

MPUAT's 17th Convocation Marks a Milestone in Agricultural Excellence

The seventeenth convocation of Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology (MPUAT) held in Udaipur showcased the institution's commitment to agricultural innovation and excellence. The ceremony, presided over by His Excellency Shri Kalraj Mishra, Chancellor and Governor of the state, celebrated the achievements of 864 undergraduate (BSc), 201 postgraduate (MSc), and 74 Vidya-Vachspati students, who were awarded a total of 42 gold medals.

In his address, Governor Mishra emphasized the rich

agricultural heritage of India, describing the nation as a land steeped in wisdom and agricultural culture. Drawing parallels between a Rishi's vision and an agriculturist's approach, he highlighted the historical importance of cultivating wealth from the land through hard work. The Governor underscored the critical role of education and agriculture in propelling the nation towards prosperity, emphasizing that food and nutrition security form the bedrock of progress. Noteworthy in the convocation ceremony was the announcement of the com-

mencement of a degree course on natural farming, reflecting MPUAT's commitment to sustainable agricultural practices. The Governor stressed the importance of addressing challenges in agriculture through radical changes and tailored research that aligns with local needs. Acknowledging the pivotal role of women in agriculture, Governor Mishra referenced research by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, indicating significant female participation in various aspects of agricultural production. He highlighted the Ministry of Agriculture and

Farmers Welfare's initiative to celebrate Women Farmers Day, recognizing and honoring the contributions of women in the field. The convocation also witnessed Dr. R. C. Aggarwal, Deputy Director General (Agricultural Education), Indian Council of Agricultural Research, delivering an insightful address. Dr. Aggarwal highlighted the diversity of Indian agriculture, encompassing varied climates, soils, and ecosystems that have given rise to a multitude of crops and livestock species. He commended the increasing participation of women in

agricultural education and projected a growing demand for agricultural graduates in the coming years. Celebrating MPUAT's achievements, Vice



Chancellor Shri Ajit Kumar Karnataka outlined the university's progress in various fields, including research and technology development. The

university's use of drones in agriculture, development of integral technologies, and registration of goat species showcased its commitment to innovation. MPUAT's contributions to agriculture were further underscored by Dr. Karnataka, who highlighted the university's achievements in developing crop varieties, producing quality seeds, and contributing to the state's leadership in milk production. The university's focus on millets, as evidenced by workshops, awareness campaigns, and the production of a nationally acclaimed millet cake, demon-

strated its dedication to promoting diverse and sustainable agricultural practices. The convocation concluded with a vision for the future, emphasizing the importance of addressing challenges, incorporating traditional knowledge, and fostering a generation of agricultural leaders equipped to navigate the evolving landscape of Indian agriculture. MPUAT's 17th convocation stands as a testament to its commitment to excellence, innovation, and the holistic advancement of agricultural practices in the nation.

-Shabnam bano

A Conversation on Mental Health Awareness

Special Correspondent (Dr. Prabhat Kumar Singhal): Today, we have the privilege of engaging in a conversation with the esteemed Dr. M.L. Aggarwal, an internationally renowned psychiatrist from Kota, shedding light on the crucial topic of mental health awareness. Dr. Aggarwal, thank you for joining us.

Dr. M.L. Aggarwal: Thank you for having me. It's imperative that we address mental health issues and spread awareness on a global scale.

Dr. Prabhat Kumar Singhal: Absolutely. Let's start by discussing the stigma surrounding mental health. What, in your opinion, is hindering the necessary awareness about men-



tal health?

Dr. Aggarwal: Social stigma plays a significant role in impeding awareness. There is a prevalent lack of understanding and concern about mental health, largely due to misconceptions. Unlike physical health, mental health is often neglected. Initiatives were taken by psychiatrists individ-

ually, but the breakthrough came with the initiation of Mental Health Day on October 10, 1991, driven by the World Federation Mental Health. Efforts were made to create mental health awareness material in Hindi, contributing to the availability of online and offline resources in multiple languages today. Dr. Prabhat

Kumar Singhal: Can you elaborate on the role of social stigma in inhibiting mental health awareness? Dr. Aggarwal: Misconceptions and ignorance are the root causes of social stigma. Positive mental health is often misunderstood, with many associating mental health only with disorders. There are various types of mental illnesses, and absence of illness does not necessarily indicate good mental health. A mentally healthy person exhibits flexible and stress-free behavior in different situations, contributing positively to society. Dr. Prabhat Kumar Singhal: Dr. Aggarwal, you've emphasized the importance of attention to mental health from an

early age. Can you elaborate on how early care impacts mental health development?

