

World Environment Day, 2023

The Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development (CESD), Jamia Hamdard celebrated **“World Environment Day, 2023”** on 12th June 2023 in Jamia Hamdard, Hamdard Nagar, New Delhi. World Environment Day is celebrated to recognize the critical importance of environmental preservation and to reaffirm our commitment to safeguarding the planet for future generations. Mr. Vijay Dhasmana, the Rewilder and Eco-restoration practitioner graced the event as a Chief Guest by his presence. Mr. Dhasmana enlightened and inspired the audience by discussing his project and achievement including the transformation of a 380-acre abandoned mining site at the edge of Gurgaon into a city forest called the Aravali Biodiversity Park. His words ignited the passion for environmental stewardship and undoubtedly encouraged the audience to embrace sustainable practices in their daily lives. Ms. Monika Khanna Gulati, the Founder of Sky-Blue design and Co-founder of NCR waste matters shared her world of knowledge and insight as a speaker of excellence by delivering a lecture entitled “Mindfully yours, dear city”. She spoken about the collection and recycling of the domestic and municipal waste and converting compostable waste into a useful resource, compost. This could be used to fertilize lawns, gardens and kitchen gardens to improve the growth and yield of flowers, vegetables, lawn grasses etc. Her extensive experience and expertise in environmental advocacy guided the audience to act towards a sustainable future. The presidential speech was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) M. Afshar Alam, Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Hamdard in which he emphasized the University's dedication to enforce the anti-pollution measures to maintain the green and clean environment in Jamia Hamdard and the sustainable development to transform Jamia Hamdard campus into an eco-village. His words inspired the audience to integrate environmental consciousness into their lives, educational institutions and beyond. Prof. (Dr.) M. Z. Abdin, the Organizing Secretary of the event and the Director, CESD informed that Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development (CESD), is striving to work on the issues involving climate change and its impact on global food and nutritional security. The Centre being inter-disciplinary in nature will utilize the expertise and technologies from various disciplines of basic sciences for maintaining the green and clean campus by recycling the effluents and domestic wastes into compost and the water for irrigation and fertilization of lawns and gardens in Jamia Hamdard campus, installation of solar panels to harvest solar energy and water harvesting system to harvest rain water etc. Overall, the implementation of these initiatives demonstrates a commitment to environmental sustainability and responsible resource management to meet the SDGs framework, as is the vision of our Hon’ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi Ji.

More than 80 students of bachelors, masters and research scholars from Jamia Hamdard and various other universities/ institutions were also present. The vote of thanks was given by Dr. Sapna Jain. The program was coordinated by Dr. Jawed Ahmed and Dr. Sapna Jain from SEST, and Dr. M. Iqbal R. Khan and Dr. Monica Saifi from SCLS, Jamia Hamdard. The program ended with the National Anthem.

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