

## **With a Decade of Accomplishments, IIT Mandi celebrates 11<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day**

Indian Institute of Technology Mandi celebrated 11th Foundation Day on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020. Since its inception, the Institute has been making rapid strides in Science, Technology, Innovation, Academics, Entrepreneurship, Research and Development. On this occasion, Prof. Sumant Nigam, Distinguished Professor, Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Science, University of Maryland, USA, attended the event at IIT Mandi campus, as the Chief Guest.

**Addressing the Institute during this grand occasion, Prof. Timothy A. Gonsalves who has been the Director of IIT Mandi since its day one,** said, “11 years ago, we laid the foundation stone of IIT Mandi. From the beginning, IIT Mandi adopted a strategy of working on research directed towards solving major challenges of the society. The unique practicum based learning approach helped the students to get familiar with the collaborative inter-disciplinary culture. Our faculty, students and alumni have carried the name of the Institute throughout India and to distant corners of the world. IIT Mandi is on its way to becoming a global leader in the upcoming years.”

The event was attended by all the faculty, staff and students of IIT Mandi. During the event, the Institute’s Archives team presented a slideshow of photographs of the evolution of the campus.

**Speaking during the occasion, Prof. Sumant Nigam, Chief Guest of 11<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day at IIT Mandi,** said, “IIT Mandi has made a bold approach in terms of innovative research. I request the young engineers to always keep a curiosity-driven approach for everything you do. This will take you to great heights. The world is changing rapidly and things that you will learn here during your Bachelors and Masters degrees will help you throughout life. I congratulate Prof. Gonsalves for parenting the Institute for 11 years”.

“I am amazed to see how much IIT Mandi has changed in the past 5 years - since I completed my B. Tech in 2015. This is a proud moment for me to be a part of the 11th Foundation Day celebration at IIT Mandi. The Institute has not only taught us basic subject knowledge but has also taught us the qualities of becoming someone who can help the society at large. I thank Prof. Gonsalves for teaching us the first lesson of leadership”, **said Mr. Ather Aamir Khan, alumnus of IIT Mandi and Indian Administrative Services Officer of 2016 batch, during the event.**

**Mr. Siddharth Gangal, alumnus of IIT Mandi and Co-founder of the start-up, The Solar Labs,** said, “I am incredibly thankful to IIT Mandi for how it has shaped me. When I came here as a student, the Institute was a startup in itself and being here - working in various practical course activities and participating in various student club events, educated me on a number of key aspects that relate directly to running my own company. It is amazing to see how IIT Mandi has grown in these 10 years”.

There were various cultural programs performed by the Dance and Music club of IIT Mandi, Faculties and Mind Tree School children on this occasion.

Young Achiever Award (YAA) 2020 has been given to our alumni on 11th Foundation Day. The lists of awardees are:

Mr. Satyanaran Patel has been awarded the Young Achiever Award 2020 for Academic Excellence on the 11<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day (24<sup>th</sup> February 2020) of the Indian Institute of Technology Mandi, India.

Mr. Arpit Narechania has been awarded the Young Achiever Award 2020 for Professional Excellence

Mr. Mohit Kumar Malhotra has been awarded the Young Achiever Award 2020 for Professional Excellence

Mr. Athar Aamir Khan has been awarded the Young Achiever Award 2020 for Excellence in Service to Society

Mr. Siddharth Gangal has been awarded the Young Achiever Award 2020 for Excellence in Entrepreneurship and Management

Mr. Ankush Jindal has been awarded the Young Achiever Award 2020 for Excellence in Entrepreneurship and Management.

There were various sports events for the occasion of Foundation Day. Prize was given to the winners and runners up during the ceremony.

Awards in the academic field were given to the students who performed excellently in their subjects.

Also, the awards and prizes were given to some of the faculties and staffs who have contributed and performed well in their fields.

The function concluded with the vote of thanks by the faculty coordinator of the 11<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day Dr. Rajeev Kumar, Associate Professor, School of Engineering.