

Visit of Prof. Rajesh Sani of SD Mines to Jaypee University of Information Technology

Day 1 – September 15, 2025

Prof. Rajesh Sani's visit formally began at 11:00 AM in the Meeting Room with a warm welcome extended by the Dean (Research and Internationalization) Prof. Sudhir Kumar. All University Deans and Department Heads (Biotechnology and Bioinformatics, CSE&IT, ECE, Civil Engineering, Humanities and Social Sciences, Mathematics, Physics and Material Science) attended this session. The inaugural session created an atmosphere of academic enthusiasm and collaboration. The interaction focused on multiple avenues for institutional partnerships between Jaypee University of Information Technology (JUIT) and SD Mines University. The major highlights were discussion on Accelerated Masters Programs across all the departments of JUIT. Prof. Sani elaborated on the following points:-

- Joint development of new academic courses,
- Strengthening Students' exchange programs,
- Collaborative efforts in research guidance, publications, projects.
- Broader prospects for academic enrichment and innovation.

Prof. Kumar thanked the SD Mines and Prof. Sani for support and guidance of JUIT students towards B.Tech. final year projects, Masters' and Ph.D. programs. 35 students were trained at SD Mines, majorly in Prof. Sani's group and MoU between two universities were renewed third time in October 2023. JUIT management honored Prof. Sani.



Interaction with Ph.D. Scholars (12:15 PM to 1:00 PM)

Prof. Sani interacted with research scholars of all departments at the Digital Learning Center (DLC) of JUIT. Prof. Sudhir Kumar formally introduced him as a Distinguished Professor at South Dakota Mines, highlighting his 19 years of pioneering research in extremophilic bioprocessing, synthetic biology, OMICS, and systems biology. Prof. Sani's leadership of the NSF BuG ReMeDEE consortium, his outstanding funding track record (\$68.8M across 57 projects), and his prolific research output (150 publications, h-index of 48, 12 invention disclosures, and 3 patents) were emphasized. His role as an educator and mentor, particularly in advancing STEM education, was also underscored. Prof. Sani expanded on his areas of expertise and provided valuable feedback on ongoing research projects of his lab. to research scholars. Research scholars asked questions related to publications, hypothesis and career options. In a separate discussion with Digital Learning Centre of JUIT, Prof. Sudhir highlighted the importance of this Unique DLC to begin 3+2, 2+2 programs between two universities in near future.



Interaction with 3rd and 4th year UG & PG students

The day concluded with an interactive session (2:30–4:00 PM, CR3), involving 3rd and 4th year undergraduate students and postgraduate students from Biotechnology (BT) and Bioinformatics (BI). Discussions revolved around student exchange programs, funding opportunities for MS and Ph.D. studies at SD Mines, and the academic environment at the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, SD Mines. Prof. Sani not only explained application procedures and eligibility criteria but also motivated students by sharing success stories of JUIT alumni, including Rimjhim, Ishika, Payal Thakur, and others who benefitted from foreign exchange opportunities with SD Mines. Prof. Sani shared their journey and research work and skills learnt by them at SD Mines.



The three students who has been selected for accelerated Masters Program of SD Mines interacted with Prof. Sani. All three are final year B.Tech. Biotechnology students named as Nidhi, Kartik, Pragati.



Day 2 – September 16, 2025

Science Communication and Research Project Writing

The second day commenced at 10:00 AM in the DLC, where Prof. Sani delivered a lecture on “Science Communication and Research Project Writing.” The session, designed primarily for faculty across all the departments, offered practical guidelines on effectively communicating scientific ideas, preparing competitive project proposals, and improving research visibility at an international level.

Between 11:00 AM and 12:00 Noon, Prof. Sani held a focused meeting with Prof. Sudhir in the Dean’s Research Office to review ongoing collaborative activities under the existing MoU. The discussion identified progress milestones and opened avenues for expanding joint research and academic ventures.

At 3:00 PM in Classroom No. 03, Prof. Sani interacted with students from Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE) and Civil Engineering (CE). He elaborated on international opportunities at SD Mines, specifically tailored to their fields, including research assistantships, funded projects, and student exchange programs. Few M.Tech. students took keen interest in understanding the program. The session aim was to scale up this program to various engineering branches. Prof. Gopal Singh Bisht of JUIT in coordinated these sessions.



Day 3 – September 17, 2025

The day started with Prof. Sani tour to various departmental laboratories of JUIT, concluding with the Computer Science project labs. He held stimulating discussions with students on their innovative projects, methodologies, and future prospects for collaborative research. Students presented their ongoing innovations, and Prof. Sani provided insights on improving methodologies, exploring interdisciplinary approaches, and aligning projects with global research trends.

