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JAMIA HAMDARD

(HAMDARD UNIVERSITY)

TWELFTH CONVOCAATION

Report by

Professor (Dr) Seyed Ehtesham Hasnain
Vice Chancellor



January 15, 2017
New Delhi



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12TH CONVOCATION – JANUARY 15, 2017

VICE CHANCELLOR’S REPORT

Hon’ble Chancellor Dr. Habil Khorakiwala;
Esteemed Chief Guest Bharat Ratna Prof. C.N.R. Rao;
Excellencies and Hon’ble representatives of Embassies of various countries in India; Directors of the sponsoring body of the Jamia - the Hamdard National Foundation; Members of the Board of Management, Academic Council, Finance Committee and Planning and Monitoring Board of the Jamia Hamdard;
Honoured guests;
Distinguished Colleagues and Members of the non-teaching staff;
Parents of the qualifying students receiving degrees at this 12th Convocation;
My dear students; and
Representatives of Print and Electronic Media.
Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a great honour for me to extend a warm welcome to all of you to the 12th Convocation of this University.

I am especially grateful to Prof. C.N.R. Rao for accepting our invitation and gracing this convocation programme by delivering the Convocation Address. Prof. Rao is not only the doyen of the Indian science and by all account the most decorated scientist of our times, but is also very well known internationally. He is only the third scientist after Dr. C.V. Raman and Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam to be conferred with India’s highest civilian honour, *Bharat Ratna*.

Jamia Hamdard community is proud to honour Prof. Rao with the degree of Doctor of Science (*Honoris Causa*) and from today he will be our distinguished alumnus.

This is the second convocation being presided over by our Hon’ble Chancellor, Dr. Habil Khorakiwala. Dr. Khorakiwala needs no introduction, a recipient of the “Distinguished Alumnus Award” from Purdue University, he was also Alumnus

of the Harvard Business School, USA. Chairman & Group CEO of Wockhardt Limited, a company he founded in the early 1960s. Dr. Khorakiwala single-mindedly steered Wockhardt in becoming the first true healthcare group and a leading pharmaceutical and biotech conglomerate, driven by research and strategic thinking on a global scale.

Let me begin by paying homage to our Founder Janab Hakeem Abdul Hameed Saheb (1908-1999), whose foresight and vision resulted in this University and several other institutions, where he selflessly channelized his personal efforts and wealth for the cause of education and health services to all. He especially dedicated himself to the cause of education and had the conviction that it was the only way to bring sustained betterment to the society, particularly the marginalized sections of Muslim community. He founded many institutions including Hamdard Dawakhana, Hamdard National Foundation, Majeedia Hospital (now Hakeem Abdul Hameed Centenary Hospital), Jamia Hamdard, Hamdard Education Society, Hamdard Public School, Rabea Girls Public School and Ghalib Academy. Today, Jamia Hamdard is a shining example of his vision and commitment. Jamia Hamdard also showcases a successful model of public-private-partnership.

May I now, with the kind permission of the Hon'ble Chancellor start the proceedings of the Convocation?

Herewith, I present some of the key highlights of the accomplishments, which University achieved in the period after the last convocation, which was held on March 31, 2015.

The Report

The journey so far

Jamia Hamdard completed 27 years since it was granted status of a Deemed to be University in May 1989. During this period, Jamia Hamdard witnessed and has been through a tremendous phase of transformation. From a small group of erstwhile colleges, today, Jamia Hamdard is a vibrant campus with about 7000

students. We have been adding new courses, new departments and expanding ourselves to meet the goal set out by our Founder.

