



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Two Days Training Program: Crafting Individuals as Effective Leaders** from 19-05-2016 to 20-05-2016
- **2nd International Conference on Applied Economics and Business** 28-05-2016 to 29-05-2016

PATRON

Prof. Sanjeev Jain
Vice Chancellor

EDITORIAL TEAM

Dr. Vandana Sharma

Dr. Ratna Chandra

DESIGN & DRAFT:

Mr. Girdhari Lal Sharma

Editorial team welcomes information from Faculty/ Staff/Students for inclusion in **Times@SMVDU**
email: times@smvdu.ac.in

Campus Jottings



Fifth Convocation Addressed by PM

The 5th Convocation of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University was held on 19th April, 2016 in the Matrika Auditorium of University campus. The Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi, was the Chief Guest on the occasion and gave away the Chancellor's Gold Medal to five students; Vice Chancellor's Gold Medal to one student; Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board Medal to four students; Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board Medal Best Girl student to two students; University Silver Medal to ten students; and Infosys Foundation Prize for Excellence to sixteen girl students. The Governor Sh. N. N. Vohra, who is Chancellor of the University, presided over the Convocation while Chief Minister Ms. Mehbooba Mufti, Dr. Jitendra Singh MoS (PMO) and Dr. Nirmal Singh, Deputy Chief Minister were the Guests of Honour on the occasion.

The Chancellor conferred degrees on students, which included Doctor of Philosophy [in Management, Mathematics, Physics, Biotechnology, English, Philosophy, Computer Science & Engineering, and Electronics & Communication Engineering]; Master of Technology [in Computer Science & Engineering and Electronics & Communication Engineering]; Master of Business Administration & Master of Business Administration [in Business Economics]; Master of Science [in Mathematics, Physics and Biotechnology]; Master of Arts [in English and Philosophy]; Bachelor of Technology [in Computer Science & Engineering, Electronics & Communication Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Industrial Biotechnology] and Bachelor of Architecture.

In his address, the Chancellor congratulated all those who received degrees at the Convocation and wished them high success in their future careers. He also complimented all those who were presented medals, certificates and awards by the Prime Minister. The Governor said that it is a proud moment for the University that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is among them and addressing the Convocation. He said that this important event had assumed added significance as a little while earlier the Prime Minister had inaugurated the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Super Specialty Hospital, in the immediate neighborhood of the University, thus fulfilling another long awaited dream of the Shrine Board to contribute towards providing better healthcare for the people at large, at affordable prices. Recalling the objectives of the establishment of the University, the Governor said that this institution aims at achieving excellence in



teaching and research along with nurturing sound moral, ethical and spiritual values among students, crucial for the holistic development of youth and making them valuable members of the society. The Governor said that, by all account, the students graduating from this University are imbued with ethical values, besides being well trained in their chosen areas of specialization, which makes them distinct from their counterpart in other Universities. He mentioned that this University, in spite of being very young, finds the 80th place among the top 100 Universities in the country, based on a recent survey conducted by the Union Ministry of HRD.

In his Convocation Address, the Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi said that India will rule the 21st century which is the era of knowledge and with 800 million youths below the age of 35 years, the dream of every young person can become a progress story of this country. Further, the PM said a unique feature of this university is that while other varsities in the country are run by tax payers' money, SMVDU is being funded by millions of poor people who come to pay obeisance to Vaishno Devi shrine. Therefore, it is the duty of every student to take a pledge that they will do something for the poor, because it was the poor pilgrim who contributed to build this University and indirectly contributed towards their growth. Invoking former President A P J Abdul Kalam, the Prime Minister said, "You don't only need facilities but dedication too. Kalam, who laid the foundation stone of this University and was known as the Missile Man, at one time used to sell newspapers". Modi said that if facilities were everything then the people who have all such facilities should have achieved everything in life but that was not the case.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister, Ms. Mehbooba Mufti shared her reminiscences about her visits to the holy shrine and expressed satisfaction about the progress of SMVDU particularly at the fact that girls students are outnumbering boy students in fetching awards and medals. Earlier, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sanjeev Jain gave a detailed report of the University, its' activities and progress made over the past three years after the ceremonial arrival of Convocation Procession in the hall, which comprised of the Chief Guest, Guests of Honour, Chancellor, members of Executive Council, Academic Council led by Registrar, Sh. Ajay Khajuria.



