awasthi, Vice Chancellor, hoisted the national flag, symbolizing the unity and strength of India. The occasion marked the day India adopted its Constitution, transitioning into a sovereign republic. In the presence of Prof. Anupama Singh, Pro Vice Chancellor, Er. Suneel Verma, Controller of Examinations, and other university officials, the event was a reminder of the sacrifices made for our freedom and the ideals of justice, equality, and democracy. It was a moment of reflection on the nation's journey and a reaffirmation of our commitment to the values that shape our republic.



Earth Day Celebration organised by Physics Department



On April 22, 2024, our university marked Earth Day with the theme "Planet vs Plastics." Chief Guest Prof. Rajesh Kumar Sharma encouraged students to actively engage in environmental

conservation. Students were assigned projects on sustainability, plastic usage, and future resources, with PhD students overseeing the evaluations. The event concluded with insightful discussions from young, brilliant minds on protecting our planet.



National Civil Service Day "Empowering Citizens and Strengthening Governance"



The Department of Public Administration organized one day Guest Lecture on 21st April 2024 on National Civil Service Day to address the evolving dynamics of modern administration. The lecture focused on how technological advancements and new governance challenges are shaping public administration today.

B.R. Koundal (Retd. HAS Officer) shared insights on governance in a modern time with focus on provision of empowering the citizens. He asserted the importance of administrative reforms to provide efficient governance and have ethical leadership.

Prof. Anupama Singh, Pro-Vice Chancellor: Prof. Singh opened the session and highlighted that empowering citizen involves fostering active participation in decision-making processes, ensuring their voices shape policies and actions. Strengthening governance focuses on enhancing transparency, accountability, and inclusivity in public institutions. Together, they promote a more responsive, equitable society where individuals contribute to and benefit from effective leadership. The lecture ended with an interactive session wherein the speakers addressed the queries of the students. This lecture led to a discussion that emphasized the importance of civil servants and their role in providing better governance to the citizens.

Sardar Patel University Mandi Celebrates a Historic Milestone with Its Spectacular First Convocation

Historic first convocation on 12th September 2024, marking a significant milestone in the university's journey. The ceremony was the chief guest. During the convocation, 311 degrees were awarded to graduates from 2020 and 2022. Sardar Patel University in 2022. The event also recognized meritorious students from six disciplines—M.Sc. Botany. The event was attended by Registrar Er. Suneel Verma, Dr. Karan Gupta, Dean of Academic Affairs, and Dr. Gaur. The university is committed to quality education and set the stage for future milestones.



1ST Convocation



Rural Visit by Department of Management Studies



On 26th September 2024, MBA first-semester students from the Department of Management Studies at Sardar Patel University (SPU) Mandi visited the village of Pandoh. The visit focused on understanding grassroots management concepts. Students attended a session with Mrs. Geeta Devi, Pradhan, and Mr. Pawan Kumar, Grampanchayat Secretary, who shared insights on MANREGA schemes and the village grievance redressal mechanism. The students also interacted with children at the Government Primary School, played games, and visited local attractions, including the Mata Baglamukhi temple and Silent Meadows. Faculty members Dr. Pawan Kumar

Chand and Dr. Shivan Bibi emphasized the role of rural culture in fostering ethics and discipline. The visit provided valuable exposure to rural governance and management.



Field Trip by the Department of Public Administration to Parasher Lake



The Department of Public Administration organized a one-day field trip on 22nd November 2024 to Parasher Lake, a significant cultural and natural landmark in the Mandi district. The purpose of the trip was to offer students a hands-on learning experience in environmental awareness, local culture, tourism management, and the historical significance of the site. Interaction with local residents provided valuable insights into community development and the administrative challenges faced by rural areas. Students gained practical exposure to rural tourism management, an important aspect of public administration.

Visit to Himachal Art Gallery



Students from the History Department of Sardar Patel University, Mandi, along with Vice Chancellor Prof. Lalit Kumar Awasthi and Assistant Professor Dr. Rakesh Kumar Sharma, visited the Himachal Art Gallery in Mandi. The gallery's founder, Beershwar Sharma, was present to guide the students through the exhibits. Prof. Awasthi emphasized that history is not just confined to



books but can be understood through art and artifacts. He praised the gallery for blending art, culture, and history, providing students with a unique opportunity to explore the region's rich heritage. Dr. Sharma highlighted the educational value of such visits in enhancing students' research and academic growth. The students gained valuable insights into Himachal Pradesh's traditional art, folk culture, and historical artifacts, which will assist in their studies and research. The visit was a highly enriching experience for all involved.