Dr. Aggarwal: Mental health cannot be built overnight. From the beginning, care is essential. Taking care of a mother's diet, exercise, stress management, and vaccination during and after pregnancy contributes to the physical and mental development of the child. Additionally, factors like breastfeeding, child vaccination, and the mother-child relationship after delivery play crucial roles. Neglecting these aspects may hinder the mental development of the child.

Dr. Prabhat Kumar Singhal: Moving forward, how can society contribute to breaking the

stigma and fostering mental health awareness?

Dr. Aggarwal: It begins with recognizing the symptoms of mental health issues, seeking appropriate medical help, and initiating treatment early. Regular and timely treatment, as per the doctor's advice, is crucial for the quick and complete recovery of the patient. Dispelling myths, embracing proper treatments, and avoiding superstitious practices are essential steps toward breaking the stigma. Dr. Prabhat Kumar Singhal: Thank you both for sharing your insights. Mental health awareness is indeed a vital aspect of creating a healthier and more compassionate society.

Team SPSU won the SIH-2023 in a MoD problem statement

Udaipur: The Ava Guardians, the team from Sir Padampat Singhania University, Udaipur, embarked on a groundbreaking journey to address the critical problem statement, "Novel Technologies for Early Detection and Mitigation of Avalanches," posed by the Ministry of Defence. This team's remarkable achievements in the Smart India Hackathon (SIH) Grand Finale hosted by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, held at Chandigarh Group of Colleges, Landran, Punjab, on December 19 and 20, 2023, have set them apart as national champions in innovation.



Out of 500 participating teams from across India, Ava Guardians emerged as one of the top 6 teams, showcasing their exceptional skills and dedication. The team's success in the preliminary rounds earned them a coveted spot in the Grand Finale, where they faced a 36-hour hackathon challenge. The SIH Grand Finale provided a platform for Ava Guardians to present their innovative solution to a panel of evaluators comprising scientists from the Ministry of Defence. The team, mentored by Harsh Bansal and Rohit Bokade, showcased their ingenuity, problem-solving abilities, and technical prowess during the intense competition. The winning team comprised the following students:

1. Toshik Soni [22CS002485, B. Tech CSE II Year]
2. Dhruv Lodha [22CS002558, B. Tech CSE II Year]
3. Kusum Menaria [22CS002508, B. Tech CSE (AIML) II Year]
4. Mitali Thapa [22CS002602, B. Tech CSE (AIML) II Year]
5. Mohammed Tauqeer Raza [22CS002614, B. Tech CSE (AIML) II Year]
6. Wasfa Haider Kazmi [22CS002483, B. Tech CSE (AIML) II Year]

Our champions exhibited exemplary teamwork, technical skills, and resilience throughout the competition.

Harsh Bansal was crucial in guiding and mentoring the team and accompanied the students to the Grand Finale. Following discussions with scientists from DRDO within the Ministry of Defence, students now have an opportunity for a 6-week internship at their facility. Mentor Harsh Bansal will be composing an email to formally confirm this opportunity. The Ava Guardians' hard work and determination

bore fruit as they clinched the first position at the national level, receiving accolades from both peers and industry experts. Their remarkable achievement was further celebrated with a prize money of 1 Lakh rupees, recognizing their outstanding contribution to addressing the Ministry of Defence's challenge.

We express gratitude to our Vice-Chancellor Sir and the leadership for comprehending the project's requirements and providing steadfast support to the team.

Jay Bohra, Honored for Achieving All India Rank 1 in CLAT

Udaipur: The student Jay Bohra, who secured the All India Rank 1 in the CLAT (Common Law Admission Test) examination, has been honored by the administration of DPS (Delhi Public School) Udaipur. In recognition of his achievement, the school has awarded him a cash prize and a scholarship. Jay Bohra, a meritorious student of DPS, demonstrated exceptional dedication and excellence by attaining the top rank in the CLAT examination. The school administration, represented by Prof. Vice Chairman Govind Agrawal, commended Jay's consistent hard work and emphasized the role of schools in nurturing talented students.

During the ceremony, the school principal, Sanjay Narwaria, highlighted Jay's journey and the support he received from DPS over the past six years. Jay's mother, Neha Bohra, expressed gratitude for the school's contribution to Jay's educational journey. She advised all students to focus on their studies and adhere to a disciplined approach to achieve success.



