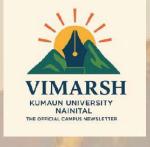
# VIMARSH

Capturing the spirit of Kumaun University



April-May/2025 Inaugural Issue

The Official Newsletter of Kumaun University



# Vice Chancellor Prof. D S Rawat conferred honorary colonel rank

Vice Chancellor Prof. D.S. Rawat has been honored with the rank of Honorary Colonel by NCC for his outstanding leadership. This recognition brings pride to the entire Kumaun University community and marks a milestone in academic and social service excellence

### **ATHLETIC MEET 2025:**

A celebration of spirit and sportsmanship

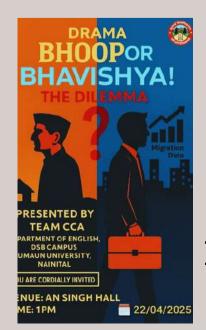


### **FEATURED: PEN PODCAST**

With Shri. Bhaskar Khulbe (IAS Retd.)
An Exclusive Conversation with a Luminary
Alumnus of the Kumaun University



Victory for Innovation: DSB Campus Team Secures 1st Place at Graphic Era Hill University



## Students' perspective on the drama:

BHOOP OR BHAVISHYA presented by team CCA

Kumaun University's VC presented herbal tea research to Governor Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh at Raj Bhavan.

# VIMARSH

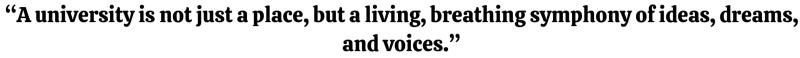
Capturing the spirit of Kumaun University



The Official Newsletter of Kumaun University

#### From the

## Vice Chancellor's Desk





It is with great pleasure that I present the inaugural edition of Vimarsh, the official newsletter of Kumaun University. This platform is a testament to the vibrant spirit of our academic community, offering a window into the many events, achievements, opportunities, and creative expressions that define us. Through features such as the Pen Podcast, Vimarsh aims to be a space where student voices are heard and celebrated.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the editorial team for their hard work in bringing this vision to life. May Vimarsh evolve into a dynamic and engaging platform that inspires, informs, and fosters a sense of unity among all members of our university.'

My best wishes,
Prof. Diwan Singh Rawat
Vice Chancellor
Kumaun University, Nainital
Patron, Student Club

# Director's Note

पर्वत-शिखरों के उर में छुपे हुए हैं गीत अमर | वन-स्थली की नीरवता में बजते रहते स्वर अंतर।" — सुमित्रानंदनपंत



The mountains do not speak, yet within their quiet hearts lie eternal songs. It is with that spirit of calm strength and creative depth that I welcome you all to "Vimarsh", a space that marks a thoughtful and energetic new beginning for our campus community.

'Vimarsh' is more than just a newsletter. It is a platform for ideas, reflections, and shared expression — where voices from every corner of our academic family can come together, collaborate, and shine. This is our step forward into a more connected and creatively charged tomorrow.

I deeply appreciate the effort of the team in bringing this initiative to life and look forward to the heights it will help us reach — together.

Warm wishes, Prof. Neeta Bora Director, DSB Campus, Nainital Editor-in-chief, Vimarsh

# VIMARSH

Capturing the spirit of Kumaun University



The Official Newsletter of Kumaun University

## Welcome Message from the Editor

A New Dawn of Thought and Expression

Dear Readers,

With immense pride and a profound sense of accomplishment, we present to you the inaugural issue of our campus newsletter, Vimarsh, published from the DSB Campus of Kumaun University, Nainital. This historic moment marks the beginning of a vibrant platform where ideas come alive, creativity finds a voice, and dreams take shape. Vimarsh is more than just a publication, it is the heartbeat of our campus, where intellect meets passion and innovation blends with tradition.



Vimarsh is envisioned as a dynamic space that reflects the spirit of curiosity and intellectual

pursuit inherent in our campus community. It aims to nurture creativity, critical thinking, and innovation, serving as a bridge between personal aspirations and collective goals. Through Vimarsh, we seek to inspire meaningful dialogue, foster new ideas, and create a thriving exchange of thoughts. This newsletter will showcase academic achievements, cultural insights, and social initiatives, bringing together diverse voices to build a more inclusive campus community.

Adding to this spirit of transformation, we proudly introduce our new student club, 'Sankranti', a movement dedicated to fostering leadership, community involvement, and personal growth. Sankranti is not just an association; it symbolizes change, enthusiasm, and commitment. Through diverse academic, cultural, social, and recreational activities, Sankranti will cultivate confidence and creativity among students. The publication of Vimarsh is an integral part of Sankranti's vision, reflecting its mission to engage and empower the student body.

Vimarsh is not just a record of campus events; it is a space where hidden talents, vibrant ideas, and the resilient spirit of our students are brought to light. From university news and creative expressions to thought-provoking articles and insightful interviews, Vimarsh will portray the intellectual, cultural, and social dynamism of our campus. It is not only about celebrating achievements but also about recognizing potential and encouraging voices that need to be heard.

We dedicate this inaugural issue to the collective spirit of learning, collaboration, and creativity that flourishes within our university. Vimarsh would not have been possible without the unwavering dedication, creativity, and passion of our students. Your hard work and vision have laid the foundation for what we believe will become a tradition of intellectual engagement and artistic expression.