EDUCATIONAL TOURS AND VISITS

Research cum field visit Zoology Department

1. Govind Ballabh Pant National Research Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development, Mohal, Kullu (H.P.)

On October 24, 2024, students embarked on a research and field visit to the Govind Ballabh Pant National Research Institute of Himalayan Environment and Sustainable Development in Mohal, Kullu. The visit included informative lectures by Centre Head Er. Rakesh Kumar Singh and Dr. Kothari on bee species and their role in pollination, as well as the Institute's innovative waste management technologies. Students gained hands-on experience in beekeeping processes and explored various medicinal plants, organic composting methods, and recycled products. The visit was both an enriching educational experience and an inspiring motivation for future sustainable business practices



2. Visit to Apiary Mandi



A research visit to the Apiary (Bee Keeping) in Purani Mandi, H.P., was conducted on 4th May 2024, providing students with valuable learning experiences. The owner demonstrated the entire bee-keeping process, showcasing the bees, their nests, and the necessary flora for a healthy Apiary. He shared practical insights on the pros and cons of the business, offering solutions to avoid common mistakes. The visit proved to be an excellent real-world extension of the university's theoretical syllabus.



3. Field Visit for Insect Collection



A half day visit for insect Collection dated 26/09/2024 from University to Motipur Dhar was conducted to collect various insects of different orders whose physical examination would enhance the practical skills and knowledge of the subject which will further be used in making insect boxes by the students. On our way to the destination most of the diverse insects were found and collected from the area as the habitat there was suitable for insect growth and survival. There were in total 9 group of students and each group collected 5-6 insects and I would also like to tell you that an aquatic insect (water beetle) which is rarely found, has also been collected by one group of students.

International Environment Day and Tree Plantation

The Department of Public Administration and History organized an event to commemorate International Environment Day on 05th June 2024. The event featured tree plantation activities and focused on the importance of environmental conservation and the responsibility of individuals in maintaining a balanced ecosystem. Prof. Anupama Singh Pro Vice-Chancellor and HOD public add. initiated the event by planting a sapling at the Mandav Complex and emphasized the importance of tree planting as a social responsibility. She highlighted the role of environmental conservation and encouraged students to participate in mass tree planting during the upcoming monsoon season. The event was attended by the following faculty members : Dr. Pawan Chand (Dean of Students Welfare), Dr. Ram Pal, Dr. Vikrant Singh, Dr. Karn Gupta, Dr. Balbeer Mangta, Dr. Shivan Bibi, Vikesh Kumar, Rajesh Sharma • Krishna Kumar.



EDUCATIONAL TOURS AND VISITS

One-Day Lab Visit and Hands-On Training in Tissue Culture and Biotechnology at CSIR-IHBT, Palampur for M.Sc. Botany Students

Department has Organized one day lab visit cum hands on training programme to CSIR-IHBT Palampur on 25/10/2024 for the MSc Botany 3rd Semester students to acquaint them with tissue culture and biotechnology facilities in the institution These tour provided valuable insights into the diverse flora and the latest advancements in biotechnology and resource management, contributing to their overall learning experience



Plant Collection Visit Department of Botany



Botany department organized local field visits for plant collection for M.Sc. students as part of their curriculum. These visits allowed students to gain practical experience in plant collection and field observation, bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world applications. Students were accompanied by Dr. Jagdeep Verma, Dr. Mamta Sharma and Dr. Hitesh Kumar Faculty members.



Visit to Advanced Materials Research Centre, IIT Mandi, Department of Chemistry

On 27th December 2024, PhD scholars from the Department of Chemistry at Sardar Patel University visited the **Advanced Materials Research Centre, IIT Mandi**. The visit aimed to provide hands-on experience with cutting-edge characterization techniques critical to materials science and chemistry research. Scholars explored analytical instruments such as SEM, TEM, HPLC, NMR Spectroscopy, and Electrochemical Workstations. They gained valuable insights into the operation, data interpretation, and applications of these advanced tools. This visit significantly enhanced their research skills and practical knowledge in the field.



