

IIT MANDI

PLACEMENT BROCHURE

M.A Development Studies 2025-26



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, MANDI

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INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, MANDI



| From the Chairperson



Dr. Surya Prakash Upadhyay

Associate Professor and Chairperson

I am delighted to introduce the talented graduates of the Master of Arts in Development Studies program at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi. Our students possess comprehensive knowledge of the issues of development in India, directions in which the development sector needs to focus, research skills, and practical experience to address pressing development challenges. The uniqueness of our program and specially designed curriculum equips them with interdisciplinary approaches, focussing on sustainability, social justice, and rights to develop. The research-driven and fieldwork intensive courses allow students to engage with diversities in the field. Our M.A -DS students could be utilized for policy analysis and advocacy, research and project management and social scientific evaluation of various governmental as well as non-governmental programs and schemes. The SHSS invites you to explore the profiles and achievements of our outstanding graduates. Together, let's build a more equitable and sustainable world.

Dr. Surya Prakash Updadhayay
Chairperson
IIT Mandi

| From the Faculty Advisor



Dr. Neha Kaushik
Assistant Professor

We are pleased to invite you to our campus to engage with and recruit from our talented pool of MA in Development Studies graduates. Our program equips students with the analytical abilities and critical thinking required for well-informed decision-making across a variety of sectors by combining demanding academic instruction with hands-on exposure to real-world development challenges.

Our graduates have gone on to pursue successful careers in academia, research, corporate enterprises, NGOs, development agencies, and entrepreneurial ventures. With a curriculum that is aligned with national and international standards and coursework that emphasizes both theory and practice, they are well-prepared to contribute meaningfully to social change and meet diverse professional demands. Their enthusiasm and commitment to impactful work make them valuable assets to any organisation.

