



RIMT TIMES MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2025

PAGE NO. 01



RIMT University proudly celebrated International Women's Day

RIMT University proudly celebrated International Women's Day with a powerful and inspiring event focused on recognizing and empowering women across various sectors. The occasion featured a dynamic panel discussion titled "Empowering Women: Challenges and Opportunities," which was graced by distinguished women leaders who shared their expertise and insights on issues ranging from gender equality to women's safety and education.

The event was highlighted by thought-provoking addresses from three exceptional women leaders. Dr. Hargunjit Kaur, IPS, delivered an impactful speech on breaking societal barriers and advancing gender equality. She emphasized the importance of resilience, education, and leadership in empowering women to succeed in any field. Dr. Reena Dua, District Attorney, Legal Bureau of Investigation Branch, Punjab Police Headquarters, spoke about the legal challenges faced by women and the significance of legal awareness in ensuring women's rights and safety. Dr. Kirandeep Dhaliwal, Principal of MM Institute of Nursing and Research, discussed the vital role of education and healthcare in women's empowerment, stressing the need for self-reliance, skill development, and community involvement.

In addition to the insightful discussions, the event featured a range of cultural activities that brought energy and vibrancy to the celebrations. A modeling competition highlighted the confidence and grace of young women, while captivating dance performances and interactive games added to the festive atmosphere. The engaging activities ensured the event was not only enriching but also memorable for all attendees.

The event saw enthusiastic participation from students, faculty, and staff, all of whom actively engaged with the esteemed speakers during interactive sessions. The celebration concluded with a vote of thanks, acknowledging the invaluable contributions of the speakers and reaffirming RIMT University's commitment to creating an inclusive environment for women.

RIMT University remains dedicated to nurturing future leaders and providing a platform where women can thrive, empowering them to contribute meaningfully to society. This Women's Day celebration serves as a reminder of the institution's ongoing efforts to champion gender equality, and it reinforces the university's role in fostering an environment that encourages women's empowerment and advancement.

► TIPS FOR SUCCESS

Stay consistent, set clear goals, and embrace learning.
Adapt to challenges,
build strong networks, and prioritize quality. Take calculated risks, stay disciplined, and never stop innovating. Believe in yourself, work smart, and always deliver value.
Success follows persistence and passion.

INSIDE HIGHLIGHTS

...

- WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION
- ALUMNI SUCCESS STORIES
- EVENTS
- INDUSTRIAL VISITS
- SEMINAR
- MOUS
- WORKSHOP
- EDITORIALS

ALUMNI SUCCESS STORIES



Yes, of course you can.

**I did civil engineering
from MAEC batch 2011-15.**

The thing that helped me to reach where I am right now was my teacher's assistance and advice to focus on industrial training rather than just memorising the syllabus.

In the last semester of my engineering....I completely dedicated myself towards the industrial training and as a result I got a job in the same company.

After doing an 8 hours job for 3 years in the construction industry...I started my own firm under the name Nation Buildcon....it's been around six years now and I have completed several projects in various cities of Punjab and have ongoing projects in Hoshiarpur and Jalandhar.

I would like to thank Ashwini sir for giving special attention and providing the insights of the industry. I don't know where he is right now but wherever he is... please convey my thanks.

Azhar Farooqui

Hello Dear RIMTians,

It gives me immense pleasure to share my professional journey with you. I am currently working as Approved Valuer for Land & Building, Chartered Engineer

In 2011, I stepped into RIMT College to earn a degree of B.Tech in Civil Engineering to enrich my education.

I am grateful that I started my Higher studies' journey from RIMT College. I must say it was my best decision, I ever made so far, to choose RIMT College.

My Belief is "First Believe in yourself and then Believe in the institution".

Friends, always welcome difficulties and challenges in your life. These make us stronger, better and gives us an opportunity to get the best inside us.

This college gave me such a memorable experience which I still cherish. Apart from studies, I used to take part in different extra curricular activities such as Singing and playing for College Cricket Team.

Being a Muslim, we were offered College buses every Friday so that we could offer our prayers which was commendable by the authorities. After few years I revisited the college for my brother's admission and when I entered my classrooms, I could see tears in my eyes. So you could understand what this college has given me?

My juniors I advise you to Do Justice with your time when it's time to enjoy college life, live it to the fullest but when it comes to your study, devote your 100% to it.



Behzad AQ

You have to choose first horse among the: Skill, Luck and Mercy in the race of your professional life because only first one will be with you forever, but to ride this, you must acquire the ability with hard work and passion. This is the right time for you.

Enjoy your college life because these days will never come back.

May God bless each and every one of you

ALUMNI SUCCESS STORIES



Greetings!

Well since graduation, I started as a business development associate in Think & Learn Pvt Ltd in 2019. From there, I got promoted to Business Development Manager and to Senior Manager - Business Sales Strategy In EduBridge India Pvt Ltd, A Mumbai based company.