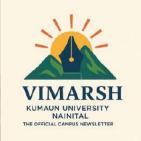
We take this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to our Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Diwan S. Rawat for his visionary leadership and continued support, which made this initiative possible. Our sincere thanks also go to the Prof. Neeta Bora Sharma, Director of DSB Campus for her constant encouragement. We deeply value the insightful guidance and motivation provided by our esteemed faculty members. Special recognition goes to our dedicated student editorial team, whose passion and perseverance have brought Vimarsh to life.

This inaugural issue is not just a beginning, it is an invitation to be a part of a transformative journey. We warmly encourage each of you to participate, share your ideas, and contribute creatively. Let your thoughts and stories enrich this platform, and let your experiences breathe new energy into our collective dialogue.

Welcome to Vimarsh, your space, your voice, your journey. Let us work together to create a legacy of knowledge, innovation, and inspiration, reflecting the spirit and brilliance of Kumaun University.

Best regards,
Dr. Reetesh Sah
Editor, Vimarsh
DSB Campus, Kumaun University, Nainital

# UNIVERSITY HIGHLIGHTS





#### **Kumaun University Develops Medicinal Herbal Tea from** Uttarakhand's Traditional herbs

Under the 'One University-One Research' program, Kumaun University is developing medicinal herbal teas using 30+ traditional herbs and flowers from Uttarakhand. The teas are scientifically formulated to offer antidiabetic, immunity-boosting, and anti-viral benefits. Vice-Chancellor Prof. Diwan Singh Rawat presented the project to Governor Lt. Gen. Gurmeet Singh (Retd), who appreciated its public health impact and potential to support local farmers and entrepreneurs. He urged efforts to promote Uttarakhand's herbal heritage globally.



#### Prof. Diwan Singh Rawat Honored with Honorary Colonel Rank by **NCC**

Kumaun University Vice-Chancellor Prof. Diwan Singh Rawat has been awarded the prestigious honorary rank of Colonel by the National Cadet Corps (NCC). He has also been appointed as the Colonel Commandant of the NCC unit of Kumaun University. recognition celebrates his efforts to strengthen NCC activities, promote patriotism, discipline, and leadership qualities among the youth. The university family and KUTA expressed great pride and congratulated Prof. Rawat on this remarkable honor.

#### Kumaun University Selected for ₹100 Crore DST PAIR Programme

Kumaun University has been selected as one of just seven institutions in India for the prestigious ₹100 crore Partnerships for Accelerated Innovation and Research (PAIR) programme by the Department of Science and Technology (DST).

Led by IISc Bengaluru, the programme aims to transform research ecosystems in public universities. Vice-Chancellor Prof. Diwan Singh Rawat expressed pride in the university's selection from 17 applicants, marking it as a key centre for research and innovation in the region.

#### Kumaun University's Historic Move: Degrees Without Application

For the first time, Kumaun University Nainital has distributed over 18,000 degrees for the 2024 batch without requiring separate applications. Led by Vice-Chancellor Prof. Diwan Singh Rawat, the degrees will be sent directly to students' institutions or homes — eliminating delays and backlog.

This landmark initiative simplifies the process, saves time, and sets a new standard in academic administration, marking Kumaun University as a leader in student-friendly reforms.

#### Kumaun University Inaugurates NCC Indoor Firing Range

The Kumaun University inaugurated a state-of-the-art NCC Indoor Firing Range at the 'Sleepy Hollow' campus. Vice-Chancellor Prof. Diwan S. Rawat unveiled the facility, aiming to enhance cadets' shooting skills for national and international competitions. The event featured cadet demonstrations, a rowing simulator, and was coordinated by cadet Preeti Rana, with a vote of thanks by Sub-Lieutenant Dr. Reetesh Sah.

#### संक्रांति छात्र क्लब कई मायनों में होगा बहुआयामी

नेतृत्व, रचनात्मकता और संवाद का मंच 🔲 कुमाऊं विवि के डीएसबी परिसर नैनीताल की अनूठी

आज समाचार सेवा युवाओं के सर्वांगीण विकास को साकार वुवाओं के स्वागाना विकास का साकता. रूप देने हेंचु एक बहुआयामी छात्र कराब संक्रांति को औपचारिक स्थापना की गई है। यह कराब छात्रों को न केवल अकादमिक उल्कृष्टता बल्कि सांस्कृतिक व सामाजिक और रचनात्मक गतिविधार्म के माध्यम से नेतृत्व कौशल, टीम भावना क माध्यम स नृतृत्व काशल, टाम भावना और विश्वविद्यालयीय उत्तरदायित्व का किन्द्रिया और सामिति हिर्माणीय न्यूकलेटर