Later, in the Dean (Research)'s Office, he conducted in-depth discussions with interested faculty members. Conversations centered around:

- Identifying overlapping research interests,
- Formulating joint research proposals, and
- Exploring potential for inter-institutional projects with international exposure.

Prof. Sani visited Biogas plant, which is installed close to mess of JUIT. The working of 3000 litres biogas reactor was explained by Prof. Kumar, he further added that four biogas plants are part of JUIT under the Centre of Sustainable Technologies for Rural Development. Prof. Sani proposed joint Master level research project looking into dynamics of microbial communities of this biogas plant. Prof. Kumar thankfully agreed and assured to plan this soon.



In the afternoon, Prof. Sani visited Mohan Heritgae Park, Solan and witnessed the scenic beauty and art and sculpture of the temple located in the park.



(Day 4 – September 18, 2025)

Meeting with Vice Chancellor of JUIT

The final day of Prof. Sani's visit began at 10:30 AM with a culmination meeting held in the Vice Chancellor's Office. The meeting served as a reflective summary of the visit and an appraisal of the outcomes achieved over the previous days. Prof. Sani presented a souvenir of SD Mines to Vice Chancellor Prof. Rajendra Kumar Sharma. Prof. Sharma thanked Prof. Sani for his visit, constant support to JUIT students and assured full support to start new Accelerate Masters Program across all departments. The final draft of Accelerated Masters' Program was finalized for the press meet.

Co-Supervision of Ph.D. Scholars

This was followed by a detailed session from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM with Prof. Sudhir, during which a strategic roadmap for the next six months was formulated. Key discussion points included the planning of future research projects, academic conferences, potential joint publications, and the co-supervision of undergraduate, postgraduate, and Ph.D. students. To start with Prof. Sani consented to be co-supervisor of a Ph.D. scholar Tuba Khan who works in e-waste bioleaching with Prof. Kumar. Prof. Sani met the scholar and advised her for innovative research work and use of PRISMA in her research review article.

Press Meet at JUIT to sign kick start Accelerated Master's Program

Jaypee University of Information Technology (JUIT), Waknaghat, has signed a landmark MoU with South Dakota Mines, USA, introducing a first-of-its-kind *Accelerated Master's Program*. The MoU was signed by Prof. (Dr.) Rajendra Kumar Sharma, Vice Chancellor, JUIT, and Prof. Rajesh Sani, Distinguished Professor and Director (MASON), South Dakota Mines. This new program is an offshoot of existing MoU of two universities.

This new program builds on the decade-long academic collaboration between JUIT and South Dakota Mines (since 2013). It offers students full tuition fee remission (approx. USD 18,000), a monthly stipend of USD 1,100–1,200, and the unique opportunity to begin Master's research during the 8th semester of B.Tech., thereby completing their degree in 1.5 years instead of 2 years. So far, 35 JUIT students have benefitted from the exchange program, with the new initiative further opening doors for global academic exposure. Among the first three students selected, Kartik from Solan, Himachal Pradesh (region where JUIT is located), has already secured admission. Prof. Sani beautifully presented his research work and journey of two JUIT interns turned to Masters students and now working as Ph.D. scholars. Representatives of Media (print and digital) praised the efforts of SD Mines and Prof. Sani brining this unique program.

Prof. Sudhir Kumar, Dean (Research & Internationalization), expressed gratitude to Prof. Sani and CEO Manu Bhaskar Gaur, while acknowledging the vision of Vice Chancellor Prof. Sharma. The MoU signing was attended by all Deans and HoDs, marking a historic step in JUIT's journey of academic excellence and internationalization.

This initiative is a major milestone for students of Himachal Pradesh, providing global opportunities, financial assistance, and advanced research platforms.





जेपी यूनिवर्सिटी ने साउथ डकोटा माइंस यूएसए के साथ किया एमओयू

हिमाचल दस्तक ■ सोलन

जेपी यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ इन्फॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी (जेयूआईटी), वाकनाघाट ने अमेरिका की प्रतिष्ठित साउथ डकोटा माइंस यूनिवर्सिटी के साथ एक ऐतिहासिक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं।

