



## Quotable Quotes

"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."  
*William Butler Yeats*

"Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another."  
*G. K. Chesterson*

"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever."  
*Mahatma Gandhi*

**Virbhadra Singh**  
Chief Minister



Message



I am very happy to know that Institute of Integrated Himalayan Studies, Himachal Pradesh University is going to publish the next issue of its Newsletter in the month of October, 2013. I extend my heartfelt felicitations to the faculty members and students on this occasion. Institute is known for its quality research and extension programmes and I am hopeful that initiative of starting innovative academic programs will surely go a long way in benefitting students. I expect that Institute attains a distinction in the field of higher education. The Institute has been making valuable contributions for Himalayan people in diverse areas ranging from biological to socio-cultural and physical to socio-economic. I believe that the Newsletter will provide a platform to the budding students & writers to exhibit their talents. It would also provide readers the latest information regarding the academic and research activities of the Institute. I hope that this issue of Newsletter would prove beneficial to the academic community. My best wishes for the successful publication of the Newsletter.

*Virbhadra Singh*  
Chief Minister

## Vice-Chancellor's Message



The Institute of Himalayan Studies is serving the people in the Himalayan region through its comprehensive research, academic programmes and extension activities. It gives positive impression of highest academic & research excellence. It is a matter of great pride that from the current session it has started new courses, i.e., Masters in Fine Arts (Pahari Miniature Painting), MBA (Rural Development) and M. Sc. (Environmental Sciences) which will enable the students to achieve profession distinction in their chosen fields. The congenial atmosphere of the

Institute will not only enable the students to acquire knowledge and skills but will familiarize them to meet the challenges of contemporary world. This is an all-inclusive institution, which infers the need for outstanding teaching and research. But, for attaining strength and intensity, these must be grounded in a dynamic academic culture. We aspire to create a physical environment that supports teaching, learning and research. The Institute has, for more than a decade, been devoted to its mission to foster research which can contribute to society. Our challenge for the future is to build on this strong base to establish ourselves confidently among the top Institutions. I feel delighted in revealing that the students who have taken admission in the new courses are doing very well in their academic and well as extra-curricular sphere. I hope that their conscientiousness brings them much success all through their lives. My good wishes for bringing out the Newsletter.

Prof. A.D.N. Bajpai  
Vice-Chancellor, Himachal Pradesh University

## Director's Profile

Prof. Rajinder Singh Chauhan is a renowned academician, with outstanding academic and administrative expertise. He is also the Dean of College-cum-Director, College Development Council. His area of specialization and expertise is Political Science. He has illustrious academic background and is associated with number of academic bodies of repute at National & International level. He has had the rare opportunity of being the member of Commission for Scientific Technological Terminology Committee, HRD ministry. Prof. Chauhan is the member of Financial Committee of Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla. He has undertaken number of research studies. He has completed eight research projects, authored three books, published, contributed & presented number of Research Papers. Prof. Chauhan has guided fifteen PhD and Sixty Six M.Phil. students.

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- भवानी सिंह (2013). भारतेन्दु हरिश्चन्द्र की काव्यात्मक प्रवृत्तियाँ, गगनाञ्चल, अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय जनरल, (भारतीय सांस्कृतिक सम्बन्ध परिषद, नई दिल्ली) वर्ष-36, अंक-4, जुलाई-अगस्त 2013
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## Books

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- Mattu, V.K., Sharma, V.K. & Gupta, P. (2013). *Vignettes of Himachal Himalayas. Vol.1 & 2* New Delhi: Satyam Publishing House.
- Sharma, V. K. (2013) *Changing Face of Rural Women in Himachal Himalayas*. New Delhi: Satyam Publishing House.
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- Ranta, R. S. & Negi, B. S. (2012). *Psycho-Social Analysis of Displaced People in the Tribal area of Himachal Pradesh*, Lambert Academic Publishing, Germany
- Ranta, R. S. (2012). *Management of Stress through Indian Psychological Techniques: A Study of Police Personnel*, Lambert Academic Publishing, Germany