My current designation entails a vast variety of tasks & responsibilities wherein I'm handling around 12 associates under me, devising plans & different strategies to achieve the organization's objectives.

Shah Faheem

Greetings!

I am writing to share with you the pivotal role that RIMT University played in shaping my career and the rewarding journey that followed.

After completing my Bachelor's in Civil Engineering at RIMT University, I pursued my passion for Structural Engineering by securing admission to NIT Calicut. This opportunity opened doors to a fulfilling career path. Following my studies, I was privileged to serve as a Technical Officer Civil at the prestigious Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research, where I honed my skills in the Design office. Subsequently, I joined NHPC Limited, a central government PSU renowned in the hydro power sector, further enriching my professional experience.

Reflecting on my time at RIMT University, I cherish the enriching academic environment, the supportive network of peers and faculty, and the vibrant campus life. Engaging in various events, competitions, and cultural gatherings not only enhanced my skills but also fostered lasting friendships and connections that continue to be invaluable.

RIMT University provided a strong foundation that prepared me well for the challenges and opportunities in my career. I am grateful for the guidance of my mentors and the camaraderie with my fellow students, which have been instrumental in my personal and professional growth.

I am excited about the future and look forward to continued growth and success in the field of civil engineering. Wishing University Admin to keep progressing and keep making more success stories from future batches.

Warm regards,

Mohammed Faisal



Greetings!

I shpreet Kaur, a pass out from RIMT University, where I pursued both my Bachelor's (2006-2010) and Master's (2010-2013) degree in Computer Science and Technology. Currently, I'm working as a Senior Software Engineer at Anahatt Technologies (Anahatt Digitech India Pvt. Ltd).

I have 9+ years of experience as a Software Engineer, Senior Software Engineer, Lead Engineer at Webner Solutions Pvt.Ltd. The exceptional faculty and well-equipped infrastructure at RIMT University played a significant role in shaping my technical expertise and preparing me for success in the software development field. I am grateful that I started my Higher studies' journey from RIMT University. The support and guidance I received from my professors were invaluable. They not only imparted knowledge but also instilled a sense of curiosity and a drive for excellence. The collaborative environment at RIMT encouraged me to think critically, work effectively in teams, and develop leadership skills that have been pivotal in my career.



EVENTS



The Hotel Management students at RIMT University recently organized a vibrant and festive Holi celebration

The Hotel Management students at RIMT University recently organized a vibrant and festive Holi celebration, offering a delightful array of food and beverage stalls, including traditional Holi delicacies. The event not only embraced the spirit of Holi with a burst of colors but also served as an exceptional platform for students to demonstrate their culinary expertise and entrepreneurial flair.

The food stalls featured a variety of mouth-watering treats, showcasing students' talent in preparing traditional Holi delicacies, with affordable prices to ensure everyone could indulge in the celebrations. From sweets to snacks, the event had something for every taste, making it a

memorable occasion for both students and staff.

This event was a perfect blend of festivity and learning, allowing students to apply their classroom knowledge in a real-world setting while fostering teamwork, creativity, and business acumen. It highlighted RIMT University's commitment to providing students with practical experiences that enhance their skills and prepare them for future success.

The success of this event reflects the dedication and enthusiasm of the students, and RIMT University is proud to continue offering such platforms that inspire creativity, innovation, and a sense of community.

National Seminar on HIV/AIDS

RIMT School of Legal Studies and School of Education Host National Seminar on HIV/AIDS

On 5th March 2025, the RIMT School of Legal Studies and School of Education, in collaboration with the Red Ribbon Club, organized a one-day National Seminar on the pressing topic, "PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS (PLWHA): REPRESENTING THE PAIN THAT PEOPLE FACE." The seminar aimed to raise awareness and foster deeper insights into the challenges faced by individuals living with HIV/AIDS.

The event was inaugurated by Dr. Jyoti Angrish, Head of the School of Legal Studies; Dr. Satish Kumar, Dean of the School of Education; and Ms. Harjeet Kaur, Nodal Officer of the Red Ribbon Club. Their presence underscored the importance of addressing HIV/AIDS from both a legal and social perspective. The keynote addresses were delivered by Dr. Ana Sodhi and Dr. Lovedeep Saini, who set the stage for the discussions that followed. The seminar was officially inaugurated with a Presidential Address by Dr. Jibananda Mishra, Dean of Academic Affairs, highlighting the significance of collaborative efforts in tackling the HIV/AIDS crisis.

The seminar was supported by a dedicated organizing committee, including Dr. Parminder Singh, Dr. Rimpay Khullar, and Dr. Jaswinder Kaur, whose collective efforts made the event a success.

Research papers were presented on various themes related to HIV/AIDS, with a special focus on the stigma faced by HIV patients, as well as their civil and legal rights. These papers explored the enforcement mechanisms and policy frameworks in place to safeguard the rights of HIV/AIDS patients and address their unique needs. Presenters shared vital insights into the challenges faced by people living with HIV/AIDS and proposed potential solutions to improve their quality of life.



