

Instructions to Participants

1. How to Reach Mandi, Himachal Pradesh

Mandi is a small town at the center of Himachal Pradesh, on the way to the popular resorts of Kullu and Manali. The main campus of IIT Mandi is situated in Kamand vilage, which is 14 kilometers away from Mandi town.

To reach IIT Mandi's main campus from Mandi town:

By IIT bus: IIT Mandi's shuttle buses ply regularly between Mandi and Kamand. The bus route starts at IIT Mandi North/South campuses and ends at Mandav Block, above bus stand, Mandi – the transit campus of IIT Mandi.

Institute Bus Schedule: Attached herewith. (In the institute buses, there will be some reserved seats for the staffs of the institute. Hence kindly check with the security staff at the bus stop at Mandav Block, Mandi (above HRTC bus stand) before occupying a seat in the institute buses.

By taxi: Taxis are stationed outside Mandi main bus stand 24 x 7. The cost of a one-way trip to the IIT campus is about Rs. 600 - 700/-. In addition to taxis stationed outside main bus stand Mandi, contact numbers of some of other taxi service providers in Mandi are: Astha Travels: 09816937407, 09857756023 and Sanjay Travels: 09418400034, Hem Raj (driver of Honey travels) : 08894237351, Neelmani (driver of Honey travels): 08626868168.

By HRTC bus: Himachal Road Transport Corporation/Local buses also ply between Mandi and Kamand. Please note that these buses sometimes can be crowded. (Schedule is attached and for any query kindly contact the HRTC Mandi bus stand enquiry at: 01905 235538.

Below are the HRTC timings on Kamand route:

06:00 am Mandi - Kullu (via Kamand and Kataula)

07:45 am Mandi - Kamand and Kataula, Prashar

08:00 am Mandi - Kamand and Batheri, Aarang

11:30 am Mandi - Kamand and Tepar (via Kataula)

01:00 pm Mandi - Kamand and Kadhalu

To reach Mandi, Himachal Pradesh:

To reach Mandi by road: The usual travel route to Mandi is via Chandigarh.

From Delhi:

By bus/taxi: From ISBT (Interstate bus terminus) platforms 6-8, Kashmere gate, Delhi, one can catch buses towards Manali or Mandi. You can opt for different types of buses ranging from ordinary, to deluxe to AC. For more details, please visit https://www.hrtc.com/hrtc_info/ (Himachal Road Transport Corporation website). Other state buses and private buses are also available. The road distance between Delhi and Mandi is 475 km. and it usually takes approximately 12 hrs (depending on traffic and other conditions) by bus. Traveling by taxi or personal vehicle, reduces the journey time by nearly an hour.

By train: The alternative to reach Mandi from Delhi is to travel by train up to Kiratpur Sahib by Delhi-Una Himachal express (Train number 14553). It takes approximately 3.5 hrs to reach Mandi from Kiratpur by road. The Kiratpur Sahib Railway station is very small and a bit far from the bus stand. All the buses coming from Delhi and Chandigarh towards Mandi, pass through Kiratpur Sahib. There are well connected trains to Chandigarh from all parts of India.

From Chandigarh:

By bus/taxi: From Chandigarh the buses to Mandi are available at Sector 43 bus stand. The other choice from Chandigarh to Mandi is to travel by taxi. The distance between Chandigarh and Mandi is 200 kms. This distance can be covered in approximately 6 hrs by bus. By taxi, it usually takes around 5 hrs. Contact numbers of some of the taxi service providers are: Astha Travels: 09816937407, 09857756023 and Sanjay Travels: 09418400034.

To reach Mandi by Air:

The most convenient way to travel by air is via Chandigarh airport. It is at the distance of 214 Kms and takes around 6 hours to reach IIT campus. Chandigarh is well-connected with non-stop flights from Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad and Bangalore and direct flights from Kolkata and Chennai. Two other nearby airports are: Dharamshala airport, Gaggal which is around 150 Kms (3.5 hours) and Kullu airport, Bhuntar, at the distance of 50 Kms (1.5 hours).

Bookings for travel to Mandi can also be made through www.makemytrip.com, www.rebus.in and www.hrtc.gov.in

- Do your booking (bus and taxi) well in advance as Mandi is very near to Kullu Manali which is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the country. Many times it becomes hard to get seat especially in Volvo buses without prior booking.

2. Weather/advice to participants

- Kindly don't forget to bring your woolen/ thermal clothes with you.
- Kindly keep checking weather.

<https://www.accuweather.com/en/in/kamand/3021922/daily-weather-forecast/3021922>

3. Accommodation arrangements

All accommodation arrangements have been done in the North Campus, IIT Mandi. All the participants are accommodated in the Hostels / Guest House in IIT Mandi Campus. For any enquiries, please contact the concerned volunteers.

Contact details of volunteers:

Committees		
1. Hospitality (stay arrangements in guesthouse and hostels)		
Chair Dr. Nilamber Chhetri Associated staff member: Mr. Pavin Samuel	Contact no. 9899013079 9736000510	
Student Volunteers Shubham Sanjay Kaji Kushalpreeti	9582956075 8219472426 +977 9851133564 9530643421	
2. Transportation (local conveyance from Mandi to IIT Campus (Kamand) and any other emergency arrangements)		
Chair Dr. Surya Prakash Upadhyay Associated staff member: Ankush	Contact no. 8017448340 9816503737	
Student Volunteers Taj Anupreet Alam	9682677754 7009628341 9149503734	
3. Overall Conference coordination		
Chair Dr. Ramna Thakur (Convenor) Dr. Shyamasree Dasgupta (co-convenor) Dr. Rajeshwari Dutt (co-convenor) Dr. Surya Prakash Upadhyay (co-convenor) Associated staff member: Stuti Sharma	Contact no. 9418074239 9816640042 8627974032 8017448340	
Student Volunteers Faizan Shivendra Bhed Sujata	9920215635 8894309945 08219809495 08789593078	