

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 2nd 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 22nd September, 2012. Prof. A.D.N. Bajpai, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, Himachal Pradesh University, inaugurated the seminar. Prof. Jagbir Singh Kirti, Punjabi 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, policies and laws meant for women in Mauritius. After the lecture, the audience had an interactive session with the speaker.