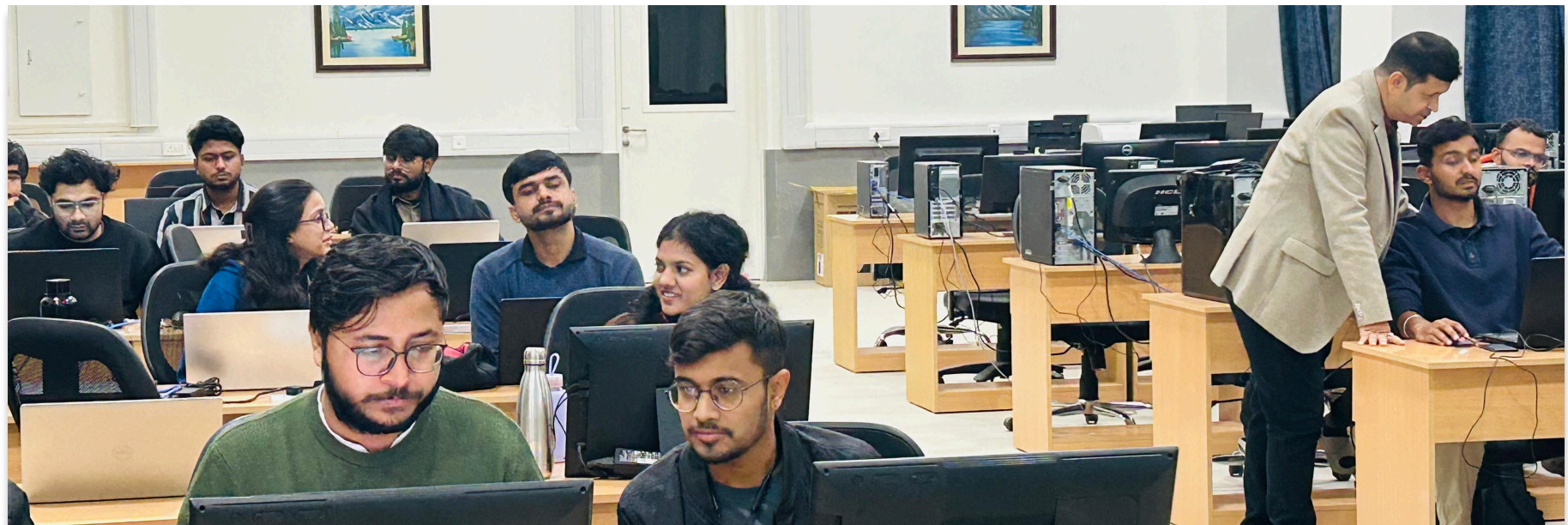
Dr. Neha Kaushik

| About us



Ensuring sustainable development requires not only an in-depth knowledge of how the society functions but also the understanding of past and current development processes and practices. With several possible developmental pathways, one has to ensure that the choices made are informed, given the fact that resources are scarce. The MA Programme in Development Studies at IIT Mandi aims to create a pool of development practitioners and/or academics, who will be well equipped to participate in the process of such informed decision making. The location of the Institute also provides the programme with a unique opportunity to deal with development challenges in the Indian Himalayan Region, which has local, regional and global relevance. School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS) at Indian Institute of Technology Mandi (IIT Mandi) has carved a niche for itself through its academic and research activities in disciplines ranging from Economics to English Literature, World Literature, German, Sociology, History, Himalayan Studies, Development Studies and allied areas. Participation of faculty from Engineering and Basic Sciences through teaching and guiding projects makes the programme truly interdisciplinary.

It also helps students to learn basic scientific and technological underpinning of some of the developmental challenges and their existing remedies. We believe that understanding past development processes and ensuring future development require an in-depth knowledge of how society works – its economic, social, political, environmental, technological and cultural aspects. The academic endeavour of the School thus focuses on critical thinking and rational enquiry into complex disciplinary and interdisciplinary problems of the human society around these areas. The graduates of this programme will be equipped to pursue further academic research and will have high job prospects in national and international development agencies.



| Faculty



Dr. Shyamasree Dasgupta

Associate Professor
Discipline : Economics



Dr. Manu V Devadevan

Associate Professor
Discipline : History



Dr. Ramna Thakur

Associate Professor
Discipline : Economics



Dr. Surya Prakash Upadhyay

Associate Professor
Discipline : Sociology



Dr. Rajeshwari Dutt

Associate Professor
Discipline : History



Dr. Suman Sigroha

Associate Professor
Discipline : English Literature



Dr. Neethi Vadakkan Alexander

Assistant Professor
Discipline : English Literature



Dr. Devika Sethi

Assistant Professor
Discipline : History

| Faculty



Dr. Nilamber Chhetri

Assistant Professor
Discipline : Sociology



Dr. Thirthankar Chakraborty

Assistant Professor
Discipline : English Literature



Dr. Aruna Bommareddi

Assistant Professor
Discipline : English Literature



Dr. Juan Luis Toribio

Visiting Assistant Professor
Discipline : Comparative Literature



Dr. Saumya Malviya

Assistant Professor
Discipline : Sociology



Dr. Neha Kaushik

Assistant Professor
Discipline : Translation and German Studies



Dr. Aparna Malviya

Visiting Assistant Professor
Discipline : Sociology

Project Management

Our program equips students with strong project management skills. They learn to plan, execute, and evaluate development projects efficiently, managing resources, timelines, and stakeholder expectations to achieve successful outcomes. This competence is essential for leading and implementing development initiatives effectively.

Innovation and Adaptability

Graduates are trained to think creatively and adapt to evolving challenges. They are skilled in designing innovative solutions and responding flexibly to changing conditions and emerging issues, which is crucial in the dynamic field of development.

Cultural Sensitivity and Ethical Awareness

Students develop a deep understanding of cultural diversity and ethical considerations in development work. They learn to engage with communities respectfully and ensure that their interventions are culturally appropriate and ethically sound, fostering trust and cooperation.