Jay Bohra, addressing the gathering, emphasized the importance of giving one's best effort in whatever task one undertakes. He credited 50% of his success to the hard work of school teachers and the remaining 50% to his own self-confidence, balancing academics and exam preparation, and continuous encouragement from his parents.

Jay initially pursued Science but later switched to Commerce due to his greater interest in the subject. He encouraged students to choose fields aligned with their interests. According to Jay, success requires consistent practice and a positive mindset, and he urged students to maintain a balance between exam preparation and school attendance.

In conclusion, Jay Bohra expressed surprise at achieving the top rank in the country and credited his success to the collective efforts of his school teachers, his dedication, and the unwavering support of his parents. His achievement has brought pride to DPS Udaipur and serves as an inspiration for students nationwide.

Christmas Celebrations Enthusiastically Observed at C.P.S.

Udaipur: In a spirited celebration, the Christmas festival was joyously observed at Central Public School, located in New Bhopalpur. The program featured children dancing energetically to Christmas-themed dances, creating a festive atmosphere. Christmas carols and dance performances by young children added a charming touch to the event. The Junior Wing of the school show-



cased vibrant and rhythmic dances with great enthusiasm, aiming to raise awareness about all religions and convey the message of humanity on the occasion of Jesus Christ's birth.

The program's chief guest, Bishop Dev Prasad Ganawa, shared a message based on the life of Jesus Christ, aiming to impart his teachings to the children. The school premises were adorned with a red and white theme, and the mesmerizing presentations of fairies and Santa Claus added an extra layer of charm to the program. Chairperson Alka Sharma, in her sent message, emphasized strengthening mutual relationships and celebrating Christmas with joy and vibrancy. The program concluded with everyone exchanging Christmas and New Year greetings. Gratitude was expressed to all the dignitaries, including Deputy Director Vikramjeet Singh Shekhawat, Administrator Sunil Babel, Principal Krishna Shaktawat, and Headmistress Poonam Rathore, for gracing the occasion.

Vidhi Sankay, Bhopal, organizes Freshers and Farewell Program

Udaipur: BN Law College organized a Freshers and Farewell program for first-year students entering the institution and for those in their final year, wishing them a bright future.

The main guest for the event was Dr. Devendra Singh Udawat, Director of Udawat Classes. The program was presided over by Dr. Ashutosh Pitliya, the founder of Sankay.

Various entertaining and literary presentations were given by students such as Tanvi Jain, Nandita, Sneha, Payal, Bhoomika, and others during the program. Abhay Chundawat was crowned Mr. B.N. Law, and Lakshita Chundawat was crowned Miss B.N. Law. Somendra Pratap Singh and Niharika Chauhan were the runners-up. Hemendra Singh was crowned Mr. Farewell, and Aditi Chaudhary was crowned Miss Farewell. The decisive three-member panel consisted of Dr. Shikha Nagori, Dr. Pushpalata Dangi, and Dr. Vishnupriya Dadhich. The event was coordinated by Dr. Kiran Chauhan, Pallavi Bhatnagar, and Vasundhara Bhayal. The concluding remarks were delivered by Dr. Ashutosh Pitliya, who read out the best wishes from the Vice President of the Vidya Pracharini Sabha, Prof. Colonel Shiv Singh Sarangdevot, Secretary Prof. Mahendra Singh Rathore, and Managing Director Mr. Mohabbat Singh Rathore. In attendance were Dr. Anila, Dr. Krishna Ranawat, Dr. Shikha Nagauri, Dr. Pushpalata Dangi, Dr. Vishnupriya Dadhich, Mr. Piyush Chavhan, Mr. Chandrabhan Singh Ranawat, Mr. Mukesh Kothari, and other members of the Sankay. The program concluded with the reading of congratulatory messages from Dr. Ashutosh Pitliya to the Vice President of the Vidya Pracharini Sabha, Prof. Colonel Shiv Singh Sarangdevot, Secretary Prof. Mahendra Singh Rathore, and Managing Director Mr. Mohabbat Singh Rathore."

