

December 19, 2024

Press Release

## **Two-day International Conference on Skilling for International Migration begins at JMI**

An International Conference on “Skilling for International Migration: Pathways to Sustainable Development and Economic Resilience” began today at Mir Anis Hall of Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI). The two-day conference is being organized by the Department of Economics, JMI in collaboration with International Institute of Migration and Development (IIMAD), Trivandrum, Kerala on 19-20 December 2024. The conference is sponsored by Northern Regional Centre of Indian Council for Social Science Research (ICSSR).

Prof. Asheref Illiyan, Head, Department of Economics, JMI in his welcome remarks shared a brief history of JMI, including the ranks occupied by it in various national and international ranking frameworks. He referred to the events marking Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Department, including the national and international conferences held by the Department for three consecutive years, including the one held presently. He warmly welcomed the dignitaries and participants from different parts of India and abroad.

Dr. Mohd. Kashif Khan, Conference Convenor, gave an introduction about the conference and shared some salient aspects of international migration. He pointed out different skills required in OECD countries (high skill) and Gulf countries (semi-skill) and differentiated between macroeconomic and microeconomic impacts—such as improving access to education, including skilling. He also said that India can benefit significantly from the demographic dividend if youth are better skilled.

Prof. Mazhar Asif, Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, JMI, in his presidential address shared that he had studied migration as a linguist and as a social scientist. To him, the long history of migration can be seen from the similarities between different languages pointing out the shared culture, language and habitat. As one of the members of the committee that prepared the National Education Policy 2020, he stressed that skill building is at its core. Every student of JMI must possess some skills at the time of passing out, he added. He congratulated the organisers of the conference. A book of Abstracts of the Conference and Migration Report 2023 by Prof. Irudaya Rajan was released by the Vice Chancellor, JMI.

Prof. S Irudaya Rajan, Founder Chair, IIMAD, the keynote speaker of the day shared how the conference was thought out, and about its objectives—to bring together

practitioners, academics and policymakers on a common platform to discuss a matter of serious nature, namely, international migration. He highlighted that while India is benefitting from the first type of demographic dividend (quantitative) but not the second one (qualitative)—it requires upskilling. He pointed out that labourers of one state (say, Kerala) are moving to gulf countries, and in their place labourers from another state (say, Odisha) are migrating. He called it 'replacement migration'. In his opinion, migration has already become an element of politics—both internationally, as witnessed in the recent US Presidential election, and in India through the 'son on the soil' argument, across many Indian states. He found that over time the number of researchers working on migration has increased significantly, and in particular after Covid pandemic. He called for a 'migration census' which is already under discussion in Andhra Pradesh.

Prof. Amitabh Kundu, Former Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, in his brief remarks pointed at the inadequacy of granular data on migration, and delay in the release of data, which is of little value. To him, district to district migration data will be of great help for researchers that can be collated with a little effort on part of the office of Census Commissioner.

Prof. Mohd. Muslim Khan, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, JMI pointed out that most of the participants in the conference are migrants. He pointed out the various types of abuses and exploitations suffered by the migrants. He also pointed out the connection between migration and international relations between the governments of host and destination countries. Dr. Md. Zakaria Siddiqui, Conference Secretary, offered the vote of thanks.

Besides the inaugural function the conference will witness three plenary sessions and six technical sessions wherein eminent economists, policymakers and professionals will deliberate on various themes of the conference.

Public Relations Office  
Jamia Millia Islamia



**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
on  
**Skilling for International Migration**  
to Sustainable Development and Economic Resilience  
18 December, 2024

**INAUGURAL FUNCTION**

<b>Chief Guest</b> Prof. Mazhar Asif Secretary of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, IIMAD	<b>Guest of Honor</b> Prof. Asherif Illiyah President of International Migration Institute, IIMAD	<b>Guest of Honor</b> Prof. S Irudaya Rajan President of International Migration Institute, IIMAD
<b>Guest of Honor</b> Prof. Mohd Kashif Secretary of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, IIMAD	<b>Guest of Honor</b> Prof. S Irudaya Rajan President of International Migration Institute, IIMAD	<b>Guest of Honor</b> Prof. Asherif Illiyah President of International Migration Institute, IIMAD

**18 December, 2024**  
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Prof. Mazhar Asif

Prof. Asherif Illiyah

Prof. S Irudaya Rajan

Dr. Mohd Kashif







Pathways to Sustainable

Inaugural Address



Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari, IAS  
Secretary, Ministry of Skill  
Development and  
Entrepreneurship, Govt