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- Thakur, P. (2012). *Reviewing the Status of Soil Erosion in the State of Himachal In Altai-Himalaya: Two Foundations of Eurasia*. New Delhi: Satyam Publishing House (In English & Russian).
- Jaswal, S. (2012). *Little Known Wild Edibles of Himachal Himalayas In Altai-Himalaya: Two Foundations of Eurasia*. New Delhi: Satyam Publishing House (In English & Russian).
- Negi, B. S. & Mast Ram (2012). *Development of Higher Education in Himachal Pradesh: Issues and Concerns In Liberalization and Economy in India*, Himalaya Publishing House, New Delhi
- Sharma, L. (2013). *Political Scenario in Himachal Pradesh: A Historical Perspective In Vignettes of Himachal Himalayas. Vol. 2* New Delhi: Satyam Publishing House.
- Vyas, N. (2013). *Ethnic and Religious Tourism in Himachal Pradesh In Vignettes of Himachal Himalayas. Vol. 2* New Delhi: Satyam Publishing House.
- Gupta, P. & Sharma, V.K. (2013). *Impacts of Hydro-Power Projects on Life of Tribal Communities, in Vignettes of Himachal Himalayas. Vol. 2*. New Delhi: Satyam Publishing House
- Gupta, P. & Sharma, V.K. (2013). *Traditional Healers of Himachal Pradesh In Vignettes of Himachal Himalayas. Vol. 1* New Delhi: Satyam Publishing House
- Gupta, P. (2012). *Where Faith Heals the Ailing: A Journey of Metaphysical World across Himalayas In Altai Himalaya: Two foundations of Eurasia*. New Delhi: Satyam Publishing House (In English & Russian).
- Sharma, V.K. (2012) *Dancing Ripples of Revulsar: Bound Towards Oblivion*, (English) In *Altai-Himalaya: Two Foundations of Eurasia*. New Delhi: Satyam Publishing House

- Publishing House (In English & Russian).
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## Miscellaneous

- डॉ. भवानी सिंह को बीसवें अखिल भारतीय हिन्दी साहित्य सम्मेलन के अवसर पर अक्टूबर 2012 में शोध-संदर्भ भूषण सम्मान प्रदान किया गया इसका आयोजन राष्ट्रीय स्वाभिमान न्यास एवं USM पत्रिका गाजियाबाद ने किया।
- डॉ. भवानी सिंह को द वूस्ट, बहुविषयक मासिक राष्ट्रीय पत्रिका, (सोलन : वूस्ट मीडिया प्राइवेट लिमिटेड) ने संपादक नियुक्त किया वे न्यू ब्राइट स्टार, समाचार पत्र एवं राष्ट्रीय पत्रिका, फरीदाबाद हरियाणा के संपादकीय सलाहकार भी हैं।
- Dr. Sanjeev Sharma was involved in organizing the cultural activities during the University's Foundation Day.

## Student's Corner

### Discussion Forum

With the aim of developing interpersonal and communication skills among the MBA students, the Institute started a Discussion Forum for the students. The concept of Group Discussion is a part of the regular academic curriculum. In order to smoothly run the activities of this forum, Dr. Randhir Ranta, Course Coordinator, divided the class into six groups. These groups are named as *Kiran* of Himalaya, *Pragati*, *Umat*, *Jagriti*, *Jigyasa* and *Utkarsh*. This forum organized number of activities, including presentations and debates.

### Exposure visit to Sukori Panchayat

On 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2013, Institute in collaboration with State Institute for Rural Development (SIRD) Shimla organized an exposure visit for the MBA (Rural Development) students in *Gram Panchayat Sukori* located in *Kandaghat* block of district Solan. The main objective of the visit was to familiarize the students with the process of *Gram Sabha* meeting and convey them about the significance of *gram sabha* for rural masses. The students actively participated in this meeting.

