



## University

### NEWS LETTER



# sbstimes

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## Editorial

January is the first month of the year and the month of chilly winds. Symbolically, New Year signifies a renewal of life, the spirit of celebration for the regeneration and moving ahead towards new goals and new achievements. The Publication and Creative Writing Society wishes all the readers a very happy new year. This month also witnesses the celebration of Republic day of our nation. Republic day of India-A celebration of sovereignty is one of the most important days in the history of India as it was on this day the constitution of India came into force and India became a sovereign country.

To mark the importance of the occasion like every year, the Republic day was celebrated at Sardar Bhagwan Singh University with full enthusiasm. Besides this, end semester examinations were concluded in this month followed by winter break and start of new semester. This issue includes: Republic Day Celebration in the University, Science News, Student's Column and Photograph of the Month.

We also extend our heartiest thanks to all our students, faculty members, our editorial board for their constant support and contribution.

We wish all the readers a happy reading of this edition of *SBS times*.

*Editorial team*

## New Joining



Eminent Professor R. K. Singh, former Head, Toxicology & Experimental Medicine, CSIR Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow, has joined the University on 21<sup>st</sup> January as Professor.

Prof. R. K. Singh earned his M.Sc., Ph.D and D.Sc degree in Zoology in 1979, 1983 and 1997, respectively from University of Lucknow, (UP) and specialized in Toxicology of drugs, vaccines and natural products. He has experience of more than 40 years in research, teaching and academics in research Institutes and Universities. In his research laboratories, 51 students have worked for their Ph. D degree, and 121 students completed dissertation for M. Pharm, M. Tech & M. Sc degrees. He was awarded with many laurels namely Tasmia Trophy, for excellent publications in the field of Toxicology, membership of International Association of Distinguished Leadership, USA and Life Time Achievement Award by American Biographical Institute, USA. He has been conferred recently with the prestigious "U.P.Ratan Award 2019".

We welcome him in the SBS family.



## 71<sup>st</sup> Republic Day Celebrations

Sardar Bhagwan Singh University, Dehradun celebrated the 71<sup>st</sup> Republic Day on 26th January 2020 with patriotic zeal. The tricolor was hoisted by Vice-Chancellor Prof. A.K. Sharma accompanied with Mr. Krishan Rawat (Registrar), Prof. F. C. Garg (Dean Academics), Prof. Maneesh Arora (Dean, Students Welfare), Prof. Veerma Ram (Director, School of Pharm. Sci. & Tech.), and Mr. Zorawar Singh (Manager). The festivities commenced with a musical note. The entire campus was resplendent in the shades of tricolor. Thereafter, Prof. A.K. Sharma (Vice-Chancellor) delivered an imbuing speech about the "Importance of the Indian Constitution" and urged the students to participate in the transformation of the country. A soulful bouquet of patriotic songs was presented by the University choir. University Captain Miss. Mitali Babulkar (MPT, 2nd year) and Vice-Captain Mr. Aalind Joshi (B Pharm 4th year) were delivered enthusiastic speeches on "Power of the Nation" and "Youth of Indian Republic". The event was anchored by Miss. Novleen Kaur (BPT 2nd year). Everyone took a pledge to uphold the honor, integrity, dignity, and uniqueness of the Nation. Present on the occasion were Prof. R. K. Singh, Prof. Luvkush (Academic Advisor), Miss. Urmi Chaurasia (Controller of Examination), faculty, staff, and students

The program was concluded with Inter-House Debate prize distribution in respective categories:

**English category:** First prize was bagged by Miss. Kamini Godiyal (Zorawar House), second prize was bagged by Miss. Novleen Kaur (Jujhar House) and third prize was given to Miss. Punasha Chhettri (Jujhar House).

**Hindi Category:** First prize was bagged by Mr. Aalind Joshi (Ajit House), second prize was given to Mr. Gurvinder Singh (Fateh House) and third prize was bagged by Miss. Pragya Uniyal (Jujhar House). The event was co-ordinated by Capt. Nalini Mehrishi and Dr. Barkha Kamal (Convener, Cultural and Music Club).