One of significant milestones we reached is the conduct of final examination of the first batch of MBBS students, who were admitted in the year 2012. Establishment of Medical College and augmentation of hospital facilities has been one of the hallmarks of the University development. The quality of our facilities, faculty and students of Hamdard Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (HIMSR) has been appreciated by all and I have no hesitation to add that parents and students are vying to get admission in our MBBS programme and highly experienced acclaimed faculty is attracted to join the HIMSR. The selection process for admission to MBBS programme through NEET, a totally transparent system, has been highly appreciated. In the year 2016 a total of 7654 candidates applied for 100 MBBS seats and 600 for management quota seats. It is highly satisfying that there was meagre gap between percentile of candidates admitted in open and reserved categories. While the cut-off range of percentile for open seats was 99.3 – 98.2 the same for reserved seats was 98.1 – 97.5. A fully functional newly Hakeem Abdul Hameed Centenary Hospital Block is a nine + two storey building fitted with all amenities. We hope that soon we will admit students to Post-graduate courses where approval of Medical Council of India (MCI) has been granted. All this would not have been possible without the efforts and vision of my predecessor, Dr. G.N. Qazi, who tirelessly worked for success of the HIMSR project during the last 6 years of his stint as the Vice Chancellor.

During this period, the first batch of student admitted in our Off-campus at Kannur (Kerala) has also been passed out.

Our student enrolment has progressively increased and the most satisfying fact is that girls are almost half of the student population.

Session	Male	Female	Total	% Female enrolment
2011-12	2272	1617	3889	41
2012-13	2375	1837	4212	43
2013-14	2669	2048	4717	43
2014-15	2735	2108	4843	43
2015-16	2868	2574	5442	47

The day is not far away when girls will outnumber the boys, which will be a true tribute to our Founder who always promoted education of girls and therefore thought of establishing a Nursing School where girls, especially from Muslim community, may get opportunity in professional education with a noble cause.

In the direction of academic consolidation the following new courses have been launched:

Sl. No.	Course	School (Faculty)/Institute	Session
1	M.Sc. (Medical Biochemistry)	HISMR	2015-16
2	M.Tech. (Computer Science)	Engineering & technology	2015-16
3	Ph.D. (Pharmaceutical Management)	Management	2015-16
4	Ph.D. (Medicine)	HIMSR	2015-16
5	Ph.D. (Pharmacology)	HIMSR	2015-16
6	Ph.D. (Pathology)	HIMSR	2015-16
7	B.Tech. (Food Technology)	Interdisciplinary Science & Technology	2016-17
8	Ph.D. (Clinical & Translational Sciences)	Science	2016-17
9	Ph.D. (Rehabilitation Sciences)	HIMSR	2016-17

Adding new dynamics

Jamia Hamdard has decided to interface itself with international standards and has accordingly rechristened its Faculties as Schools of Study. By a decision of Board of Management now Faculties will be known as Schools. Additionally, new Schools of Medicine; Law; Media & Mass Communication; Education, Training & Empowerment; Skills and Vocational Studies; and Governance, Finance and Policy Studies have been created, while some existing Departments and Centres regrouped. It is hoped that courses will be launched soon in all the Schools.

In order to consolidate its research profile Jamia Hamdard has adopted the Institute of Molecular Medicine in its fold and has created Jamia Hamdard – Institute of Molecular Medicine (JH-IMM). JH-IMM aims to be a leading international research institute with expertise in and emphasis on biological, medical, chemical and computational approaches to biomedical research, particularly for investigating the molecular basis of human diseases and intervention. The mission of JH-IMM is to develop a multi-disciplinary approach *via* successful collaborations to bridge the gap between basic and clinical or translational sciences in India. Currently, there are four scientists in JH-IMM with long international exposure in their respective research fields and have brought adequate research grants from various funding agencies. With inter-faculty collaborations and a full-fledged research facility getting ready, it is hoped that JH-IMM will generate intellectual property (IP) and lead to international collaborations and high impact publications.

The Department of Chemistry has been fully renovated to meet international laboratory and safety standards. The Abdul Mueed Smart Classroom Cluster with more than 20 class rooms and lecture theatres for varying capacity, fitted with state-of-art smart audio visual gadgets, has been commissioned and is under use by various Departments.

