



# Central University of Himachal Pradesh

(Established under Central Universities Act 2009)

PO BOX: 21, DHARAMSHALA, DISTRICT KANGRA – 176215, HIMACHAL PRADESH

The Central University of Himachal Pradesh celebrated birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel from 26.10.2015 to 31.10.2015. A brief report on the activities undertaken during the week is as under:

## **26<sup>th</sup> October, 2015:**

1. The School of Journalism, Mass Communication and New Media has organized an Open Forum on the theme – ***Sardar Patel: The Statesman*** on Monday 26 October 2015 from 12.30 to 2.00 pm as part of weeklong celebrations to commemorate the Birthday anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

The programme was co-ordinated by Dr. R.P. Rai, Assistant Professor (New Media) and Ms. Sandhya Yadav, Research Degree Scholar from the department of Mass Communication and Electronic Media. Students of the School of Journalism, Mass Communication and New Media discussed and debated on the contribution of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel to conceptualize and execute the Republic of India – a country geographically spread from Kashmir to Kanya Kumari by including the princely states into an integral part of India as a nation. The students also discoursed on the difficulties faced after independence by a newly freed country like India to reunite nearly 500 states ruled by independent rulers.

Students also argued on Article 370 of Jammu and Kashmir and put their views on problems related to the special status of states. The forum was concluded with the opinion that even today the country needs a politician, a statesman like Sardar Patel to take tough decisions to solve border issues, internal security and issues related to war and peace.



School of JMC&NM on dated 26.10.2015

## **27<sup>th</sup> October, 2015:**

2. School of Humanities & Languages, CUHP organized a Lecture on “Life and Works of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel” in the series of a week-long celebrations to commemorate Sardar Patel’s birth anniversary. Professor Kuldip Chand Agnihotri, Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, Central University of Himachal Pradesh delivered the lecture on the Iron Man of India and his contribution to the Indian Republic.

Prof Agnihotri brought to the fore some hitherto unexplored facets of Sardar Patel’s life and his continuous engagement with Indian politics. He underscored the efforts of Patel to unite 565 princely estates into the Indian Union. He commended Patel’s contribution in creating an integral nation which shows his far-sightedness. Prof. Agnihotri also made a comparative analysis of the works and efforts of Pandit Nehru and Sardar Patel and brought to the fore their differences about the contemporary political scenario of Kashmir. Pro Vice Chancellor, Prof. Yoginder Singh Verma, Deans, Heads, faculty members, research scholars and students from across various disciplines were present to listen to the erudite speaker.



**School of Humanities & Languages on dated 27.10.2015**

## **28<sup>th</sup> October, 2015:**

3. On 28<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2015, School of Business and Management Studies, Central University of Himachal Pradesh organized an event to Celebrate Unity Week in the remembrance of Iron Man, Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel, which was attended by both Head of the Departments, faculty members Dr. Chaman, Dr Sarvesh, Dr Mohinder with research scholars and MBA Students. Event was anchored by Dr. Bhagwan Singh, HoD,

Marketing & Supply Chain Management (M&SCM), who started the event by an inspiring speech, through which students learnt a lot about Sardarji and his leadership qualities, which was followed by beautiful well prepared plays presented by students of the university in different teams showcasing the events from Sardar Ji's childhood, youth, his struggle for fight for Independence and the role he played in the unification of one united glorious India, leaving students motivated and they learned valuable management, leadership and team spirit lessons through these plays. Kumari Kritika's team bearing members: Rajat, Nisha Gularia, Puja stood First and Sudhanshu Kumar's team bearing members: Nisha Devi, Bhavana, Suman, Trisha and Kanika stood second in the role play competition. The panel of judges headed by Dr Sanjeev Gupta, HoD, A&F and Dr Manpreet Arora appreciated and congratulated the winning teams.

Dr Bhagwan gave Vote of thanks to the Honorable Vice Chancellor, Prof. K. C. Agnihortiri & Hon'ble Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof. Yoginder S. Verma for giving the opportunity to the students to project Sardar Patel Leadership qualities. He also thanked staff & students, Research Scholars and faculty members for their presence and wealthy participation in making the event successful.



School of Business and Management Studies Presenting Role Play on the Leadership Qualities of Sardar Patel on dated 28.10.2015

**29<sup>th</sup> October, 2015:**

4. As part of a week-long celebration of Sardar Vallabhai Patel's Birth Anniversary at Temporary Academic Block, Central University of Himachal Pradesh, MSW students of the Department of Social Work under the banner of **Social Work Society** Central University of Himachal Pradesh performed "**Nukkad Nataks**" or "**street plays**" at different locations in the community around the University on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

Two different street plays on different themes were prepared by MSW students to commemorate "**National Unity Day**". All the students under the guidance of faculty members made their contribution and participated to make the event successful. Both MSW 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Semester students under the guidance of the faculty performed Nukkad Natak with full energy & enthusiasm in the field work areas to convey the message and importance of "Staying United".

