



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **One-Week Online Workshop on "Incorporating Universal Human Values in Education" from 18th – 22nd July, 2021**
- **DST-NIMAT project sponsored National Faculty Development Program on 'Entrepreneurship Development' 17th – 30th September, 2021**
- **One Day Workshop (Online) on Jammu Through the Ages : An Introspection on 17th September, 2021**

PATRON

Prof. R. K. Sinha
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor

EDITOR

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DESIGN & DRAFT

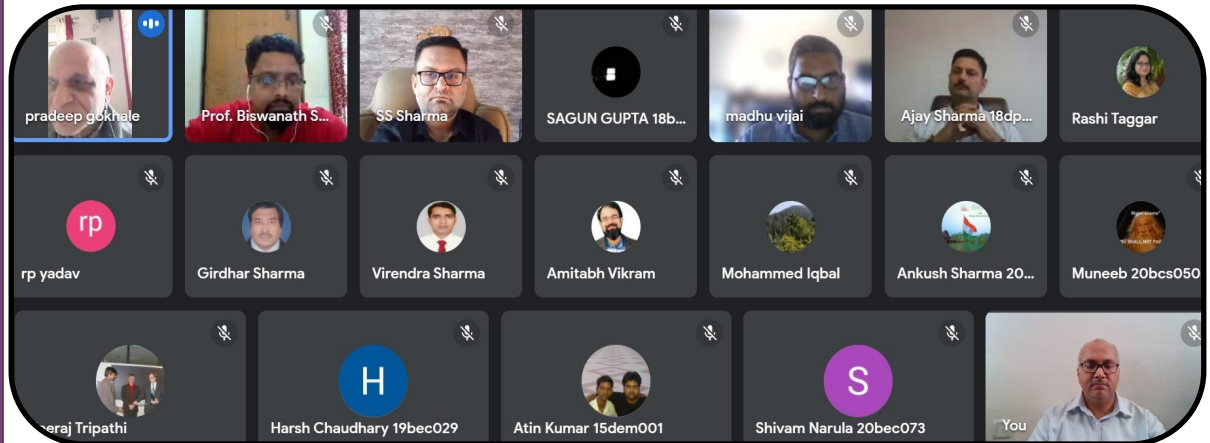
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PHOTOGRAPHY

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Campus Jottings

2nd ICPR Study Circle Meeting held at SMVDU



The School of Philosophy & Culture (SoPC) of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra, organized the 2nd Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) New Delhi's Study Circle Meeting online on 2nd July 2021. On this occasion, a discussion on Prof. Pradeep P. Gokhale's book "THE YOGASŪTRA OF PATANJALI: A New Introduction to the Buddhist Roots of the Yoga System" (London & NY: Routledge, 2020) was organized. The program began with a welcome address by Sh. Sumanta Sarathi Sharma, I/C Head, SoPC..The discussion was held in the gracious presence of the author Prof. Pradeep Gokhale, who is an Honorary Adjunct Professor in the Departments of Philosophy and Pali, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune, Maharashtra. The main discussants were Dr. Anil Kumar Tewari & Dr. Madhu Mangal Chaturvedi, Asst. Profs., SoPC.The book is an account of the perceived influences of the meditational practices (Samatha & Vipassyana) of the Abhidhamma and Early Yogacara Buddhism on the Yogasutra of Patanjali. Dr. Anil Tewari observed that the Yoga tradition is an age-old tradition of Indian culture that is believed to have its origin in the concept of Hiranyagarbha of Vedic literature. Buddhism has presented it in a way accessible to common people. It is therefore plausible to say that Patanjali was familiar with the Buddhist terminologies. However, it seems more plausible to claim that Patanjali and Buddhism were inspired by their common cultural heritage. Dr. Madhu Mangal Chaturvedi also made his observations regarding the concept of Citta and its various modifications and the way they are seen in both traditions. In the book under discussion, Prof. Gokhale very meticulously pointed out the common terminologies between the Yogasutra and Buddhism while commenting on all 195 aphorisms of Patanjali's Yogasutra. He has also observed that the popular belief about this text is often misleading. He claims that the influence of the metaphysical thinking of the Sankhya philosophy and the empirical-psychological thinking of Buddhism is obvious on the Yogasutra. The event was attended by more than 30 participants across the country. It concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Chaturvedi. He expressed his gratitude to ICPR, New Delhi for sponsoring the event and to the speakers and audience for their active participation.