इसका प्रथम अंक शीध्र प्रकाशित होने की अनुशासन व समावेशिता और कुमार्ज प्रक्रिक में है। स्रोप्कृतिक गतिविधियों की विश्वविद्यालय के मूल्यों का पासन करना कहों में बत्तव संकाशि के तत्वावधान में अनिवार्य होगा। मेचित ताटक नाववती अनाधानत को संकाशिक वरण के अध्यक्ष हैं, रीतेश साह भाषता जातक नाववता अनाववता आनाववत को स्वाहत बल्लेष के अभ्यक्ष छ. तादा स्वाह स्विभेष स्थाराता मुहा । बहु नादर प्रस्तुति - वे कारण कि पह एक अक्तम स्वेहाति हमारे नारी अस्मित, अत्तववत और सामाजिक परिसर के युवाओं को राज्यत्मक कडाए विसंगीतियों को प्रभावताती कम में प्रस्तुत संवाद कीशल और नेवृत्त क्षान्या करती है जिस दंगाकों ने अत्यक्त रिकासित करने का अवास प्रदान करेगा। संवेदनशीलता और सराहना के साथ यह मंच न केवल विचारों को स्वर देगाए प्रविचनित्रात्वा क्या प्रशिक्ष के साम के अपने ने क्या ने क्या के व्यक्त स्वाक्त के व्यक्त स्वाक्त किया प्रशिक्ष के साम के वित्र के की मीण पर इस ब्रिक्ट एक समान के वीतर्वत और नाटक का पुनक संघन शोध शी किया जनदायों श्रीधाणक नोम्बर्ग किया गाएगा। संक्रांति के सदस्यका प्रक्रिया वातावरण को भी निर्माण करेगा। कुरूपांत सभी श्रीस्थल परिस्त के विवर्धाणक कार्यों स्वाक्त के स्वाव्य अध्यापक कार्या के सित्र स्वानेगी श्रीक्ष के विवर्धाणक कार्या के सित्र स्वाव्य के स्वाव्य अध्यापक कार्या के सित्र स्वाव्य के स्वाव्य अध्यापक कार्या करते स्वाव्य के स्वाव्य अध्यापक कार्या करते स्वाव्य के स्वाव्य के स्वाव्य अध्यापक कार्या करते स्वाव्य के स्व

मिं भरकर क्लब में सम्मिलित हो सकते। मंच मिलेगाए बल्कि वे विश्वविद्यालय के हैं। प्रत्येक सदस्य से अपेक्ष को जाएगी विकासतील विमार्ग में भी भागीदार बन कि वह पति सेमेरटर कम से कम दो सकेंगे। यह पहले अपने काले समय में आयोजनों में सोक्त कर से भाग के। चरिस को कुम समुद्ध और स्वप्तप्ती छात्र क्लाब के सभी सदस्यों को मर्यादित भाषा, संस्कृति को ओर आसस करेंगी।

त्राराणक व्यास्त्रात्ता, ग्वरावश सत्र, कार्यशालाएँ तथा केरियर परामर्श, नुकड़ नाटक, कविता पाठ तथा उत्सव आयोजन जैसे कार्यक्रमों के साथ-साथ श्विमर्श भवाली से नैनीताल के लिए अधिक वसला जा रहा है किराया नामक मारिक समाचार पत्र का प्रकाशन नैनीताल (आज समाचार सेवा)। भवाली से नैनीताल टेक्सो में आने पर भी सम्मितिक है। यह द्विपाणिय न्यूजनेटर टेक्सी चालक रेट से अधिक किराया ले रहे हैं। कुछ टेक्सी चालक 50 रुपये

#### Sankranti Student Club Launched at DSB Campus, Kumaun University

Sankranti Student Club Launched at DSB Campus, Kumaun University Kumaun University's DSB Campus has launched Sankranti – a student club aimed at fostering leadership, creativity, cultural exchange, and academic growth. The club provides a vibrant platform for students to engage in meaningful dialogue, host events, and develop essential life skills. With a focus on holistic development, Sankranti aspires to nurture the next generation of thinkers and leaders from Kumaun.

# UNIVERSITY HIGHLIGHTS





Proposal for Population Research Centre at Kumaun University, Nainital Kumaun University Vice-Chancellor Prof. D.S. Rawat met Health Ministry Director General (Statistics) Kal Singh in Delhi and proposed the establishment of a Population Research Centre at the university.

Prof. Rawat highlighted the urgent need for such a centre in Uttarakhand due to its unique population, geography, and health challenges. He emphasized that this initiative would support government schemes, expand academic and research capabilities, and help in understanding demographic trends, data-driven planning, and local health issues.

The proposal was appreciated by Mr. Kal Singh, who assured that it would be seriously considered. A detailed project report will be submitted to the Ministry for further action.

#### नाथवती अनाथवत नाट्य प्रस्तुति को दर्शकों ने सराहा

🔲 डीएसबी परिसर में नवगठित छात्र कलब संक्रांति के तत्वावधान में हुआ आयोजन 🔲 दर्जनभर से अधिक



#### Naathvati Anaathavat" Cultural Drama Enthralls **Audience at DSB Campus**

A compelling stage drama titled Naathvati Anaathavat was presented under the aegis of the Student Club "Sankranti" at DSB Campus, Kumaun University, Nainital. More than a dozen student artists played pivotal roles in this powerful production.

The play highlighted Indian philosophical and cultural traditions, exploring the inner strength and struggles of women like Sita and Ahilya. It addressed themes of womanhood, abandonment, and societal challenges through thought-provoking dialogue and symbolic stagecraft.

#### Grand Inauguration of NCC Indoor Firing Range at Kumaun University, Nainital

A new chapter in NCC training began with the inauguration of an Indoor Firing Range at Kumaun University, Nainital. Vice Chancellor Prof. Rawat stated that the facility will be a milestone for cadets, enhancing their training and discipline.

The event was inaugurated by NCC officers and dignitaries, including Col. Teotia and Prof. Rawat. The range will allow cadets to practice shooting indoors, improving their marksmanship and readiness for competitions.