**MSW 3<sup>rd</sup> semester students** namely Rahul, Hamid, Mujeeb, Tarun, Parul, Neha, Yusuf and Shruti performed ***Nukkad Natak*** at Government Senior Secondary School, village Chhatri, Shahpur, Dist. Kangra. The play was performed to depict the "**Life History of Sardar Patel**" and his contribution to make India a united state. All the teachers and students of the school were present to watch the street play. Through the medium of their street play, the qualities of Sardar Patel – The Iron Man of India were made known to the children. Sardar Patel was a great political and social reformer and played a vital role in shaping the Indian Union and promoting unity among the citizens. It was a **15 minutes** long street play and the audience appreciated the performance. After completion of street play, the School Principal addressed the whole audience and congratulated all the performers. He spoke on Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and thanked performers for sharing useful information about Unity Day Celebrations.

**MSW 1<sup>st</sup> semester students** namely Silvia, Vikas, Rehan, Diksha, Parul, Anamika, Bineet, Rakesh, Masadul, Ata Ullah, Rajesh, Munish, Manish, Vinay, Sameer, Anil and Atul performed ***Nukkad Natak*** on the theme "**Constructive Politics**" near Community Health Centre at Doab village near Shahpur, Kangra District. They performed their street play and made people aware about being united and taking a pledge to eradicate corruption by believing-in and following the life of Sardar Vallabhai Patel. The play was performed in front of community people. The crowd consisted of children, youth and some senior citizens of the area. All of them paid whole attention to the **10 minutes long** performance. There were 35-40 villagers present to see the street play. After performance, feedback was taken from the viewers. Villagers enjoyed the performance and appreciated the efforts of students. Village Pradhan also praised the group for spreading awareness among villagers and making them known to current happenings.

In both the performances the actors tried to pass-on to the community and school children to avoid discrimination on all grounds like sex, religion, region, caste, class, race etc. and appealed them for **BEING UNITED**. The success story of the event and its effectiveness was reflected by the motley gathering of community people and their words of appreciation & applauses at the end of the programmes.



**Department of Social Work students on dated 29.10.2015**



**Audience in Adopted Village watching nukkad on Sardar Patel on dated 29.10.2015**

**30<sup>th</sup> October, 2015:**

5. To make students, research scholars and faculty aware of the life and contributions of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the University Library displayed the cover pages of the existing works of this iron man of India.

The Department of Library and Information Sciences developed website of Information resources on Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.



Department of Library and Information Sciences on dated 29.10.2015

**31<sup>th</sup> October, 2015:**

6. **Rashtriya Ekta Diwas** (National Unity Day) was introduced by the [Government of India](#) and inaugurated by [Prime Minister Narendra Modi](#) in 2014. The intent is to pay tribute to Patel, who was instrumental in keeping India united. It is to be celebrated on 31 October every year as annual commemoration of the birthday of the Iron Man of India [Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel](#), one of the founding leaders of Republic. The official statement for Rashtriya Ekta Diwas by [Home Ministry](#) of India cites "Provide an opportunity to re-affirm the inherent strength and resilience of our nation to withstand the actual and potential threats to unity, integrity and security of our country." The reason behind to mark his birthday as National Unity Day is, during his term as [Home Minister of India](#), he is credited for integration of over 550 independent [princely states](#) into India from 1947-49 by Independence Act (1947). He is known as the "[Bismarck](#) (known for [unification of Germany](#)) of India". To commemorate Rashtriya Ekta Diwas, the Central University of Himachal Pradesh planned and organised week-long activities. In the schedule of celebrations, Department of Teacher Education, School of Education screened the biographical movie on Sardar Patel. The movie Sardar is a 1993 Indian biopic on Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, one of India's greatest freedom fighters, directed by Ketan Mehta and written by noted playwright Vijay Tendulkar. The film begins with young Sardar Patel playing cards with his friends and ridiculing Mahatma Gandhi and his policies to achieve independence. His views change however when he is introduced to Gandhi by his brother and upon listening to a lecture delivered by Gandhi, he joins him in his struggle. Sardar then successfully organises various Satyagrahas throughout Gujarat. The film then moves to the age of the Quit India Movement and India's freedom. Sardar is instrumental in convincing the working committee of the INC and Nehru to accept a proposal for the partition of India when riots break out on the league's call for Direct Action. Sardar realises that not tackling the problem now might result in civil war in the country. Once the partition has been accepted, Sardar then works to get all the princely states to join the Union of India, the film accurately depicts his handling of the problems posed by the princely states of Kashmir, Junagad and Hyderabad. The film also portrays his differences with Nehru and how they work together after the death of Gandhiji. The film ends with Sardar resting in a village saying that today from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, there is one independent nation.

The above movie was screened in the Conference Hall, TAB, Shahpur. The screening attracted large number of students, research scholars and members of faculty. There were fifty six students from the departments of Education, Information Technology, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Computational Biology and Bioinformatics. The faculty members of department of Education, IT, History & Culture were notably present. Dr.Navneet Sharma & Ms Prakrati Bhargava, Faculty, Department of Teacher Education were there to moderate, mediate and conduct the discussion as discussants post-screening of the movie. The above event contributed in evolving a rich discourse on issues and concerns of contemporary politics, history writing and forgotten and marginalized contributors in the making and shaping of the India as

today. Dr. Manoj Saxena, Dean, School of Education, Dr.Anu G.S., Ms.RenuBhandari and Mr.Keshav Rawat were also present.



**Discussion on the movie Sardar on dated 31.10.2015**