

# MUJ-TIMES

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FOR INTERNAL CIRCULATION

## 3rd Convocation at MUJ

Manipal University Jaipur organized its 3rd Convocation on September 25, 2016 presided by the chief guest of the ceremony Sudheendra Kulkarni, aide to veteran leader Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and the Chairman of Observer Research Foundation Mumbai.

Addressing the new graduates he urged them to prepare themselves for every types of test in the upcoming life with very few tests holding academic relevance in actual sense. According to him, majority of exams in which students have to appear are life examinations – the tests one will face during the inevitable twists and turns in her/his life. He added that PM has announced that government will select and support ten public as well as private universities to transform them into ‘state of the art universities’ and hopefully Manipal will find an honourable place among them.

The program was presided over by Dr. Ramdas M Pai, Chairperson, Manipal Group. Prof. Sandeep Sancheti, President, Manipal University Jaipur congratulated students and spoke about the vision and activities undertaken by the university. Prof. Kumkum Garg, Pro-President, MUJ delivered the welcome address. Mrs. Vasanthi Pai, Rajen Padukone, Group President MEMG; Dr H.P. Khincha, Advisor, IISc Bangalore and Chairman Karnataka Innovation Council and



Sudheendra Kulkarni distributing the degrees

many other dignitaries were present to grace the occasion. Vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Vandana Suhag, Registrar MUJ. A total of 759 students which includes UG, PG and Ph.D. were awarded the degrees. 20 gold medals which included academic excellence and 3 gold medals including the Chairperson’s gold medal for outstanding entrepreneurial and extracurricular activities were also awarded.



## Thinking About New Education Policy

The National Policy on Education was framed in 1986 and modified in 1992. Since then several changes have taken place that calls for a revision of the Policy. The Government of India has intended to bring out a National Education Policy to meet the changing dynamics of the population's requirement with regards to quality education, innovation and research, aiming to make India a knowledge superpower by equipping its students with the necessary skills and knowledge and to eliminate the shortage of manpower in science, technology, academics and industry.

Undoubtedly, India's huge pool of young people might be considered its biggest strength. However, the bitter truth is that the country is far from having its act together when it comes to figuring out how to educate these young people. Government data suggests that only one out of every seven children born in India goes to college. What's more, the nation suffers from both a crippling quantity, as well as a quality, challenge when it comes to higher education.

According to the statistics, the total population between the ages of 15 and 24 in India is 234 million. If India is to meet its 30 percent GER (Gross Enrolment Rate) target by 2020, about 40 million students would be enrolled in the higher education system in 2020. Currently, around 18.5 million students are enrolled in the higher education sector. The problem is that as increasing numbers come out of the high school system, we just don't have the capacity to absorb them into the college system. There is a massive mismatch in the supply-demand, of proportions that have never been seen anywhere or any-time in the world before.

For instance, to reach the target of the 30

percent GER, let alone aspire to developed nation standards, we need to create an additional capacity of about 25 million seats over the next decade. This requires an additional 10,510 technical institutions, 15,530 colleges and 521 universities! That's the root cause of the problem – but, why did the problem happen?

The problem happened because for a long time we were happy with the public, government-owned system. Unfortunately, until a few years ago, India was in denial of the situation. While there was a government push to ramp up access in primary and secondary schooling, when it came to higher education, we were too focused on the few good institutions we have, such as the IITs (Indian Institutes of Technology) and the IIMs (Indian Institutes of Management) (none of which is counted in Top 200, though).

Right now, the private sector accounts for 59 percent of enrolment in higher education. And there are some worthy examples of quality – institutes such as BITS (Birla Institute of Technology and Science), Manipal University and FLAME (Foundation for Liberal and Management Education). But, the regulatory environment is absolutely draconian when it comes to the private sector. Due to the need to negotiate through what are really discouraging policies, high-quality people who are not part of the "system" find it difficult to establish private universities.

While thinking about the NEP, the HRD ministry is expected to take note of the ground reality of the public sector institutions, specially the new central universities and the role of good institutions in the private sector.