Key topics also included innovative treatment options for HIV/AIDS, the role of blood donation in HIV/AIDS transmission, and global initiatives aimed at finding a cure for the disease. The diverse range of research highlighted the need for continuous efforts in addressing both the medical and social aspects of HIV/AIDS, while also emphasizing the importance of legal frameworks that protect the rights and dignity of HIV/AIDS patients.

This seminar was an important step toward understanding and addressing the multifaceted challenges of HIV/AIDS, and the discussions sparked by this event will contribute to shaping future initiatives and solutions for this global health issue.

EVENTS



Donation Drive: 'Wall of Kindness'

School of Management Studies and Commerce successfully concludes University-Wide Donation Drive 'Wall of Kindness', demonstrating a strong community spirit. The five-day University-Wide Donation Drive, garnered an exceptional response from students and faculty alike. The drive, organized by Ms. Nisha, Assistant Professor, aimed to collect essential items for individuals and families facing hardship in the local community. Starting from 10.02.2025 to 14.02.2025, the university community demonstrated remarkable generosity, donating a wide variety of much-needed items such as clothing, toys non-perishable food, books, and stationery.

The initiative received strong support from the university leadership. Dr. B.S. Bhatia (Pro Vice Chancellor), personally visited the donation site alongwith Dr. Jibanananda Mishra (Dean Academic Affairs), and Mr. Aadil (Head, HR), Mr. Gurkirpal Singh (Additional Director, Admissions department) offering words of encouragement and inspiring students to participate. During the interaction Dr. Bhatia stated that "We are immensely proud of the outpouring of support from our students and faculty,". Dr. Bhatia also added that, this donation drive exemplifies the compassionate spirit of RIMT university and our commitment to serving

the community." Dr. Nidhi Aggarwal, (Head, SOMC), also played a key role in motivating student participation. Her encouragement and leadership helped to create a strong sense of unity and purpose throughout the drive. Ms. Nisha, also emphasized on conducting such events in future too as it was truly inspiring to witness the dedication and generosity of students and faculty. The success of this event demonstrates the positive impact that one can have by coming together to support those in need.

To make the experience even more engaging few special activities were added such as team building games. On Day 3, a special corner was created where donors wrote the messages which further helped in creating a positive impact. On the last day, a concluding ceremony was conducted to express gratitude to all the donors and volunteers.

The donated items were handed over to a NGO, 'Ek Nayi Udaan' which is serving vulnerable populations in local region. The drive is expected to provide significant relief and support to individuals and families facing economic challenges. School of Management Studies and Commerce, plans to continue its commitment to community outreach and social responsibility, with future initiatives being planned to address pressing needs within the local area.

INDUSTRIAL VISITS

Exposure visit of B.Sc. (Hons) Agriculture students to the Co-operative Sugar Mills Limited, Morinda (Roopnagar)

RIMT University, Punjab—On 11 February 2025, students of B.Sc. Agriculture from RIMT University's School of Agricultural Sciences and Technology accompanied by Dr Samanpreet Singh, Dr Aeshna and Dr Jayesh Garg, visited Co-operative Sugar Mill, Morinda to acquire industrial knowledge regarding the commercial sugar production process, its diverse applications, and the distribution of sugar throughout the country. The visit offered detailed insights into the different processes involved in sugar production. Mr. Amarjot Singh Bhullar and Mr. Palwinder Singh Cheema collaborated with all staff and students by clarifying the full procedure of cane sugar production, from its inception to packaging. They also provided an explanation of the history of Sugar Mill, which was established in 1962 as the oldest mill and is the largest production mill in the state.

The visit provided students with an invaluable educational experience that linked theoretical knowledge to practical, real-world applications. Their understanding of how crucial sugar is for urbanization, as well as its immense potential to serve as a sustainable and beneficial economic commodity. The students were given the opportunity to perceive each stage of sugar production, starting with the cultivation of cane sugar and concluding with the marketing of large stocks of white sugar.



INDUSTRIAL VISITS

Exposure visit of B.Sc. (Hons) Agriculture students of RIMT University at Village Salana



RIMT University, Punjab—On 30 January 2025, students of B.Sc. Agriculture from RIMT University's School of Agricultural Sciences and Technology accompanied by Dr Samanpreet Singh and Dr Jayesh Garg, visited Late Randhir Singh's organic agriculture farm to gain practical knowledge about the entire cultivation and harvesting operations carried out at their farm.

The visit provided the precise knowledge of the various practices of agriculture like organic potato harvesting, vermiculture, organic wheat growing, turmeric cultivation, etc. Mr Simranjeet Singh is the son of Late. Randhir Singh was the progressive farmer and he had started organic farming since 2008. He had received many prestigious awards like progressive farmer, organic grower, etc also he has collaboration with Punjab Agro Ltd, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, KVK (Shri Fatehgarh Sahib), etc.