#### नैनीताल में एनसीसी इंडोर फायरिंग रेंज का हुआ भव्य शुभार

एनसीसी संगठनऔर प्रशिक्षण का नया अध्याय शुरु इंडोर फायरिंग रेंज

साबित होगी :



#### कुविवि के कुलपति प्रो .रावत ने किया डीएसबी परिसर का औचक निरीक्षण



🔲 सेमस्टर परीक्षाओं का लिया जायजा 🔲 नकल रहित परीक्षा प्रणाली की विशेष रूप से की सराहना

आज समाचार सेवा विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा निर्धारित समस्त नैनीताल। कुमार्ज विश्वविद्यालय के मानकों के अनुपालन की गंभीरता से

परीक्षा इयूटी पर तैनात पर्यवेक्षकों से प्रत्यक्ष संवाद करते हुए परीक्षा की पारदर्शिता, अनुशासन और गोपनीयता सुनिश्चत करने के लिए जरुरी दिशा-निर्देश दिए। उन्होंने उत्तर पुस्तिकाओं के वितरण, समय पालन तथा शांतिपूर्ण वातावरण और

समीक्षा की।

नैनीताल। कुलपति प्रो. दोवान सिंह रावत ने डोएसबी परिसर में चल रहे निर्माण एवं विकास कार्यों का भी निरीक्षण किया। उन्होंने गणित, संगीत एवं अन्य विभागों के लिए निर्मित किए जा रहे नए शैक्षणिक भवनों और पयोगशालाओं के विस्तार निर्माण एजेंसी एवं संबंधित अधियंताओं



से संवाद करते हुए उन्होंने कार्य की गुणवता तथा समय सीमा और सुरक्षा उन्होंने निर्देश दिए कि छात्रों और शिक्षकों वाए। उन्होंने यह भी सुनिश्चित करने को कुलपति यो, दीवान बिंह रावत ने समीक्षा की।

गनकों के अनुपालन को स्थित की की शैविषक आवश्यकताओं की आन कहा कि विकास कार्यों के दीवान किसी

गुक्रवात को विवि के डीएसबी परिसर निरीक्षण के दौरान वह सुनिक्षित किया

गनतिताल में यह रही सेमेस्टर

गया कि परीक्षाएँ निर्धारित समय पर

निरीत्ताल के दौरान कर रही

सेमेस्टर

परीक्षाओं को औपक निरीक्षण किया

प्रश्न परीक्षण किया

परीक्षण के दौरान कुलपित यो यावत

परीक्षाओं को अधिपक निरीक्षण किया

परीक्षण के दौरान कुलपित यो यावत

परीक्षाओं को अधिपक निरीक्षण किया

परीक्षण के दौरान कुलपित यो यावत

परीक्षाओं को अधिपक निरीक्षण किया

परीक्षण के दौरान परीक्षण किया

परीक्षण के दौरान कुलपित यो यावत

परीक्षण के दौरान परीक्षण किया

परीक्षण के दौरान कुलपित यो यावत

परीक्षण को स्थाप किए कार्यों में अधिपक तावत

परीक्षण को स्थाप किए कार्यों में करिया

परीक्षण के दौरान किया

पर्या किया

परीक्षण के दौरान किया

सेमंदित कुलपित यो यावत

पर्या किया

परीक्षण के स्था किया

पर्या किया

पर्य किया

प्र किया

प्य किया

प्र किया

प्र किया

प्र किया

प्र किया

प्र किया

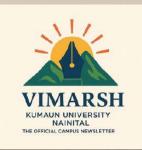
प्र किय

#### Vice Chancellor Prof. Diwan S. Rawat Conducts Surprise Inspection at Bhimtal Exam Centre, Reviews **Ongoing Construction**

Bhimtal – Kumaun University Vice Chancellor Prof. Diwan S. Rawat paid a surprise visit to the examination centre at the Bhimtal Campus to assess examination arrangements and review ongoing construction activities. He emphasized strict measures to ensure a fair and transparent examination process, reiterating that a cheating-free examination system is a top priority for the university.

## SPORTS AND SUSTAINABILITY

## CAMPUS EVENTS



The Annual Athletic Meet was organized by DSB Campus, Kumaun University, Nainital on 28th April 2025 at NTG & DSA Ground, Mallital, Nainital. The event saw enthusiastic participation from students and faculty across a range of track and field competitions including 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m races, relays, javelin, discus, shot put, high jump, and long jump. Adding a dash of fun and recreation, games like Tug of War and Musical Chair were also conducted, drawing cheers from the audience. The event was successfully coordinated by The Department of Physical Education, promoting fitness and camaraderie among the campus community.

among the campus community.





#### ANNUAL ATHLETIC MEET - 2025



#### Drama on Migration: Bhoop or Bhavishya



Nainital, April 22: The Department of English, DSB Campus, Kumaun University, organized a drama titled 'Bhoop or Bhavishya! The Dilemma' at AN Singh Hall. Presented by Team CCA, the play addressed the issue of migration from hill regions and its long-term social and economic impacts. Using data and narratives, the performance highlighted the dilemmas faced by families and youth forced to leave their native places in search of better opportunities.

#### **WORLD ART DAY**

The Department of Fine Arts celebrated World Art Day on 17th April 2025 with a vibrant Poster Making Competition that brought together creativity and expression. With themes inspired by art, nature, and social awareness, the event witnessed enthusiastic participation from around 50–55 students across departments.

#### **EARTH DAY 2025**

OUR POWER, OUR PLANET





The Department of Geography marked World Earth Day with a series of engaging and meaningful activities. Events like poster making, quiz, speech, and poem competitions brought out students' creativity and environmental awareness.