■ सहयोग के तहत एक्सेलेरेटेड मास्टर्स प्रोग्राम की शुरुआत

इस सहयोग के तहत एक्सेलेरेटेड मास्टर्स प्रोग्राम की शुरुआत की गई है, जो छात्रों को उच्च शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में बेहतरीन अंतरराष्ट्रीय अवसर प्रदान करेगा। यह एमओयू जेयूआईटी के कुलपति प्रो. (डॉ.) राजेंद्र कुमार शर्मा और साउथ डकोटा माइंस के डिस्टिंग्विश्ड प्रोफेसर एवं डायरेक्टर डॉ. राजेश सानी द्वारा हस्ताक्षरित किया गया। इस विशेष कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत



छात्रों को कई लाभ मिलेंगे, जिसमें पूर्ण शुल्क छूट (लगभग 18,000 अमेरिकी डॉलर तक) प्रति माह 1100 से 1200 अमेरिकी डॉलर का वजीफा। बी.टेक. के आठवें सेमेस्टर से ही मास्टर प्रोजेक्ट की शुरुआत का अवसर। केवल 1.5 वर्ष में मास्टर डिग्री पूर्ण करने का मौका। अब तक इस साझेदारी के तहत 35 छात्रों का चयन साउथ डकोटा माइंस में हो चुका है। इस

पहल से छात्रों को न केवल आर्थिक रूप से लाभ मिलेगा, बल्कि उन्हें वैश्विक स्तर पर शोध और उन्नत शिक्षा के अवसर भी प्राप्त होंगे। इस अवसर पर प्रो. सुधीर स्याल, डीन (रिसर्च एंड इंटरनेशनलाइजेशन), जेयूआईटी ने विश्वविद्यालय प्रबंधन का आभार व्यक्त करते हुए कहा कि यह उपलब्धि सीईओ मनु भास्कर गौर की गहरी रुचि और निरंतर समर्थन से संभव हो पाई है।

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ने जो कथित बैठक की थी, उसका ट्रक यूनियन का उससे कोई लेना-देना नहीं है और 25 सितंबर को जो आम सभा बुलाई गई है, उससे भी यूनियन के लोगों का कोई मतलब नहीं है।

बैठक में ट्रक यूनियन का कोई पदाधिकारी नहीं जाएगा। आम सभा बुलाने के लिए पहले बैठक बुलाएंगे उसके बाद नियम के तहत आम सभा बुलाई जाएगी। ट्रक ऑपरेटर स्वर्ण सिंह ने कहा कुछ लोगों ने यूनियन के पैसों का दुरुपयोग किया। खुलासा होने पर उन्होंने यह पैसे जुमाने के तौर

पर जमा भी कराए, लेकिन यूनियन के पदाधिकारियों ने उन पर कोई कार्रवाई

मामले को लेकर एसपी से बर्ददी (सोलन)। पूर्व विधायक परमजीत सोसायटी के पदाधिकारियों पर जबरन मामला मिला। उन्होंने जिस प्रकार सोसायटी के पदा यूनियन को कमजोर करने का प्रयास किया इस यूनियन को कुछ लोग अपने फायदे के नालागद ट्रक यूनियन एक है। इसे जो भी बर्दाश्त नहीं किया जाएगा। उन्होंने एसपी की मांग की है। संवाद

जमा भी कराए, लेकिन यूनियन के पदाधिकारियों ने उन पर कोई कार्रवाई

विद्यार्थियों को अमेरिका में पढ़ने का मिलेगा मौका

कंडाघाट(सोलन)। जेपी विवि वाकनाघाट ने साउथ डकोटा माइन्स यूएसए के साथ एक महत्वपूर्ण समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए। इसके तहत एक अनूठे मास्टर कार्यक्रम एक्सेलीटेंड मास्टर प्रोग्राम की घोषणा की।

यह एमओयू जेयूआईटीके कुलपति प्रो. राजेंद्र कुमार शर्मा और साउथ डकोटा माइंस के डिस्टिंग्विश्ड प्रोफेसर एवं निदेशक डॉ. राजेश सानी ने हस्ताक्षरित किया। इस कार्यक्रम के तहत छात्रों को पूर्ण शुल्क छूट करीब 18 हजार अमेरिकी डॉलर, प्रति माह 11 सौ से 12 सौ अमेरिकी डॉलर का वजीफा मिलेगा। बीटेक, के आठवें सेमेस्टर से ही मास्टर प्रोजेक्ट शुरू करने का अवसर, केवल डेढ़ वर्ष में मास्टर डिग्री पूर्ण करने का मौका। अब तक 35 छात्र इस साझेदारी के तहत साउथ डकोटा माइंस में चयनित हो चुके हैं। संवाद

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जेपी यूनिवर्सिटी का साउथ डकोटा माइंस यूएसए के साथ एमओयू

