

CELEBRATION OF 70th ANNIVERSARY OF CONSTITUTION DAY

REPORT OF ACTIVITY: Guest Lecture by Eminent Jurists

In continuation to year-long celebrations of 70th Anniversary of Constitution Day, an activity 'Guest lecture by Eminent Jurists' was organized on 16 December, 2019 at Birla Campus, HNB Garhwal University, Srinagar Garhwal. The theme of the event was the First Fundamental Duty: 'To abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem'.

The Session I of the programme started at 11:30 AM with the welcome of participants followed by showing part 4 of documentary series on 'Making of Constitution'. The session was followed by tea and snacks to the participants.

At 1:00 PM, the Session II of the function commenced with the arrival of the Chief Guest of the function Shri. Manoj Kumar Rana, Civil Judge, Kirtinagar, District Tehri Garhwal and Prof. S. C. Bagri, Vice Chancellor (In-charge), HNB Garhwal University, Srinagar Garhwal.

Prof. Seema Dhawan welcomed the guests, teachers of the University attending the event and the participants. This was followed by lighting of lamp by the dignitaries on the dias.

Thereafter, Prof. Seema Dhawan read out the Preamble of Indian Constitution which was repeated by all present in the hall.

Km. Megha Rawat, student of BA I Semester, HNB Garhwal University was felicitated for her work on spreading awareness regarding fundamental duties. Km. Megha Rawat without any assistance and on self organized awareness camps in the Govt. Degree College, Devprayag, Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand.

Prof. M.M. Semwal, Nodal Officer, