



24th of February, 2021.

The Department of Students Welfare, University of Jammu organized the Curtain Raiser event of the Celebrations of National Science day 2021 which was celebrated all over the Country on 28th of February, 2021 with the theme, "Future of STI: Impacts on Education, Skills and Work".

Dr. D. Srinivasa Reddy, Director CSIR IIIM, Jammu was the Chief Guest at the occasion who delivered a thought provoking lecture on the topic, 'Efforts towards Solving Societal Problems using Organic Synthesis'. Prof. Manoj K. Dhar, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu presided over the function. Prof. Arvind Jasrotia, Registrar was also present at the occasion. Others who were present at dais included Prof. Rajni Kant, Dean Sciences, Prof. Kamal K. Kapoor, HoD Chemistry, Prof. Yash Pal Sharma, former Hod, Botany and Prof. Prakash C. Antahal, Dean Students Welfare.

In his key note address, Dr. D. Srinivasa Reddy elaborately and interestingly described about the research based, precise and tremendous endeavours done by the scientists to resolve societal problems for the betterment of the mankind. Citing glaring examples in the context of crop protection, medicinal chemistry, insect repellents and drug development, he explained how the breakthrough researches and experimentation are resolving silently societal issues. Answering the questions of the audience, he asserted with pride that in doing synthesis of the molecules of natural resources, the traditional knowledge of Ayurveda and Indian Scriptures is also taken into consideration. It was great to know that Dr. Reddy has been important member of most of the breakthrough scientific achievements. Prof. Arvind Jasrotia also raised a very relevant query that when a drug is prepared taking lead from the traditional knowledge, are the people who are custodian of that knowledge are given due credit, which was suitably answered by Dr. Reddy.

Prof. Manoj K Dhar asserted that the University of Jammu has done a lot of research work which has been recognized by National and International agencies and for this, he complemented the faculty,

students and scholars. He also proposed collaborative efforts by the University of Jammu and CSIR IIM Jammu which will reap a great benefit for the students. Speaking about the importance of Science and Technology and relevance of celebrating National Science Day, he informed that in a week-long celebration, a series of events such as Poster Making, Debate, Quiz etc. would be organised at University of Jammu which would culminate with the valedictory address on 28th of February at General Zorawar Singh Auditorium by Dr. Jitendra Singh, MoS (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region; MoS in the Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space.

Earlier, Prof. Rajni Kant welcomed the august gathering and informed about the celebration of National Science Day. Prof. Kamal K. Kapoor introduced the key note speaker and Prof. Yash Pal Sharma presented a distinctive vote of thanks.

The event was attended by Deans, Heads of the Departments, faculty members, students and scholars of the University of Jammu prominent amongst those included Prof. Roopma Gandotra, Dean Faculty of Life Sciences, Prof. Anupama Vohra, Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee, Prof. B.K. Bajaj, Associate Dean, SW, Prof. Vinay Chauhan, OSD to Vice Chancellor. The programme was conducted by Dr. Madhulika Bhagat and coordinated by the Department of Students Welfare, University of Jammu.