Event Name	Van Mahotsav 2026
Date	01–07 July 2026
Venue	AIC Labs, Chitkara University, Punjab
Organizer	Centre of Excellence for Sustainability (CUCES) in collaboration with the Department of Horticulture
Resource Person	Mr. Hamid Raza, Senior Horticulturist
SDGs Covered	13,15 & 17
Duration	One Week

Objective

As part of the nationwide celebration of **Van Mahotsav Week 2026**, Chitkara University organized a large-scale plantation initiative to promote environmental conservation, biodiversity enhancement, and sustainable campus development. The activity was conducted by the **Department of Horticulture** in collaboration with the Centre of Excellence for Sustainability (CUCES).



Description

During the Van Mahotsav week, the **Department of Horticulture** undertook the development and expansion of the **Vertical Garden** near **AIC Labs** by planting more than 500 saplings of suitable plant species. The initiative aimed to increase the campus green cover while creating an aesthetically appealing and environmentally beneficial landscape.

A key sustainable feature of the plantation drive was the use of organic compost for enriching the soil and supporting healthy plant growth. The application of organic compost improved soil fertility, enhanced moisture retention, and reduced the dependence on chemical fertilizers, thereby promoting eco-friendly horticultural practices.

- To celebrate Van Mahotsav by enhancing the university's green cover.
- To promote sustainable landscaping through the development of a vertical garden.
- To encourage the use of organic compost for environmentally responsible plantation practices.

- To strengthen biodiversity and improve the campus ecosystem.

Outcomes

More than **500 saplings** were successfully planted in the vertical garden near AIC Labs.
Organic compost was utilized to ensure healthy plant establishment and **sustainable soil management.**
The initiative contributed to improving campus **biodiversity, air quality**, and the overall aesthetic appeal of the area.
The plantation drive reinforced the university's commitment to environmental sustainability and long-term ecological conservation.

Conclusion

The **Van Mahotsav 2026** plantation initiative marked another significant step towards creating a greener and more sustainable campus. By planting over **500 saplings** and adopting the use of **organic compost**, the **Department of Horticulture** demonstrated its commitment to sustainable horticultural practices and environmental stewardship. The initiative will continue to provide long-term ecological benefits while inspiring the university community to actively participate in conserving nature.






AIC LABS