Ranking and peer reviewing

Jamia Hamdard participated in the first ever ranking conducted by Government of India through the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD). The NIRF-2016 ranking of Jamia Hamdard in the categories of Pharmacy and University were 3 and 18, out of 454 and 233 institutions, respectively. We are confident of still better performance in the coming years. This year, we have also sought ranking of our ‘medical’ discipline.

We have received regulatory approval of our courses from Medical Council of India (MCI), Pharmacy Council of India (PCI), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Central Council of Indian Medicine (CCIM), Indian Nursing Council (INC), Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), Distance Education Board, etc. I am happy to announce that Department of Radiology, HIMSR was last month accredited by the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare (NABH) and this added great value to the reputation of the Department. Other Departments are also in the process of accreditation by NABH, NABL, NGCMA etc.

Based on review of publications and citations of our faculty and scholars Jamia Hamdard has earned a place in elite class of Universities which receive major funding from the Department of Science & Technology (DST). Promotion of University Research and Scientific Excellence (PURSE) is an incentive award scheme with focus on rejuvenation of research in the Universities. PURSE, launched in 2008, is based on independent evaluation of scientific publications emanating from the universities using SCOPUS Database for the past 10 year period. So far, in two rounds 48 Universities have been identified and supported under DST - PURSE scheme. Jamia Hamdard, I am very happy to state, is perhaps the first Private University to be selected under the 2nd Phase of the PURSE grant scheme and awarded with Rs. 10.25 Crores for the period of next four years. In addition to *h*-index, i_{10} , i_{50} and i_{100} were other quality indicators determining the selection criteria for PURSE. We are delighted with the recognition of our endeavor toward research excellence and we commit ourselves

to enhance our performance to become eligible for higher quantum of PURSE grant. Our faculty and research scholars deserve rich accolades for this feat. PURSE grant will be used to strengthen research infrastructure.

Jamia Hamdard has successfully uploaded data for All India Survey on India Higher Education (AISHE) (Ministry of Human Resource Development) for 2015-16 and efforts are on by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) to submit data for 2016-17. Jamia Hamdard is one of the selected Universities, which have been submitting data to AISHE for the last five years.

Research domain

Evidence based medicine was at the heart of our Founder and therefore in the formative stage of University, it was known for its research. Keeping this tradition alive the core domain of Jamia Hamdard has been research and year by year we have strived to scale new heights. Currently, 3,878 articles of Jamia Hamdard are covered by SCOPUS. The citation index and *h*-index of Jamia Hamdard is quite high compared to other big and full scale universities.

Ph.D. output

The output of Ph.D. degrees in various disciplines in the last two years has been as follows:

Discipline	2015	2016
Management	02	02
Engineering & Technology	01	05
Interdisciplinary Science & Technology		02
Pharmacy	51	22
Science	43	46
Social Science & Humanities	05	08
TOTAL	102	85

Incentivization of research

In order to promote research culture, Jamia Hamdard provides all the infrastructure and administrative support to researchers. Besides laboratory, library, IT support, online resources, a full-fledged Office of Advisor (Research) functions to facilitate research. There are several schemes of research promotion as listed below:

Scheme	Beneficiary
Research Promotion Grant	Young and newly recruited junior faculty
Hamdard Centenary Post-doctoral Fellowship	Any individual including foreign national
Jamia Hamdard Silver Jubilee Fellowship	Ph.D. Scholars
Jamia Hamdard Silver Jubilee Post-doctoral Fellowships	Candidates with Ph.D. degree
Incentive for Publication in High Impact Factor Journals and Highly Cited Papers	Faculty and Scholars of Jamia Hamdard

There is an IP Management Cell and also a Research and Publication Ethics Committee. Our quest for IP and Technology Transfer has recently witnessed two success stories.