Dr. Shankar Sharma Honored with the IFEX National Award for Painting

Udaipur: Renowned artist Dr. Shankar Sharma from Udaipur has been awarded the IFEX Award (Painting category) for the year 2023. His artwork, 'Giridhari', was selected for the award at the 96th All India Art Exhibition organized by the All India Fine Arts and Crafts Society in New Delhi. The competition received a total of 1582 entries from across the country, and Dr. Shankar Sharma's painting was chosen among the top 6 in the painting category. At the event held in Delhi, Dr. Sharma was felicitated by Professor V. Nagdasa, the Chairman of the National Lalit Kala Academy, and Padma Bhushan Shri Ram V. Sutar. He received a medal, certificate, and a check as part of the recognition. 'Giridhari', depicted in the Nathdwara style, showcases a contemporary blend of traditional concepts and color schemes. The painting creatively illustrates the scene of Lord Krishna lifting the Govardhan mountain, combining traditional ideals with a modern artistic approach. Earlier, Dr. Shankar Sharma was also honored by the Mumbai Art Society last year.

Saral Seva Sandesh Quarterly Newsletter Launched in Udaipur

Udaipur: On the occasion of the successful completion of 15 years of the Saral Blood Center, the Sarla Singhvi Charitable Society inaugurated the "Saral Seva Sandesh" quarterly newsletter. The launch took place on the birthday of Mrs. Sarla Singhvi, the inspiration behind the organization, and as part of the special events and services dedicated to the society.

The unveiling of the newsletter was done by the chief guest, Dr. S.S. Sarangdevot, Vice-Chancellor of Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth, along with distinguished guests including Jatin Gandhi, Deputy Commissioner, Devasthan, and Lalit Ajariya, Assistant Drug Controller. The President of the organization, Ganesh Lal Jain, and executive members welcomed and honored the guests.



Speaking on the occasion, Dr. S.S. Sarangdevot expressed his long association with the Saral Blood Bank and emphasized the need for collective

efforts in social service. He urged everyone to contribute not only financially but also with a commitment to social welfare. He stressed the importance of aligning with nature and culture while undertaking any charitable work.

The Secretary of the organization, Sanyam Singhvi, highlighted the successful journey of the Saral Blood Center over the past 15 years. The blood center, equipped with modern facilities and managed by a skilled medical team, operates 24x7 near Bhoopat Mat Park in Bhopalpur. The "Saral Chalit Raktadan Rath" initiative for voluntary blood donation has been particularly noteworthy, and since 2016, single-donor plateletpheresis services have been provided for cancer and dengue patients.

Sanyam Singhvi also shared information about various initiatives undertaken by the organization in the fields of education, water service, and healthcare. He mentioned the distribution of school bags, stationery kits, and sweaters to students annually. Additionally, in 2021, the organization donated 29 computers with internet facilities to Fatah Government School for computer education and two computers to the Government School in Barwada.

The newsletter aims to serve society by highlighting the significant contributions of NGOs and voluntary blood donors. It will feature informative articles, questionnaires, and inspirational topics. The publication intends to create awareness and encourage more people, especially the youth, to participate in voluntary blood donation campaigns.

In his closing remarks, Shyam Singhvi, the Chief Editor of "Saral Seva Sandesh", invited the readers to actively engage with the newsletter. He emphasized the importance of readers' suggestions and participation to enhance the reach and impact of the organization's activities. The event concluded with expressions of gratitude to all the guests and media representatives for their presence and support.

Aishwarya College Hosts Alumni Meet and Farewell Event

Udaipur: Aishwarya College organized a spectacular Alumni Meet and Farewell event, with Dr. Chandrakala Choudhary as the esteemed guest. The program commenced with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp.

Students from the college showcased their talents in solo singing, solo dance, group dance, fashion show, and comedy performances during the event. Alumni shared their experiences and memories from their time at the college.

Director Dr. Raksha Sharma announced that Mr. Farewell was awarded to Contey Menaria, and Miss Farewell was won by Garvita Mali. Shobhit and Isha Kunwar Chauhan were selected as runner-ups. Dhruv Vaishnav received the Best Dress Male award, while Nureen was honored with the Best Dress Female award. Manav Varma and Simran Pandey were recognized as the Best Male and Female Dancers, respectively. Lucky Joshi received the Best Walk Female award, and Harshvardhan Singh Chauhan was honored with the Best Talent Male award.

The event featured a solo dance performance by Hemlata Parik, and a group dance by Mamta Kunwar, Shivani Jhala, Garvit Sharma, Upasana Rawat, and Komal Bhoi. Vidi Parik presented a stand-up comedy act. The program concluded with expressions of gratitude, thanking everyone for their participation and making the event a success.