# Corona virus: More than common cold

The outbreak of coronavirus has lead many lives in threat ; have killed nearly 800 people since the year 2003. This time the origin unfortunately is the Wuhan city of China. These are a large group of viruses that are common among animals. In rare cases they are zoonotic too which means they can be transmitted from animals to humans. These viruses can make people sick, usually with a mild to moderate upper respiratory tract illness, very similar to common cold. Coronaviruses (CoV) are a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV). In December 2019 a pathogenic virus namely 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) was recognized in Wuhan, China and has caused serious illness and death. A novel coronavirus (2019 nCoV) is a new strain that has not been previously identified in humans. Coronaviruses are large, enveloped, positive strand RNA viruses that can be divided into four genera namely alpha, beta, delta and gamma, of which alpha and beta are known to infect humans. China had confirmed more than 28,000 cases of the Wuhan coronavirus which has lead to more than 800 deaths till date due to the respiratory disease. Around 80 cases had also been confirmed in other countries, including in Asia, the United States and Europe. The government of India is now taking keen interest on this topic as after an inquiry by the Indian Council of Medical Research on the study of bat hunters of a remote Mimi village in Nagaland ; it has been clarified that the Bommr Clan of the tribals of Nagaland celebrate an Annual bat harvest where they hunt and consume bats believing that they cure certain diseases . However the question arrives that how these people are not getting infected by any of the disease through them ? After various tests by the reputed institution of India such as Tata institute of fundamental research (TIFR) ; National center of biological sciences (NCBS) confirmed that this tribe contain the antibodies similar to those antibodies which are found in the blood of bats . Due to which the Bommr tribe is still unaffected by any of the diseases after consuming bats. This research can be very beneficial for the nation if they can found any possible way to transfer the antibodies to make vaccines. As no specific treatment of coronavirus is still available meanwhile one should take precautionary measures to prevent the epidemics of this virus.

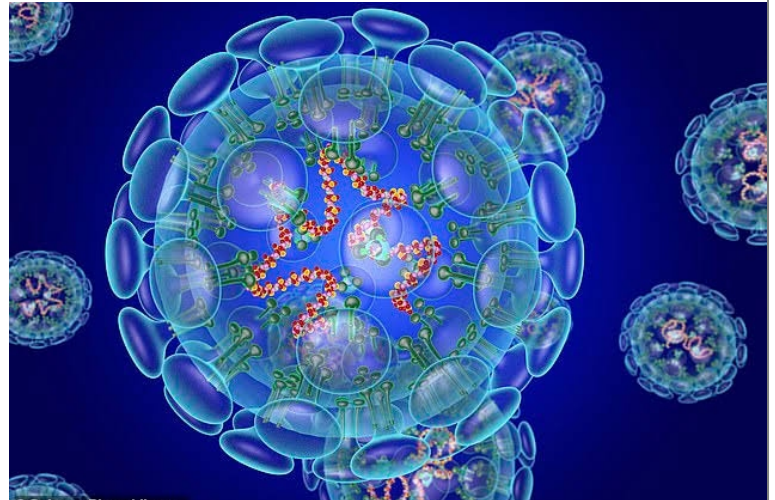
**Symptoms:** • Runny nose • Sore throat • Headache  
• Fever • Cough • Feeling of being unwell

For those with a weakened immune system, the elderly and the very young, there is a strong chance that the virus could cause a lower and much more serious respiratory tract illness like pneumonia or bronchitis. Transmission Human coronaviruses most commonly spread from an infected person to other through:

- The air by coughing and sneezing
- Close personal contact like touching or shaking hands.
- Touching an object or surface with virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose or eyes before washing hands.
- Very rarely through fecal contamination.

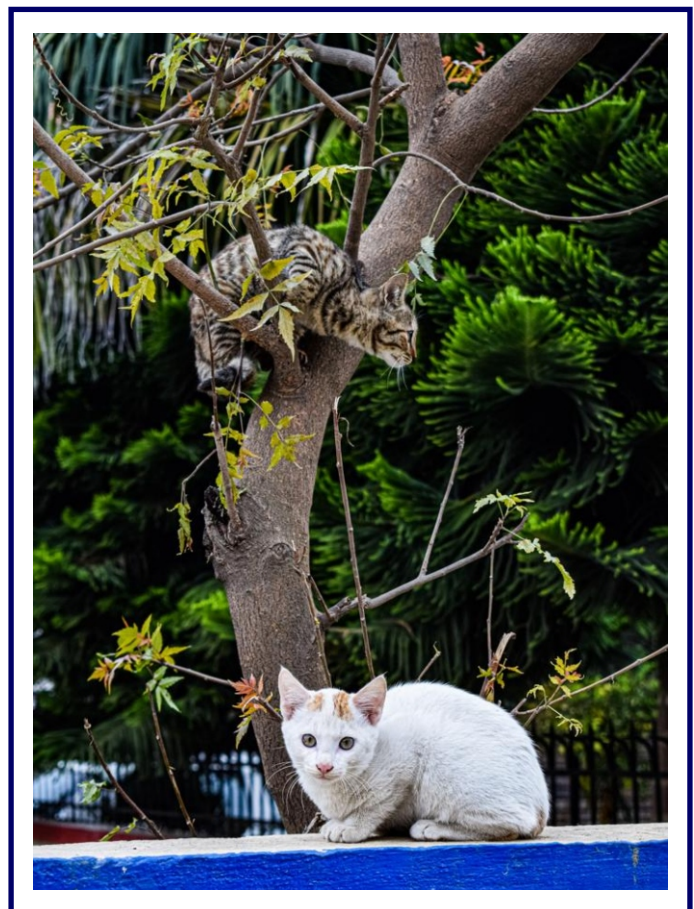
**Prevention** There is currently no vaccine is available to protect you against human corona viruses infection but transmission can be prevented through:

- Washing hands often with soap and water
- Avoiding touching a eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick. If anyone is mildly sick, he/she must take plenty of water, stay at, home and rest. Lastly if you are concerned about your symptoms, you should see your healthcare provider without any delay.



