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Press Release

## JMI's Hall of Girls' Residence organizes awareness drive on "Drug Abuse and Its Impact on Youth in India"

New Delhi: In alignment with the Government of India's initiative "Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan", the Hall of Girls' Residence, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), organized an awareness drive titled "The Problem of Drug Abuse and Its Impact on Youth in India" on February 07, 2025. The initiative aimed to educate and sensitize students about the dangers of substance abuse and the importance of leading a healthy, addiction-free life. As part of this campaign, students were encouraged to showcase their creativity through a poster-making competition, a slogan-writing competition, and a calligraphy competition, allowing them to express their stance against drug abuse in artistic and impactful ways.

The event was graced by the presence of Prof. Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi, Registrar, JMI, Mrs. Shabaya Praveen Asif Wife of JMI Vice Chancellor Prof. Mazhar Asif, Prof. Naved Jamal, Chief Proctor, JMI, Prof. (Dr.) Nimesh G. Desai, Senior Consultant Psychologist, Brahma Kumari Vidhatri sister, professors from various faculties, the Provost of the Boys' Hostel, Dr. Satya Prakash Prasad, OSD (Officer on Special Duty) to the Vice Chancellor, JMI, as well as Provost Prof. Arvinder A. Ansari, wardens, and residents of the Hall of Girls' Residence.

The Chief Patron of the event was Prof. Mazhar Asif, Vice Chancellor, JMI, while the Patron was Prof. Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi, Registrar, JMI. The Keynote Speaker for the event was Prof. (Dr.) Nimesh G. Desai, a renowned psychiatrist and senior consultant psychologist.

The event commenced with a welcome address by Prof. Arvinder A. Ansari, who highlighted the crucial role universities and hostels play in fostering a drug-free environment. She emphasized that educational institutions are not just places of academic learning but also spaces where students develop habits, attitudes, and values that shape their future.

She underscored that universities and hostels must take responsibility for educating students about the dangers of substance abuse, providing mental health support, and encouraging proactive lifestyle choices. She urged students, faculty, and administrators to work together to create an ecosystem of awareness and support, ensuring that campuses remain nurturing, empowering, and free from addiction-related risks.

Prof. (Dr.) Nimesh G. Desai, delivered an insightful talk on the psychological and physiological effects of drug addiction. He explained how substance abuse alters brain chemistry, impairs judgment, and affects emotional stability, often leading to long-term dependency and mental health disorders. He reinforced the idea that addiction is a treatable disease rather than a moral failing, emphasizing the importance of early intervention, peer support, and mental health awareness.

The session was highly interactive, with students actively participating in discussions on how to recognize early signs of addiction and how to support those struggling with substance abuse.

A spiritual discourse was delivered by a Brahma Kumari Vidhatri sister, focusing on the spiritual consequences of drug abuse and the impact of addiction on personal well- being. She introduced meditation-assisted therapy and behavioral counseling as alternative methodologies to assist in the recovery process.

The event featured a powerful skit performed by the residents of the Hall of Girls' Residence, titled "Nasha – Ek Barbaadi". The performance depicted the devastating impact of drug abuse on personal lives and careers, highlighting how peer pressure can lead to addiction and its catastrophic effects on families and relationships.

Prof. Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi, Registrar, JMI, delivered a compelling address emphasizing the importance of collective action in combating substance abuse. Highlighting that universities are not just centers of education but also institutions that shape character and responsibility, he urged students to understand that the program was not merely a discussion but a call to action and commitment to change. He stressed the duty of universities is to instill responsibility, self-discipline, and awareness among students, advocating for a proactive effort to maintain a drug-free environment.

Prof. Rizvi encouraged students to support one another in creating a culture of vigilance and accountability. To mark this commitment, he administered a solemn pledge against drug abuse, where students, faculty, and staff raised their hands to promise vigilance against substance abuse, mutual support and guidance, and the promotion of a drug-free culture within academic and residential spaces.

The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Alisha Khatun, Senior Warden of the hostel.

Public Relations Office Jamia Millia Islamia





