A special cleanliness drive was also conducted, reinforcing the message of responsibility towards nature.

# Campus Edge: SEMINARS | ACHIEVEMENTS



#### National Workshop on Wild Edible Plants of the Kumaun Himalaya

Nainital, April 24, 2025 – A National Workshop on wild edible plants of Kumaun Himalaya was held at the DSB Campus Botany Department under the CMHERES Scheme. Experts like Dr. Kalakoti, Dr. Samant, and Dr. Negi shared insights on sustainability and traditional practices. VC Prof. Diwan Singh Rawat served as the patron of the event.



### **Seminars**

- Expert Lecture on Herbal Medicine
- Ethics in Research for Young Scholars
- Lecture on 'America First' Impact on Global South Asian Relations
- Workshop Empowers

Startups on Intellectual Property Rights

 Lecture Sheds Light on Advances in Malaria Research

#### Kumaun University Hosts National Seminar on Tribal Heritage; Book Launch and Women Achievers Felicitated

Nainital, April 28, 2025 — A national seminar on Tribal Cultural Heritage and Indigenous Practices was inaugurated at Kumaun University by Vice-Chancellors Prof. Diwan S. Rawat and Prof. Satpal S. Bisht. Organized by the Mata Jiyarani Women's Study Center, the event included expert talks, cultural discussions, and the launch of Dr. Jagdish Pant's book on the Boksa Tribe. Women achievers were also felicitated.

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS**



First Position in the Inter

**Collegiate Debate Competition** organized by Kumaun University, held at Rajkiya Mahavidyalaya, Betalghat. The winning team included **Nakul Dev Sah and Nandini Joshi**.

Best Rebuttal Award won by
Nandini Joshi in Battle of Wits - debate
competition organized by Graphic Era Hill
University, Bhimtal.

PrabhatPantandAkshayKambojfromPRS-NSNTCentre,DSBCampus,clinched1stplaceattheScienceModelExhibitionheldatGraphicEraHillUniversity on April 21, 2025.



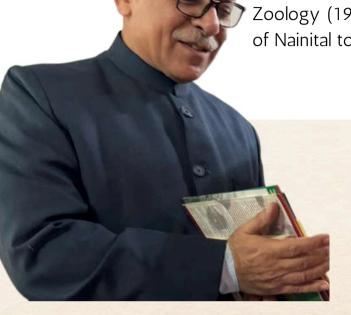
# PENRODGAST TALES OF GRIT, GROWTH AND GLORY



#### FROM ZOOLOGY TO THE CORRIDORS OF POWER: A CONVERSATION WITH SHRI BHASKAR KHULBE, IAS (RETD.)

"Kumaun University didn't just teach me Zoology; it taught me resilience."

An alumnus of the prestigious DSB College, Nainital, Shri Bhaskhar Khulbe completed his Master's in Zoology (1977–1979) with a deep passion for science and service. His journey from the serene hills of Nainital to national prominence reflects a life of dedication, resilience, and purpose.



#### **Beginnings and Nostalgia**

#### 1. Sir, take us back to 1977 — what did a typical day on campus look like for you as a student of Zoology?

As a baker's dozen in the class, we bantered, faltered, critiqued, supported together. Always agog to flock in the class - we were lucky batch that did both PG 1 & 2 in the same room. Hence, whatsoever that I would join the our affinity with the trappings was distinctly separate. Altruism, more so in the zoological sense, was part of our journey together!

#### 2. Which was your favourite hangout spot in the university — the library, the canteen, or somewhere more secret?

Behind the classroom the open space under the chestnut tree was our rendezvous! At our behest the side door to Entomology sectionthat connected to this purlieu- was opened giving us easy access. The popularity of this corner spread to the faculty even. Come winters Dr. J. S. Bisht would also hold his Fisheries class in 1979. This was a Shantiniketan of our making!

#### 3. What's one memory from your student life that still brings a smile or laughter even today?

Uncontrollable, induced yawns during the lectures of one faculty member, that we could not even hide.

#### 4. Was there a particular professor or mentor who left a lasting impact on you?

Prof. J.S. Bisht not only mentored me in the college but shaped my career too. A Guru who has remained a reverential figure to me, an inspirational source and much more.

#### The Journey Ahead

#### How did your time at **Kumaun University shape your** path toward the Indian **Administrative Service?**

Until completion of my postgraduation I had no inkling Civil Services one day. In hindsight, I think my academics strength at the university enabled me to take the UPSC exam and succeed.

'Nainital 's hills gave me roots the university gave me wings."

#### 6. What kept you motivated during the toughest phases of your career?

दिशा दिशा होती अनुकूल चाहे कितनी हो विपरीत

मन के हारे हार है, मन के जीते जीत। (When your direction is right, it becomes favorable, no matter how adverse the circumstances. Defeat lies in the mind; so does victory

#### 7. Zoology to IAS — not the most linear path! What inspired this transition, and how did you navigate it?

Aslant it truly was. From Research Fellowship to Army to Forest Service thence the IAS the journey tentation in the absence of a perspective, circumscribed more by my limited understanding of options than choices! Yet, Zoology in particular played a crucial role in comprehending heterogeneity, diversity in thought and action, conservation and resources management that proved useful as a practicing administrator.

