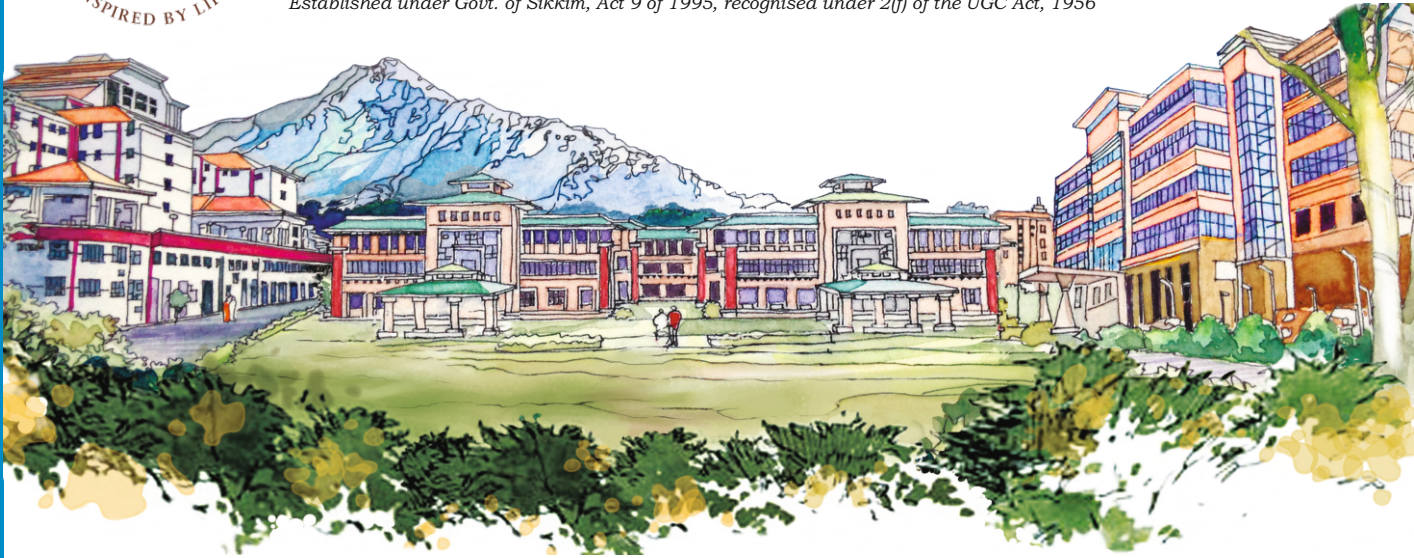




# SMU SIKKIM MANIPAL UNIVERSITY

Established under Govt. of Sikkim, Act 9 of 1995, recognised under 2(f) of the UGC Act, 1956



## NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2024

INAUGURAL ISSUE

**Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology (SMIT)**  
**Centre of Distance and Online Education (CDOE)**  
**Sikkim Manipal Institute of Medical Sciences (SMIMS)**  
**Sikkim Manipal College of Nursing (SMCON)**  
**Sikkim Manipal College of Physiotherapy (SMCPT)**  
**Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Liberal Arts**  
**Central Referral Hospital (CRH)**  
**Department of Hospital Administration**  
**Department of Medical Biotechnology**  
**Department of Allied Health Professions**



**MAJHITAR CAMPUS**



**TADONG CAMPUS**



## OUR FOUNDER



**Dr. TMA PAI**  
(30 April 1898 – 29 May 1979)

Our revered founder, Dr. TMA Pai was a visionary Indian physician, educationist, banker and philanthropist, most well-known for building the university town of Manipal, Karnataka, India. A self-made man who believed in people coming together in building up institutions for common good without looking for government assistance, Dr. Pai demonstrated the strength of this argument through the various institutions he could build with people's involvement and cooperation. He became a source of inspiration for many leaders to emulate his fine example. He was the first to start a private, self-financing medical college offering MBBS in India. He established the Kasturba Medical College in 1953 and Manipal Institute of Technology in 1957, which was followed by a string of other education institutions of repute under the Manipal Group. He also established the Syndicate Bank.

Dr. Pai was a community leader with many a mission. He had realized the elegant truth that behind all human endeavour was commitment to work without expecting rewards. He had a deep commitment for improving educational facilities and he believed every child was a potential source of strength to society and all it needed was encouragement and facilities to develop that potential. He was a strict disciplinarian with a strong will.

Dr. Pai was conferred the Padma Shri by the Indian government in 1972. He was awarded the degree of D.Litt. by the Karnataka University, Dharwad in 1973 and the Andhra University, Visakhapatnam in 1975. The Government of India brought out a stamp commemorating Dr. Pai on 9 October, 1999.

Today Dr. TMA Pai's legacy educates over 100,000 students from 57 different nations.

On 30 April, 2024, in commemoration of the 126th birth anniversary of Dr. TMA Pai, we observe Founder's Day to honour his enduring legacy. The SMU family extends our heartfelt tribute to him on this occasion.



## FROM THE DESK OF VICE CHANCELLOR



### Greetings from Sikkim Manipal University!

I am delighted to extend a warm welcome to each and every one of you as we launch the inaugural edition of the Sikkim Manipal University (SMU) newsletter. This is an exciting moment for all of us as we come together to celebrate the spirit of community and learning that defines our institution.