### MBA Students Visited SIRD

The students of MBA (RD) visited State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD) on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2013. The purpose of the visit was to provide a practical experience of SIRD working. Sh. Anupam Kashyap, Additional Director, SIRD, interacted with the students. Sh. Kashyap stressed on the need of having a well-defined future vision for working in rural areas. He further elaborated that rural development is a multi-dimensional field which requires a complete knowledge of rural and dedicated attitude to work for the cause.

### Teacher's Day Celebrations

Teachers' Day, which is celebrated to mark the birth anniversary of former President of India Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, was celebrated with gaiety in the Institute. Prof. A.D.N. Bajpai, Vice-Chancellor, HPU, was the Chief Guest of function. He addressed the students on the occasion. "Teachers help in guiding and molding the students to become the future citizens of the country," he said. He guided them to concentrate on their career with a focused vision. The students entertained their teachers and acknowledged their contributions.

### Other Achievements

- Institute is proud to acknowledge the achievements of MFA students, who have been recognized at state level. Students of MFA participated in Youth festival in the month of September, 2013 and brought laurels to the Institute. Mr. Devinder Sharma got first prize and Mr. Baldev got second prize in on the spot painting/ poster making competition. Savita Sharma got third prize in Photography. Mr. Devinder Sharma received first prize in painting competition on the theme fashion organized at Kali Bari, Shimla.
- Students of other courses also continued the tradition of intense involvement in academic activities. Students of M. Sc. made presentations during the classroom seminars organized every Saturday. These students participated in one day seminar organized by Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI) on the occasion of Himalayan Day. The theme for this year's Himalayan Day was "SAVE HIMALAYAS SAVE SELF".



Sh. Mukesh Agnihotri & Prof. A.D.N. Bajpai during the National Seminar on Environmental Geo-Hazards



Prof. Jagbir Singh Kirti delivering the keynote address during the National Seminar on Biodiversity



Dr. Amritranjan Basu giving lecture to MBA Students on Team Work



Dr. Bhawani Singh being honoured at Gaziabad



MBA Students attending lecture at SIRD



Students of M.Sc. (ES) honouring the Director on the occasion of Teacher's Day



Director, IIHS honouring Vice-Chancellor on the occasion of Teacher's Day



MFA Student receiving the prizes during the Youth festival

# Milestones achieved in the last eleven years...



- University Grants Commission (UGC) selected Himachal Pradesh University as University with Potential for Excellence in Himalayan Studies
- Executive Council of the Himachal Pradesh University established, the Institute of Integrated Himalayan Studies (IIHS), in the year 2002
- Institute of Integrated Himalayan Studies is the only Multidisciplinary Institute in the state
- Institute is playing a vital role in documenting, fostering, nurturing and improving various academic, research and development programmes based on its mandate.
- Institute is acting as a hub of academic and research activities and rendering its services to all the stakeholders
- Institute is focusing at Natural Resource Management and Socio-Cultural and Economic Dimensions of Himachal Himalayas which are of prime importance for the state
- Institute is undertaking research which can help the state government in formulating and executing appropriate plans for the inclusive development of the state
- Institute has been acclaimed at national and international level for its research, academic and extension activities
- Faculty from different fields are working in the Institute and providing expertise under one roof
- Institute is one of its type in the state its

- recognition, permanence and continued existence can prove to be a boon for governmental and non-governmental agencies and people of state
- Institute has widened opportunity for higher education by starting new academic programmes. Started Four PG Level Academic Programs and seven New Courses are in pipeline
- Undertaking research helping in formulating and executing appropriate plans for the inclusive development of the state
- Completed more than 120 major research
- Completed more than 60 status reports
- Compiled 17 databases
- Bringing out Himalayan Studies Journal
- Organized more than thirty five expert lectures, twelve workshops, seven seminars, three conferences, three exhibitions
- Institute started *Himalayan Study Circle* having members from different sections of the community to encourage the exchange of views on a common platform
- Institute is rendering its consultancy expertise to various governmental and non-governmental organizations
- Institute established linkages with international and national agencies for carrying out various evaluation/ impact studies, research and extension activities
- Foreign Collaborations: Altai State Technical

