IIT Mandi celebrates 12th Foundation Day with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh Shri Jai Ram Thakur as the Chief Guest

Indian Institute of Technology Mandi celebrated its 12th Foundation Day on 24th February 2021. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, Shri Jai Ram Thakur graced the occasion as the Chief Guest in the esteemed presence of Shri Ram Swaroop Sharma, Member of Lok Sabha, and Shri Jawahar Thakur, Member Legislative Assembly of Himachal Pradesh.

Addressing the Institute during this grand occasion, Hon'ble Chief Minister of H.P. and Chief Guest of 12th Foundation Day at IIT Mandi, Shri Jai Ram Thakur said, *"I am honoured to be a part of the 12th Foundation Day celebration at IIT Mandi. I am glad our state is hosting one of the best minds of our country as faculty members and students at IIT Mandi. The Institute has made its mark in research, collaboration, and international linkages established over the past 12 years."*

Chief Minister Shri Jai Ram Thakur lighting the lamp at IIT Mandi 12th Foundation Day event

"During the last three years, the state government has launched several welfare and developmental schemes for the welfare of the people. I am sure that IIT Mandi, with its newly enriched sense of pride, added confidence and commitment, strengthened resolve, drive, and focus, would keep scaling the heights of excellence with the technological development for a self reliant India, in times to come", **added the Chief Guest during his address.**

The guest of honor, Shri Ram Swaroop Sharma appreciated the progress of the institute and its contribution to the local community. *"Himachal Pradesh government has always emphasised the education, health, roads, electricity, water, social security and tribal welfare sectors and achieved socio-economic goals. I congratulate IIT Mandi for its involvement and willingness for the successful implementation of various schemes for the benefit of the society at large. Your contribution is very helpful to build a sustainable and economically independent society and self-sufficient Himachal,"* **stated the respected Guest of Honor.**

The event was attended by the faculty and staff of IIT Mandi. During the event, the Institute's Archives team presented a slideshow of photographs of the evolution of the institute since 2009.

Speaking during the occasion Prof. Ajit K. Chaturvedi, Director, IIT Mandi, said, *"IIT Mandi has is now a leading technical education and research hub. With the support from the state government, IIT Mandi Catalyst has created a vibrant ecosystem of innovation and entrepreneurship in Himachal Pradesh and beyond. The new Technology Innovation Hub set up with Rs. 110 crore support from DST will focus on the verticals of technology interface development."*

Mr. Rugved Thakur, Deputy Commissioner, Mandi, signing an MoU with Prof. Ajit K. Chaturvedi, Director, IIT Mandi, in the presence of Hon'ble C.M. Shri Jai Ram Thakur

During the pandemic, IIT Mandi took all necessary steps to minimise the impact of disruption on the students' learning. For continual teaching, the Institute arranged and set up 15 dedicated classrooms equipped with all the necessary devices.

IIT Mandi also recognises the Mandi District Administration's contribution for the growth of IIT Mandi in the past 12 years.