At SMU, we believe in the power of education to transform lives and shape futures. Whether you are a student, faculty member, staff member, or a member of our extended community, your presence enriches our university in countless ways.

Through this newsletter, we aim to provide you with a glimpse into the vibrant life at SMU. From academic achievements to campus events, student initiatives to faculty research, there's something for everyone to enjoy and be proud of.

As we embark on this exciting endeavour, I invite you to explore the newsletter, engage with its contents, and share your thoughts and feedback with us. Your participation is invaluable as we strive to create a newsletter that reflects the interests and aspirations of our readership.

Thank you for joining us on this journey. Together, let us celebrate the spirit of SMU and the collective achievements of our community.

**AVM (Dr) Dilip Chandra Agarwal (Retd), VSM**  
Vice Chancellor,  
Sikkim Manipal University

## ABOUT SIKKIM MANIPAL UNIVERSITY

Formerly known as Sikkim Manipal University of Health, Medical and Technological Sciences, Sikkim Manipal University came into being on November 15, 1992, through an agreement between the Government of Sikkim and the Manipal Pai Foundation. The primary objective was to deliver outstanding education and healthcare services within Sikkim and across the nation.

Formally established in 1995 under the Sikkim Manipal University of Health, Medical and Technological Sciences Act (Act No. 9 of 1995), SMU was conceived with the core mission of amalgamating education with skill development. This mission aimed to empower the youth of Sikkim and India, equipping them with the necessary knowledge and abilities to thrive in various professional fields, thereby alleviating the issue of unemployment.

As a pioneering venture in the realm of government-private partnerships, SMU enjoys recognition from the University Grants Commission and stands as a significant milestone in the PPP model for higher education and healthcare services nationwide.

SMU serves as a bastion of quality education, drawing students from all corners of the country, especially from the North and North Eastern regions of India. Furthermore, it provides cutting-edge healthcare facilities at affordable rates to the residents of Sikkim.

## NEWS & EVENTS

### Residential National Training Camp on Mathematical Olympiad at SMIT

The Mathematical Olympiad Program (MOP), Sikkim, held a 5-day Residential National Training Camp at SMIT, Mahjitar Campus, on 2-6 January, 2024.

Organized in collaboration with NBBGC Tadong, SMIT Sikkim, and the Sikkim Mathematical Society, and funded by HBCSE, TIFR Mumbai, the camp hosted around 40 students from classes 8-12 along with their teachers. Participants received expert-led problem-solving sessions with at least 60 sessions conducted by renowned subject experts from across the country.



### Curtain Raiser on Dark Patterns Buster Hackathon (DPBH) 2024



On 11 January, 2024, a curtain raiser programme was held at SMIT for the Dark Patterns Buster Hackathon (DPBH) 2024, a national-level event organized by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs. Dr. N.S. Rajput from IIT BHU serves as the convenor, while Dr. Udit Kr. Chakraborty from CSE, SMIT, acts as the Nodal Officer for SMIT Nodal Center. Dr. Manish Kr. Chakraborty, Dr. Amit Kr. Singh, and Dr. Tanushree Bose are program coordinators. 17 teams, each comprising a mentor, a team leader, and four members, have registered for the hackathon.

### Special Lecture Session on Opportunities as Banking Professional

A special lecture session on Opportunities as Banking Professionals was conducted on 13 January 2024, organized by the placement cell under the Faculty Of Humanities, Social Sciences & Liberal Arts, SMU with the participation of the final year B.Com & M.Com students. The objective of the interactive session was to provide in-depth insights into the emerging trends and scopes in the field of banking professions in India. Mr. Sunny John, Heading the Faculty Development Initiative and Quality Training at Manipal Academy of Banking, Financial Services & Insurance,



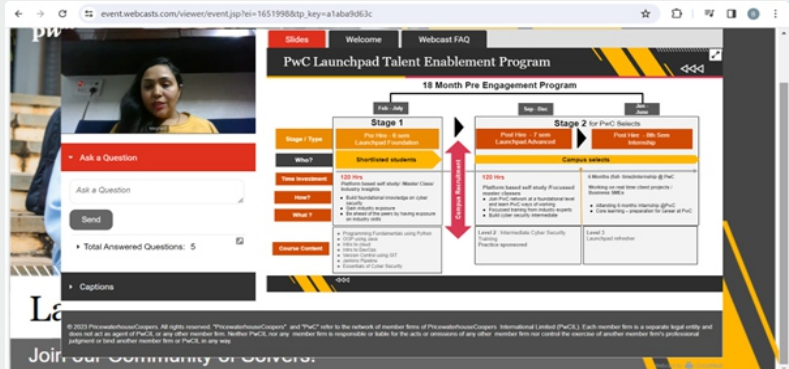


## NEWS & EVENTS

### PwC Launchpad Talent Enablement Program

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) Launchpad Talent Enablement Program was organised by the Training, Placement & Industry Liaison, SMIT on 15 January 2024.

PwC has designed a specialised course for Students with Cybersecurity specialization which will be delivered in the B.Tech 6th Semester. Such students upon completion of the specialized training will be considered for hiring opportunity with PwC.



### SMU and L&T EduTech sign MoU



Sikkim Manipal University (SMU) and L&T EduTech solidified a significant collaboration through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the L&T headquarters in Chennai on 16 January, 2024.