“SPU Mandi Inspires Gujarat Students with Educational Tour and Cultural Exploration”



A group of 21 students from the Department of Political Science and Mass Communication, Sardar Patel University, Gujarat, visited Sardar Patel University (SPU), Mandi, as part of an enriching educational tour. Led by Prof. Arpit Patadia, the students explored SPU Mandi's academic environment and research facilities, gaining valuable insights into the university's teaching methods. The students were warmly welcomed by Dr. Sunil Thakur, Dean of Projects and Development, and Dr. Rakesh Kumar Sharma, Assistant Professor of History. Prof. Lalit Kumar Awasthi, Vice Chancellor, emphasized the importance of such tours for enhancing students' academic growth and understanding of educational practices. In addition to the university visit, the students explored the Himachal Photo Gallery, where they admired exhibits showcasing the state's cultural heritage, historical landmarks, and natural beauty. Prof. Arpit Patadia expressed that the tour provided the students with practical knowledge about diverse educational systems and cultures, making it an inspiring and enlightening experience. The students appreciated the opportunity and thanked the university administration for organizing this meaningful initiative.

“SPU Mandi Triumphs at NIT Hamirpur Hackathon: Team Vayu Sena Bags 1st Runner-up Position”

Sardar Patel University, Mandi (HP), made its mark at the recently concluded Hackathon at NIT Hamirpur, where its two teams, Vayu Sena and Unihub Connect, showcased exceptional talent. Team Vayu Sena, consisting of Mr. Sahil Vatsi, Mr. Ankit Thakur, Mr. Ashish Sharma, and Ms. Richa Thakur, secured the 1st runner-up position in the Productathon, winning ₹50,000. Prof. Lalit Kumar Awasthi, Vice Chancellor, congratulated the teams for their outstanding performance, emphasizing that their success reflects the university's quality education and practical exposure. This achievement not only enhanced the students' technical skills but also inspired others to participate in national and international events. Prof. Awasthi also extended appreciation to Prof. Rajesh Kumar and faculty members for their support. This victory marks the beginning of many more such triumphs for SPU Mandi in future competitions.



GLIMPSES



"Honoring the Iron Man: Sardar Patel's 150th Birth Anniversary Celebrated with Grand Exhibition at Mandi's International Shivratri Fair"



In a tribute to the legacy of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, also known as the *Iron Man of India*, Sardar Patel University, Mandi, organized a remarkable exhibition at the prestigious International Shivratri Fair, marking his 150th birth anniversary. The event was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, Shri Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, who lauded the university's initiative to honor Patel's immense contributions to India's independence and unity. Joined by Shri Chander Shekhar, MLA Dharampur, and members of the university's executive council, the exhibition captured the spirit of Patel's indomitable leadership. The exhibition, aptly titled "*Saluting the Iron Man*", took visitors on a journey through rare photographs, historical documents, and key excerpts from Patel's powerful speeches. The displays beautifully highlighted his pivotal role in uniting a divided nation, especially his historic efforts during the integration of the princely states. Vice Chancellor Prof. Lalit Kumar Awasthi delivered a powerful message, encouraging the youth to draw inspiration from Patel's unwavering discipline, vision, and commitment to national unity. "Sardar Patel's leadership was not just political, it was a social and cultural force that shaped the India we know today," Prof. Awasthi emphasized. Dr. Rakesh Kumar Sharma, the exhibition coordinator, explained how the display focused on Patel's enduring contributions to the country, offering visitors an up-close look at his legacy and leadership. Thousands of fair attendees marveled at the exhibition, gaining a deeper understanding of Patel's values and ideals. This exhibition stands as a beautiful tribute to a man who laid the foundation for India's unity. It continues to inspire visitors with a renewed sense of patriotism, urging all to embrace Patel's principles of selfless service, unity, and determination. Open for the duration of the fair, the exhibition aims to leave a lasting impression, encouraging young minds to carry forward the torch of national integration and unity that Sardar Patel so passionately championed.



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GALLERY



ACTIVITIES AT GLANCE



Table Tennis (Men) Tournament



Cricket Team SPU (Men) beat RRC Bhota by 130 runs



Position holders Table Tennis (Men) Tournament



Expert Lecture



Sports and Cultural Council Meeting



Academic Council Meeting



Field Visit



Freshers Day Celebration

YOGA AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES



GLIMPSES OF UNIVERSITY



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