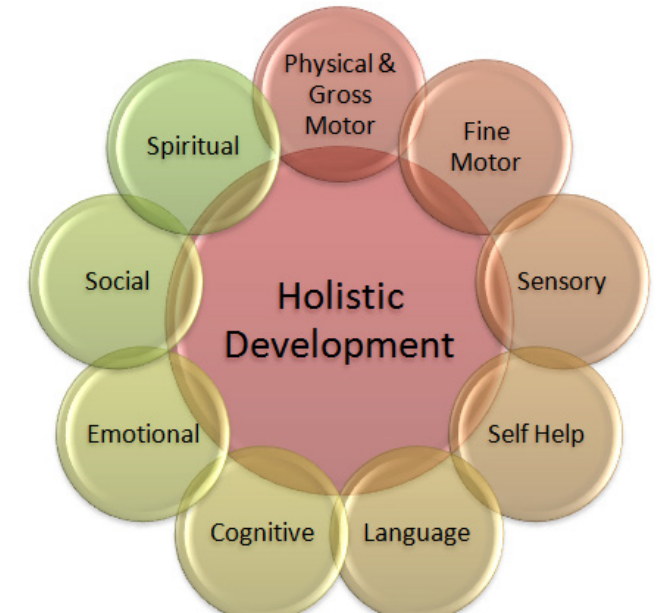
- Ravi Chaturvedi

## Holistic approach to learning and development

The basic aim of higher education is to provide students with quality education. The role of the teacher is very important in this regard. The teacher should not merely deliver lectures, but also make the class interesting and interactive. Group and home assignments should be regularly given to students. Students should be asked to read at home, whether from books or on-line, discuss various relevant topics in the class and also make presentations on them. The role of ICT is thus crucial and has been found to be very effective in pedagogy today.

In this era of global information and knowledge, it is imperative to inculcate the habit of reading and writing. Students should be well informed and should possess good communication skills. In order to improve their communication skills, it is recommended that they read newspapers and listen to the news every day. Further, it is important to not merely read, but also to analyze current events and discuss them with peer groups and friends.

MUJ strives to provide the students with the best learning environment, along with impeccable education, to enable them gain the skills they need to shape their own future and that of the nation. MUJ has introduced the Open Book examination system in many programmes, which enables students to learn and apply the knowledge gained, and not just memorise and regurgitate. Yet another innovative practice for better learning is the Open Elective Course system, where a student from one domain can opt for a course from a totally different domain. MUJ also follows a totally transparent evaluation system, wherein test and examination answer books are shown to the students, after evaluation and prior to grading.



While the students had sessional exams last month and the Cultural Festival ONEIROS 2016 is to be held this month, the focus of the students should be on striking a balance between academics and extra-curricular activities. The Cultural, Technical and Sports festivals are all organised and managed by the students. This helps to improve their organisational skills and provide for their all-round development. Students learn teamwork, budgeting and to compete in a healthy and fair manner. I encourage the students to participate actively in all such events, no matter how good or bad they are at it, because I believe that 'it is not about winning or losing, but about participating and even if you lose, you still learn how to do better the next time around.'

From MUJ Pro-President's Desk

## Kangana movie promoted at MUJ

Veteran artist and director Gufi's Pental Kangana movie was promoted at Manipal University Jaipur on September 30, 2016. The leading actors of the movie namely Bobby Senyol and Roohi Chaturvedi visited university personally in order to promote the film. In fact the entire cast of movie was there which mesmerized the audience with their outstanding dance performance. They also give CDs of the film to university dignitaries as well as students. Interacting with students, the cast emphasized the need of discipline in the creation of a movie. The actors stated a lot of hard work is required in making a movie.



## SPICMACAY Rajasthan Chapter meet at MUJ

On the fateful morning of 1st October 2016, Manipal University Jaipur hosted the Coordinators meet of SPIC MACAY Rajasthan chapter in the presence of the National Chairperson of the same, Mr. Arun Sahay. Coordinators from all over Rajasthan took time out from their busy schedules in order to attend this enriching interactive session.

The meeting began with introductions all around and soon turned into a full-fledged discussion session. The coordinators presented the problems they faced while promoting the cause and together came up with solutions of the same. Mr. Sahay helped things along, assuring his support at every step of the way and listened patiently.

The student volunteers of the college impressed the dignitaries by explaining how they promoted culture amongst their own age group in a creative manner.

The meeting broke off for a light hearted and delicious lunch and was followed by a PowerPoint presentation for all the volunteers of the chapter, headed by Mr. Sahay. The presentation comprised of the main aim of SPIC MACAY and intricacies like, meaning of the logo, after which, the volunteers asked questions and were answered quite enthusiastically.

The meeting culminated with a vote of thanks as the coordinators departed to their respective abodes with cheer and goodwill in their hearts.

## Mental health awareness week at MUJ

Mental health awareness week was celebrated by the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at MUJ. This program was conducted from October 7-13, 2016 by Department of Psychology in order to make the people aware of the importance of mental health. Many competitions and activities like street shows, short plays and debate were organized during this week. The program was inaugurated by the director of School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Prof. Manju Singh and HOD Psychology, Dr. Geetika Tankha. The winners of the activities were given awards and certificates by the HOD.



