



Report on Educational Visit to CSIR-IHBT Palampur and CSKHPKV Palampur by Students of Jaypee University

Date of Visit: 24-25 February 2025

Organized by: Department of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics, Jaypee University of Information Technology (JUIT)

The Department of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics at Jaypee University of Information Technology (JUIT) organized an educational visit for 41 students, accompanied by two faculty members, Dr. Saurabh Bansal (Associate Professor) and Dr. Tyson (Assistant Professor), along with Lab Engineer Mr. Baleshwar Prasad and two PhD students. The visit was conducted to CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (CSIR-IHBT) Palampur and CSK Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya (CSKHPKV) Palampur, Himachal Pradesh. The primary objective of the visit was to provide students with exposure to cutting-edge research and innovation in biotechnology and sustainable development. This event was also aligned with the Institution's Innovative Council (IIC) initiative to promote field exposure visits to pre-incubation units, fostering a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship among students.

Highlights of the Visit

The visit to CSIR-IHBT Palampur and CSKHPKV Palampur was an enriching experience for the students, offering them a firsthand look at advanced research and sustainable practices in biotechnology. The visit at CSIR-IHBT Palampur was smoothly facilitated by Dr. Girish Nadda, who made all the arrangements for visiting the IHBT campus. Here, students explored the Plant Tissue Culture Lab, where they observed advanced techniques used for propagating rare and medicinal plants. They learned about the significance of tissue culture in conserving endangered plant species and its applications in agriculture and pharmaceuticals. The Zebra fish Lab introduced students to zebrafish as a model organism for biomedical research, highlighting its use in studying human diseases, drug discovery, and genetic research. The MALDI-TOF Facility provided insights into its applications in microbial identification and



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biomolecular analysis, which are critical in medical diagnostics and environmental studies. Additionally, the Food Biotechnology Unit showcased the processing of canned products and other food items using biotechnological methods, emphasizing the role of biotechnology in enhancing food quality, safety, and shelf life.

The student's also explored sustainable innovations in agriculture and eco-friendly housing. The visit to the Tulip Garden provided an understanding of floriculture and its economic significance, including cultivation techniques and the role of biotechnology in improving flower yield and quality. The Bamboo House and Bamboo-Based Products exhibit introduced students to innovative uses of bamboo in sustainable housing and everyday products. They learned about bamboo as a renewable resource and its potential in eco-friendly construction and product design. This visit was aligned with the Institution's Innovative Council (IIC) framework, served as a pre-incubation exposure trip, inspiring students to explore entrepreneurial opportunities in biotechnology and sustainable development.

The team also visited Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya, Palampur. The University imparts education in agriculture and other allied branches, furthering the advancement of learning, research and undertaking extension of such branches, especially to the rural population of Himachal Pradesh. Dr. Chaudhary of University facilitated our visit. Dr. Parmar took the students to University Museum and introduced various equipments developed to help farmers in agriculture. Students were curious to see new type of seeds such as Maize varieties, Saffron bulbs, Barley & paddy varieties. Polyhouses visit was also knowledgeable where we saw the cultivation of cauliflower variety (Megha), cucumber & tomato & learnt the various environmental conditions under which they grow.

Prof. Sudhir Kumar, Head, Department of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics extended gratitude to the management of IHBT & Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya for their permission and support to make this visit possible and achieving our objectives for the students. Dr. Abhishek Chaudhary arranged for all the necessary permissions required for this visit. The success of this educational visit would not have been possible without the support and guidance of the higher management of the JUIT.



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The department also extends its gratitude to the faculty members, Dr. Saurabh Bansal and Dr. Tyson, Mr. Baleshwar Prasad, and the PhD students Ms. Kritika Singh and Ms. Megha Puri for their efforts in ensuring the smooth execution of the visit.

The visit to CSIR-IHBT Palampur and CSKHPKV Palampur was a remarkable opportunity for students to witness the practical applications of biotechnology and sustainable development. Organized by the Department of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics, aligning with the Institution's Innovative Council (IIC) initiative, this field exposure visit to pre-incubation units not only enhanced their academic knowledge but also inspired them to explore innovative solutions and entrepreneurial opportunities in biotechnology. Such initiatives by the Department of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics, JUIT, play a pivotal role in shaping the future of aspiring biotechnologists and fostering a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship.





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