#### 8. What were some key skills or values you picked up during your post-graduation that helped in your career?

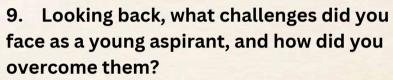
Exposure to stalwarts like Dr. D. D. Pant, Prof. K. S. Valdiya, both VCs of Kumaun University Dr. G. K, Dr. M. C Pant our HOD, Dr. T. S.Gill, Shri G. K. Arora IAS allowed me to gain a conviction that erudition, articulation, simplicity, and candid behavior are traits one must possess though it took time to inculcate and imbibe these in life. A poster in my room reminded me always-"Grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the Things I can and the wisdom to know the difference.

# PEN PODCAST TALES OF GRIT, GROWTH AND GLORY



FROM ZOOLOGY TO THE CORRIDORS OF POWER: A CONVERSATION WITH SHRI BHASKAR KHULBE, IAS (RETD.)

"Grant me the serenity to accept the things that I cannot change , courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference"



Time management was the stiffest challenge vis-à-vis the syllabus to be covered. Selfaplomb and self-discipline helped me not only in preparing well but also in eliminating the wanton distractions.

#### Words to Walk With

10. What's one habit you developed in university that students today should cultivate?

**Prolific Reading** 

# 11. What's your advice for students who feel uncertain about their future?

There is only one thing that makes a dream impossible to achieve: the fear of failure

12. If a student told you they feel 'too small' to make a big impact — how would you respond?

I would quote the "Alchemist"- "when you want something, all the universe conspires in helping you achieve it."

"Success doesn't require a map, just the courage to take the first step."

# 13. How can students make the most of their years at Kumaun University, not just academically but holistically?

Foster critical thinking, problemsolving and introspection skills. Keep returning the privileges, parents, peers and community have given to you, whenever possible. Remember: a goodwill account always earns compound interest.



#### **Rapid Fire Round:**

- Your nickname in college?
   Bhasi
- Most bunked subject?
   Ecology
- Canteen order you miss?
   Bread Pakoras & Chai
- IAS or student life which was more unpredictable?
   Both
- One word for Nainital? सुरम्य
- The one book every student must read?

The Alchemist

- If you had to describe Kumaun University of the 70s in three words, what would they be?
   An incubation crucible
- Most proud moment in your journey?

Success of the Silkyara Tunnel Rescue mission on 28.11.2023

If not an IAS officer, you would be...?
 A Teacher

# SHIKSHA SAMVAAD

#### Dialogue with the Educators Behind Our Excellence



Guiding minds, shaping futures — a conversation with the torchbearer of academic excellence-Prof. D. S. Rawat



### 1. Sir, you began your academic journey right here at Kumaun University with a B.Sc. and MSc

I came to this city on June 28, 1985 and got admission at Bhartiya Saheed Sainik School in class 10<sup>th</sup> followed by 10+2 in 1988. One of our distant relatives was working with BD Pandey Hospital and I stayed with him at Brook Hill out house from 1985-88. These were the most difficult times, struggled for everything. From 1988-93 I stayed at Bough Cottage during my BSc and MSc days.

degree. Can you take us back to those days—what

were your college years like?

Five year stay at DSB College were most memorable days of my life. After school days, it was the college and examinations were annual mode, there was nothing in between, so we did not realize how six month passed. Switching from Hindi to English medium was most difficult, I still remember, of writing some sentences in Hinghlish.. But from first year of my BSc, I realized the importance of continuous reading, so I use to go to classroom well prepared of the lecture. My reading time use to be 8 - 9 hrs per day. Many times it so happened that I watched movies at Ashok Takies or Capitol Cinema, day before of my examinations! This is because I use to read continuously and never waited for exams to come and then study!

We had excellent teachers at DSB back then, and it was Prof Ganga Bisht who encouraged me to do PhD from Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow.

Took tuitions to meet out expenditures, I still remember,

coming to University to teach son of Prof Durgapal of Physics department.

### I use to study 8-9 hrs per day, became workaholic during this

3. Being a gold medalist in M.Sc.—what habits or practices do you

period. Even when I use to visit my village during vacation, I use to study same time. I think winter vacation use to be longer back then. I use to stay at my village only for 10-12 days, so that I can prepare well at Nainital. I use to make good notes, still I have those notes which I made during 1993, for one topics, I ready nine books. Even I wrote some of the authors about mistakes in the books. I remember meeting Prof DD Pant once somewhere in University (he use to sit here because of the fire in Physics dept) to get my doubts cleared on spectroscopy!

#### 2. What inspired you to choose Organic Chemistry for your postgraduation?

think contributed to that achievement?

Let me tell you one thing, from my school days, I use to like maths too much. When I took admission at class 10<sup>th</sup> in 1985, the syllabus of the class at BSSV was completed by Sept 1985. At my village school (GIC Bohala), hardly 3-4 chapter were completed, so at BSSV, I felt lost. Though, I prepared well without any tution, but got very poor marks in 10th class and I was denied Maths at 10+2. As a result, I took biology, and at DSB three combinations were very famous at that time, Geology, Computer and Forestry. Students with good marks in 10+2 use to get admission in these courses. So I choose forestry group, not because I liked it, its because students with good marks use to get admission to this course. So my combination was Botany, Chemistry and Forestry. After passing out my BSc, I realized that with this combination, I was not even eligible for school teaching. During my BSc days I developed my interest in Chemistry, so opted Chemistry in MSc. I liked Organic Chemistry because its application in daily life and its role in drug development. I really worked hard during my MSc days, use to read most of the books available in the library.