- University, Altai State Agrarian University, EARTHWATCH Institute, Uppsala University, Sweden, International Roerich Memorial Trust
- IIHS is a monitoring agency for Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART)
- Institute has its own website [www.himalayanstudies.com](http://www.himalayanstudies.com) covering information on its activities, accomplishments and future vision.

## Research Areas Identified for Future

- Natural Resource & Watershed Management
- Sustainable Tourism in Himachal Himalaya
- Socio-economic & Political Systems
- History, Culture and Religion
- Governance for Sustainable Development in Himalaya
- Rural Development
- Biodiversity Conservation in Relation to Socio-economic and Cultural Aspects
- Indigenous Technical Knowledge (ITK) for Sustainable Livelihood
- Climate Change Disaster Management and Coping Strategies

## Achievements of the Institute during the year 2012-13

### Seminars/ Conferences/ Workshops

#### National Seminar on Environmental Geo-Hazards

A National Seminar on "Environmental Geo-Hazards in Himachal Pradesh: Sharing Experiences and Technological Solutions" was organized by Institute in collaboration with Karori Mal College, Delhi University on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2013. The Seminar was inaugurated by Shri Mukesh Agnihotri, Hon'ble Minister Industry. Prof. A.D.N. Bajpai, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Himachal Pradesh University, presided over the inaugural ceremony and delivered a special address in this session. The Seminar focused at natural disasters and mitigation strategies. In addition to the inaugural Session, there were two Technical Sessions followed by a panel discussion and the eminent speakers from the field of environment shared their experiences on the theme.

#### National Seminar on Biodiversity, Green Economy and Sustainable Mountain Development

Institute organized a National Seminar on "Biodiversity, Green Economy and Sustainable Mountain Development" on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2012. Prof. A.D.N. Bajpai, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Himachal Pradesh University, inaugurated the seminar. Prof. Jagbir Singh Kirti, Punjab University, Patiala delivered the keynote address. He talked on the conservation ethics concealed in the mythological texts and cited instances from *Sukhmani Sahib*.

Prof. Bajpai enlightened the audiences with his thought provoking speech supported with verses and examples from *Ishavasa upnishada* and other *Vedic* texts. The experts recommended that in order to face the environmental challenges, the Institute must bridge the knowledge gap involving academia and other relevant institutions. During all technical sessions, the participants stressed that safeguarding biodiversity is a global responsibility as its loss will have global impact. Everyone concurred that mountains are global natural assets and support about half of global population by providing water, energy, biodiversity, food, and other ecosystem goods and services, as well as cultural diversity and traditional knowledge. A clear message that emerged from the seminar was that mountains are vital for addressing global environmental challenges and promoting green economy and sustainable development.

#### Expert Lecture on the Himalayan Culture & Spirituality

Institute revitalized the activities of Himalayan Study Circle and organized a special lecture of Prof. A.D.N. Bajpai, Vice-Chancellor in September 2012. Prof. Bajpai spoke on Himalayan Culture & Spirituality. He emphasized the need for assessing the potential inherent in man for shift oriented change. The Himalayas and spirituality are synonyms. Spirituality is concomitant with the understanding of continuity and not confined to temples and holy places. Spirituality embraces the feeling of perpetuity, universality and completeness and all these are the distinctive features of Himalayan culture. Besides acting as a geographical barrier, the Himalayas play a vital role in influencing the climate of the

whole region, shaping the culture, traditions and beliefs of people. Dr. V. K. Santvan proposed the votes of thanks.