*Dr. Pooja Naudiyal  
Assistant Professor,  
Department of MLT/MM*

## Photograph of the Month





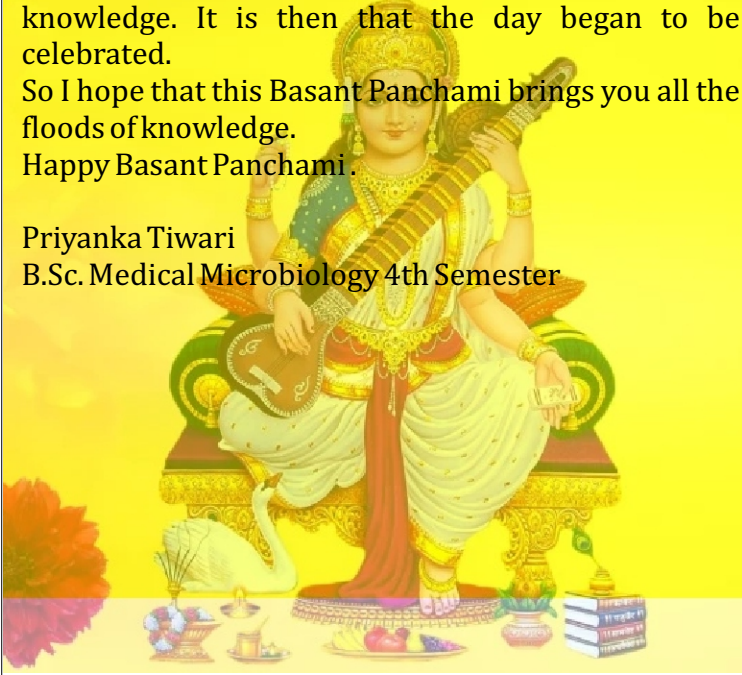
# Basant Panchami

With the golden rays of the sun ;  
With the yellowish charms of mustard ;  
With the kites touching the sky ;  
The very morning of Basant comes by.

The auspicious festival of Basant Panchami is celebrated in the month of magh according to the hindu calendar . It begins by workship of the Goddess of knowledge ; wisdom ; music and arts Maa Saraswati basant signifies predominantly the yellow colour which is also considered to be the favourite colour of Goddess Saraswati ; people have faith that wearing yellow colour on this day brings good luck to them. This festival is celebrated for welcoming the on set of spring season. Basant panchami is mostly celebrated in the Northern parts of India here people worship Goddesses Saraswati together with organising rituals ; and feeding Brahmins. The origin of this festival lie in Aryan period; the Aryans came and settled in India from Khyber Pass, crossing the Saraswati River .they were included under a primitive civilization, however most of their development took place later by along the banks of the River Saraswati. Thus, River Saraswati began to be associated with fertility and knowledge. It is then that the day began to be celebrated.

So I hope that this Basant Panchami brings you all the floods of knowledge.  
Happy Basant Panchami.

Priyanka Tiwari  
B.Sc. Medical Microbiology 4th Semester



# ACHIEVEMENT



**Suraj Sen** Student of **M. Sc. Biochemistry** (Batch 2017 - 2019) has published a book chapter recently with **Springer Nature Singapore Ltd.** The chapter entitled **Cyanobacteria: The Eco-friendly Tool for the Treatment of Industrial Wastewater** in the book

**Microorganisms for Sustainability Vol. 14: Environmental Contaminants: Ecological Implications and Management** under the supervision of **Dr. S. K. Karn**, Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry & Biotechnology, S.B.S. University, Dehradun. The abstract of the published chapter is given below.

## Chapter 8 Cyanobacteria: The Eco-friendly Tool for the Treatment of Industrial Wastewater



Suraj Sen and Santosh Kumar Karn

**Abstract** Cyanobacteria have been regarded as green eco-friendly bioremediation tools in recent years because of their potential applications in wastewater treatment. Several strains of cyanobacteria were reported to accumulate and detoxify different types of organic and inorganic pollutants. Studies also confirm that cyanobacterial consortia are capable of degrading oil components. There are still many unknown cyanobacteria that have tremendous degradation capacity for organic compounds present in nature, and it is important to assess the potential of cyanobacteria isolates indigenous to sites contaminated with organic and inorganic pollutants. Cyanobacteria are one of the potential organisms useful to mankind in various ways. Cyanobacteria constitute a vast potential resource in varied applications such as combating pollution, agriculture, food, feed, fuel, fertilizer, medicine, and industry.

**Keywords** Cyanobacteria · Wastewater · Organic and inorganic pollutants · Bioremediation · Degradation



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