## Plantation Drive at PU

A plantation drive was organized today by Horticulture Division of Panjab University near International Hostel in its South Campus. Sh. Davesh Moudgil, Mayor, Chandigarh was the Chief Guest on the occasion. He planted a sapling which was followed by other dignitaries present. The Mayor appreciated the efforts and further said that he will be more than willing to be part of such initiatives in future.

Prof. Nishtha Jaswal, Dean of University Instruction, encouraged the people to come forward to contribute their bit in the conservation of environment. Col. G.S. Chadha, Registrar, appreciating the efforts, said that the success of such events shows the concern of the people and youth in particular towards the environment.

Mrs. Radhika Anand, CEO & Founder, Plantology, a self funded organization and an alumnus of Panjab University donated about 1100 plants for this event. Plantology has been associated with such green initiatives in the past and has planted about 2,30,000 saplings in 14 states. Mrs. Anand interacted with NSS and NCC volunteers and appreciated their efforts.

Er. Anil Thakur, Divisional Engineer (Hort.), Panjab University apprised the Mayor and all those present that the Horticulture Division of Panjab University is always striving to make the Campus greener and cleaner and this drive is a humble step in this direction. He further stated that the Plantation Day has been organized for the first time in Panjab University and due to the overwhelming response it has received, the Plantation Day will be organised on 10<sup>th</sup> of July every year to commemorate the beginning of new session.

Plants such as Amaltas, Cassia Nodosa, Bottle Brush, Behera, Ashoka, Gulmohar, Lagerstroemia Speciosa were planted. First year students of University Institute of Hotel Management & Tourism, who have been in the University for attending their classes on first day under the able guidance of their Director, Dr. Prashant Kumar Gautam and other teachers also planted saplings. About 200 NCC and NSS Volunteers also participated in the event.

Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Kamal Jit Singh, Chair Professor Maharaja Ranjit Singh Chair, Panjab University, Prof. Anil Monga, Dean of Alumni Relations, Panjab University and Col. G.S. Chadha (Retd.), Registrar, Panjab University were the Guests of Honour. Prof. Emanual Nahar, Dean Student Welfare, Prof. Neena Capalash, Dean Student Welfare(W), Prof. Ranjan Kumar, Associate Dean Student Welfare, Dr. Ashwani Koul, Chief of University Security, Mrs. Renuka B Salwan, Director Public Relations, Mrs. Navdeep Sharma, Co-ordinator NSS, Sh. Jatinder Moudgil, Manager Press, Er. R.K. Rai, Executive Engineer & Ar. Harpreet Singh, Architect of Panjab University also graced the occasion. Teaching & Non-Teaching Staff, Wardens, retired Teaching & Non-teaching employees, Alumni of Panjab University, volunteers of NSS attended the event in large numbers. Hundreds of NCC Cadets came in their uniform to signify the National concern associated with the event.



