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Press Release

### **JMI VC Inaugurates International Conference on 'Tensions and Anomalies on the Sky: Quest for New Physics at Cosmological Scales'**

The Centre for Theoretical Physics (CTP), Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), in collaboration with the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), hosted a prestigious international conference titled *"Tensions and Anomalies on the Sky: Quest for New Physics at Cosmological Scales."* The conference brought together renowned scientists, researchers, and scholars from across the globe to discuss cutting-edge issues in theoretical physics, cosmology, and astrophysics.

The conference was officially inaugurated by **Prof. Mazhar Asif, Vice-Chancellor, JMI**, who delivered an inspiring keynote address.

In his **inaugural address**, **Prof. Mazhar Asif** expressed his appreciation for **CTP's contributions to theoretical physics and cosmology**, highlighting JMI's commitment to fostering high-impact research. He stated: *"Jamia Millia Islamia is proud to host this important conference, which brings together some of the best minds in astrophysics and cosmology. Research in fundamental physics plays a crucial role in expanding our understanding of the universe, and CTP has been at the forefront of such endeavours. JMI will continue supporting and encouraging scientific research with theoretical significance and real-world applications."*

Prof. Asif commended the Centre for Theoretical Physics for organizing a conference of international significance. He emphasized the importance of such discussions in addressing fundamental challenges in modern astrophysics and theoretical physics.

"Jamia Millia Islamia has always been at the forefront of academic excellence, and this conference is a testament to our dedication to advancing scientific frontiers. Understanding the universe's fundamental principles is a scientific endeavour and a philosophical quest that inspires humanity," said Prof. Asif.

In his thought-provoking speech, **Prof. Mazhar Asif** drew a deep correlation between **scientific research and religion**, emphasizing that both serve as pathways to uncovering the **truth and mysteries of the universe**. He remarked that throughout

history, **scientific inquiry and religious thought have often complemented each other**, shaping human understanding of existence, creation, and the cosmos.

He stated: *"Science and religion are not opposing forces but rather two ways of seeking knowledge and understanding the universe. Science explores the physical laws governing the cosmos, while religion provides a moral and philosophical framework for interpreting our place in it."*

Prof. Asif encouraged **PhD scholars and researchers to pursue their scientific studies with a sense of humility, curiosity, and responsibility**, urging them to **integrate ethical and spiritual perspectives into their research**.

*"As researchers, you are constantly seeking the unknown. Just as religious traditions encourage the search for truth, Science provides the tools to uncover it. Let your research expand the boundaries of knowledge and contribute positively to humanity and ethical progress."*

His address inspired many young scholars, reinforcing the idea that **scientific progress and moral responsibility must go hand in hand**.

The Centre for Theoretical Physics (CTP) at Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), in collaboration with the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), inaugurated the prestigious international conference, 'Tensions and Anomalies on the Sky: Quest for New Physics at Cosmological Scales,' on March 6, 2025. The three-day conference brings together leading researchers, cosmologists, and physicists to discuss unresolved mysteries in modern cosmology, including the Hubble tension, dark matter, dark energy, and potential new physics beyond the standard model.

The event commenced with a warm welcome address by **Prof. Sushant Ghosh**, Conference Chair and Director of the Centre for Theoretical Physics. In his address, he highlighted the critical role of such academic gatherings in advancing scientific knowledge and fostering collaborations. He emphasized that this conference is a crucial platform for discussing groundbreaking ideas in cosmology and astrophysics.

Speaking on behalf of the Faculty of Science, **Prof. Saed Uddin**, Dean of the Faculty of Science, JMI, extended his heartfelt welcome to the distinguished speakers and participants. He underscored the Faculty of Science's commitment to cutting-edge research and interdisciplinary learning. He praised the Centre for Theoretical Physics for its stellar contributions to gravitational physics, black hole research, and cosmology.

The conference features a series of technical sessions, plenary talks, and panel discussions led by eminent scientists and researchers from leading universities and research institutions worldwide. Topics include observational constraints on

cosmological models, gravitational lensing, modified theories of gravity, and advancements in astronomical observations.

The event also provides an excellent platform for young researchers and students to engage with experts in the field, present their work, and explore opportunities for collaborative projects.

The inaugural session concluded with remarks from **Prof. Sushant Ghosh**, who expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor, distinguished speakers, and all attendees for their participation. He reiterated the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration in unravelling cosmic mysteries and expressed hope that the conference would lead to meaningful scientific breakthroughs.

Prof. Ghosh acknowledged the organizing committee's hard work and extended special thanks to IUCAA for their support in making this event a reality. He encouraged all participants to engage actively in discussions and explore new research frontiers.

The conference marks a significant milestone in JMI's continuous academic and scientific excellence pursuit. With thought-provoking discussions and collaborative research initiatives, it aims to contribute to the global understanding of fundamental cosmological anomalies and the quest for new physics.

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