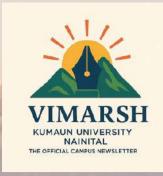
#### Were there professors or mentors during your time as a student here who had a lasting impact on you?

Its difficult to pin point, number of teachers from my school days to my PhD days influenced me. From my school days at GIC Bohala, Mr Satish C Pandey and Mr BS Dasila, at BSSV, Mr Pooran Singh, Mr Kheemraj Singh, at DSB Prof SS Bisht, Prof Ganga Bisht and Dr LMS Palani (he use to teach us tissue culture visiting as Professor) motivated me immensely. In fact, it was Prof Ganga Bisht, who motivated me to do PhD from Central Drug Research Institute, where worked with Dr DS Bhakuni. learnt professional ethics from him, he was a great person and I owe a lot to him.

The journey teaches what the goal never could

# SHIKSHA SAMVAAD

#### Dialogue with the Educators Behind Our Excellence



5.The Toppers' Conclave was a brilliant initiative. What inspired you to bring the university's brightest minds together, and how do you plan to build on it?

Actually, there is inherent academic problem in our system, we as head of the institution don't appreciate/talk to the toppers. One can say, we give them medals during convocations, that's right. But there is no dialogue with these students. talented So, thought, to interact with such pool of the University and talk to them one to one basis and get their ideas what they expect from the University. This was one of the best program, I organized.

# 6.What challenges have you faced in transforming the university, and how have you tackled them?

Quality human resource is the biggest challenge, but still we could get 100 Cr MERU grant, became the member of DST-**PAIR** program with Bangalore with 100 Cr grant. We got 26.4 Ac land it Patwadangar to establish MERU Campus. Six buildings at DSB campus under are renovation/reconstructions, academic block and Law faculty building is coming up at Soangaon, Pharmacy lab is ready at Bhimtal and other building is coming up at buildings Bhimtal. Three construction would start at Patwadangar very soon

# 7.What legacy would you like to leave behind as the Vice Chancellor of Kumaun University?

I don't believe in setting targets and leave any kind of legacy. I worked with all honesty through out my life with the aim to give my best for the welfare of the society. Everyone does good work based on their expertise, future SO generation will rate my performance as a Vice Chancellor. I am more than satisfied with the work that I did in last two years. I am of firmly believe that if you are honest, you can do whatever you want. I am thankful to Honourable Governor and Uttarakhand Government for their support and giving me free hand to work as Vice Chancellor of Kumaun University

# 8. How does it feel to return to Kumaun University—not as a student, but as its Vice Chancellor?

I never thought in my life, that this day will come in my life. I consider it as a rare honour and trying to do the best under the given circumtances.

# 10.What changes have you observed in the university between your time as a student and now as an administrator?

I feel sad that work culture has gone really down in last three decades, but I am more than confident, that all the stake holders will join hands with me to make it great again.

# 11. What values or philosophies guide your leadership style as the Vice Chancellor?

My philosophy of life is very simple 100% dedication honesty, and hard work. In last two years, I did not sit with my family one complete day! The institutes that gives us education or butter, is the biggest worship place, so once you imbibe this philosophy, institute you work with is bound to grow.

## Rapid Fire Round:

 A book that shaped your thinking?

Hindu Chemistry by PC Ray

 One memory from Kumaun
 University that still brings a smile?

Introduction party at Mannu Maharani Hotel.

 Lab coat or office chair—what do you miss more?

Of course my lab, even today if I reach 4 am in the morning from International trip, I go my lab at 8.30 AM.

 Your message in one line to every student reading this interview?

Honesty, hard work and respect your parents and teachers!

### 9. What is your long-term vision for Kumaun University? Are there any new initiatives or projects you're especially excited about?

Within the given circumstance, we expended ourselves, not it's the time to make them sustainable. On a longer run, I would like to see the Pantnagar campus as a research hub in the same line as the South Campus of Delhi University. I would like to see, that some of our faculty members to get National fellowships. I wish to establish Population Research Center at Kumaun University.

# BEHIND THE PAGES



With Warm Regards, The Editorial Team

believed ľve always that opportunities have a way of finding you when you're ready for them and getting the chance to work on this newsletter was one of those moments for me. I had quietly wished for a space where I could blend creativity and when with purpose, opportunity arrived, I embraced it with open arms.

A heartfelt thank you to Sir Reetesh Sah for giving us this platform and believing in our ideas. This journey taught me so much — from managing content to valuing teamwork, and most importantly, understanding how every small effort adds to a bigger picture.

To my wonderful colleagues — your constant support, encouragement, and brilliant ideas made this experience even more special.

As Vincent Van Gogh beautifully said, "Great things are done by a series of small things brought together."

-Padma Lhazes Student Editorial Team Vimarsh.



**Vimarsh** means more than just a discussion—it is the courage to think deeply, to question gently, and to speak truth with honesty. That very spirit lives in the soil of Uttarakhand

Getting the chance to be the student editor of Vimarsh has been a truly special experience. I am deeply thankful to Dr. Reetesh Sah Sir for giving me this opportunity and for his constant encouragement.

While working on it, I realised that Kumaun University already offers a platform for creativity, leadership, and expression—you just have to be willing to step forward and participate. Vimarsh is proof that thoughtful efforts shape meaningful outcomes.

I want to thank the incredible team who helped in crafting every word with care and sincerity.

And above all, I thank you—the readers, because no book, no article, no idea truly matters unless someone thoughtful receives it.