Research and Analytical Skills

Graduates are proficient in conducting rigorous research and employing advanced analytical techniques. The students are trained with **R, Power BI, MS Excel and STATA**. They are trained to gather, interpret, and utilize data effectively to inform development strategies and decision-making processes, ensuring that their work is evidence-based and impactful.

| Core Competencies

Multidisciplinary Expertise

Our graduates possess a broad and nuanced understanding of development issues through a comprehensive study of **economics, sociology, history, global health, geography and technology**. This interdisciplinary knowledge equips them to analyze problems from multiple perspectives and craft well-rounded solutions.

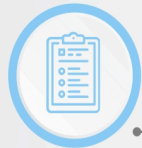
Practical Experience

Hands-on learning is integral to our program. Through **immersive field studies, practicums, and guided internships**, students gain direct experience in real world development scenarios. This practical exposure hones their ability to apply theoretical knowledge effectively and prepares them to tackle the complexities of development work.

Effective Communication

Graduates are adept at articulating their research findings and development proposals to a diverse range of stakeholders. They excel in both technical and non-technical communication, ensuring that their ideas are conveyed clearly and persuasively to policymakers, community members, and academic peers.

| Where do we fit in



**Development and
Policy Analysis**



**International
Development and
Aid Organizations**



**Nonprofit and
NGO Management**



**Development
Communication
& PR**



**Social Services
and Community
Development**



**Environmental
Sustainability
and Policy**



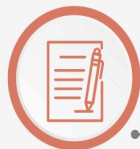
**Academia and
Education**



**Consulting and
Research**



**Healthcare
Management
and Public Health**



**Urban
and Regional
Planning**



**Education
Policy and
Administration**



**Data Science
and Analysis**



**Economic Analysis
and Forecasting**



**Market Research
and Consumer
Insights**



**Corporate Social
Responsibility
(CSR)**



**Human Rights
Advocacy and
Policy**

Development Practicum

: A real world learning

Our coursework foundational experience is the development practicum, where we evaluate and apply the lessons we've learned in class by working on real-world issues outside of the classroom. Some of the practicums that our batch worked on are :

**Assessment of GI Tagging
and Labelling of Kullu
Shawls**

**Analysis of Implementation
of Forest Rights Act, 2006 in
Kullu Valley**

**Digitisation of Himalayan
Literature and Culture**

**Trajectory of Survival from
Emigration to Deportation**

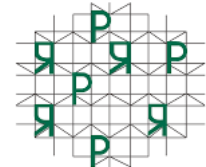
Fieldwork Experiences

As an essential component of our program, students are sent to varied organizations to complete their summer fieldwork experiences. Students are given the flexibility to choose the organization wherein they wish to gain fieldwork experiences. Some organizations visited by our students are-

- Himdhara
- Professional Assistance for Development Action
- People for Himalayan Development
- Waste Warriors
- Piramal Foundation
- Goonj
- Ekta Parishad
- Ajit Foundation
- Centre for Good Governance
- Environmental Planning & Coordination (EPCO)
- Kailash Satyarthi Movement for Global Compassion
- Technology and Government Support Forum
- Prayog Samaj



PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE
FOR DEVELOPMENT ACTION

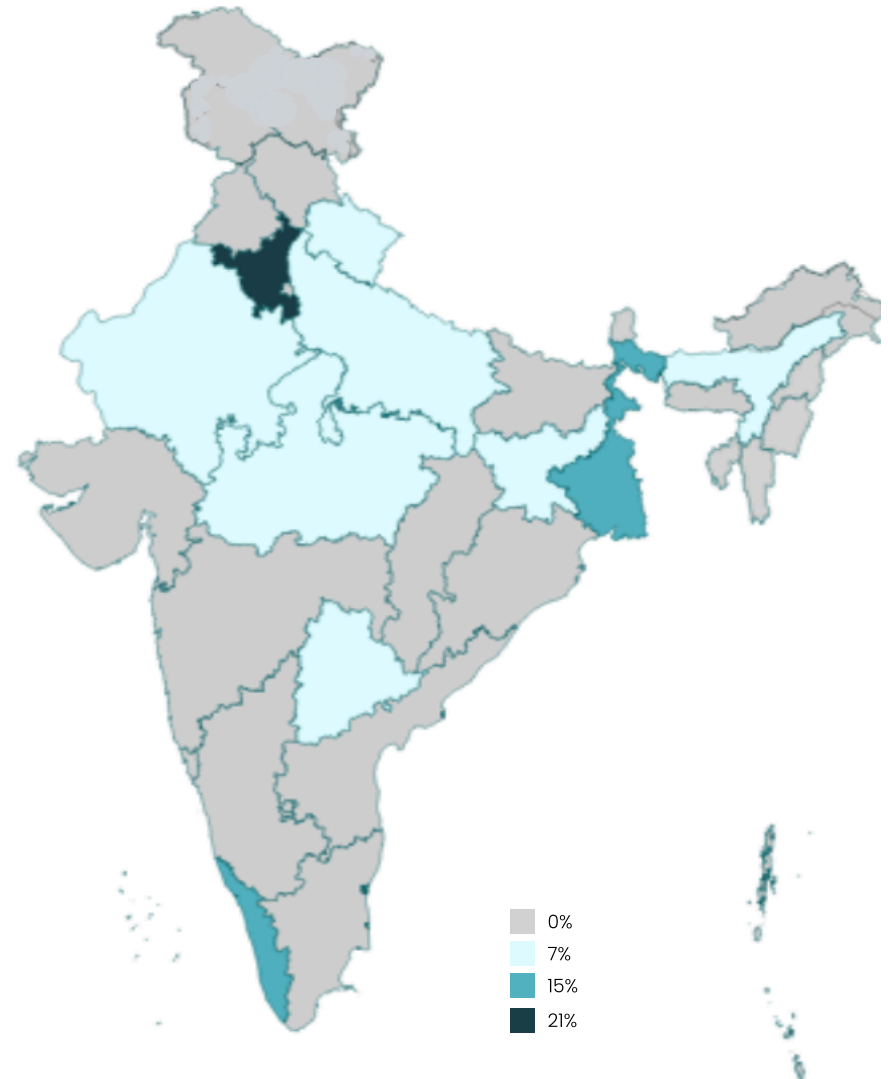
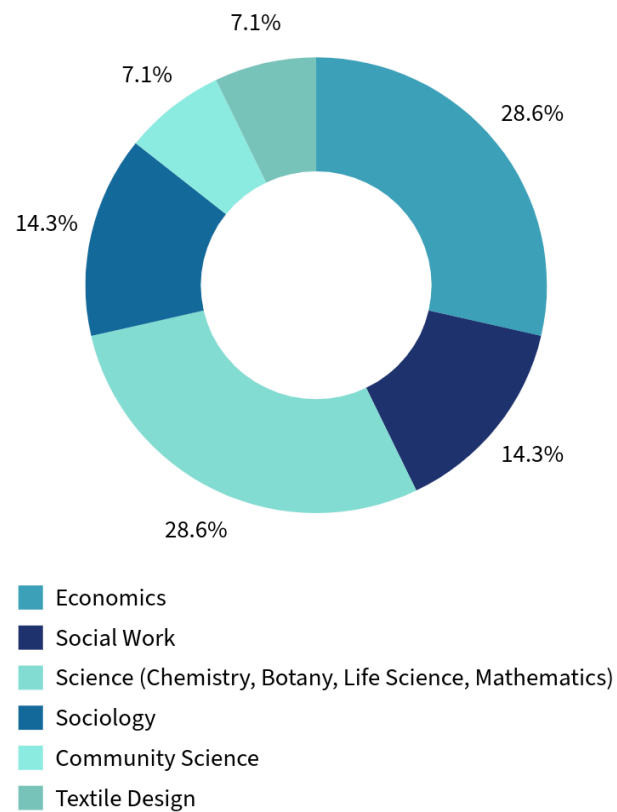


EPCO

Environmental Planning & Coordination Organisation (EPCO)

| Demographics : Batch of 2024-26

50% - 50%



| Student's Profile



Anjali Singh

Student's ID: A24001

Bachelor's Degree: B.A (H) Social Work

Email ID: a24001@students.iitmandi.ac.in

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/anjali-singh2801

Interest Areas: CSR, Policy Analysis, Rural Development, Research

Dedicated development professional with extensive field experience in policy research, community engagement, and data analysis. Skilled in evaluating food security, sustainable agriculture, and gender issues. Passionate about driving social change through grassroots insights and evidence-based policymaking. Experienced with SPSS, Power BI, and survey tools like KoboToolbox and Google Forms.