AVM (Dr.) Dilip Chandra Agarwal, (Retd) VSM, Vice Chancellor, SMU; Cdr. (Dr.) Gurdaman Lal Sharma, Director, SMIT; represented SMU.

Mr. Sanjai Ranganathan, Chief Executive, L&T EduTech; Mrs. M F Febin, Head of CollegeConnect Business; Dr. Deependra Kumar Jha, Chief Academic Officer and Mr. Mayank Ranjan, Regional Manager, were also present on the occasion.

One of the main outcomes of this partnership is the establishment of a cutting-edge laboratory by L&T EduTech, envisioned as a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Electric Vehicle (EV) training and practical learning. This e-mobility lab will feature specialized equipment for EVs and their electronics & embedded systems.

### 7th international Conference in Communication, Device and Networking (ICCDN 2024)

The 7th International Conference in Communication, Device, and Networking (ICCDN 2024) took place at SMIT on 19-20 January, 2024. Organized by the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, SMIT, the conference featured 7 tracks, including 8 keynote talks, 80 paper presentations, and 10 poster presentations.

Prof. Brajesh Kumar Kaushik from IIT Roorkee and Dr. Sandeep Ghosh, former Global Practice Head at TCS, were Guests of Honour. Keynote speakers included experts from institutions such as KTH Royal Institute of Tech, University of Western Macedonia, and NIT Mizoram.



## NEWS & EVENTS

### Republic Day celebrations



### Viranga 2024

To commemorate the 75th Republic Day, Reverbs SMIT, the Literary and Debate Society of SMIT, orchestrated Viranga 2024, a trilingual debate contest. The competition aimed to prompt fresh perspectives from first-year students, commemorating Republic Day with intellectual discourse.

In the first round, 13 participants engaged in an Oxford-style debate on the motion: "This House believes that the current state of surveillance in India undermines citizens' right to privacy and poses significant threats to individual freedoms."

### Empowerment Boot Camp for BBA/MBA Students

A boot camp for BBA/MBA students of Majhitar Campus, held on 24 January, 2024, at a local eco-resort, aimed to immerse participants in teamwork, leadership, supply chain management, creativity, mindfulness, health awareness, entrepreneurship, and management. Through engaging activities like management games, team-building exercises, fitness breaks, Q&A sessions, and idea pitching, students were challenged mentally and physically while promoting collaboration and innovation.





## NEWS & EVENTS

### SMU signs MoU with IDS

On 24 January, 2024, Sikkim Manipal University entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Information Data Systems (IDS), marking its inclusion in the prestigious Bharat Blockchain Network. This partnership establishes a Center of Excellence for Blockchain development at SMIT, supported by AICTE and the Ministry of Education, GoI. Powered by Hedera, the network provides access to cutting-edge blockchain technologies and industry use cases, offering students broader technological horizons.



### Capacity Building Training on Critical Care course on BASIC & BASIC FOR NURSES ON WARD for CRH Nurses

A five days of Critical Care course on Basic Assessment & Support of Critically Ill patients (BASIC) and Basic Assessment & Support of Critically Ill patients for nurses on ward (BASIC4NOW) for Nurses of Central Referral Hospital (CRH), was conducted from 29 January to 2 February, 2024.

BASIC is an internationally recognized certified course designed by members from Australia, Hong Kong, India, Malaysia, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Norway and UK. This course is endorsed by Asia Pacific Association of Critical Care Medicine, ESICM World Federation of Societies of Intensive and Critical Care Medicine, College of Intensive Care Medicine.

This training was organised by Staff and Faculty Development Capacity Building Council (SF CDC), SMU Tadong Campus in collaboration with department of Critical Care of Central Referral Hospital, SMU. This is the phase II of BASIC certified course, which was taken by certified instructors of CRH, SMIMS trained during phase I under the supervision of intensivist from Singapore.



## NEWS & EVENTS

### SMU Opens Doors to Global Learners with the launch of Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE)

Sikkim Manipal University (SMU) has announced the launch of its comprehensive online degree programme, offering a flexible and affordable pathway to higher education for students worldwide. The Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE), situated at the Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology (SMIT) Majhitar Campus of SMU, provides 100% online diverse undergraduate and postgraduate programmes at an affordable cost, designed for individuals balancing personal and professional commitments, offering self-paced learning and recorded lectures for maximum convenience.



Competitive fees coupled with scholarship opportunities ensure affordability, while UGC-approved degrees with A+ NAAC accreditation guarantee global recognition. Additionally, students benefit from the expertise of highly qualified faculty who create interactive learning experiences. Presently, CDOE is offering degree courses in Master of Computer Applications (MCA), Bachelor of Commerce (B.Com), Master of Commerce (M.Com), Bachelor of Arts (BA), Master of Arts in English, Master of Arts in Political Science, Master of Arts in Sociology, Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) and Master of Business Administration (MBA).

### Annual SWOC Analysis Meeting 2024

The Annual SWOC Analysis Meeting for 2024 took place on 3 February, 2024, organized by the Quality Cell at SMIT. AVM (Dr.) D.C. Agarwal, VSM, Vice Chancellor of SMU, and Cdr. (Dr.) G. L. Sharma, Director of SMIT, along with Associate Directors, Heads of Departments, and Heads of Offices of SMIT, graced the event.