Gaudiya Dance Performance



Prof. Mahua Mukherjee, Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts, Rabindra Bharati University and Director Gaudiya Nritya Bharati, Kolkata made a brilliant dance performance in the Matrika Auditorium of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University on 7th April, 2016. This event was part of the Decadal Celebration of the University and meant to promote the Indian Classical Dance and develop awareness among people about the different art forms of India. In the event, four dances were staged including Dasha-mahavidya, Dashavatara, Lalitananda-tandava-bhangima and Rasa in which phenomenal mudras and steps were presented. These dance performances were based upon the retrieval of Classical Gaudiya Dance of Bengal which has a mention in the Natyashastra of Bharata Muni. It also explained various historical paintings and sculptures in a very elegant fashion. Prof. Mahua Mukherjee and her team performed in a very colorful and spell binding manner. This event was concluded with felicitation of Prof. Mukherjee by Dr. Varun Kumar Tripathi, Head, Dept. of Philosophy & Culture and President, Board of Cultural Activities. Dr. Anil Tiwari, Dr. Rakesh Jha, Dr. Narendra Bairwa were also present on the occasion.

Chancellor Inaugurated TEDx, and Awarded Inter-State Declamation Contest Winners

In an ever inspiring and motivating move, the Chancellor, Sh. N.N. Vohra visited the University campus on 22nd April, 2016 to give away prizes to First Inter-State (North Zone) Declamation Contest winners followed by inauguration of TEDx SMVDU and TBIC website launch. The objective of Inter-State (North Zone) Declamation Contest instituted by Hon'ble Governor and Chancellor is to inculcate among youth sensitivity about the emergent issues of society. Organized by Board of Cultural Activities under the aegis of Dean of Students' Office, nineteen students participated from different institution of the state in the Inter-State Declamation Contest who were adjudged by a team of three jury members chaired by Shri S.K Sharma, member J&K Public Service Commission, Dr. Anindya Gowswami, IIM Jammu and Shri Ashutosh Sharma, CEO, International committee for Development & Regional Cooperation. The contest began with the welcome address by Dr. V.K Tripathi, President BCA who shared his



views on the theme of the contest "Ethics and morality are no longer relevant to the modern world", taking into consideration one of the major crises of the contemporary society, i.e., degradation of moral commitment among the highly educated professionals. Shri S.K Sharma also presented his views by citing examples of unethical practices going around, affecting political, social and economic scenario and degrading public life and values affecting society. The participants were given a chance to question and think about the necessity of morality in public life and its relevance to build a morally sensitive society. Moreover, the participants were given an opportunity to interact with and learn from the students participating from different universities. The key constraints in imparting such values to society, mentioned by the speakers comprised of lacking similarity in vision, the 'I' attitude among individuals, disequilibrium between developmental goals and moral values etc. Institutions from across the northern states including Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, and Rajasthan participated in the event.

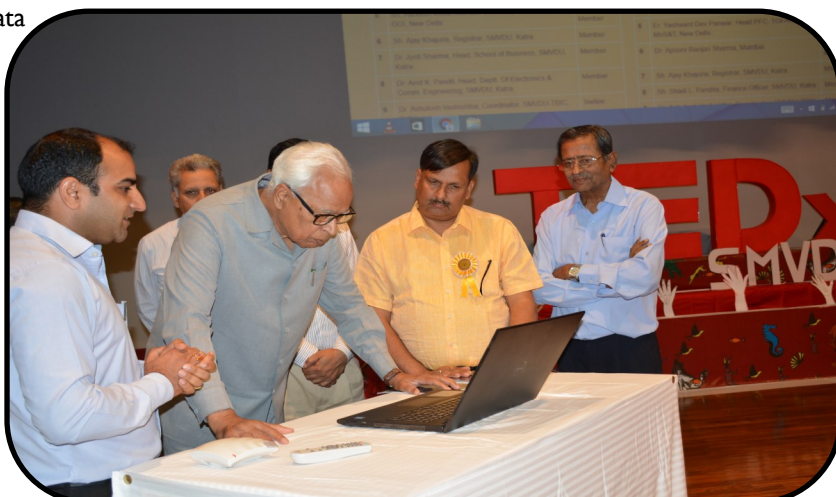
The Valedictory Session was chaired by Sh. N. N. Vohra, the Hon'ble Governor and Chancellor. After evaluation of the participants on the basis of content, diction, stage presence and presentation, the Silver Rolling Trophy instituted by Hon'ble Governor, was awarded to Shivika Thakur, of Jammu University who emerged as the winning speaker with the highest marks. Second and third position was bagged by Seerat Baji, GCW Gandhi Nagar, Jammu and Rajat Srivastava of NIT Srinagar respectively.