Key Skills : Field Research & Data Collection, Community Engagement, Survey Design & Implementation, Public Policy Analysis, Report Writing & Data Analysis



Mokshada Dubey

Student's ID: A24005

Bachelor's Degree: B.Sc. (H) Economics

Email ID: a24005@students.iitmandi.ac.in

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/mokshada-dubey-b4521a231

Interest Areas: Development and Policy Analysis, Livelihood, Governance, Social services and Community Development

With a keen interest in public policy, political economy, and social development, my journey spans research, policy analysis, and educational outreach through engagements with IGRMS and the Centre for Policy Research and Governance. As a UN Millennium Fellow, I worked toward advancing gender equality and social inclusion, while environmental advocacy found expression through volunteering in the Save Dumna Campaign. Deeply passionate about writing, art, and poetry, I strive to integrate creative expression with interdisciplinary knowledge to address pressing social issues, seeking opportunities to remain open to diverse perspectives and possibilities.

Key Skills : Public Speaking, Qualitative Research, Basic Graphic Designing, Creative Writing, Community Engagement

| Student's Profile



Muhamed Hadi

Student's ID: A24006

Bachelor's Degree: B.A (H) Sociology

Email ID: a24006@students.iitmandi.ac.in

LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/in/muhamed-hadi-0a9586353](https://www.linkedin.com/in/muhamed-hadi-0a9586353)

Interest Areas: Academic Research

I am a Master's student in MA Development Studies at IIT Mandi. I hold an undergraduate degree in BA (Hons.) Sociology from Hindu College, University of Delhi. I have qualified the GATE Exam 2025 in Sociology with an All India Rank of 528. My academic interests encompass urban sociology and the sociology of religion. I have prior experience in academic research, content creation, and report writing, and have trained in basic data analysis, enabling me to combine quantitative and qualitative methods effectively.

Key Skills : Qualitative Research, Academic and Research Writing, Report and Content Writing, Basic expertise in Data Analysis and Data Visualisation tools.



Sachin Saini

Student's ID: A24008

Bachelor's Degree: B.Sc. Mathematical Sciences

Email ID: a24008@students.iitmandi.ac.in

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/sachin-saini-6b98a61a5

Interest Areas: International Relations, National Security, Policy Research, Climate Change

My academic background has equipped me with analytical skills, while my experience in community engagement through various field study projects as part of my coursework has deepened my understanding of grassroots perspectives and policy impact. I am particularly drawn to how emerging global threats—such as climate change, resource scarcity, and geopolitical instability—intersect with national security concerns. I am passionate about contributing to sustainable development strategies that not only mitigate environmental risks but also enhance human security, social resilience, and long-term geopolitical stability through informed, data-driven policy making.

Key Skills : Project Management, Data Analysis, Community Engagement, Policy Evaluation

| Student's Profile



Sania Khan

Student's ID: A24009

Bachelor's Degree: B.A (H) Economics

Email ID: a24009@students.iitmandi.ac.in

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/sania-khan-2507sk

Interest Areas: CSR, Policy Research, Social Consulting, Livelihood and Education

A confident and motivated development enthusiast my professional experience spans sectors of education and livelihood generation. My experience with several social enterprises - UNESCO, IFF CSR, Khushii NGO, Indorama CSR, has honed my skills in project management, research, community development and stakeholder engagement. I've coordinated diverse teams and led initiatives aimed at empowering local and vulnerable communities. Passionate about inclusive education and sustainable development, I seek meaningful roles where I can collaborate to address grassroots challenges through data-informed and participatory approaches.