Vidya Bhushan of Daalchini Technologies Shared his Success Story in Valedictory of N FDP at SMVDU



Two-week long DST-NIMAT Project Sponsored National Faculty Development Program on 'Entrepreneurship Development' concluded at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University. In his valedictory address Padma Shree Prof. Ravindra Kumar Sinha, Vice-Chancellor of SMVDU & Chief Guest of the function, emphasized the need to provide support to budding entrepreneurs through entrepreneurship development cells and incubation centers. Guest of Honour of the valedictory function, Mr. Vidya Bhushan, COO & Co-founder-Daalchini Technologies, interacted with the FDP participants and shared his success story of curiosity and learning to the new venture. Dr. Supran Kumar Sharma, Coordinator, FDC-SMVDU, Chief Coordinator, EDC-SMVDU & Dean, Faculty of Management explained how small ventures are the challenge to big foreign companies as these small players are proving to be more efficient in resources utilization and the future of developing India. Earlier, the detailed report of the conduction of national-level FDP was presented by Dr. Deepak Jain, co-convenor of the program. Along with sessions from the subject experts, two panel discussions, two virtual factory visits, and interactions with successful Entrepreneurs were organized. Dr. Saurabh, Convener of FDP and Head, School of Business, discussed the importance of udhyam, dharma, and purusharth for the success of an entrepreneur. Dr. Sumeet Gupta, Dean-Academic Affairs informed the participants about the achievements, ranking, and diversity inclusion of SMVDU in last 17 years. Dr. Rashi Taggar, Organizing Secretary, moderated the valedictory session. Dr. Syeda Shazia Bukhari, Co-Organizing Secretary, delivered the vote of thanks and expressed gratitude towards DST, EDI, and FDC for sponsoring this program. Eminent resource persons like Colonel Rajiv Bhargav from Indian School of Business- Mohali, Mr. Vikrant Tomar, International Trainer, and Director-UMS India, Prof. T. Prasad is known as Prof. 'Mandi' from NITIE-Mumbai, Ms. Ganga S. from Society for Innovation & Entrepreneurship-IIT Mumbai, senior faculty members, from GNDU, Amritsar, GJUST-Haryana, Shri Vishwakarma Skill University- Haryana, Gujrat University, Entrepreneurship School, Gurgaon, BPSMV-Haryana, Marwadi University-Gujarat, J&K EDI, Senior Managers from PNB, UCO Bank and DIC-Jammu were invited, who gave valuable entrepreneurial knowledge, inputs and trained the participants. Entrepreneurs - Mr. Purnendra Kishore, Mr. Udit Sawhney, Mr. Vipin Agarwal, Mr. Annil Suri, Bhaskar Suri, Mr. TVS Gujral, Mr. Amit Pandotra, Mr. Sujat Mahajan, Mr. Raju Moza interacted and shared the success stories of their ventures and along with virtual factory visits with the participants. Participants of this FDP were faculty members from Indian states with diverse specializations, participants actively involve themselves in the program and imbibed new skill-sets, and also got exposed to the importance of inculcating entrepreneurial zeal among students.

SMVDU Organizes an Interactive Session with Web of Science, Calrivate

An interactive Web of Science session was conducted at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) by Mr Saurabh Srivastava, Sr. Account Manager (North) and Mr Vishav Sharma, Regional Solution Consultant (on behalf of Clarivate) where the benefits of Web of Science were shared, especially how young researchers can find relevant papers in a particular subject area, and access to a vast quality of "open-access" full-text on the web. The university library staff members, faculty and research scholars from various Schools got an opportunity to clear their doubts regarding different technical aspects of journal metrics and publications. The event was coordinated by Dr Sharada M. Potukuchi, Head of, School of Biotechnology, SMVDU.



ICMR-CAR, J&K and GMC, Anantnag to Collaborate for Reproductive Health Study

Dr. Rakesh Kumar, Principal Investigator, ICMR-CAR, School of Biotechnology, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, met Principal, GMC Anantnag, Dr. Tariq Sayed Qureshi, along with his research team to discuss some innovative ideas regarding infertility issues, and to evaluate reproductive parameters in Kashmir valley, particularly district Anantnag. Dr. Kumar would like to implement the latest scientific ideas in the remote regions of Jammu and Kashmir. The idea of opening an exclusive infertility clinic at GMC Anantnag was also discussed. This collaboration will help to explore the knowledge about various health issues in both males and females to analyze the mechanism of development and progression of reproductive cancer, urological and gynaecological disorders which in long term may help in making personalized medicine. Dr. Kumar assured all the help to GMC Anantnag for the development of an advanced genetic lab. SMVDU has already been working with GMC Jammu for delineating the genetic mechanism among the population of the Jammu region. The initiative of collaboration was taken up by Dr. Ruchi Shah and Dr. Asif Amin, team members of Prof. Raies Qadri from the University of Kashmir. Administrative Officer, Mr. Showket. Head, Obs and Gynae, Dr Syed Nawaz, Dr. Mehbooba and Dr. Irfan from Community medicine and Dr. Ruchi from the University of Kashmir also attended the meeting. The Principal GMC Anantnag shared his vision for the institute and region and assured all administrative cooperation in making collaboration a success. The ICMR-Centre for advanced research was sanctioned to SMVDU, Katra, Jammu University, Central University of Jammu and the University of Kashmir for studying reproductive health among people of Jammu and Kashmir.