Presentations and group discussions covered various topics including Thematic, Academics (NEP 2020), R&D Initiatives, Admission Strategies, Placement & Internships, and Skill Development.





## NEWS & EVENTS

### CME on the nuances of anatomy in congenital and progressive nephrological disorder

A one-day CME programme was conducted by the Department of Anatomy, SMIMS on 7 February 2024 on the theme 'the nuances of anatomy in congenital and progressive nephrological disorder'. The main highlight was to update the undergraduate, post-graduate and faculties on the significance of the most common congenital anomalies of the kidney and urinary tract that are encountered in paediatric and adolescent populations. The programme was graced by a guest speaker Dr Dheeraj Khatri, an ex-faculty and the current Director of Om Hospital, New Delhi.

## STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES

### 101 series Hackathon Training Session

The Innovision Council '24 of SMIT organized a comprehensive training session titled "101 Series Hackathon Training" on 6 February, 2024. The primary objective of this event was to equip participants with an in-depth understanding of hackathons and to provide them with the necessary skills to excel in such competitions. During the session, attendees received a detailed overview of hackathons, including their purpose, significance, and the essential skills required to participate effectively. Furthermore, participants gained insight into the various themes and types of problem statements typically encountered in hackathons. Additionally, they were familiarized with the structure and format of hackathon events.



### Back to Basics

The Google Developer Student Club (GDSC) of SMIT hosted a three-day event titled "Back to Basics" from 4 to 6 February, 2024. With the goal of empowering 200 participants with fundamental knowledge in C and Python programming languages, the event spanned six hours each day. Led by experienced GDSC Leads and Core Team members serving as mentors, the workshops provided an interactive learning experience, comprising workshops focused on C and Python.



### Intra-College Model UN Conference 2024

At the MUN conference held on 10 February, 2024, organised by SMITMUN at SMIT, three committees were featured: UNSC, UNHRC, and UNGA: DISEC. Each committee addressed specific agendas: UNSC focused on tensions in the South China Sea, UNHRC on protecting refugee rights during conflicts, and UNGA: DISEC on the rise of proxy wars and the role of state-sponsored militias.



## NEWS & EVENTS

### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

#### SMIT student Sheelu Pradhan Secures Prestigious Placement at Mercedes-Benz



Miss Sheelu Pradhan, a bright student from the Mechanical Engineering department, SMIT, has secured a coveted placement with Mercedes-Benz through the campus hiring organized by the Training and Placement (T&P) Cell.

Mercedes-Benz, a renowned name in the automotive industry, conducted campus hiring event for the students of SMIT for the first time. Known for its stringent selection process, Mercedes-Benz presented an opportunity for students to compete at a national level, and Miss Sheelu emerged victorious amidst fierce competition and multiple rounds of assessments.

#### Student Interaction with L&T EduTech

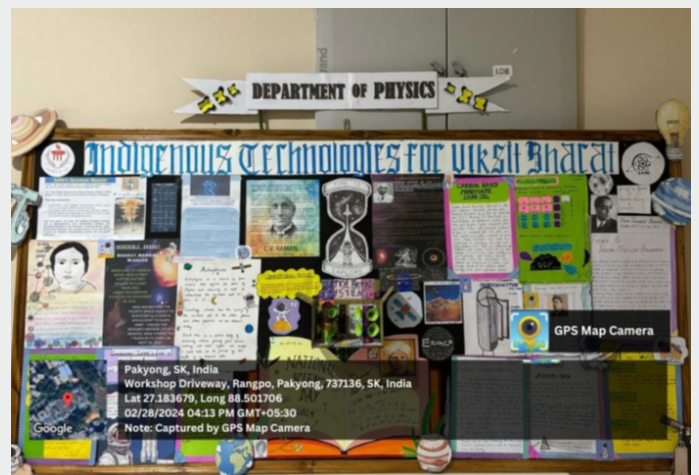
SMIT organized an interaction programme for all engineering branches, focusing on Mechanical Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, and Electronics and Communication Engineering. However, students from other departments also attended. The session centered on job opportunities in L&T and the sought-after skill sets in the engineering field. Mr. Mayank Ranjan, an L&T ECC employee, shared his extensive knowledge across core sectors, offering valuable insights into the latest developments, challenges, and opportunities in sustainable development.



#### National Science Day 2024

On 28 February, 2024, SMIT celebrated National Science Day with fervour. This event, themed "Indigenous Technologies for Viksit Bharat," was a collaborative effort between the Departments of Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics, alongside the Innovation and Incubation Cell (IIC) and the Entrepreneurship Cell (E-Cell).

Professor (Dr.) Raman Kr Jha, Vice Chancellor, ICFAI University, Jharkhand, graced the occasion as the guest of honour. Throughout the day, engaging activities like quizzes, essay writing, debates, and puzzles captivated students from renowned schools such as PM Shri Senior Gov. Secondary School, Majhitar Secondary School, East Point Senior Secondary School, Tadong School, and Mount Zion Kidzee School. PM Shri Senior Gov. Secondary School clinched the top spot in the quiz competition, followed by Tadong School and Majhitar Secondary School securing second and third positions, respectively.





## NEWS &amp; EVENTS

## SPORTING ACTIVITIES

## Open Cricket &amp; Football Tournaments 2024

The Sports Council 2024 at SMIT organized the Open Cricket Tournament 2024 on 6-11 February 2024, witnessing an array of talent from students across all years. The Football Tournament 2024 was also held from 7-11 February 2024. The matches scheduled between 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM every evening, under the floodlights.