Key Skills : Program Development and Management, Data Analysis, Qualitative and Quantitative Research, Field Research, Academic Writing, Community Engagement



Sneha Vijayan

Student's ID: A24010

Bachelor's Degree: B.Sc. (H) Chemistry

Email ID: a24010@students.iitmandi.ac.in

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/snehavijayan410>

Interest Areas: ESG Consulting, Public Policy, Social Impact Assessment

I aim to work at the intersection of science and social impact. My internships at the Ministry of External Affairs and the University of Delhi have honed my skills in policy analysis and qualitative and quantitative research. Fieldwork experiences with grassroots non-profit organizations have equipped me with hands-on experience in survey design, monitoring and evaluation, and stakeholder engagement. Passionate about climate resilience, public health, and sustainable livelihoods, I bring a strong foundation in fieldwork and policy-driven research to contribute meaningfully to the development sector.

Key Skills : Qualitative and Quantitative Research, Academic Writing, Data Analysis, Survey Design

| Student's Profile



Sushma Deopa

Student's ID: A24012

Bachelor's Degree: B.Sc. Life Science

Email ID: a24012@students.iitmandi.ac.in

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sushma-deopa-77513a30a>

Interest Areas: Policy Research and Analysis ,Environmental and Social Impact Assessment, CSR, Livelihood and Governance

Native of a hilly district in Uttarakhand, I share a grounded perspective on local livelihood, ecological, social, cultural and environmental development and concerns at the grassroot level. My interest areas include Policy research, livelihood and governance, social and environmental impact assessment and social responsibility. My recent field work on the policy implementation and implications in the indigenous communities of Himachal Pradesh has developed my skill in policy analysis and community engagement. The interdisciplinary academic foundation helps me to integrate perspectives from the social sciences and natural sciences to inform an evidence based research approach in varied fields.

Key Skills : Policy evaluation, Survey Design, Research, Community engagement, Academic Writing



Mayank Mishra

Student's ID: A24014

Bachelor's Degree: B.A Sociology

Email ID: a24014@students.iitmandi.ac.in

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/mayank-mishra-222681285/>

Interest Areas: CSR, Socio-Economic Impact Assessment, Sustainable Regenerative Practices

A native of Jharkhand, I am deeply passionate about understanding communities from their roots and have long aspired to document the unheard stories of people from my town. Fieldwork experiences with grassroots non-profit organization Pradan, along with a practicum on the impact assessment of Kullu shawls, have equipped me with hands-on exposure to development realities and strengthened my understanding of sustainable livelihoods and cultural economies. I have actively contributed to movements like Save Soil and Rally for Rivers, advocating for regenerative policy changes. I seek to apply my academic grounding and life experiences toward fostering inclusive, sustainable, and community-driven development.

Key Skills : Sustainable Livelihood Design, Research, Community Engagement

| Student's Profile



Mohit Kumar

Student's ID: A24015

Bachelor's Degree: B.A (H) Social Work

Email ID: a24015@students.iitmandi.ac.in

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/mohit-kumar-586975260>

Interest Areas: Development and Policy Analysis, International Development and Aid Organisations, CSR

I am a dedicated student of Development Studies with hands-on experience in Rural and Urban fieldwork. With a strong commitment to improving the lives of marginalized communities, I aim to make a meaningful impact and career in the social sector. I am enthusiastic about policy making, Development and Policy Analysis, International Development and Aid Organisations, CSR. I am always keen to update myself on Developments related to Global south, National Security, International relations, civil-military fusion and climate change. I am a quick learner eager to expand my knowledge domain. My prior experience has honed my skills in community development. and engagement.