## 2nd Manipal Ranka National MOOT Court

Manipal University Jaipur organized 2nd Manipal Ranka National Moot Court competition from Oct 1-3, 2016. 64 teams from 19 states took part in the competition. N.M. Ranka, Chariman, Ranka Public Charitable Trust stated that this activity will motivate law students to practice in courts in a more pragmatic manner. Prof. Sandeep Sancheti, President, Manipal University Jaipur added that these competitions help law students to grow professionally in their discipline.

Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghosh, Chief Justice, Supreme Court was the chief guest and the function was inaugurated by him. The guests of honor were Justice Navin Sinha, Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court, Justice Kalpesh Satyendra Jhaveri, Rajasthan High Court Judge and S.R. Wadhwa, former Chairman Income Tax Agreement Commission. Prof. Mridul Srivastava, Dean Faculty of Arts and Law announced the prize money of



Rs. 7000/- and Rs. 5000/- to first and second position holders. The best student advocate and best researcher awards were given along with certificate of participations to all who actively take part in the entire process.

## Training workshop for Science teachers

Two days training workshop for Science school teachers was organized at MUJ by the Department of Chemistry. The workshop was organized in the collaboration of Royal Society of Chemistry, London and Yusuf Hamid Inspirational committee. It was inaugurated by the President MUJ, Prof. Sandeep Sancheti. Pro President Prof. Kumkum Garg; Dean Faculty of Science, Prof. G.C. Tikkiwal; Dean Research and Innovations, Prof. B.K. Sharma and the Director, School of Basic sciences Prof. A.K. Sinha also graced the occasion. 31 teachers from various government schools attended the workshop. Ms. Padma Prabhu trained the participants about Science teaching skills and developing scientific approach among the students. The workshop concluded with the distribution of certificates on October 15, 2016.



## Upcoming Events

- (1) National Workshop on "Computational Electronics and Nanotechnology" will be organized at MUJ from Nov 11-12, 2016
- (2) Two day workshop on 'Marketing, Strategy and Policy for Energy' will be organized at MUJ from Nov 15-16, 2016
- (3) Manipal Star Chef Competition is to be organized by School of Hotel Management from Nov 16-17, 2016
- (4) Media Fest II is to be organized by School of Journalism and Mass Communication from Nov 17-18, 2016
- (5) Blood Donation drive to be conducted on Nov 18, 2016 at MUJ
- (6) TED x Conference is to be organized at MUJ from Nov 18-19, 2016

# MUJ organizes picnic for faculty

Faculty Club of Manipal University Jaipur organized picnic on October 15, 2016 in Forest Park at Jhalana Dongri for faculties and their family members. Dr. Sushil Kumar Jain, Secretary, Faculty Club said that the idea behind picnic was to encourage friendly relationships between different faculties and their families. The event was appreciated by all the people who accompanied at the picnic.



## A film with the soul of Rajasthani culture

Pagdi, a Rajasthani film on social issues got released in Pink city, which shows the scenic beauty of Manipal University Jaipur campus too. The film has been shot at MUJ, Udaipurvati, Navalgadh, Samod, Dausa and other beautiful locations of Jaipur and Mumbai as well. It is the story of a family that fights for its honour, this epic struggle is led by Dada Hukum a man who has decided to give up everything in order to retain the respect of his family's honour and its heritage. The story revolves around a Rajasthani guy who goes to Mumbai for business, where he meets a Mumbai Don and the conflict arises between

them.

The story is a fight between them, and the struggle of the hero, Shraavan Sagar to win and retain the respect and honour of his family.

The cast of the film includes Miss India 2010 Ruhi Chaturvedi and an eminent actor Yudhishtar Singh Bhati. The melodious music has been composed by talented music directors, Kunal Verma and Rapariya Balam. Action packed scenes with sensational dialogues are highlights of Pagdi which has lighting music to give the audiences a great time.

## Rising Star of MUJ

Ms. Nishita Pachori has brought laurels to MUJ Jaipur by acting in a Rajisthani regional film Kangana. A student pursuing Bachelors in Journalism and Mass Communication at MUJ, Nishita has done modelling since her school days. She is acting in films from small age of 12 years. The reason she joined MUJ is because she find MUJ culture quite vibrant and energetic. The teaching faculty is extremely supportive and provides motivation to students, whenever required. Stating that her aims are quite high, she aspires to make her career in media and glamour industry.