The two consolation prizes were secured by Afshaan Farook of GCW Gandhi Nagar & Sayed Rameem Zara of SMVD University. On the same occasion, TEDx SMVDU was inaugurated by Chancellor. The aim of TED x is to create a TED-like environment in order to bring new ideas and innovations to action and nurture the flame of curiosity within people. The Hon'ble Chancellor expressed interest in encouraging youth for developing ideas and creating platforms for bringing youth from different regions for interaction on relevant issues of social importance and nation building. The eminent guest speakers in TEDx SMVDU were Dr. Bhuvnesh Kumar, director of Defence Institute of High Altitude research (DIHAR), Leh, Babar Afzal, a revered hacker and working as a International Business consultant, Dr. Swarkar Sharma, an active researcher in the field of genetics, Mr. Navdeep Singh Gill, an entrepreneur, founder and CEO at Xenon Stack, Kalpesh Gawali, CEO of Nutrino Energy Pvt. Ltd, Mr. Walter Peter, theater educationist, currently the artistic director of the TIESociety, Yuvraj Bharadwaj, researcher, roboticist, technologist, inventor and a full stack developer, Sanjeev, a prolific writer, speaker and entrepreneur writing on contemporary topics, social issues, spiritualism and Indian scriptures, Akash Ranison, traveler and entrepreneur, Dr. Suyog Bhavare, Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Jagriti Yatra, Ritesh, social entrepreneur whose work revolves around the Himalayas and the youth of country, Mr. Sachin Kumar Jain, director of Vikas Samvad, Human Development Resource and Advocacy Organization



Chancellor Launched TBIC Website

Sh. N. N. Vohra, the Hon'ble Governor and Chancellor of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), launched the website (www.smvdutbic.org) of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Technology Business Incubation Center (SMVDU-TBIC). The SMVDU-TBIC will work under the supervision of Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU as chairperson of Governing Council and Managing Committee of SMVDU-TBIC. Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Technology Business Incubation Center Society (SMVDU TBIC) is established at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Kakrial, Katra with the Grant-in-aid jointly from NSTEDB, Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University. SMVDU-TBIC is the first ever Technology Business Incubator in the State of J&K and Himachal Pradesh and has been identified as one of the sixty-eight Incubators to recommend Startups under Startup India Initiative of Government of India.



The main objective of the Incubation center is to identify potential Entrepreneurs in North India, especially in the State of Jammu-Kashmir, nurture and support innovations, develop technology based ideas into independent self-sustaining business. The Thrust areas are Biotechnology (Microbial, Plant, Medical Genetics and Diagnostics), Engineering (Electronics, Robotics, E-commerce, GSM/GPRS based Technology, Alternative Energy Management) and Business Development. However, the incubator intends to facilitate any technology-based idea with potential to develop into a successful business as well as small-scale business with potential to grow into big industry. The launch of the website opens a gateway to connect potential entrepreneurs to the Business incubation Center. Dr. Swarkar Sharma has been appointed Interim-CEO of the SMVDU-TBIC and center now invites rolling preliminary applications through their website.