Key Skills : Community Engagement, Data Analysis, Field Research, Quantitative and Qualitative Research



Silumula Rajiv Lochan

Student's ID: A24016

Bachelor's Degree: B.A (H) Economics

Email ID: a24016@students.iitmandi.ac.in

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/rajivlochan-silumula-475173276

Interest Areas: CSR, ESG Consulting, Policy Research and Analysis, Socio-Economic Impact Assessment

Postgraduate in Development Studies with a B.A. (Hons) in Economics, passionate about CSR, ESG consulting, and socio-economic impact assessment. Hands-on experience at Goonj in grassroots program implementation. Strong research and data analysis skills, with a keen interest in aligning business economics with sustainable practices. A strategic thinker, driven by purpose and impact.

Key Skills : Program Planning and Management, Impact Evaluation and Data Analysis Qualitative and Quantitative Research

| Student's Profile



Soumyadeep Khan

Student's ID: A24018

Bachelor's Degree: B.A (H) Economics

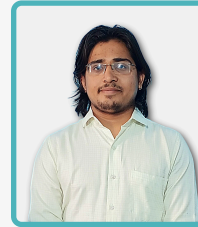
Email ID: a24018@students.iitmandi.ac.in

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/soumyadeepkhan/>

Interest Areas: Technology Policy, Foreign Policy, AI Governance and Digital Public Infrastructure

An impact-driven and result-oriented individual, I hail from a small town in Purulia, West Bengal. My professional experiences—as a full-time Public Policy Associate at Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), and through research internships with the Office of Dr. Sambit Patra, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha, PRADAN, The Economic Times, and Reliance Securities—have significantly enriched my understanding of governance systems and policy frameworks. Notably, I earned the prestigious President's Award at the 5th Global Youth Environment Essay Contest, hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea, and was a United Nations Millennium Fellow (Cohort of 2023), where I developed a strong inclination towards Technology Policy, Foreign Policy, and Development Economics, and continuously seek to broaden my array of interests.

Key Skills : Data Analysis and Data Visualisation, Policy and Economic Research, Content Creation, Persuasive Speaking and Social Entrepreneurship



Naveen

Student's ID: A24021

Bachelor's Degree: B.Sc. (H) Community Science

Email ID: a24021@students.iitmandi.ac.in

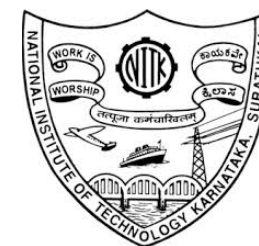
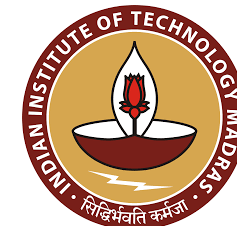
LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/naveen-12b64020b

Interest Areas: Policy Research, Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (Nutrition, Agricultural, Livelihoods, Education, Climate Change, Environment), Development & Investigative Journalism (Human Rights, Environment, Climate change, Public Health, Governance, political analyst), Grassroots Development Practice & Communication

I have deep curiosity about the intricacies of human society, I am eager to dive into economical and social aspects of development of the society. I have worked for the socio economic impact assessment of the landslides in Himachal Pradesh. I have had a field experience of the local market economy and socio economic impact of the rural haats in Bihar. Currently I am working with an organisation in Himachal Pradesh on Waste Management. I embrace the challenge of rigorous analysis and am dedicated to working hard to contribute meaningful insights to the field. With a commitment to thorough investigation and a love for learning, I wish to grow professionally.

Key Skills : Impact Assessment, Report Writing and Data Analysis

Internships and Higher Studies



EPCO
Environmental Planning & Coordination Organisation (EPCO)