Arbro Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd. has launched SNEC30, a patented highly bioavailable self nano emulsifying curcumin formulation in 30 mg dose. Clinical research conducted over the last 25 years has shown curcumin to be effective in various diseases like cancer, pain, inflammation, arthritis, ulcers, psoriasis, arteriosclerosis, diabetes and many more pro-inflammatory conditions. Despite its effectiveness against so many conditions, curcumin's true potential has been limited by its poor bioavailability that is caused by its poor solubility and extensive pre-systemic metabolism. Arbro Pharmaceuticals and Jamia Hamdard partnered to carry out research to develop a novel formulation, which overcomes poor bioavailability of curcumin. The development project was jointly funded by Arbro and the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India

under its DPRP (Drug & Pharmaceutical Research Programme) scheme. SNEC30 is the outcome of this joint development and is based on a novel Self Nano Emulsifying Drug Delivery System (SNEDDS) for which patents have been filed and a US patent has been granted.

Recently, a Chinese Company has agreed to buy a technological know-how developed by my colleague in the Department of Pharmacognosy & Phytochemistry. The technology is related to ‘Astaxanthin producing strain’. This will be the first major international technology transfer from Jamia Hamdard.

Our Pharmacy, Chemistry and Biotechnology faculty has great potential to create IP and go for technology transfer and entrepreneurship. It has been decided to incentivize such researchers in a big way.

International projects

I congratulate the faculty who have obtained funding from various national agencies. I would like to mention here two international projects.

- World Project (a six country study of major federations) on Dynamic De/centralisation (Funding agency - Leverhulme, UK, Forum of Federation, Canada, and Swiss Science Academy), Centre for Federal Studies.
- “Indo-US Program on Human Immunity to Chikungunya Virus.” (Funding agency - DBT under Indo-US VAP program), Department of Biotechnology.
- An Indo-Polish project “Information and communication technologies for economic development. Special focus on intelligent knowledge grid information retrieval and diffusion” sanctioned by DST to Department of Computer Science.

Patents

I urge my faculty to file as many as patents in India or overseas. Few patents are filed and are under consideration. The following patent has been granted:

Aqil M, Ahad A, Kohli K, Sultana Y, Mujeeb M, Ali A. A novel formulation to transdermally delivery antihypertensive agent with permeability enhancer. (Indian Patent # 277571, Date of Grant: 24/11/2016).

It is also urged that patents should be commercialized.

Ph.D. regulations

University has adopted the recently issued UGC Regulation 2016 embarking on scholar-centric initiatives and faster evaluation process. However, in order to maintain quality, it has been decided to retain requirement of publication in journal having impact factor by researchers.

Incentive for research

The amount of incentive for publications in high impact factor journals and papers, which are highly cited has been upwardly revised. A large number of Faculty and Scholars were honoured during the recently held Hakeem Abdul Hameed Memorial Function on December 3, 2016. Dr. Y.V. Reddy, former Governor, Reserve Bank of India delivered the lecture on “*Union-State Fiscal Relations and Economic Reforms*” during the function and felicitated the faculty and scholars.

Extending support

The Jamia Hamdard Board of Management has decided that Principal Investigators of sponsored projects will be allowed to utilize 50% of project overhead expenses for meeting the research needs which could not be met from the sanctioned grant heads. Besides, faculty members obtaining very high value

individual grants will be provided matching grant by the University. It is hoped that these initiatives will encourage the faculty to compete for big grants from the funding agencies.

Library resources

Number of books purchased in 2016	3,548
Journals subscribed in 2016	163
Total collection books (besides manuscripts and other documents)	1,61,091

Changing the perception

Several recent activities at Jamia Hamdard have been creating a new level of academic vibrancy and these include:

Introduction of Distinguished Lecture Series

University has introduced a Distinguished Lecture Series. Under this lecture series distinguished scientists, academicians and eminent personalities are invited to lecture on contemporary topics and also interact with faculty member and students before the lecture. The first lecture was delivered by a renowned Scientist Dr. Amit Sharma from International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) on January 10, 2017 on the topic “*Malaria: A Biomarker of National Development*”.

