

प्रो (डॉ) जसपाल एस. सन्धु

सचिव

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University Grants Commission

(मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)  
(Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India)

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17<sup>th</sup> October, 2016

Dear Sir / Madam,

The Government of India observes 31<sup>st</sup> October all over the country as a day of special occasion, to foster and reinforce our dedication to preserve and strengthen unity, integrity and security of our nation, by celebrating it as **Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day)** to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Unifier of India.

It has been decided to hold a nation-wise campaign on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2016, and subsequently for a week up to 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2016, to honour the memory of Sardar Patel by conducting programmes and events which reflect his decisive efforts in unifying a diverse country like India. The following is a list of events that can be carried in memory of the great unifier by Higher Educational Institutions in the country:

- A **pledge taking ceremony** may be organized on 31.10.2016 to mark the occasion. The bi-lingual text of the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas Pledge is enclosed.
- A **March Past** may be organized on 31.10.2016 to boost sentiments that our nation will not countenance any force that seeks to threaten the unity, integrity and security of our nation.
- **Unity Runs** – in cities, towns and rural areas by students with the message of a unified Bharat.
- **Institutions** to bring out creative short clips on Unification – the best three would be selected for presentation to PMO.
- **Inter-Department competitions** within every institution in the area of unity.
- **Dramas, songs and plays** on the theme of unity with an award for most creative theme.
- **Historical essays** on the character and contribution of Sardar Patel with prizes.
- **Essay writing and elocution** on “Relevance and importance of Sardar Patel in today’s India.
- **Competition of designing T-shirts and caps** on the theme of Unification.
- **Most creative slogan contest** on the Unity theme.
- **Competition for writing/composition/singing original songs** on the unity theme.
- **Mobilization and felicitation** of former freedom fighters in the region by students-recording of their stories/recollections of Sardar Patel and views on current issues of unity.

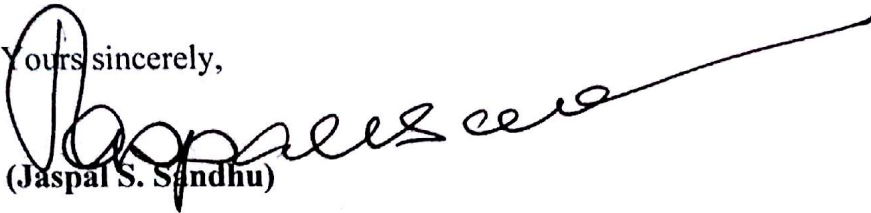
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As a mark of befitting respect to our beloved leader, you are requested to kindly ensure that these activities may be undertaken in your esteemed university and in all the affiliated colleges.

I would feel highly obliged, if the action taken on the above activities on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2016 and beyond for the event is sent to Ministry of Human Resource Development on sardarpatelanniv2016@gmail.com by 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2016.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

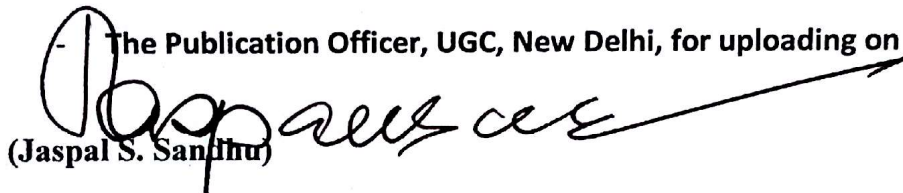


(Jaspal S. Sandhu)

The Vice-chancellors of all the Universities

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(Jaspal S. Sandhu)



## राष्ट्रीय एकता दिवस शपथ

मैं सत्यनिष्ठा से शपथ लेता हूँ कि मैं राष्ट्र की एकता, अखंडता और सुरक्षा को बनाए रखने के लिए स्वयं को समर्पित करूँगा और अपने देशवासियों के बीच यह संदेश फैलाने का भी भरसक प्रयत्न करूँगा। मैं यह शपथ अपने देश की एकता की भावना से ले रहा हूँ जिसे सरदार वल्लभभाई पटेल की दूरदर्शिता एवं कार्यों द्वारा संभव बनाया जा सका। मैं अपने देश की आंतरिक सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए अपना योगदान करने का भी सत्यनिष्ठा से संकल्प करता हूँ।

### RASHTRIYA EKTA DIWAS PLEDGE

I solemnly pledge that I dedicate myself to preserve the unity, integrity and security of the nation and also strive hard to spread this message among my fellow countrymen. I take this pledge in the spirit of unification of my country which was made possible by the vision and actions of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. I also solemnly resolve to make my own contribution to ensure internal security of my country.