

## International Day for Biological Diversity

The Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development (CESD), Jamia Hamdard celebrated “**International Day for Biological Diversity**” On 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 in Jamia Hamdard, Hamdard Nagar, New Delhi. Biodiversity is a complex yet growing topic of interest not only to scientists, but also to policymakers across the globe. In 2000, the UN General Assembly officially proclaimed May 22 to be the International Day for Biodiversity (IDB). Professor K.C. Bansal, Former Director, NBPGR (ICAR) & Secretary, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, graced the event by his presence and enlightened the participants with his talk on “**Biotechnological Innovations for Conservation and Utilization of Agrobiodiversity for Sustainable Development**”. The presidential speech was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) M. Afshar Alam, Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Hamdard in which he said that biodiversity is fundamental to agriculture; to food security; to livelihoods; to wellbeing. Our planet – and the people of this planet – depend on its rich biodiversity. We have a duty to protect it. 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 the sustainability of environment and agriculture to meet the SDGs framework, as is the vision of our Hon’ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi Ji. The vision of CESD aims towards meeting the most pressing challenges of the society such as reduce our environmental footprint, relieve poverty, feed the hungry, use less and cleaner energy, provide clean drinking water, protect biological diversity on land and in our oceans etc.

More than 100 students of Bachelors, masters and research scholars from Jamia Hamdard and various other universities/ institutions across India were also present. The vote of thanks was given by Dr. Sapna Jain. The program ended with ‘National Anthem’.



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