Students gained a priceless educational experience from the visit, which connected theoretical understanding with useful, real-world practical exposure. Their knowledge of organic farming in field crops and vegetables make a huge impact on students as they able to know the harmful effects of fertilizers and pesticides on our food. The students had the chance to watch every step of the potato harvesting process from cutting the tops near the ground, digging up the potatoes using a plow or hand tools, carefully lifting and collecting the tubers, removing excess soil, and packing.

Exposure visit of Agriculture students of RIMT University to BIOCARVE SEEDS, Patiala



RIMT University, Punjab - Bachelor and Master students of Agriculture from RIMT University visited the Biocarve Seed, for a comprehensive exposure visit focused on flower cultivation, seed and nursery management, and international export practices. The visit was organized and coordinated by Dr Samanpreet Singh, Dr Sapna and Dr Shakshi of the School of Agricultural Sciences & Technology. The visit provided the students with valuable insights into the entire process of growing flowers from sowing in the nursery to blooming, seed production, and the complexities involved in global flower export.

The students interacted with Dr Allah Rang (Renowned ex-Plant Breeder, PAU), the CMD of Biocarve Seed, who explained the complexities of flower export logistics, packaging standards, and how Biocarve Seed ensures that its flowers meet the highest international quality benchmarks for various markets – national and international.

The students were also familiarized with the increasing trend of online marketplaces for agricultural goods. Biocarve Seed has successfully tapped into a global market by leveraging digital sales channels, making its premium flower seeds available to horticulturists and gardeners worldwide. The students became familiar with techniques of flower

cultivation and nursery management, such as seed propagation, seedling care, and sorting to promote healthy growth in the nursery. The students learned about the application of advanced agricultural techniques such as controlled environment cultivation, micro-irrigation methods, and environmentally friendly pest management.

The specialists from Biocarve elucidated the significance of choosing premium seeds, as well as the seed production process that includes selective breeding, pollination methods, and harvesting techniques. The process of seed extraction and the necessary storage infrastructure for maintaining seed viability and quality over extended periods were demonstrated to students. Students were also educated on how Biocarve operates when it comes to exporting flower seeds to different countries. This encompassed understanding different logistics, international laws, and market demands, while also enhancing the student's awareness of how agriculture and e-commerce intersect.

The visit provided a valuable chance for students to link their classroom studies with actual agricultural practices, gain insight into the complexities of the global flower trade, and ready themselves for the challenges posed by today's horticultural industry

INDUSTRIAL VISITS

School of Biosciences attended the "SHE COHORT 3.0: Tech Startup Connect & Grow Workshop Series"



RIMT University, Punjab - Bachelor and Master students of Agriculture from RIMT University visited the Biocarve Seed, for a comprehensive exposure visit focused on flower cultivation, seed and nursery management, and international export practices. The visit was organized and coordinated by Dr Samanpreet Singh, Dr Sapna and Dr Shakshi of the School of Agricultural Sciences & Technology. The visit provided the students with valuable insights into the entire process of growing flowers from sowing in the nursery to blooming, seed production, and the complexities involved in global flower export.

The students interacted with Dr Allah Rang (Renowned ex-Plant Breeder, PAU), the CMD of Biocarve Seed, who explained the complexities of flower export logistics, packaging standards, and how Biocarve Seed ensures that its flowers meet the highest international quality benchmarks for various markets – national and international.

The students were also familiarized with the increasing trend of online marketplaces for agricultural goods. Biocarve Seed has successfully tapped into a global market by leveraging digital sales channels, making its premium flower seeds available to horticulturists and gardeners worldwide. The students became familiar with techniques of flower cultivation and nursery management, such as seed propagation, seedling care, and sorting to promote healthy growth in the nursery. The students learned about the application of advanced agricultural techniques such as controlled environment cultivation, micro-irrigation methods, and environmentally friendly pest management.

The specialists from Biocarve elucidated the significance of choosing premium seeds, as well as the seed production process that includes

selective breeding, pollination methods, and harvesting techniques. The process of seed extraction and the necessary storage infrastructure for maintaining seed viability and quality over extended periods were demonstrated to students. Students were also educated on how Biocarve operates when it comes to exporting flower seeds to different countries. This encompassed understanding different logistics, international laws, and market demands, while also enhancing the student's awareness of how agriculture and e-commerce intersect.

The visit provided a valuable chance for students to link their classroom studies with actual agricultural practices, gain insight into the complexities of the global flower trade, and ready themselves for the challenges posed by today's horticultural industry



THE SEMINAR ON "ELEVATE AND EXCEL: INTEGRATING CAREER INSIGHTS, APTITUDE, AND MOTIVATION,"

RIMT University is proud to announce an upcoming career-transforming seminar conducted by Aimerz.ai, aimed at equipping students with valuable tools for professional growth. The seminar, titled "Elevate and Excel: Integrating Career Insights, Aptitude, and Motivation," will be held on March 6, 2025, and promises to offer students practical career guidance, aptitude assessment techniques, and motivational strategies to help them navigate their career paths with confidence.