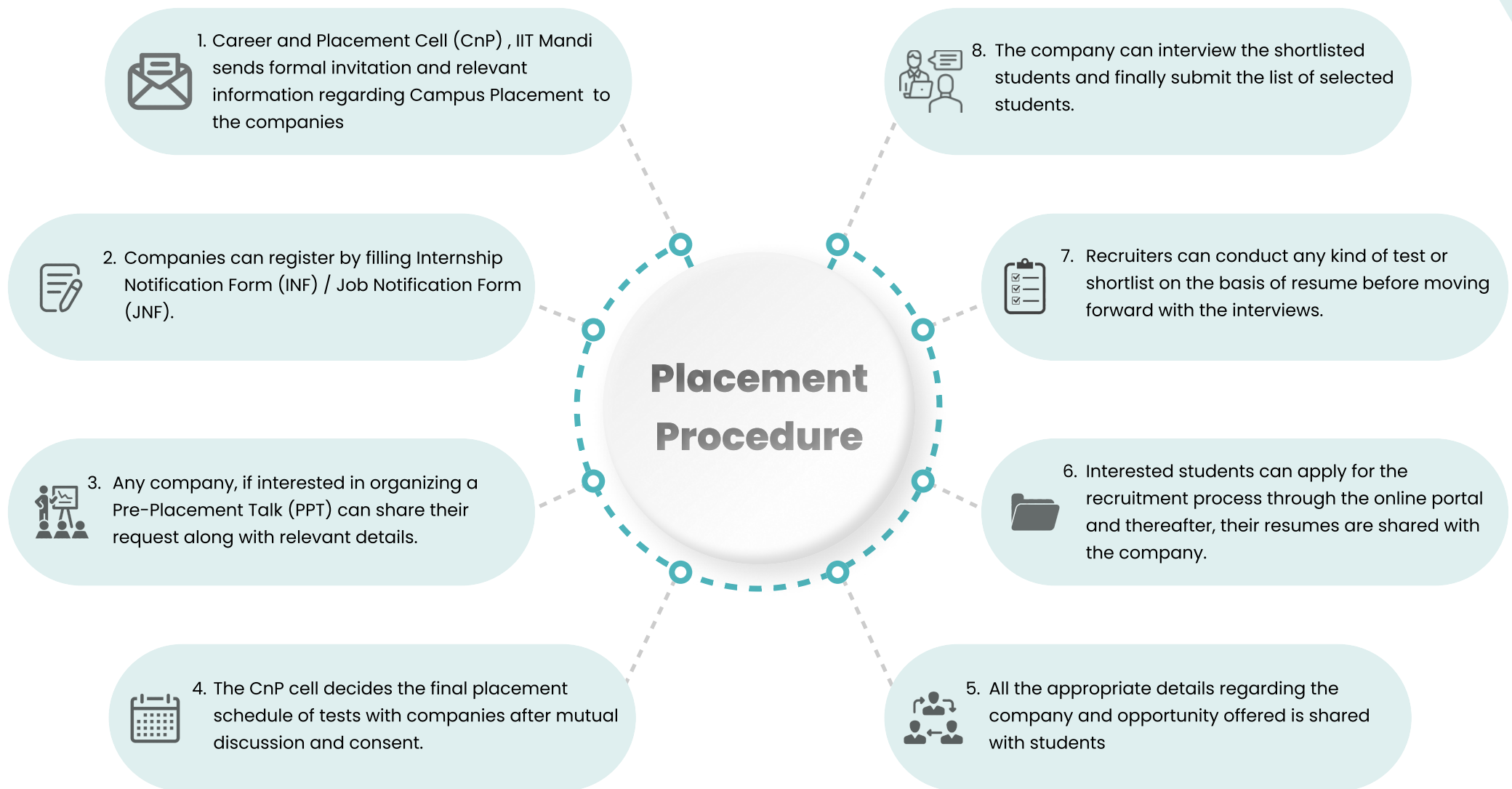


| Past Recruiters



DE Shaw & Co





| Contact Information

CAREER AND PLACEMENT CELL

Indian Institute of Technology, Mandi

Himachal Pradesh – 175005, India

placement@iitmandi.ac.in | +91-1905-267006

CAREER AND PLACEMENT FACULTY ADVISOR

Dr. K. V. Uday

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FACULTY ADVISOR, TRAINING AND INTERNSHIP

Dr. Rahul Shreshtha

advisor_tni@iitmandi.ac.in

Faculty Advisor (SHSS)

Dr. Neha Kaushik

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

neha@iitmandi.ac.in

STUDENT PLACEMENT COORDINATOR

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