2nd National Case Study Conference and TEDxSMVDU Concluded

A three day event that started at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Kakryal on 22nd April 2016 concluded on 24th April 2016. The event comprised of 2nd National Case Study Conference complemented with TED Talk (Technology Entertainment & Design) event TEDxSMVDU. Inaugurated by the Hon'ble Governor, J&K, and Chancellor, the event aimed to create a TED like environment in order to bring new ideas and innovations to actions and nurture the flame of curiosity with people and took place first time in J&K state. The Conference comprised of a case study workshop that emphasized upon how to write a case study/ case based paper and get effective publications. On the second day, TED talk-Ideas worth spreading, was organized with the 10 esteemed speakers from all over the country. The eminent speakers were Dr. Bhuvnesh Kumar, Director DIHAR, Mr. Sachin Jain, Social Activist, Mr. Walter Peter, Theater Educationist, Mr. Babar Afzal, pashmina activist, first generation entrepreneurs Mr. Ritesh Garg, Mr. Navdeep Singh Gill, Mr Akash Ranison, researchers Dr Swarkar Sharma, Mr. Yuvraj, and Mr. Suyog Bhavre. The session speakers shared their experiences, success and ground level work they is bringing change in the life of common man.



A case study competition was held on 24th April where Mr. Vimarsh Padha from SMVDU was declared as the winner of the competition, and Mr. Shivan Mahajan and Simrandeep Singh from the ICcR & HRM, Jammu University were declared runner up. Dr. Neelu Rohmetra, Guest for the Valedictory function. Dr. Rohmetra congratulated the School of Business, SMVDU, Dr. Saurabh, Convener of the event and faculty members of SMVDU for the successful organization of event. She admired initiative of the University for providing a platform wherein speakers from all over the Country could share their knowledge & experience with the students. She said that the knowledge creation is the need of the hour and the students must be expressive as well as inquisitive for the evolutions. She said that management helps in overcoming the forthcoming challenges and even one person who believes in himself can bring a meaningful change in the society. Prof. Neelu said that such platforms are required for the encouraging the discussions that can enlightened the individuals. She said that each individual is a case and the qualitative analysis provides you a chance to explore the possibilities. It has the potential to unlock the individual search for excellence. She called upon the students and participants to pursue their own interests and do what gives them the strength. Prof. Neelu Rohmetra encouraged the participants to create a niche for themselves and use case methodologies for the solving the complex issues of the society and management. Dr. Jyoti Sharma, Head, School of Business, SMVDU expressed vote of thanks.

Extension Lecture Held

Prof R.B. Patel from Govt. College of Engineering and Technology delivered a lecture to the students and faculty members of department of Computer Sciences and Engineering on 2nd of April 2016 on APLOMB (Agent Pedestal for Load Optimization, Management and Bond) Technology: Concepts and Applications. In his lecture Prof. Patel highlighted different applications of mobile agents and their usage in real life scenarios. He emphasized on the role of soft agents in IT industry and their importance in enabling various applications. He described various technologies for creating, implementing, migrating and executing the mobile agents and presented several practical and potential applications of mobile agents in smarter environments and distributed systems.

Faculty Update

Paper Presented/Paper Published

Dr. V. K. Dogra attended International Conference on "Emerging and Sustainable Technologies for Infrastructure System" (ESTIS 2016) and presented research paper on "Role of Transportation Planning for Pilgrimage City Rejuvenation", authored by Ar. Anoop Kumar Sharma(1), V. K. Dogra(2) and Ashutosh Kumar Singh(3). Two days conference (22nd - 23th April, 2016) was organized by Department of Civil Engineering, Amrita School of Engineering, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham University, Amrita Nagar Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India.

Students Update



Thirty six Students of M. Sc. (Biotechnology) Sem II and B. Tech. (IBT) Sem VI and research scholars of School of Biotechnology, SMVDU accompanied by Dr. Sharada Potukuchi, Associate Prof.; Dr. Vinod Singh, Assistant Prof. and Lab Staff member Ms. Meenakshi Krishen visited various facilities at Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM), CSIR, Jammu and interacted with scientists and research scholars in different disciplines on 22nd April 2016. The students were demonstrated various experiments on Plant & Animal Tissue Culture, and Bioprocess Engineering. The students also had an opportunity to visit the Plant Tissue Repository, Plant Biotechnology Division, Plant Molecular Biology, Animal House Facility, Anti-cancer treatment Facilities, etc. of IIIM, Jammu and have a hands-on knowledge of instruments such as HPLC, Flowcytometer, Plant Bioreactor, Electron Microscope, Industrial scale Fermenters, etc. The visit was facilitated by the kind cooperation of Dr. Ram Vishwakarma, Director IIIM, Jammu and Prof. V. Verma, Dean FoE and Head, Dept. of Biotechnology.