Discussion on Cultural and Historical Heritage of Rajouri organized at SMVDU

Under the Thursday Minds-Meet program, an online discussion on the cultural and historical heritage of Rajouri was organized at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra, on 8th July 2021. The program began with an initial remark and welcome by Dr. Anil Tewari, Nodal Officer, Hindi Cell, SMVDU. He informed that the old name of Rajouri is Rajpuri and that Maharaja Gulab Singh (1792-1857) named it Rampur. He remarked that the cultural roots of the region are so deep that even the Muslim rulers in their more than 600 years of a rule adopted the title "Raja", not Nawab etc. His invocations were followed by a formal welcome address by Sh. Nagendra Singh Jamwal (a senior JKAS Officer), Registrar, SMVDU. Two prominent speakers were invited to share their experiences and thoughts: Dr. Javaid Rahi, Writer and Chief Editor of Gojari Wing of Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages

and Ms. Ambika Bali, Assistant Director, Tourism, Katra, also with an additional charge of Rajouri and Poonch. Dr. Rahi presented a broad picture of the cultural and social practices of the tribal people of the region along with their historical situation. He remarked that there is a wide presence of Gujjars in India and they carry the indigenous knowledge system with them since times immemorial. Their tribal identity is primary and religious affiliation is incidental. He emphasized the need for preservation and respect of their belief systems. Ms. Ambika, an officer of JKAS, highlighted the need for the development of rural tourism in the north-western region of the country. She informed about the places of cultural, historical and geographical significance which have great potential for tourism. Dr. Lalit Gupta was one of the distinguished participants who shared his experiences. Dr. Virendra Bangroo, Director, J&K Regional Centre of IGNSA, New Delhi (SMVDU Campus) informed that the so-called Mughal Road is originally Lavanya Marg due to the export of salt through this route. Dr. Rahi also observed that there are several such routes in the region that were developed by the tribes without any intervention or help from any ruler. These routes are the intimate links between the people of the region. The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Bangroo. More than 20 participants attended the event directly which is recorded for the worldwide dissemination purpose.



One-day Workshop on Universal Human Values Organized at SMVDU

One-day Online Workshop on "Understanding the Role of Universal Human Values in Education" was organized by the Faculty Development Center, approved under the PMMMNMTT scheme of Ministry of Education, Government of India, New Delhi, in collaboration with the School of Philosophy & Culture (SoPC) at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University. The inaugural session of the workshop started at 10:00 AM in the Administrative Committee Room of the University. Prof. (Dr.) Ravindra Kumar Sinha (Padam shri), the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of SMVDU, was the Chief Guest of the ceremony and Shri Nagendra Singh Jamwal (K.A.S.), Registrar SMVDU, was the Guest of Honor. The inaugural session began with a brief introduction to the workshop by Dr Madhu Mangal Chaturvedi, Asst. Prof. SoPC and Coordinator of the workshop. Mr Sumanta Sarathi Sharma, I/C Head SoPC and Convener of the workshop welcomed the dignitaries and the participants. Dr Suparn Sharma, Dean, Faculty of Management and Coordinator of FDC, while addressing the participants, stated that mere technical education does not prepare students to deal with the negative impact of technology and require the guidance of human values. Prof. (Dr.) V.K. Bhat, Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, highlighted the role of human values in the betterment of personal and social life. Dr Balbir Singh, Dean of Students' Welfare and Coordinator, Human Values Cell, SMVDU, informed the participants about the AICTE initiative to incorporate human values in the model curriculum and Faculty Development Programs to train the teachers to teach a course on human values. Shri Nagendra Singh Jamwal also reminded the audience of the age-old commitment of India to human values as a culture and nation.