Led by Mr. Lokesh Mathur, a seasoned expert in career development and the Head of Learning & Outcomes at Aimerz.ai, the session will delve into

industry-relevant strategies that empower students to refine their skills, assess their strengths, and take actionable steps toward achieving their professional goals.

This seminar aims to provide a holistic approach to career development, blending insightful knowledge with motivating strategies that will inspire students to elevate their career trajectory and excel in their chosen fields. We look forward to a successful event that will significantly enhance the career prospects of our students.

MoUs

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Novus India



The School of Art & Design – Fashion Design Department, RIMT University, successfully signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Novus India on February 27, 2025. This partnership aims to bridge the gap between academics and industry by providing students with valuable insights into the textile and fashion industry, entrepreneurship, and funding opportunities.

2. Objective of the MoU

- To foster collaboration between academia and industry.
- To provide students with exposure to real-world business trends, technological advancements, and market opportunities in the textile and fashion industry.
- To offer internships, industry visits, workshops, and mentorship programs for students.

•To guide students on securing government and private grants for startups in the design sector.

3. Key Highlights of the Event

- Representatives from Novus India, Mr. Rajiv and Mr. Manish, visited the RIMT University campus for the MoU signing.
- They delivered an insightful session on the textile industry's growth, emerging business trends, grants, and entrepreneurship opportunities.
- Students from the Departments of Fine Arts and Fashion Design actively engaged in discussions, asking questions regarding career prospects, industry expectations, and startup initiatives.
- Faculty members also participated and exchanged ideas on curriculum enhancement and industry collaborations.
- The guests visited the Art Gallery and highly praised the students' artwork, encouraging them to explore careers in design and technology-driven industries.

4. Outcomes and Benefits

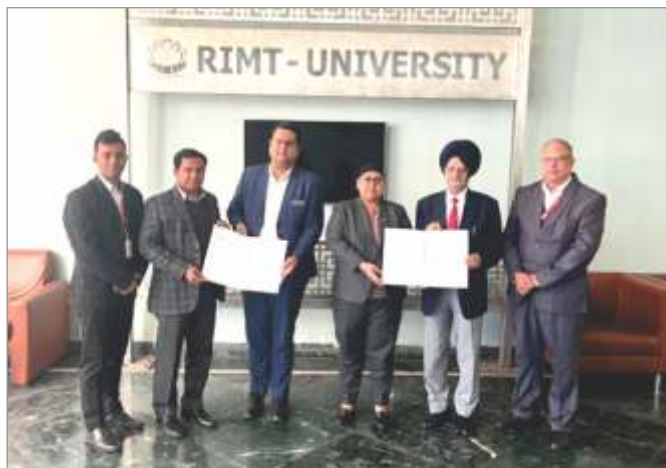
- Enhanced Industry-Academia Interaction: This MoU will help students gain hands-on experience and industry exposure.
 - Career Guidance & Entrepreneurship Support: Students received valuable advice on career growth, startup strategies, and financial grants available in the textile sector.
 - Skill Development & Future Collaborations: The collaboration is expected to facilitate workshops, internships, live projects, and industrial training for students.
- ### 5. Conclusion
- The MoU with Novus India marks a significant milestone in strengthening the practical learning environment for students at RIMT University. It aligns with the university's vision to provide quality education with real-world applications. Moving forward, this partnership will open new career pathways and entrepreneurial ventures for students in fashion, textile, and design technology.

MOU ON CAREER COUNSELLING AND WORKSHOP

RIMT University, Punjab - Bachelor and Master students of Agriculture from RIMT University visited the Biocarve Seed, for a comprehensive exposure visit focused on flower cultivation, seed and nursery management, and international export practices. The visit was organized and coordinated by Dr Samanpreet Singh, Dr Sapna and Dr Shakshi of the School of Agricultural Sciences & Technology. The visit provided the students with valuable insights into the entire process of growing flowers from sowing in the nursery to blooming, seed production, and the complexities involved in global flower export.

The students interacted with Dr Allah Rang (Renowned ex-Plant Breeder, PAU), the CMD of Biocarve Seed, who explained the complexities of flower export logistics, packaging standards, and how Biocarve Seed ensures that its flowers meet the highest international quality benchmarks for various markets – national and international.

The students were also familiarized with the increasing trend of online marketplaces for agricultural goods. Biocarve Seed has successfully tapped into a global market by leveraging digital sales channels, making its premium flower seeds available to horticulturists and gardeners worldwide. The students became familiar with techniques of flower cultivation and nursery management, such as seed propagation, seedling



care, and sorting to promote healthy growth in the nursery. The students learned about the application of advanced agricultural techniques such as controlled environment cultivation, micro-irrigation methods, and environmentally friendly pest management.