**Vimarsh** is where truth begins—and readers like you keep that truth alive.

Thank you!

— Nandini Joshi
Student Editor
Vimarsh.



I never imagined that working behind the scenes on a newsletter would become such a special chapter in my journey. What started as a simple curiosity turned into something that taught me so much—about teamwork, consistency, and the beauty of bringing stories to life

I'm truly thankful for the guidance I received and the trust that was placed in me. This experience helped me grow not just as a student, but as someone learning to believe in her own ideas.

To everyone who's been a part of this process—thank you for your support, patience, and encouragement.

And to every reader flipping through these pages—I hope you feel the effort and love stitched into each word and design.

Here's to learning, creating, and growing—one page at a time.

-Aastha Pandey Student Editorial Team Vimarsh.



### PASSING-OUT BATCH DIARIES:



# What's next?

As another academic year draws to a close, we pause to celebrate the journeys of our graduating students. This year's passing-out batch leaves behind friendships, memories, and a legacy of dreams. We asked them: what's next? From civil services to entrepreneurship, from research labs to art studios, here's a glimpse of their ambitions and the career paths ahead for students from every discipline.

"Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined."

~Henry David Thoreau

# CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AHEAD

- Civil Services (UPSC, State PSCs, Judiciary)
- Corporate Jobs & MNC Roles
- Startups & Entrepreneurship
- Legal Practice & Judiciary
- Teaching & Academic Research
- NGO, Social Work & Policy Advocacy
- Media, Journalism & Content Creation
- Fine Arts, Performing Arts & Creative Industries
- Travel, Tourism & Hospitality
- Public Sector & Government Jobs
- Environmental Studies & Sustainability Projects
- Tech, IT & Digital Marketing Careers

#### Note to the Class of 2025:

The campus gates might close behind you, but endless doors are about to open ahead. Keep chasing those dreams.

## FUTURE ECHOES

After graduation, I'm going to pursue M.Sc. along with my preparation for A.F.O and NABARD exams.

-Shivangi Verma

B.Sc. 8th semester

I aim to serve the nation with pride — that's why I'm gearing up for the defence exams. The uniform isn't just a dream, it's my destination.

-Yashpal Adhikari

BA 6<sup>th</sup> Semester

My heart beats for the uniform, and my dream is to serve the nation with pride and courage. The discipline of NCC has shaped my spirit, and now, I am determined to turn that spirit into service by joining the defence forces. With every step, I march towards a future where duty, honor, and country come first.

-CC Saakshi Singh

B.A. 6th semester

After graduation, I'm focusing on competitive exams and figuring out the right career path. Taking time to build a future that truly fits me.

-Drishti Chamoli

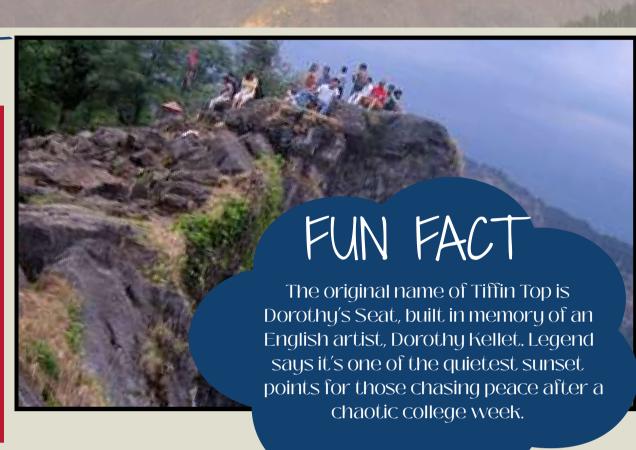
B.Sc. 6<sup>th</sup> Semester

# Pratice convey



### POETIC THOUGHTS

"Lecture halls echo with sleepy yawns, Camel's Back sunset, day's dawns. Notes forgotten, Tiffin Top views, Nainital and college – our quiet muse"



#### OVERHEARD ON CAMPUS

Ek din assignment complete karne ka socha tha, par phir se Netflix ka trap chal gaya!



Best Study Spot (Off-Campus):

Find an empty bench near Naini Lake at 7 AM – clean air, zero crowd, and perfect for cramming notes before class.

# CAMPUS CURIOSITIES: DID YOU KNOW THIS ABOUT DSB?

- Kumaun University was established on 1st March 1973 under the U.P. State University Act, 1973. It's the oldest state university of Uttarakhand.
- The D.S.B. Campus stands on the site of the old Wellesley Girls' High School, Nainital, founded by Emma L. Knowles in the 19th century.
- In 1951, philanthropist Thakur Dan Singh Bisht, inspired by Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant, founded a degree college for the youth of Kumaon and Garhwal, naming it after his father Thakur Dev Singh Bisht.
- Thakur Dan Singh Bisht donated Rs. 5 Lakhs, the main campus building, and land (including Smugglers Rock Estate, now the girls' hostel area).
- Before 1973, all colleges of Uttarakhand were affiliated to Agra University, forcing students to travel long distances for paperwork and degrees.
- This led to the 'Kumaon-Garhwal University Banao Andolan' a peaceful student movement. A tragic firing incident in Pithoragarh (Dec 15, 1972) intensified the demand.
- As a result, Kumaun and Garhwal Universities were established on March 1, 1973.
- Initially, D.S.B. was a Constituent College, later upgraded to a university campus on March 15, 1994.