Inviting national and international faculty on campus

Jamia Hamdard has taken steps to invite national and international faculty to join any Department of their choice and integrate with research and academic programmes of the Department. Such faculty application will also be considered on the basis of nomination by the eminent individuals. The selection process will be rigorous and transparent and the selected individual are expected to perform and produce research of high standard.

Faculty development

Faculty Development Centre

Faculty development programmes augment skills of the teachers to become more confident, self-assured and competent to meet the demands and challenges of today's world. Teaching and Research are the key areas, which need to be constantly upgraded with latest tools, techniques, knowledge and skills, so that students can be trained in areas of critical thinking, problem solving, communication, team work and analysis. To support, promote and strengthen the educational mission of our university, we have set up a Faculty Development Centre dedicated for faculty development to upgrade and renew existing knowledge using a blend of scholarly and interdisciplinary approach towards teaching, research and professional development.

The first programme under this Centre was organized at the Faculty of Pharmacy on the theme “Energizing Innovative Skills in Pharmaceutical Education and Research” on May 30 to June, 03 2016. A large majority of faculty from outside of Jamia Hamdard participated in the programme.

Faculty Development Programme

IQAC organized a Faculty Development Programme for teachers on the topic “Managing Stress through Skill Development” on February 25, 2016 attended by 35 members.

National Skills Training Centre – “Daksh”

A National Skills Training Centre – “Daksh” was inaugurated in the University on February 4, 2016. The Chief Guest was Shri. C.K. Mishra, Additional Secretary and Mission Director, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. This Centre trains the trainers in the nursing skills.

Important Conferences/Symposia/Workshops

- Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities organized a “Consultation Meet on the new National Policy on Education” on September 24, 2016. The meet, attended by several Vice Chancellors, educationists, and education activists and was inaugurated by Prof. Ved Prakash, Chairman, UGC.
- Department of Medical Elementology & Toxicology and Department of Botany jointly organized a “National Symposium on Impact of Emerging Toxic Chemicals on Human, Plant, Diseases and Sustainable Development along with 36th Annual Session of Academy of Environmental Biology on November 25-27, 2016. Dr. Manju Sharma, former Secretary, Department of Biotechnology was the Chief Guest and keynote on the topic “*Effect of emerging chemicals on developing brain*” address was delivered by Prof. P.K. Seth, former Director, CSIR-Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, Lucknow.
- Rufaida College of Nursing organized an international workshop on “Leadership in Healthcare- Empowering Nursing and Midwifery Professionals” in January 18-20, 2016.
- Twenty Eighth Annual Conference of Indian Atherosclerosis Society was organized at HIMSR on October 29-31, 2015. The theme of the conference was new paradigms in atherosclerosis and cardiovascular disorders. The Conference was inaugurated by Dr. Girish Sahni, Director General, CSIR and Secretary DSIR, Government of India.
- Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry organized a "Two-Day Workshop on Recent Advancements in Molecular Modelling and Drug Design" on November 21 - 22, 2015.
- National Service Scheme (NSS) organized one-day ‘Digital India’ Workshop on October 10, 2016. The workshop was sponsored by the Department of Information Technology, Ministry of Communication. The objective of the workshop was to create awareness about e-governance programmes.
- A “National Seminar on Reassessing the Basic Elements of Quality Assurance for Pharmaceutical Performance using ICH Q10 Guidelines” was organized by the Department of Pharmaceutics on March 18, 2016. The Seminar was sponsored by the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemical & Fertilizers, Government of India.

- Centre for Translational & Clinical Research organized the following programmes.
 - “Workshop on Effective Soft Skills for Clinical Research” in collaboration with Harison’s Tech Consultants on April 9, 2015.
 - “Seminar on Approaches to Drug Discovery” in Collaboration with Daiichi Sankyo Pharma India Pvt. Ltd. on August 12, 2015.
 - “Conference on Challenges in Design and Conduct of Clinical Trials of Medical Devices” in collaboration with Auriga Research and SenseCR on August 22, 2015.