The specialists from Biocarve elucidated the significance of choosing premium seeds, as well as the seed production process that includes selective breeding, pollination methods, and harvesting techniques. The process of seed extraction and the necessary storage infrastructure for maintaining seed viability and quality over extended periods were demonstrated to students. Students were also educated on how Biocarve operates when it comes to exporting flower seeds to different countries. This encompassed understanding different logistics, international laws, and market demands, while also enhancing the student's awareness of how agriculture and e-commerce intersect.

EDITORIAL

STROKE REHABILITATION: A GROWING CHALLENGE AND THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY IN RECOVERY



Dr. Nainky Sodhi
Dr. B.S. Bhatia

Stroke or hemiparesis remains one of the most significant public health challenges and a leading cause of disability in India. The condition causes weakness on one side of the body, impairing muscle strength, joint movement, and daily activities such as walking, reaching, and grasping. With advancements in medical care, the survival rate of stroke patients has increased. However, this progress has also led to a growing burden on rehabilitation services to reduce the Disability Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) of affected individuals. Currently, India houses 50 stroke units and 150

rehabilitation clinics actively working to address these challenges.

Technological Advances in Stroke Rehabilitation

In line with the global trend, a groundbreaking study was conducted at RIMT University, where advanced technology-driven hand rehabilitation programs were implemented for stroke patients in Punjab over three years.

This study introduced a task-oriented training program designed to meet the cultural and domestic needs of the local population. The key findings and recommendations from the study include:

1. Early Rehabilitation is Crucial

Initiating technology-based rehabilitation within six months post-stroke significantly accelerates patient recovery and reduces DALYs.

2. Public Awareness Campaigns

Policymakers should prioritize awareness campaigns about stroke care in rural areas of Punjab to ensure timely intervention and support.

3. Expanding Stroke Rehabilitation Units

Establishing more stroke rehabilitation centers equipped with state-of-the-art technology is essential to cater to the increasing demand for specialized care.

The Road Ahead

As India continues to grapple with the dual challenge of increasing stroke survival rates and rehabilitation needs, adopting technology-based solutions appears to be the way forward. With concerted efforts in public health policy, infrastructure development, and community awareness, a more inclusive and effective stroke care system can be realized.

FROM SMOG TO SUSTAINABILITY: REIMAGINING PUNJAB'S APPROACH TO STUBBLE BURNING

Dr. B.S. Bhatia, Dr. Alka Rajput

Reader Engagement Every autumn, northern India is engulfed in a thick blanket of smog, turning the blue skies gray and driving air quality indices to hazardous levels. The primary culprit? The widespread practice of stubble burning in Punjab and Haryana. This phenomenon not only transforms vibrant mornings into murky gloom but also sparks intense debates about sustainable solutions and accountability. Despite years of intervention, the issue remains entrenched, highlighting the complex interplay of agricultural practices, economic pressures, and environmental sustainability. Punjab, often hailed as the "Granary of India," plays a critical role in feeding the nation. However, the dominance of crops like rice and wheat creates challenges. After the rice harvest in October and November, farmers must quickly prepare their fields for wheat sowing, leaving no time to clear the leftover straw manually. Burning it becomes the quickest solution, though its consequences are devastating. For many small farmers, expensive alternatives remain out of reach, locking them into this harmful cycle.

The Devastating Impacts of Stubble Burning

Environmental Consequences: Stubble burning has severe environmental, health, and agricultural repercussions that demand urgent attention. This practice releases vast quantities of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide, exacerbating global warming. The fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀) generated by these fires creates choking smog, particularly in Delhi and northern India during winter. Studies by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) attribute up to 40% of Delhi's peak-season pollution to stubble burning. Black carbon emissions further accelerate the melting of Himalayan glaciers, with Nature Sustainability (2022) reporting an annual emission of 149 million tons of CO₂ from Punjab and Haryana alone, amplifying climate risks. A recent report by the World Bank (2023) highlighted the immense economic and environmental costs of stubble burning, estimating that the air pollution from crop residue burning costs India's economy more than

\$14 billion annually due to lost productivity, health impacts, and reduced agricultural yields. The report emphasizes the urgency of finding sustainable solutions to protect both human health and the economy.

The smog also triggers

a public health crisis, increasing respiratory ailments such as asthma and bronchitis, especially among vulnerable groups like children and the elderly. A 2021 Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) study linked exposure to PM_{2.5} from stubble burning to a 15% rise in respiratory-related deaths in northern India, while the economic toll, as noted by TERI (2020), exceeds \$30 billion annually. Additionally, soil degradation is a significant concern, as burning depletes essential nutrients and destroys beneficial microbes, leading to reduced crop yields and increased dependence on fertilizers, further straining farmers' finances. Punjab Agricultural University (2022) observed up to a 15% decline in soil organic carbon levels in burning-prone areas, threatening long-term agricultural sustainability. Addressing these challenges requires innovative solutions and support for farmers. As Dr. Meena Sharma, an environmental scientist, suggests, "Mechanization subsidies and crop diversification can break this cycle." Policy advocate Rajeev Bhatnagar stresses the importance of combining stricter penalties with affordable alternatives. Visual tools like infographics illustrating pollution statistics or comparisons of emissions from various practices, along with compelling farmer testimonials such as Baldev Singh from Patiala, who laments, "We know burning harms the



EDITORIAL

environment, but what choice do we have?" can make this complex issue more accessible and actionable.

