

4th Convocation of IIT Mandi

10th October 2016

The Indian Institute of Technology Mandi marked its Fourth Convocation Ceremony with a solemn event on 10th October, 2016. The Chief Guest on the occasion was Prof. Joachim Holtz, Emeritus Professor, Wuppertal University, Germany. The Guest of Honour, Padmashree M. Natarajan (Former Chairman, Board of Governors, IIT Mandi) and Prof. Timothy A. Gonsalves, Director, IIT Mandi, also graced the occasion.



IIT Mandi received congratulatory messages from the President of India, the Minister of Human Resource Development, Government of India, and the Governor and the Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, among other dignitaries.



In this Convocation Ceremony, a total of 140 students received their degrees: 7 Ph.D. scholars, 5 M.S. (by research) students, 3 M.Tech., 10 M.Sc. (Chemistry) and 115 B.Tech. students. The efforts and achievements of exceptional students were recognized and rewarded.

Mr. Rohit Patiyal was awarded the President of India Gold Medal for outstanding academic performance from among the B.Tech. graduating batch. He was also awarded the Institute Silver Medal for outstanding academic performance from among the students graduating in B.Tech. Computer Science and Engineering. Mr. Prateek Gauba was awarded Director's Gold Medal for all around excellence in academics and extra-curricular activities. Mr. Amogh Almadi received the Institute Silver Medal for top performance in Mechanical Engineering from among the students graduating in B.Tech. Mechanical Engineering. Ms. Jyoti received the Rani Gonsalves Memorial Medal for best performance among girl students of the B.Tech. batch. Mr. Mohit Bhatia was awarded the Balasundaram Endowment Prize for German. The Outstanding Academic Achievement Award for M.Sc. Chemistry was awarded to Mr. Arpit Bhardwaj.

The Convocation Ceremony, held at the Institute's permanent campus at Kamand, began at 3:30 pm with the solemn academic procession and the rendition of the National Anthem. Padmashree M. Natarajan declared the Convocation open, and this was followed by the reading out of the President of India's message, and the welcome speech and presentation of the Director's report by Prof. T.A. Gonsalves.



In his report, the Director described the development of IIT Mandi in the past seven years. He mentioned that in 2016 IIT Mandi had started four new post-graduate programmes with the intake capacity of 12 students in each programme. These were: M.Tech. in Mechanical Engineering with Specialisation in Energy Systems; M.Tech. in Electrical Engineering with Specialisation in VLSI; M.Tech. in Biotechnology; and M.Sc. in Applied Mathematics. He reported that the Institute had a total of 925 international and national peer reviewed journal publications up to this present academic year 2016. In this year alone, there had been 239 publications till date. As per Nature Index (a top international journal), IIT Mandi ranked 6th among all IITs based on total number of publications during 2015-16. Based on publications per faculty, the rank of IIT Mandi is 3rd, following IIT Bombay and IIT Kanpur. This year, IIT Mandi had designed and implemented a unique 5-Week Induction Program (5WIP) mentored exclusively by faculty members, for first Year B.Tech. students.



The Chief Guest, Prof. Joachim Holtz, congratulated all graduating students and their families. He commended the Director, faculty, staff, and students of IIT Mandi. He said that in his 56 year long career he had observed many educational institutions at close quarters. He was happy to note that IIT Mandi was training its students to become leaders in the fields of engineering and education.

Ms. Garimella Harika, a graduating student of the B. Tech. Mechanical Engineering batch, was the Valedictorian on this occasion. In her address she mentioned that during her four years at IIT Mandi she, and all other students in her batch, had learnt how to tackle challenges in an

innovative manner. She thanked the denizens of Mandi for their warm acceptance of and support to the Institution.

During the Convocation ceremony, a pledge was taken by graduating students. In the pledge, students took an oath to always act with honesty and integrity, and to uphold the dignity of their profession and Institute. They pledged to protect and promote the wellbeing of the environment, and the unity and secular ideas of India. They also pledged to utilize their knowledge in the service of India, so that it could become a just, inclusive, and sustainable society.

The Convocation was declared closed by Padmashree M. Natarajan, following which there was a stirring rendition of the national anthem by all present. This formal and significant event in the life of the Institute was thus commemorated and celebrated in a manner befitting its importance.