Individual achievements

- Prof. Seyed Ehtesham Hasnain, Vice Chancellor, has been awarded a third 5-year extension of the prestigious J.C. Bose National Fellowship of Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) until March 2022.
- Prof. Divya Vohora, Department of Phramcology has been awarded Dr. D. N. Prasad Memorial Award of Indian Council of Medical Research in 2016.
- Prof. S.H. Ansari, Department of Pharmacognosy & Phytochemistry has been awarded Pharma Ratan Award for Life Time Achievement by Rab Di Meher Society 2016.
- Prof. M. Junaid Siddiqui, Unani Medicine has been conferred with Lifetime Achievement Award (Clinical, Academic, Research and Administrative Work) by MHC-AIIMS, New Delhi in 2016.
- Dr. M. Aslam, Unani Medicine received Significant Contribution Award (In the Field of Unani Medicine) -2016 from MHC-AIIMS, New Delhi in 2016.
- An award of the National Institute of Cleanliness Education and Research was conferred upon Prof. Syed Mahtab Ali, Unani Medicine in 2016 in recognition of his contribution to the specialized area related to cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation.
- Prof. R.C. Jiloha, HIMSR received the State Award by Delhi Government for his meritorious services in delivery of Mental Health in Delhi State in 2015.
- Prof. R.C. Jiloha also received the “Best Psychiatrist in North India” Award by Care World and Medical Times.

- Prof. S. Raisuddin, Advisor (Research), Medical Elementology & Toxicology won the Archana Gold Medal of Academy of Environmental Biology in 2016.
- Dr. Z.R.A.A. Azad, Food Technology has been appointed Member in the following Committees.
 - a. Member, Standard Review Group VI. Meat and Fish Products of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), Government of India,
 - b. Member, Technical Affairs Committee, International Halal Accreditation Forum, National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB).
- Prof. Manju Chhugani, Principal, Rufaida College of Nursing was awarded Lifetime Achievement Award (Clinical, Academic, Research, & Administrative Work) in 2016.
- Prof. Manju Chhugani also received the World Nursing Education Promotion Award, National Institute of Cleanliness Education and Research (NICER) on World Cleanliness Day Celebration, New Delhi in 2016.
- Dr. Sayeed Ahmad and Dr. S.R. Mir, Pharmacy were awarded P.D. Sethi Memorial Award in 2015.
- Ms. Shikha Sharma, Research Fellow in the Department of Medical Elementology & Toxicology received Junior Travel Fellowship Award of International Union of Toxicology for attending XIV International Congress of Toxicology held in Merida, Mexico on October 2-6, 2016.
- IEEE, which is the world's largest technical professional organization awarded "Best Counsellor Award 2016" to IEEE Student Chapter of Faculty of Engineering & Technology.

Campus activities

- For the first time in Jamia Hamdard the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) organized the North Zonal Inter-Varsity Basketball (Women) Tournament during November 2-7, 2015 and All India Inter-Varsity Basketball (Women) Tournament during November 13-19, 2015. Over 50 teams participated in the events and sports facilities at Jamia Hamdard were highly appreciated by the participating universities and official of AIU.

- University Multi-Gym has become fully functional and is open to student and staff.
- Sewage Treatment Plant has become operational.

