

MVJ College of Engineering, Bengaluru
(An Autonomous Institute)
Affiliated to VTU, Belagavi
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Karnataka-Uttarakhand Companionship

(Organized by EBSB Cell & IQAC, MVJCE)

The Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat initiative is a cultural exchange program launched by the Government of India with the aim of promoting a deeper understanding and appreciation of the rich cultural diversity that exists across the country. The phrase "Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat" translates to "One India, Best India," and the initiative seeks to foster a sense of unity and national integration among the people of India.

An **Activity on "Freedom Fighters of Uttarakhand"** was organized by EBSB Cell & IQAC, MVJCE.

Date of the Activity	20-08-2024.
Category of the Activity	Azaadi ka Amrit Mahotsav
Title of the Activity	Freedom Fighters of Uttarakhand
Total Number of students participated	45

Introduction

Uttarakhand holds a deep and significant place in India's history of the freedom struggle, with a rich legacy of contributions from its people. The unwavering spirit and determination of several freedom fighters from the region played a crucial role in resisting British colonial rule. Their sacrifices, though not as widely publicized as some of the more prominent national leaders, were instrumental in advancing India's quest for independence. These brave individuals not only shaped the destiny of Uttarakhand but also contributed to the larger

narrative of India's fight for freedom. Their stories of valor and resilience continue to inspire generations, reminding us of the vital role Uttarakhand played in the freedom movement.

The event saw active participation from 45 students from MBA department have engaged enthusiastically in the activities. Some key moments from the event have been captured in the following snapshots, offering a glimpse into the highlights of the day.



Dr. Prakashrajgopal, HOD, Department of MBA presenting ppt on important freedom fighters of Uttarakhand

Students can draw profound inspiration from the freedom fighters of Uttarakhand by recognizing the shared values that unite them with the broader context of Indian history. While the cultural and regional backgrounds may differ, the universal principles of resilience, patriotism, and the pursuit of justice transcend borders. These values not only connect students with their local heroes but also with the collective spirit of India's freedom movement.

Educational initiatives that highlight the stories of Uttarakhand's freedom fighters can foster a deep sense of pride and belonging among students. Learning about figures like Govind Ballabh Pant, who courageously stood against colonial oppression and played a vital role in India's struggle for independence, provides valuable lessons in courage and collective strength. His life and contributions can act as a powerful reminder of the unity that drives a nation forward.

Students can also draw meaningful parallels between the struggles faced by historical figures from their own regions and those from Uttarakhand. By exploring common themes of resistance, sacrifice, and unwavering determination, they will see that the fight for justice and

freedom is a shared legacy, whether in the north or the south of India. This comparative understanding can deepen their appreciation of the sacrifices made by individuals across the country, uniting them in a broader vision of national pride.

Outcome of the Event:

The Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat initiative serves as a powerful tool in inspiring students to embrace unity in diversity. This activity provided an opportunity for students to share ideas, experiences, and regional histories, blending their unique strengths to create a synergy that perfectly embodies the vision of the initiative. As a result, students not only gained an enriched understanding of India's diverse cultural heritage, but also developed a sense of inclusivity and mutual respect.

The event was highly fruitful, with students finding it both informative and engaging. They gained valuable knowledge about the sacrifices and contributions of Uttarakhand's freedom fighters to India's independence movement. This learning experience not only imparted historical knowledge but also instilled in the students a sense of patriotism, respect for the past, and a deep appreciation for the values of sacrifice, perseverance, and justice.

This kind of education is crucial in shaping well-rounded, informed, and socially responsible citizens. It provides students with the tools to excel not only in their academic pursuits but also to gain a broader perspective on life—one that will benefit them both personally and professionally.

Though the struggles of Uttarakhand's freedom fighters may not always be emphasized in mainstream historical narratives, their impact on the region's history and India's independence is profound. Recognizing and commemorating these unsung heroes is vital for preserving Uttarakhand's cultural and historical heritage, while also inspiring pride and responsibility among students and citizens alike.