Additional perspectives from activists and policymakers, such as a quote from a government official about ongoing initiatives, could enrich this narrative further.

Exploring Sustainable Alternatives - Mechanization and Technology
Addressing the challenge of stubble burning requires a multi-pronged approach, combining technological innovation, economic incentives, and robust policy reforms to create sustainable, farmer-friendly solutions. Advanced machines like the Happy Seeder allow wheat to be sown directly without the need to clear stubble, offering a game-changing alternative. A 2021 CIMMYT report demonstrated that the use of the Happy Seeder reduced emissions by 78% while enhancing crop yields by 10%, proving that sustainable practices can align with economic gains. However, these technologies must be made widely accessible through subsidies, cooperatives, and financial support tailored to the needs of smallholder farmers.

A report by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) (2024) stressed that increasing mechanization and the adoption of direct seeding technologies can reduce stubble burning by up to 50%, potentially cutting air pollution by significant margins. ICAR's findings also emphasized that the Happy Seeder and similar technologies could serve as a long-term solution provided they are backed by proper training programs and government incentives. Economic incentives are pivotal but must go beyond ad hoc cash support. Policies should ensure timely, transparent payments and equitable distribution of funds to build trust and engagement among farmers. Penalizing stubble burning without simultaneously providing viable and affordable alternatives risks alienating this critical community.

Diversifying crops, such as shifting from water-intensive paddy to pulses, maize, or millets, can significantly reduce stubble generation while addressing water scarcity. According to a 2020 NITI Aayog report, diversifying just 10% of Punjab's paddy acreage could prevent 8 million tons of stubble annually. This shift would not only reduce environmental damage but also improve soil health and long-term agricultural resilience. Integrating crop residue into the burgeoning bioeconomy presents an opportunity to transform waste into value. Residues can be converted into bioethanol, biogas, and biodegradable products, with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy estimating that crop residue could generate 18,000 MW of energy annually, with Punjab alone contributing nearly 30%. This approach would create a circular economy, benefiting both farmers and industries.

A 2023 report from the International Energy Agency (IEA) on bioenergy in India suggests that a concerted effort to turn crop residues into bioenergy could not only reduce pollution but also create new revenue streams for farmers, improving their financial security. According to the IEA, developing a sustainable bioenergy market could add up to \$3 billion annually to India's rural economy, with a significant portion coming from

Punjab.

Building awareness and capacity among farmers is equally critical. NGOs, agricultural extension services, and local bodies must take the lead in training farmers and showcasing the long-term benefits of alternative practices. Demonstrating real-world successes can foster trust and drive adoption at scale.

However, existing policies and programs often fall short due to implementation challenges. For example, while schemes like the "Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for In-Situ Management of Crop Residue" subsidize equipment, delays in fund disbursement, lack of outreach, and insufficient enforcement undermine their potential impact. Bridging these gaps requires a collaborative approach, engaging governments, private stakeholders, and community leaders to ensure both accountability and accessibility.

The urgency of the issue is underscored by recent events, such as farmer protests demanding fair compensation for adopting eco-friendly practices, and emerging solutions like the Punjab government's stubble management subsidies and the Indian Agricultural Research Institute's (IARI) bio-decomposer solution. While these initiatives show promise, their long-term impact hinges on consistent funding, robust implementation, and close monitoring to achieve measurable outcomes. By prioritizing a balanced and integrated approach, India can transform the stubble burning crisis into an opportunity for sustainable development, benefiting the environment, public health, and the agricultural sector alike.

The Path Forward Stubble burning is a significant challenge, but it also presents an opportunity to reimagine and transform Punjab's agricultural practices. A united effort that brings together farmers, policymakers, researchers, industries, and civil society can pave the way for lasting change. Sustainable solutions, such as crop diversification, mechanization, and bioeconomy innovations, can not only address the immediate issue but also promote long-term agricultural resilience and environmental conservation.

Conclusion - The issue of stubble burning in Punjab highlights broader challenges in agriculture, environmental management, and public health. Addressing this crisis requires a sense of urgency and collaboration across all sectors. Farmers must be empowered with affordable tools like the Happy Seeder, reliable incentives, and timely compensation for adopting eco-friendly practices. At the same time, stringent and well-enforced policies are essential to drive accountability and ensure the effectiveness of interventions.