## RESEARCH &amp; INNOVATION

## Workshop on Research to Publication



The Department of Management Studies, in collaboration with the Student Research Forum (SRF) at SMIT, organized a workshop titled "Research to Publication" on 19 February, 2024. The workshop, facilitated by Assistant Professor Dr. Joydeep Biswas, Chairperson, SRF, highlighted the significance of research in academia today, focusing on the process of selecting appropriate journals for publication.

Various stages of research, from manuscript framing to journal selection, Impact Factor, Peer Reviews, and the H-Index were thoroughly discussed in the workshop.

## Training session on Plagiarism &amp; Ethical Consideration in Research

The Directorate of Research (DoR), SMU organized a successful training session on Plagiarism & Ethical Consideration in Research at FHSSLA Building, Tadong Campus on February 27, 2024. The session aimed to sensitize postgraduate students (MA & Mcom), PhD scholars, and their supervisors on plagiarism and ethical considerations in research. Dr. Akash Kumar Bhoi, Adjunct Research Faculty at DoR SMU, served as the resource person for the event.





## NEWS & EVENTS

### Deceased Organ Donation Workshop

Sikkim Manipal Institute of Medical Sciences (SMIMS) under SMU conducted a workshop on “Deceased Organ Donation” as a part of Project VARDAAN by Zublee Foundation in association with Nedfi on 28 February 2024.

The workshop was attended by 350 students and faculty members of SMIMS, SMU and marked a significant milestone in Project VARDAAN's mission to enlighten and inspire action on Organ Donation. The workshop was co-ordinated by Professor (Dr ) Polly Lama and Binod Kumar Tamang of the Department of Anatomy, SMIMS. Ms Priyanka Borah, CEO of Zublee Foundation was the guest speaker for the event. This is the second initiative pursued by SMIMS, SMU, along with Dr Chintamani Additional MS, STNM hospital, Government of Sikkim to further support the formation of a State Organ & Tissue Transplant Organisation (SOTTO) Sikkim.



### SMU's Retreat Fosters Collaboration and Sets Vision for the Future

SMU held its SMU Retreat, themed "Connect, Reflect, Rejuvenate," on 1-2 March, 2024, in Kalimpong. The Retreat aimed to strengthen teamwork and collaboration within the University.

The Retreat brought together key appointment holders from SMU and all its constituent units and colleges, fostering a collaborative environment through exchange of ideas and the generation of innovative solutions. Prof. Dr. K. Ramnarayan, Pro-Chancellor, SMU, and Air Vice Marshal Dr. Dilip Chandra Agarwal (Retd), VSM, Vice Chancellor, SMU, led the event.



**1<sup>st</sup> SMU Retreat**  
 Connect, Reflect, Rejuvenate

Through a series of professional and social engagements, Team SMU conducted comprehensive reviews of the activities within each unit and department of the University. These discussions were centered on bolstering teamwork and fostering a collaborative ethos to cultivate innovative ideas and effective solutions, ultimately striving for academic and research excellence. This involved establishing objectives, formulating strategies, and aligning efforts with the University's vision and mission. Moreover, the review process extended to SMU and its constituent units, enabling the identification of strengths and weaknesses and the development of future-oriented strategies and goals.



## NEWS & EVENTS

### Research & Innovation

#### SMU declares 2024 as 'SMU Year of Research'

In order to achieve academic and research excellence in multidisciplinary field, SMU has declared 2024 as 'SMU Year of Research' and two schemes based on the concept of Mentor-Mentee namely 'Saarathi' and 'Saathi' has been launched to facilitate students and faculty involved in the field of research.

#### Prof Dr. Kalpana Sharma appointed as Director of Directorate of Research, Sikkim Manipal University (DoR-SMU)

Professor (Dr.) Kalpana Sharma is the new Director of the Directorate of Research (DoR-SMU). Prof Sharma, a highly respected faculty and researcher from Sikkim, brings extensive experience and a commitment to excellence to this crucial role.

Prof Sharma held the post of Head of Department, Computer Science and Engineering, SMIT for more than 8 years. Highly recognized within Sikkim and beyond, Prof Sharma has made significant contributions to the field of research. Her prolific career is marked by over 50 publications in prestigious international journals and conferences, garnering over 875 citations according to Google Scholar. She has 09 PhD scholars registered under her supervision out of which 02 have already been awarded PhD degrees.



#### SRF-SMU Celebrates 2nd Year Anniversary with Handing Over Ceremony

The Student Research Forum at SMU (SRF-SMU) celebrated its successful second year since establishment on 16 March 2024. The forum, initiated in November 2021 under the Directorate of Research, SMU (DoR SMU), aims to cultivate a vibrant research culture among undergraduate and post-graduate students and enhance the research ecosystem within SMU and its affiliated institutes.

The ceremony marked the induction of the newly elected members for the term 2024-25 through a Traditional Handing Over Ceremony. Dr. Shreya Nandan, the outgoing president of SRF 2023-24, ceremoniously passed the baton to Mr. Shrutarsi Saha, the newly elected president for the term 2024-25. Likewise, Vice President Ms. Prashansa Kumari Chettri handed over her responsibilities to Mr. Saroj Khatiwada, the incoming Vice President.