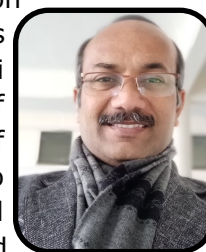
Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU, Prof. Sinha, in his address, expressed his pleasure at the fact a workshop was being organized on human values, which is the most crucial aspect of our society. He observed that even the uneducated might be full of human values, whereas the so-called educated may not. Dr Anil Kumar Tewari, Asst. Prof., SoPC and Organizing Secretary of the Workshop delivered the vote of thanks. The workshop was conducted by faculty of SoPC, SMVDU and Mr Sanjeev Chopra, Member, Cell for Human Values and Transformative Learning, SCERT, Delhi. The participants were teachers of schools, colleges and universities from across India and faculty of SMVDU.

Faculty/Staff Updates

Talk Delivered

SMVDU Faculty Delivers Invited Talk on "Industrial Waste and Recycled Materials"

Dr Bharat Bhushan Jindal, Faculty, School of Civil Engineering, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, has delivered an invited lecture on "Industrial Waste and Recycled Materials use in the Development of Green - Environmentally Friendly Pavements" during a 7 day AICTE Sponsored STTP on "Recycling Materials in Highway Construction" from 19th to 26th July 2021. The STTP was organized by Indo Global Colleges, Abhipur, New Chandigarh, Distt S.A.S Nagar Mohali (Pb), in online mode. Dr. Jindal has delivered the lecture on the possibilities of the use of Geopolymer Concrete (Green Concrete) in addressing the alarming issues of emission of carbon dioxide in the environment which leads to playing a major role in contributing to greenhouse gases and global warming. The issue of disposal and utilization of industrial and agricultural wastes in rigid pavements was also discussed. Dr Jindal also emphasized the ongoing research in the field of geopolymer concrete for the applications in the field of highway since the last 30 years was discussed. Various research opportunities in the field of green concrete in the light of the Indian Government's project "The Green Highways (Plantation, Transplantation, Beautification & Maintenance)" under the title "राष्ट्रीय हरित राजमार्ग नीति" was discussed. The lecture in STTP has attended by 100 participants who are faculty and research scholars from various Indian universities and colleges. Dr Bharat Bhushan Jindal thanks the organizers for giving him an opportunity to share his knowledge.



Dr Baijnath Kaushik, Faculty, SMVDU, Delivers an Invited Talk on "Artificial Intelligence & Deep Learning"

Dr Baijnath Kaushik, Associate Professor in the School of CSE, was invited as a Resource Person in AICTE sponsored Short Term Training Program (STTP), on "Artificial Intelligence & Deep Learning", 13th July 2021 at Model Institute of Engineering & Technology (MIET), Jammu. The STTP was sponsored by AICTE under Short Term Training Program (STTP). This keynote talk was organized to deliberate and discuss the concepts and applications of Artificial Intelligence & Deep Learning. Dr Baijnath Kaushik was invited to deliver lectures for two sessions. Dr Baijnath Kaushik had delivered his lecture in session - I on the topic "Bias, Variance and Cross-validation". Dr Kaushik has emphasized the improvisation in Machine Learning algorithms when there is an imbalance in training and test data set. Further, Dr Kaushik has discussed how to choose an effective machine learning algorithm among others using Cross-validation techniques by varying training and test data. Dr Baijnath Kaushik in his session - II talk emphasized "Regularization techniques (Ridge, Lasso & Elastic-net), ROC and AUC Curve". In this talk, Dr Kaushik had emphasized the use of Regularization techniques such as Ridge Regression, Lasso & Elastic-nets to minimize the number of parameters and minimize the loss of residual errors. Further, Dr Kaushik had also emphasized the use and applications of the ROC & AUC curve in machine learning. The FDP was attended by almost 150 participants from different colleges of Jammu and other parts of India through online Applications. In the end, the questions were asked and satisfactory answers were given by the speaker Dr Baijnath Kaushik. Dr Baijnath Kaushik has been provided with a letter of appreciation from the Model Institute of Engineering & Technology (MIET), Jammu.



Researchers from SMVDU, Katra, and PU, Chandigarh Discover the Potential Synthetic Anti-fungal Compound

