Institutional Distinctiveness – Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak

In letter and spirit of the Maharshi Dayanand University Act, 1975, passed by the Haryana Legislative Assembly seeking "to establish and incorporate a teaching-cum-affiliating University at Rohtak for the encouragement of Inter-disciplinary higher education and research with special emphasis on studies of Life Sciences and Environmental and Ecological Sciences", the University has come a long way while traversing an eventful path in the form of the world class facilities. The University's aspiration to be a leading transformative learning community recognized world-wide for excellence in teaching, research and service and as a catalyst for intellectual, social, cultural and economic development is truly reflected in terms of the state of the art facilities, dynamic human resource and above all the quality of research output. All this has resulted in significant improvement in the quality of learning and teaching, expanded research capabilities, introduction of innovative and interdisciplinary programmes etc. thereby, increased visibility of Life Sciences and earning them a place both regionally and nationally.

In this regard, the University has undertaken numerous initiatives, of which the few salient ones are enumerated below:

- State-of-art infrastructure and Research laboratories with sophisticated instruments
- Well qualified and motivated faculty with specialization in niche areas
- Excellent facilities in form of Herbal Garden, Green House, Animal house, Central Instrumentation Laboratory etc.
- MOU's with renowned Institutes/Universities for academic and research collaborations and exchange programmes.
- Start-up grants for the young researchers
- Flexitimings for faculty to promote independent and innovative research
- Provision of duty/academic/study leave and financial assistance to the teachers
- Sponsorship for overseas travel for international conferences and for collaborative research
- Implementation of Research Promotion Policy, IPR Policy, Rules for Consultancy Services of the University, Code of Ethics for Academic Integrity and Plagiarism.
- Functional R D Cell, Environmental Sustainability Management Cell and Intellectual Property Rights Cell

The thrust areas of Life Sciences in academic and research are:

- Human genomics
- System Biology
- Microbial Biotechnology and Enzyme Technology
- Clinical Biochemistry and Material Science
- Molecular Diagnostics
- Ethnobotany
- Stress Physiology

The impact of various initiatives reflecting the distinctiveness in Life sciences and Pharmaceutical Sciences can be clearly seen in terms of:

- Publication of more than 1000 research papers in journals of national and international repute and more than 200 books/book chapters by the Faculty members.
- Funding of more than 3 crores for research projects by various funding agencies like UGC, DBT, ICMR, DST-FIST etc.
- DBT-HRD and DBTBTIS net programmes in Centre for Medical Biotechnology and Centre for Bioinformatics respectively.
- UGC SAP projects in Department of Genetics and Department of Biotechnology
- DST FIST projects in the Department of Genetics, Zoology, Botany, Biochemistry, Microbiology and Centre of Biotechnology
- Funding for Global Initiative for Academic Network (GIAN), Ministry of Human Resource and Development, Government of India.

The initiatives and measures including the above have enabled the Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak to benchmark among the best universities in the country.