

2nd Annual Botanical garden event celebrated at IIT Mandi

IIT Mandi Botanical Garden which started in July 2015 has completed two years of its establishment. The IIT Mandi community gathered together to assess the progress and celebrate on 6th Sept 2017. The event was graced by Prof. Timothy Gonsalves, Director, IIT Mandi, Dr. Priscilla Gonsalves, several faculties, staff, students and campus residents. Dr. Shyam K Masakapalli, Principal Investigator of the IIT Mandi Botanical Garden Project introduced the commitment of IIT Mandi towards building a Green Campus and explained the progress and achievements of Botanical Garden till date and how it is playing a vital role in relation to the Eco-management plan (https://www.iitmandi.ac.in/institute/Green_Panel/Eco&Map.pdf) of the Institute. Dr. Chiranjit Parmar who serves as a consultant for the Botanical Garden shed light on the journey towards dream Botanical garden. Ms. Bandana, Project Assistant presented the statistical data of the plants in the different sections of the garden. The final remark was given by Director who appreciated the efforts towards establishing the Botanical garden and the defined future goals. A dedicated website for Botanical Garden was endorsed to be hosted. The event was concluded with a plantation drive.





Some of the achievements and activities of Botanical and Medicinal Plant Lab were highlighted as below:

- The Botanical Garden houses about 160 plant species of the region that are scientifically named.
- A Herbarium with about 75 plants has been housed in the Medicinal Plant Lab
- OMAP-2016 workshop was organized involving farmers, industry and IIT (http://iitmandi.ac.in/news/articles/omap_2016_report.pdf)
- Organised several plantation drives throughout the year (More than 1000 trees/plants have been planted in the campus since 2015)
- The team is assisting with hands-on Agri-Technology transfer to the EWOK women (2 families) to consider taking up Tulsi tea as potential venture.
- Standardised Tulsi herbal tea product with 4 varieties of Ocimum
- Public lectures delivered about the Biodiversity of Kamand –ISTP-WPI orientation, B.Tech and PhD orientation, MIT-IIT Make in India Boot Camp etc
- Workshops and Garden visits of STEP school students organized – in 2016 and 2017
- Organized personalized tours to the Botanical Garden and Medicinal Plant Garden – MIT-IIT Make in India Boot Camp, Esteemed visitors of IIT Mandi