Researchers from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University and Panjab University, Chandigarh led by Dr. Narendra K Bairwa, Assistant Professor, School of Biotechnology, SMVDU and, Dr. Deepak B Salunke, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry, Panjab University, recipients of Ramalingaswami fellowship, identified the potential antifungal property of a synthetic indoloquinazoline-based alkaloid, compound (RK64) using yeast as the drug screening platform. The study is published in the Journal of Biochemical and Molecular Toxicology, July 2021. The authors of the published study titled "Genetic interaction between F-box motif encoding YDR131C and retrograde signalling related RTG1 regulates the stress response and apoptosis in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*" Ms. Heena Shoket, Ms. Monika Pandita, Ms. Meenu Sharma, Mr. Ravinder Kumar, Ms. Shreya Wazir, Ms. Aayushi Rakwal, and Mr. Prabhat Kumar are researchers who contributed to the work. Prof. Vijeshwar Verma, former HOD of SoBT, SMVDU provided bioinformatics support to the researchers. Dr. Deepak B Salunke is also heading the National Interdisciplinary Centre of Vaccine, Immunotherapeutic and Antimicrobials, Panjab University, Chandigarh, India and is supported by UGC (start-up grant), DBT (RLF grant), MHRD's SPARC grant, Panjab University (Alumni association, development fund) as well as Bridging Grant from Australia in collaboration with Prof. Petrovsky of Flinders University. Dr. Narendra K Bairwa and Dr. Deepak B Salunke both have been collaborating on the screening of laboratory synthesized molecules for drug repurposing using *S.cerevisie* as a drug screening platform.

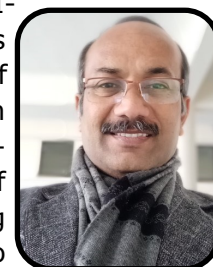


SMVDU Faculty Delivers Invited Talk on 'Nanotechnology in IOT'

Dr. Anil Bhardwaj, Assistant Professor School of Electronics & Communication Engineering, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra, delivered expert lecture on 'Nanotechnology in IOT' in Short Term Course on "A Deep Dive in the field of Automation: ML and IoT" organized by Instrumentation and Control Engineering Department with Research & Development Cell, Bharati Vidyapeeth's College Of Engineering, Paschim Vihar New Delhi from 8th July 2021 - 12th July 2021. Dr. Bhardwaj shared his views with faculty members and students from various Engineering colleges, Dr. Bhardwaj also emphasised on exposing students to emerging technologies, and being future ready.

SMVDU Faculty delivered a special lecture in Webinar

Dr. Bharat Bhushan Jindal, Faculty, School of Civil Engineering, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra has delivered a special invited lecture on "Industrial Waste and Recycled Materials Utilization in Green Concrete and Field Applications" during one day webinar organized by CHITKARA UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH on 29th July 2021. Dr. Jindal is a geopolymer expert who has published several research papers with various international peer-reviewed journals of repute. He has also contributed a book chapter in collaboration with researchers from Curtin University Australia in the field of Geopolymer Concrete. The lecture on the manufacturing of Geopolymer Concrete (Green Concrete) and its utilization in the field of building construction and highways was well received by the participants. The budding engineers and researchers were sensitized to address the global warming issues due to the emission of carbon dioxide during cement manufacturing. The concern of depletion of natural resources due to increased consumption of cement as a construction material was also discussed together with the issue of disposal and utilization of industrial and agricultural wastes. Ongoing research in the field of geopolymer concrete was also briefed by Dr. Jindal. The session concluded with healthy interactions with the participants while responding to their questions. Organizer Dr. Ajay Goel, Professor, and Head of, Department of Civil Engineering, Chitkara University appreciated the session conducted by Dr. Jindal.



Publications

Dr. Balbir Singh attended AICTE sponsored one week (Online) Short Term Training Program on "Innovations and Challenges in Industry 4.0 Automation and Smart Manufacturing" , 28-06-2021 to 03-07-2021 organized by Department of Mechanical Engineering, Kallam Haranadhareddy Institute of Technology (KHIT), Guntur, AP.

Student Updates

Paper Presented

MBA Student Gets Best Paper Presenter Award in National Conference

Ms Diksha Sharma, a student of MBA, School of Business, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra received the best paper award for presentation on variables that strengthen the loyalty of the customers towards a particular telecom network. She presented a research paper titled, "Role of Brand Loyalty on Customer Satisfaction- A Study of Telecommunication" in the national E-conference on "Advances in Business, Management and Technology", organised by the Department of Management Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi Central University, Bihar during 25th - 26th June 2021. Prominent academicians, researchers and speakers from various parts of the country took part and contributed their research work on different topics. The candidate has worked under Dr Jyoti Sharma (Faculty, SMVDU) in her MBA program. and she has got a placement in ICICI Prudential with an attractive package.



Urja Gupta of SMVDU Bags Best Paper Award

Ms Urja Gupta presented a paper on the topic, titled, "An empirical test of the efficiency of the Indian Stock Market" at the national conference organised by the Department of Management Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi Central University of Bihar. She has awarded the best paper for her presentation. The candidate has worked under the guidance of Dr Sanjay Kumar Mishra (Faculty of SMVDU, MBA). Also, she has received the pre-placement offer at ICICI BANK.