Felicitation Address



Prof. Mohd. Muslim Khan  
Dean, Faculty of Social  
Sciences, Jamia Millia Islamia,  
New Delhi

Guest



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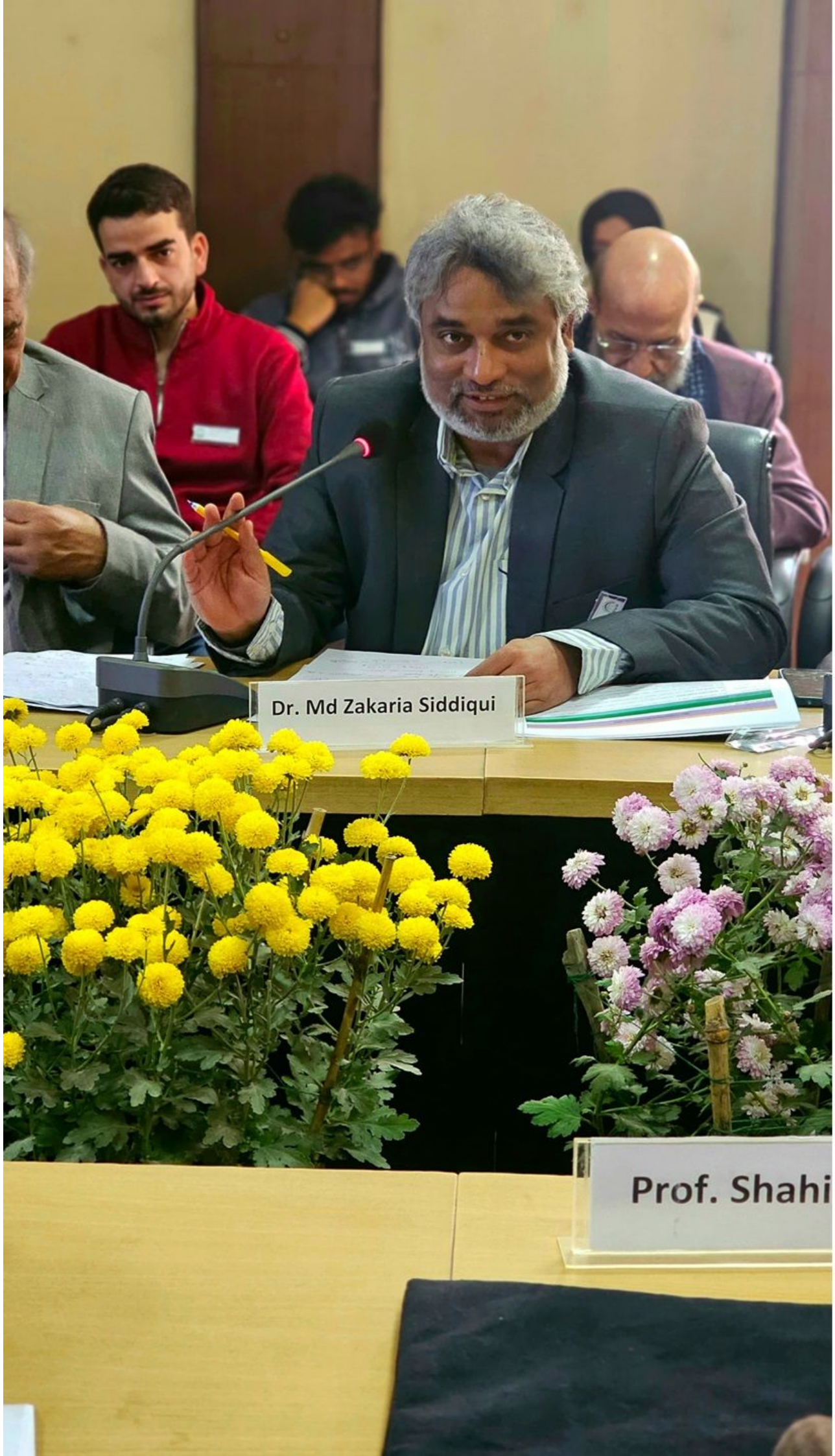


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Prof. Mohd. Muslim Khan

Asheref Illiyan





Dr. Md Zakaria Siddiqui

Prof. Shahi