#### Lecture on 'Breaking Gender Stereotype'

Himalayan Study Circle organized a special lecture of Dr. Aansa Bedacec, Member, Tertiary Education Commission of Mauritius. Dr. Aansa Bedacec shared her experiences on gender issues across different countries, where she was involved in taking up problems of women groups. She shared her experiences of tribal women who are subjected to genital mutilation. She talked about women empowerment, polices and laws meant for women in Mauritius. After the lecture, the audiences had an interactive session with the speaker.

### New Initiatives

#### Meeting of the Board of Studies of IIHS

Meeting of the Board of Studies of IIHS was held in the Institute. Prof. Rajender Chauhan, Director, IIHS, Prof. P.K Ahluwalia, Dean Physical Sciences, Prof. V.K. Mattu, Prof. N. S. Bist, Prof. Suneera Kapoor, Prof. O. P. Chauhan, Prof. Yashwant Gupta, Prof. Shashi Kant Lomesh, Prof. Surender Narta, Dr. V.K Santvan, Dr. Randhir Singh Ranta, Dr. Sanjeev Sharma, Dr. Pankaj Gupta, Dr. Pushpa Thakur, and Dr. Bhawani Singh were present in the meeting. The Director welcomed the members and apprised them with the recent academic initiatives of the Institute. Following groups were involved in designing the course curriculum:

- MBA (RD): Dr. Randhir Singh Ranta, IIHS, Sh. Vijay Kumar Sharma, IIHS, RO, Dr. Sanjeev Sharma, Dr. Baldev Singh, IIHS,

Dr. Lalit Sharma, IIHS, Dr. Pankaj Gupta, IIHS, Dr. Nitin, IIHS & Sh. Kuldeep Singh.

- M. Sc. (Environmental Sciences): Dr. V.K Santvan, Assistant Professor, IIHS, Dr. Pankaj Gupta, Dr. Pushpa Thakur, IIHS, Dr. P.K. Attri, IIHS and Sh. Sunil Jaswal, IIHS, HPU.
  - Master of Public Health: Dr. Pankaj Gupta, IIHS, Dr. Randhir Singh Ranta, IIHS, Sh. Vijay Kumar Sharma, IIHS, HPU
  - Certificate Course in Counselling: Dr. Randhir Singh Ranta, IIHS, Dr. Pankaj Gupta, IIHS, Sh. Vijay Kumar Sharma, IIHS, HPU
- The Director also proposed the starting of new courses, for which the following names were approved for designing the Course Curriculum:
- M.A. Archaeology-Dr. Rattan Singh, IIHS
  - M.A. in Hindi Journalism-Dr. Bhawani Singh, IIHS
  - M.A in Human Rights and Duties- Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, IIHS
  - M.A in Defence and Strategic Analysis-Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, IIHS

#### Launching of New Courses

The Institute launched MBA (Rural Development) and M.Sc. (Environmental Sciences) programme from the current academic session. In the year 2012, University Grants Commission has sanctioned grant for starting Masters in Fine Arts (*Pahari* Miniature Painting) under UGC Innovative programmes. The Institute is running this course in collaboration with Department of Visual Arts, Himachal Pradesh University. Under this program students will study traditional aspects of *Pahari* miniature painting and gain an understanding of the declining art with professional approaches to still life drawing, figure drawing and tactics of miniature painting. Curriculum has been designed keeping in view the practical aspects of fine arts

which will build the creative and technical skills of the learners.

## Visiting Faculty

### Special Lecture on Psycho-ethical Anatomy of Values

Prof. Balwant Kumar, retired Principal and a noted writer, philosopher and thinker, delivered a special lecture on "Psycho-ethical Anatomy of Values" to MBA students. Prof. Balwant started his lecture with the valuable observations made by Sigmund Freud on the nature of values, beliefs and religious faith in his book "The future of an Illusion". He further elaborated that many of our spiritual values and religious credos are outside the jurisdiction of reason. They are either irrational or above reason. For a variety of practical reasons we have to behave as if we believed in these non-rational fictions supplied by religion. Man's self is a queer blend of inhibitions, prohibitions and exhibitions. Man's ID constitutes inhibited impulses, his ego represents reasoning and his super-ego, the self-critical area, dictates do's and don'ts, he said. While explaining on the nature of values, he said that values are neither facts nor fictions. A value has been called an emotion or sentiment of approval or disapproval. Students had a pleasant interaction with the speaker, which cleared their doubts.