This isn't just about clearing the smog that chokes our cities; it's about safeguarding public health, preserving vital natural resources, and securing a sustainable future for generations to come. With decisive, coordinated action and a shared commitment to change, Punjab can set a powerful national example, proving that collective effort can dispel even the thickest haze—both literally and figuratively.

STRENGTHENING CYBERSECURITY: KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF IT AMENDMENT ACT, 2008

The Information Technology (IT) Amendment Act of 2008 marked a pivotal moment in fortifying cybersecurity in India. As an update to the IT Act of 2000, this legislation addressed the evolving landscape of cyber threats, equipping the legal framework with modern tools to combat cybercrime. One notable feature of the amendment is the comprehensive definition of cyber offenses. Acts like hacking, phishing, and cyber terrorism became clearly categorized, enabling law enforcement to investigate and prosecute offenders effectively. The Act empowered police to search and seize equipment involved in cybercrimes and increased penalties for violations, such as unauthorized access, which now carries up to three years of imprisonment or a 5 lakh fine. The amendment also prioritized personal data protection, making unauthorized disclosure of information a punishable offense with penalties up to 25 lakh. It introduced regulations for intermediaries, requiring platforms like social media and internet service providers to monitor and act against objectionable content. Additionally, failure to comply with CERT-In directives or provide necessary assistance to

government agencies now attracts severe penalties, reflecting the government's emphasis on robust cybersecurity practices. New measures under Sections 68, 69B, 70B, and 72A addressed data breaches, privacy violations, and intermediary responsibilities. By mandating reasonable security practices and establishing the Cyber Appellate Tribunal for resolving cyber disputes, the amendment underscored the importance of a secure digital ecosystem. While the IT Amendment Act of 2008 laid a solid foundation for cybersecurity, its success hinges on effective implementation, public awareness, and ongoing capacity building.



Dr. Jyoti Angrish
Associate Professor
RIMT School of Legal Studies

NEWS

NATIONAL SEMINAR ORGANISED BY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION



A two day national seminar on the topic "Role of Education, humanities seminar and social sciences in achieving sustainable development goals in India" was held on dated: 22.11.24 and 23.11.24 at the venue Dron was marked with the remarkable gathering of industry experts, thoughtful leaders, and aspiring professionals, was organized by School of Education and School of Languages and Social Sciences, offering insightful discussions, innovative ideas, and opportunities for collaboration.

The seminar started with an inspiring welcome speech by Dr.Mamta Roy, Dean / Principal of School of Education and School of Languages and Social Sciences, who emphasized key points of sustainable development. The audience was captivated as the speakers shared anecdotes, real-world examples, and actionable takeaways. It was followed by the brief introduction of the four Honourable Guests Pro Vice

Chancellor Dr. B.S.Bhatia Sir, Dr.Mohinder Pal Sir, Dr.J.S. Khan Sir and Dr.Bhatti Sir. It was followed by the key note address by Dr.B.S.Bhatia Sir and presidential address by Dr.Mohinder Singh Sir, followed by the thanks giving by our Dean Of Academics, Dr.Jibanananda Mishra Sir.

The event featured four interactive sessions and panel discussions. Experts in fields such as education and social sciences explored wide variety of topics in paper presentations. One of the highlights was that it offered hands-on experience and practical strategies of the seminar.

The first day was offline / physical mode of presentation of papers and second day was online presentation mode. For

day one the session was chaired up by Dr.Mohinder Singh and co chaired by Dr.Suneet and day second it was chaired by Dr.Bhatti and co chaired by Dr. Nizamuddin. The closing of the sessions were followed by the presentation of certificates to the presenters. The event concluded with a question & answer session that showcased the audience's enthusiasm and curiosity followed by the filling of online feedback forms. Attendees left with new insights, connections, and a sense of inspiration to excel in their fields. The seminar truly lived up to its expectations and promises of being a platform for innovation and collaboration.

By: Dr.Bikramjit Kaur Malhotra

RIMT UNIVERSITY RECENTLY HOSTED AN ENRICHING "CAREER GUIDANCE" SESSION, LED BY RENOWNED SPEAKER ISHAAN PATTY



RIMT University recently hosted an enriching "Career Guidance" session, led by renowned speaker Ishaan Patty. The event provided valuable insights to students, equipping them with the tools needed to navigate their career paths and make informed decisions for a successful professional future. The session covered a wide range of topics, including effective career planning, skill development, and strategies for success in today's competitive job market.

The event was marked by enthusiastic participation, with students engaging actively in discussions and seeking personalized advice on shaping their careers. The expert guidance provided by Ishaan Patty

empowered students to better understand their strengths and how to leverage them for long-term success.

Glimpses of the event captured the spirit of learning, with students leaving the session inspired and motivated to take their career journeys to new heights. RIMT University remains committed to providing its students with valuable opportunities to enhance their skills and prepare for the future.

We look forward to hosting more such insightful events that contribute to the academic and professional growth of our students.