अनंत ज्ञान, सोलन

जेपी यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ इन्फॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी (जेयूआईटी), वाकनाघाट ने अमेरिका की प्रतिष्ठित साउथ डकोटा माइंस यूनिवर्सिटी के साथ एमओयू किया। इस सहयोग के तहत एक्सेलेरेटेड मास्टरस प्रोग्राम की शुरुआत की गई है, जो छात्रों को उच्च शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में बेहतरीन अंतरराष्ट्रीय अवसर प्रदान करेगा। यह एमओयू जेयूआईटी के कुलपति प्रो. (डॉ.) राजेंद्र कुमार शर्मा और साउथ डकोटा माइंस के डिस्टिंग्विशड प्रोफेसर एवं डायरेक्टर डॉ. राजेश सानी द्वारा हस्ताक्षरित किया गया।

इस विशेष कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत छात्रों को कई लाभ मिलेंगे, जिसमें पूर्ण शुल्क छूट (लगभग 18,000 अमेरिकी डॉलर तक) प्रति माह 1100 से 1200 अमेरिकी डॉलर का वजीफा। बीटेक के आठवें सेमेस्टर



एमओयू के दौरान दोनों यूनिवर्सिटी के प्रतिनिधि।

से ही मास्टर प्रोजेक्ट की शुरुआत का अवसर। केवल 1.5 वर्ष में मास्टर डिग्री पूर्ण करने का मौका। अब तक इस साझेदारी के तहत 35 छात्रों का चयन साउथ डकोटा माइंस में हो चुका है। वैश्विक स्तर पर शोध और उन्नत शिक्षा के अवसर भी प्राप्त होंगे। इस अवसर पर प्रो. सुधीर स्याल, डीन (रिसर्च एंड इंटरनेशनलाइजेशन), जेयूआईटी ने

विश्वविद्यालय प्रबंधन का आभार व्यक्त करते हुए कहा कि यह उपलब्धि सीईओ मनु भास्कर गौर की गहरी रुचि और निरंतर समर्थन से संभव हो पाई है। उन्होंने कुलपति प्रो. (डॉ.) राजेंद्र कुमार शर्मा के नेतृत्व और मार्गदर्शन की भी सराहना की। कार्यक्रम के तहत चयनित तीन छात्रों में से एक छात्र कार्तिक (सोलन, हिमाचल प्रदेश) से हैं।

Video Links of Press Coverage

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X3DKMcOPQeg>

https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?ref=watch_permalink&v=1452909579274725&rdid=bmfZtMjtv8M9agrw

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1559987145244295>

<https://punjabdastak.com/2025/09/18/%e0%a4%9c%e0%a5%87%e0%a4%af%e0%a5%82%e0%a4%86%e0%a4%88%e0%a4%9f%e0%a5%80-%e0%a4%a8%e0%a5%87-%e0%a4%b8%e0%a4%be%e0%a4%89%e0%a4%a5-%e0%a4%a1%e0%a4%95%e0%a5%8b%e0%a4%9f%e0%a4%be-%e0%a4%ae%e0%a4%be/>

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1498018244534747&rdid=it2gOF8IF8TdzWw>

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1454663962247949>

<https://www.facebook.com/100065072432551/posts/1168672341978503/?mibextid=rS40aB7S9Ucbxw6v>

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1431903567886609&rdid=fsEApr5SX1tVfwzo>

Afternoon in Shimla – Meeting SD Mines Graduated Student

After the session Prof. Sani visited Shimla, further broadening the academic and cultural scope of his visit. The Shimla visit include meeting with JUIT alumni Dr. Payal Thakur who graduated from SD Mines with excellent track record of research publications. Discussion on future course of action, collaborations were held in an informal way. Prof. Sani congratulated Dr. Payal for her near future marriage and career related plans.



(Day 5 – September 19, 2025)

Concluding Meeting

Prof. Sani, Prof. Sharma (Vice Chancellor JUIT) and Prof. Kumar (Dean – Research and Internationalization) had a breakfast meeting and this concluded the visit. It was decided that on agenda points of joint research, Accelerated Masters program, on collaborative workshops. Prof. Sharma highlighted the importance of foreign exposure to students and also shared his recent experience in a leadership course at Harvard University. Prof. Sani also handed over a souvenir of SD Mines for CEO JUIT – Sh. Manu Bhaskar Gaur with a message. Prof. Sani invited Prof. Sharma to SD Mines in near future which was thankfully acknowledged by Prof. Sharma.

Prof. Sani departed from JUIT with positive note and a very successful visit.