## NEWS & EVENTS

### International Women's Day

The Department of CSE, SMIT celebrated the International Women's Day on 8 March 2024 by felicitating the ladies of the department. The ladies included all students from the various UG, PG and PhD programs, members of faculty of CSE and staff who were presented with a token gift by the Head of the Department and other gentlemen from the faculty and staff of the Department of CSE.

The IIC Cell, SMIT celebrated International Women's Day in collaboration with the Department of Management Studies on 8 March 2024. The IIC Cell also felicitated female faculty members, including AD(A), and students as well. SMCON also celebrated IWD 2024 with a series of events.



### “Mera Pehla Vote Desh Ke Liye”



FHSSLA's Political Science Department hosted "Mera Pehla Vote Desh Ke Liye" on March 6, 2024, at SMIMS Seminar Hall. The event aimed to underline the importance of voting for India's democratic progress. It featured poetry recitations, debates, and discussions involving students from various departments. A debate ensued on the topic "Mandatory Voting Should be Made Compulsory." Proponents argued for high voter turnout, democratic evolution, marginalized community inclusion, and public awareness. Opponents questioned whether mandatory voting addresses misrepresentation and promotes public

### Utoledo visits SMIT

Dr. Ahmad Y Javaid, Associate Professor, Associate Chair, and Undergraduate Program Director in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Toledo, USA, visited SMIT on 7-8 March 2024, to explore potential collaborations in academics and research between UToledo and SMIT. During his visit, he engaged with SMIT students, discussing opportunities for studying abroad in the USA after completing their studies at SMIT. Dr. Javaid also highlighted available scholarships and showcased the academic environment at UToledo.





## NEWS & EVENTS

### SMCON conducts Mass Health Awareness programme on Substance Abuse

A Mass Health Awareness programme was organized by the students of 1st year MSc. Nursing, Department of Mental Health Nursing, SMCON on 5 March 2024 Center for Addiction Medicine (CAM) and De-addiction Treatment Clinic, Chuwatar, West Pandem, Gangtok District.

The awareness programme was held under the guidance of the Mental Health Nursing speciality teachers from SMCON for patients at the Center for Addiction Medicine and De-addiction Treatment Clinic. Prevalence of substance abuse, causes of substance abuse, types of substances abuse and signs and symptoms of substance abuse were some of the topics that were discussed during the programme.



### Health Awareness Programme Child Abuse, Suicide, Child trafficking and Peer Pressure

The Final Year B.Sc. Nursing students from SMCON organized a School Health Awareness Programme on topic “Child Abuse, Suicide, Child trafficking and Peer Pressure” and Health Camp which was conducted at Govt Sec School, Majhitar on 16 March, 2024.

Around 200 students and 15 faculty members from Govt Sec School, Majhitar attended the programme. SMCON students provided health education on Peer pressure, School dropout, Substance abuse and Social isolation discussing about its types, causes, effects, and management.



### Live Streaming of Hon'ble Prime Minister speech on India's Techade-Chips for Viksit Bharat

On 13 March 2024, following the UGC/AICTE's directive, SMIT organised the live streaming of the Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi address at the 'India's Techade: Chips for Viksit Bharat' programme.

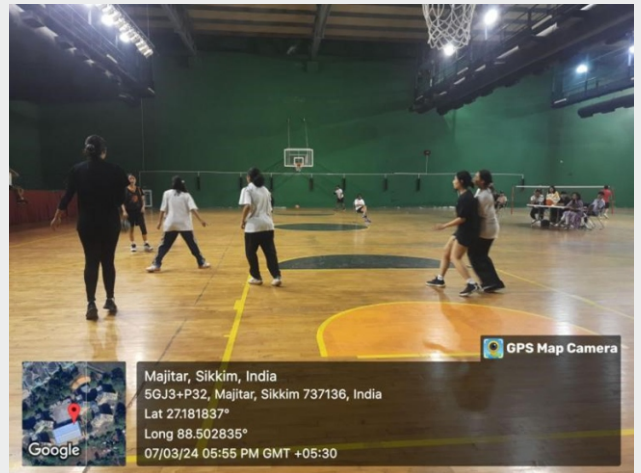


## NEWS & EVENTS

### SPORTING ACTIVITIES

#### SMIT organises Open Sports Tournaments

The SMIT Sports Council 2024 organized the Open Basketball Tournament 2024, held from 4 to 13, March 2024. In the thrilling finals, the girls' match featured a showdown between "Warriors" and "BSL," resulting in a score of 62-02. In the boys' category, "The Boys" competed against "Dame Time," with a final score of 30-58. Pema Eden Bhutia and Sonam Wangyal Bhutia were recognized as the best players for girls and boys, respectively. The Squash Open Tournament took place on March 7th and 8th. Participants from various departments and academic years competed in both boys' and girls' categories. Nim Sherpa and Swapnil Saikia reached the finals in Boys' category, where Swapnil emerged victorious. In the girls' category, matches were played in a league format, with Shambhavi Giri clinching the top spot by winning both her matches, while Thushara Shenoi secured the runner-up position with one win out of two matches. The Open Volleyball Tournament 2024 was held from 9-12 March, 2024. The girls' finals featured a clash between "You got Served" and "Giant Burgers," while the boys' finals saw "Karasuno" compete against "Mikasa" for the championship title.