### Special Lecture on Communication Skills

The students of MBA (Rural Development) were given practical orientation on communication skills so as to impart appropriate knowledge, skills and attitudinal change. The session was conducted by Sh. Rajeev Bansal, Research Officer-cum-Faculty Member, H.P. State Institute of Rural Development, HIPA, Shimla. The students were taught skills of good communication, ways of communication, common non-verbal behaviour and its interpretation. Experiential learning techniques with practical exercise were used to explain how different people have their own perceptions to a common communication. Difference between hearing and listening was elaborated reflecting that listening is hard and one must be efficient in listening. In the final capsule, prescription was given as Seven Actions for Effective Communication.

### Special Lectures by Dr. Amitranjan Basu

### Individual Counseling and Career Planning

This session was conducted in a presentation-discussion mode and the contents included: What is counseling? – What are counseling skills? – Purpose of these skills – What we should not do in counseling – Benefits of counseling – Career planning framework – Phases of career planning. It was one and a half hour session and the

main objective was to make students understand the concepts and make them understand that to learn such skills one needs to go through a long process of supervised skills training.

### Emotional Intelligence

This session was also conducted in a presentation-discussion mode and the content included: What is EI (Emotional Intelligence)? – Understanding the general EI competencies (Emotional Self-awareness, Emotional Awareness of Others, Emotional Expression, Creativity, Resilience/Flexibility/Adaptability, Interpersonal Connections, Constructive Discontent, Outlook/Optimism, Compassion/Empathy, Intuition, Intentionality, Trust radius and Personal Power) – The role of EQ in successful mediation and dispute resolution. This session was of one hour duration and the objective was to make the students understand the concepts and make them aware about their EI skills.

### Team Work

This session was conducted in a workshop format for three hours. Objective of the session was to make the students understand team work concepts through presentation-discussion and practice some of the skills through group activities. The presentation included: Concept of Team/Group Work – Group/Team Work Model – Task functions – Group functions – Individual functions – Stages of Group/Team development – How is your team working? (Behavioral checklist) – Barriers to Effective Team-Working.

## Faculty Update

### Conferences/ Seminars/ Training Programs Attended

- Dr. Baldev Negi attended a National Seminar on "Development and Weaker Sections: Issues and Challenges" and presented paper his paper entitled "Tribal Development in Himachal Pradesh after the introduction of Single Line Administration". The Seminar was organized by Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi. He also attended a National Seminar on "Economic Liberalization: Effects and Challenges" and presented paper "Development of Higher Education in Himachal Pradesh: Issues and Concerns". The Seminar was organized by International Centre for Distance Education & Open Learning, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla.
- Dr. Baldev Negi, attended one week workshop on contemporary trends in social science research, which was organized by International Centre for Distance Education & Open Learning, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla. He attended two weeks Summer Workshop on "Quantitative Methods in Political Science" organized by Jain University, Bengaluru. Dr. Negi also participated in two weeks Short-Term Training Course on "Research Methods for Policy Research,

## IIHS Faculty



Dr. V. K. Santvan



Dr. Rattan Singh Chauhan



Dr. Pawan Kumar Attri



Dr. Sanjeev Sharma



Dr. Randhir S. Ranta



Dr. Pushpa Thakur



Dr. Bhawani Singh



Mr. Kuldeep Singh



Dr. Baldev Negi



Dr. Nitin Vyas



Dr. Lalit K. Sharma



Mr. Vijay K. Sharma



Mr. Sunil Jaswal

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