

## Report on visit to CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), Lucknow by students of Department of Biosciences.

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## A Brief Report

on

## Visit to CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI) by students of the Department of Biosciences.

On the occasion of "83<sup>rd</sup> CSIR Foundation Day" at CSIR-CDRI, students of the Department of Biosciences, Integral University, Lucknow, visited CDRI for the Open house (Laboratory visit, Interaction with scientists), Exhibition of technologies, and process and product development by the institute, on 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2024.

The Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), a premier research institute under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), is dedicated to the discovery of new drugs. The student visit was a part of an educational initiative to provide exposure of cutting-edge research in drug discovery and development. During the visit, students learnt about the research environment, facilities, and ongoing projects at CDRI, bridging the gap between academic learning and practical applications in the field of drug research and development.

A total of **39 students** from undergraduate and postgraduate programs went for the visit, coordinated by 2 faculty members, **Dr. Mohsin Vahid Khan** and **Dr. Mohd Aamir Qureshi**. The interaction of students with scientists and research staff, working on projects in areas such as Medicinal Chemistry, Pharmacology, Toxicology, Biotechnology and other areas of research updated them with latest research methodologies related to drug discovery. The visit was meticulously planned to ensure that students could gain maximum exposure to the drug development research environment.

The students were warmly welcomed and briefed about the institute's history, mission, and vision. The opening session was conducted in the auditorium followed by visits to different research labs. involved in drug synthesis and development. The students observed the drug synthesis and optimization processes, including the use of computational techniques to design new molecules with therapeutic potential. They were introduced to high-tech instrumentation facilities used in analysis of drug purity, stability, and bioavailability, including different chromatographic techniques like TLC, column chromatography, HPLC and mass spectrometry. They were briefed on the preclinical testing processes involving both *in vitro* and *in vivo* models. They also learnt about the role of molecular biology in drug research, including cloning, gene expression studies, and the use of biotechnological methods for target validation. The students also interacted with the scientists and research staff in the laboratory that they visited.

The visit to CDRI provided a valuable opportunity for students to witness cutting-edge research in drug discovery and development. It allowed them to gain insights that complement their academic curriculum, and the interactions with scientists offered a clearer understanding of the career prospects in Pharmaceutical and Biotechnological research. The visit successfully connected theoretical learning and practical applications, making it a memorable and educational experience. Below are the few glimpses from the visit.



Best Regards
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