#### IQAC Initiatives for enriching quality culture at SMIMS

Dr. Polly Lama, IQAC Coordinator, SMIMS led a lecture series on March 7, 2024, covering essential topics like Student Sensitization: Upholding Academic Quality in Teaching and Research; Career Advancement & Learning Tools: Guidance for NEET PG Exam Preparation and Varied Career Paths post-MBBS: Opportunities in Indian Army Medical Services & Civil Services.

#### One Day Workshop on Data Analytics

In collaboration with the Department of AI & DS and the Quality Cell, SMIT's Department of Computer Science & Engineering organized a One Day Workshop on Data Analytics on 16 March, 2024. The event, held under the banner of the Center for Faculty and Staff Development (CFSD), SMIT, was conducted by the Administrative Staff College of India and Sukaushal Consultancy LLP. Dr. Aniriddha Nag, an experienced academician from the Techno-India Group with past experience at TATA Air India, served as the resource person, delivering a lecture on various aspects of Data Analytics and its tools.

#### Guest Talk on "6G Radio Cross Layer realization with AI optimization"

The Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, SMIT organized a Guest Talk by Prof. (Dr.) Rabindranath Bera, 5G HACKATHON AWARDEE of DOT, Govt. of India, Former Reader, C.U., Former Prof. and HOD-ECE, HOD-AI&DS, SMIT, SMU. The topic of his talk was "6G Radio Cross Layer realization with AI optimization in meeting UNSD Goals at 6G Use Case Lab, Kolkata".



## NEWS & EVENTS

### Industrial Visit to Temi Tea Estate

The Department of Commerce, Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Liberal Arts, SMU, organized an industrial visit for M.Com students to Temi Tea Estate, Sikkim on 16 March 2024. The objective of the visit was to educate and familiarize the students with the production, management, accounting, finance, and export aspects of the Temi Tea Estate, the only organic tea estate in Sikkim.



### Lecture Workshop on IoT, AI and Cybersecurity

The Department of CSE, SMIT conducted a Lecture Workshop on IoT, AI and Cybersecurity for the students of the Darjeeling Polytechnic on 18 March, 2024. The event conducted under the banner of the Admission Cell, SMIT was conducted at Darjeeling Polytechnic, Kurseong to spread awareness on the recent trends of Computer Science & Engineering.

### Virtual lecture on Commodities Derivatives Market

FHSSLA, SMU, in collaboration with MCX, organized a virtual lecture on Commodities Derivatives Market on 22 March, 2024. The session aimed to address key themes including market introduction, futures trading benefits, price risk management, and market dos and don'ts. Mr. Sanjib Gain from MCX delivered valuable insights, drawing a robust turnout from faculty and students. The event fostered engagement and interactive discussions, receiving positive feedback for its informative content, clear delivery, and impactful outcomes.

### Exploring Beyond Classroom Walls: Educating Students on Real-World Environmental Challenges

SMIT's Civil Engineering Department collaborated with Gangtok Municipal Corporation for a site visit to Lower Martam's waste disposal landfill on 23 March, 2024. This firsthand experience enriched students' understanding of waste management beyond theory, showcasing civil engineering principles in action.



## NEWS & EVENTS

### Start-Up Mahakumbh 2024

The Innovation Center and Entrepreneurship Cell ((IC, E-Cell) at SMIT proudly selected four of their incubated start-ups to showcase at the Start-Up Mahakumbh 2024, hosted at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from 18-20 March, 2024. With over 700 start-ups and industry leaders setting up exhibition booths and delivering keynotes, the event provided a platform for fruitful interactions with Government of India officials.

The objectives of participation included fostering partnerships with other start-ups and organizations, exploring collaborative opportunities with like-minded entities, showcasing products developed by IIC-SMIT start-ups, and gaining invaluable insights into government policies while establishing connections with industry influencers.

The participants were: Bodhisattva Das, CSE 4th Year (EQCAPITAL Pvt Ltd); Yash Jha, CSE 3rd Year (Eco Hues); Peela Sharandeep, AI&DS 2nd Year (Khaana Khazaana); Arka Bera, CSE 1st Year (GripFlex) and Brikchana Karki, BSc Physics, 1st Year (GripFlex).



### Interactive Session with Ombudsperson, SMU

An interaction session with the Ombudsperson (Students Grievance Redress) of SMU, Dr. M. P. Thapa, was held at the Majhitar Campus and Tadong Campus on 21 March & 4 April 2024. The sessions, scheduled as per the directive of the UGC, the main objective of the interactions was to make students aware of the functioning of Students Grievance Redressal Cell and role of Ombudsperson of the University.

This provided the students with an opportunity to address any grievances they had and seek redressal. All Student Council Members and Class Representatives (CRs) along with students from both the campuses were present at the interactive session. The event underscored the commitment of SMU to ensuring a supportive and conducive environment for its students, promoting transparency and accountability in addressing grievances.





## NEWS & EVENTS

### KAALRAV'24

The highly anticipated Kaalrav Fest 2024, hosted by SMIT, concluded with great success on 31 March, following three days filled with vibrant performances and fierce competitions. Beginning on March 29th, the fest saw enthusiastic participation from numerous students and colleges, setting the stage for a memorable extravaganza.