Visitors

- A high level delegation lead by Ambassador Jimmy Kolker, the Assistant Secretary for Global Affairs at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) visited university on March 1, 2016. The delegation included scientists and research administrators from the USA. The purpose of visit was to explore possibility of collaboration with Jamia Hamdard, especially in the area of alternative medicine.
- A three member delegation led by Datuk Dr. J.T.S. Sinnadurai, Deputy Director General (Medical), Ministry of Health, Malaysia and some members from AYUSH visited Faculty of Medicine (Unani) & Majeedia Unani Hospital, Jamia Hamdard (December 21, 2015).
- A four member high level delegation led by Deputy Director General of Health, Ministry of Health, Government of Sri Lanka visited Faculty of Medicine (Unani) & Majeedia Unani Hospital, Jamia Hamdard (April 26, 2016).
- A high level delegation from Iran visited Faculty of Medicine (Unani) & Majeedia Unani Hospital, Jamia Hamdard (April 27, 2016)
- A delegation of academicians from Hamdard University, Bangladesh visited Faculty of Medicine (Unani) & Majeedia Unani Hospital, Jamia Hamdard (October 24, 2016).
- Dr. Anil Mishra, Professor of Medicine, Edward G. Schlieder Educational, Foundation Chair of Pulmonary Diseases and Director, Tulane Eosinophilic Disorder Center, School of Medicine, Section of Pulmonary Diseases, New Orleans, USA visited Department of Medical Elementology & Toxicology on September 2, 2016 and interacted with faculty and research scholars.
- Dr. Irfan Rahman, Professor of Environmental Medicine (Pulmonary) and Public Health Sciences, Department of Environmental Medicine, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, USA visited University on November 10, 2016 and delivered a lecture on “*Environmental Exposures and Inflammation: Impact on Mitochondrial*

Dysfunction and Signalling through Extracellular Vesicles.” He also interacted with faculty and scholars after the lecture.

Students and employees welfare and administrative reforms

- Reduction of Probation Period for teachers from two year to one year.
- Constitution of Employee Grievance redressal Committee.
- Departmental Promotion Committees have been organized.
- Decentralization and delegation of powers to Heads and Deans.
- Nine students have been provided Hamdard National Foundation Fellowships; 200 students recommended by the Dean Students Welfare for support from Student Aid Fund in 2016.
- Students of various courses have been provided scholarships instituted by various individuals. I thank them all.

Future programmes

I have been associated with Jamia Hamdard for a long time in one way or the other and have always held it in high esteem. It will be possible to take Jamia Hamdard to the next orbit with support of my faculty, student and staff and good wishes of well wishers and active guidance and support of our sponsors (Hamdard National Foundation). We have some plans for future.

- To befittingly celebrate 30 years of establishment of Jamia Hamdard as Deemed to be a University. Year round celebration will be planned.
- An International Conference on Leishmaniasis has already been planned to be held tentatively in February 2018.
- Inviting international faculty to the campus. Process has already begun and a number of faculty from reputed institutions have shown interest to join the University initially under various schemes of Government of India. After their integration in the University system and observing their competence they will be considered for absorption in the University.
- Joint academic programme with foreign universities.
- Intensification of technology transfer activity.

- Massive renovation of University building and up-gradation of facilities to international standards.

I would like to close by gratefully acknowledging the unqualified support and guidance, from time to time, from the Hon'ble Chancellor. The support of our sponsors, Hamdard National Foundation, in all forms is very crucial and the success of HIMSR project could not have been possible without HNF support. Establishment of HIMSR is a new benchmark at Jamia and I am confident that HNF will continue to support us and create many more benchmarks in the years to come. I also put on record the enormous contribution of my predecessor, Dr. G.N. Qazi, who transformed the University and brought it to a new level of visibility.

I thank Prof. C.N.R. Rao for accepting the invitation to be deliver the convocation address and also accepting the D.Sc. (*Honoris Causa*).

I thank all the members of the Jamia Hamdard Fraternity for their support and cooperation. We have a long way to go and I am confident Jamia Hamdard will soon move into a new orbit of excellence and emerge as one of the finest centres for innovation, education and health care delivery in this part of the world.

I once again congratulate the achievers and all the students, who received degree and wish them great success in the new journey they will embark upon now.

Jai Hind

(Seyed Ehtesham Hasnain)