

Report
World Pharmacist Day 2020
Date: 25th September, 2020
Theme ‘Transforming Global Health’

This year, celebration commenced with Webinar session relayed on You tube where more than 300 students and faculty members joined the discussion and attracted more than 1000 views. The webinar was followed by other events viz Pharma Quiz and E Poster competition.

The theme for this year was ‘Transforming Global Health’. Professor Syed Misbahul Hasan, Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy, began his prolific address by highlighting how fellow pharmacists, all across the world, are joining hands with the medical team in these trying times. He pointed out how Faculty of Pharmacy, equips its students to improve the Global Health scenario and imparts knowledge on the latest developments in the field of Pharmacy so that the Faculty can inculcate what it imparts to the students. Also, adding that the learners too have the responsibility of using the resources available to them judiciously. He mentioned that Pharmacists contribute to proper functioning of a hospital, a community store, or take part in the regulatory process wherein sky is the limit for a pharmacist. He concluded by stressing that pharmacists have an impact on tackling the global health issue in a considerable manner.

Prof. S. W. Akhtar, the Honorable Founder and Chancellor, Integral University, Lucknow, blessed the faculty and students on this auspicious occasion by sharing his message where he stressed upon the importance of Pharmacists in society and the fact that they are the ones who research and formulate medicines that doctors then prescribe. He pointed out that the whole world today is preoccupied with efforts to find a vaccine for COVID-19 and in this process the role of the pharmacists is indispensable. He expressed his hope that soon the pharmacists will find a solution to get rid of the pandemic.

Dr. Syed Nadeem Akhtar, Pro Chancellor, Integral University, Lucknow, highlighted the fact that a pharmacist gives “life to medicine” and how this profession is a hope to the ailing society. Further, he mentioned that it is important that new technologies and modern resources must be part of the curriculum. He expressed hope for the future prospects of Pharmacists in contribution to advancement in medicine through upgradation of technology in health sciences.

Prof. Aqil Ahmed, Vice Chancellor (Acting), highlighted the role of the pharmacists in the present scenario and that they have been declared as Corona warriors. He further stated that soon our Pharmacists along with other medical professionals, shall reach the crux of the problem.

The first speaker of the webinar, Dr. Jamal Baig, Global PV Country Leader, MSD Pharmaceuticals, began by expressing his joy regarding the progress of the university. He presented his views on the ‘Role of Pharmacist in Promoting Community Health Literacy’. He talked about the diverse range of options available to students and that they must take pride in their area of specialty through their sheer knowledge. He also proposed that there must be a streamlining of the process of registration. He warned the students against subletting their degrees and pointed out that this practice is a hindrance to excellence. Through this he highlighted the aims and needs of health literacy. He

stressed that limited health literacy is an issue of grave concern. He also recommended strategies to improve communication with laypersons.

The second speaker of webinar, Dr. Priti Tagde, Founder President PRISAL foundation, India, highlighted the role of community pharmacy, hospital pharmacy and various awareness programs conducted by pharmacists in today's scenario. She presented her views on 'Pharmacy Profession: a major role player in healthcare transformation'. She talked about how the role of pharmacists has evolved over the last five decades. She pointed out that as technology has become more sophisticated, patients have become more involved in their own treatment like never before. Moreover, she explored different roles of pharmacist services and various job opportunities available to budding pharmacists. She also espoused upon the qualification measures for a Pharmacist as delineated by WHO. She concluded by highlighting the importance of much needed transformations in the field of health.

Dr. Tarique Mahmood Ansari, Head, Department of Pharmacy, Integral University, Lucknow, marked the end of the inaugural session and gave his vote of thanks. He expressed his gratitude to Honorable Chancellor Prof. S.W. Akhtar, Pro-Chancellor, Dr. Syed. Nadeem Akhtar, Vice Chancellor, Prof. Aqil Ahmad and both the esteemed speakers for giving their valuable time to the session along with the Organizing committee.

Followed by the webinar, an Online Pharma quiz was conducted with the students. More than 100 participants attempted the quiz out of which first five rank-holders were selected as winners.

The last event in line was the e-poster session where about 18 selected groups were allowed to present their e-poster, in online mode, on the said theme. In this session, five groups were selected as winners.