This year's theme centered around Bollywood, infusing the festivities with the glitz, glamour, and vibrancy of India's iconic film industry. From colourful costumes to energetic performances, the spirit of Bollywood permeated the event, adding an extra layer of excitement and nostalgia for attendees. As the biggest cultural fest in North East India, Kaalrav lived up to its reputation by showcasing the immense talent and creativity of students from across the region.



### EY TechConnect Session - Major Digital Transformations in Government Sector

The “EY TechConnect Session - Major Digital Transformations in Government Sector” was conducted on 28 March, 2024 by TP&IL Cell, SMIT. The delegates from EY were Mr. Sanjeev K Nagpal and Mr. Sachin J Taklekar. Mr. Sanjeev K Nagpal in this session discussed how the government sector has undergone substantial digital developments. He stressed the use of digital technology by governments throughout the globe to boost innovation, increase efficiency, and improve service delivery. He also pointed out that many areas are changing dramatically, from cybersecurity and data-driven decision making to digital governance and e-services. Key trends, obstacles, and possibilities in government agencies' digital transformation journeys were covered in this presentation.



## NEWS & EVENTS

### World Down Syndrome Day

Students from the National Service Scheme (NSS) SMU and postgraduate students of Sikkim Manipal College of Physiotherapy (SMCPT) came together to conduct a special programme on World Down Syndrome Day at Special School for Disabled in Upper Syari Gangtok, Sikkim on 21 March, 2024. In the presence of esteemed guest Ms. Normith Lepcha, Secretary, Women and Child Welfare Department, Principal, SMCPT Prof. Dr Nikita Joshi Sonowal and the Principal of Special School for Disabled Mr. Ram Dhakal, DCPO (District Child Protection Officer) of East Sikkim, Joint Director Disability Tashi Doma Bhutia, Assistant Commissioner Mr P.N Pradhan, sessions on the importance of early intervention and the various challenges faced by individuals with Down Syndrome, to promote a better understanding and acceptance within the community were held.

### CRH first in Sikkim to Introduce Picture Archiving & Communication System (PACS)

Central Referral Hospital (CRH) achieved a significant milestone by becoming the first hospital in Sikkim to introduce the Picture Archiving & Communication System (PACS). The inauguration ceremony took place on 3 April, 2024.

The introduction of PACS is expected to significantly enhance patient care at CRH, providing advanced imaging and communication capabilities that will benefit both patients and healthcare professionals in the region. This technological advancement underscores CRH's commitment to staying at the forefront of healthcare innovation and delivering high-quality medical services to the community.



### World Health Day 2024

World Health Day, an annual global observance, was marked with fervour and dedication at SMIMS). The theme for this year, "My Health, My Right," echoed through various initiatives aimed at promoting access to quality healthcare, education, and information as fundamental human rights.

The Department of Community Medicine, SMIMS took the lead in organizing a series of activities to commemorate World Health Day. Among the highlights were an Inter-School Essay Writing Competition, Newspaper Article Writing Competition, and Poster Making Competition. Students from 14 senior secondary schools in and around Gangtok actively participated, submitting a total of 115 entries for the essay contest. Zumba session, Cleanliness Drive, and Plantation Drive were also carried out at the Tadong campus.





## NEWS &amp; EVENTS

## SMIT Collaborates with CCCT on UAV Workshop

SMIT, in collaboration with the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering (DECE) at Chisopani's Centre for Computers and Communication Technology (CCCT), Chisopani, Namchi, Sikkim held a Hands-on Workshop on Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (Drone) on 5 April, 2024, at CCCT premises for the students of the institute.

## SMCPT celebrates 3rd Annual Day



Sikkim Manipal College of Physiotherapy (SMCPT) hosted its 3rd Annual Day Programme on April 6, 2024, marking a significant event in the institution's calendar. This celebration, characterized by music, culture, and vibrant colors, drew eager participation from both students and staff.

Dr. NS Chauhan, Dean, College Of Agriculture Engineering And Post Harvest Technology, Ranipool were Guests Of Honour. Dr MB Chhetri, Joint Commissioner, Disability Women And Child Welfare Department, Government Of Sikkim, invited dignitaries from STNM, Old Age Home Special School For Children with disability were also present on the occasion.

The event recognized meritorious students from both undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. Students who represented SMCPT at state, national, and international levels were acknowledged for their outstanding performances, upholding the college's reputation as they served as flag bearers. The ceremony also bid farewell to the outgoing batch of BPT interns.

## Sikkim's first Head &amp; Neck Surgeon Dr Sunita Dhakal joins CRH

CRH is thrilled to announce the joining of Dr Sunita Dhakal, M.Ch., Head & Neck Surgery as a Consultant Surgeon in the Ear Nose & Throat (ENT) department.

With a reputation for excellence and a commitment to patient-centered care, Dr. Sunita brings a wealth of expertise to CRH. Dr Sunita Dhakal is the first head & neck Surgeon in the state of Sikkim.

She completed her Master of Surgery in Ear, Nose, and Throat at Maulana Azad Medical College and Lok Nayak Hospital, Delhi. She subsequently pursued Master of Chirurgiae (M.Ch.) considered the highest master's degree in Surgical Science in Head & Neck Surgery from KIDWAI Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore, in 2023 to further enhance her skills and knowledge in the field. She specializes in Cancers of the oral cavity, maxilla, larynx, pharynx, thyroid, parotid, reconstructive surgeries of the head and neck & benign tumours of the head and neck.



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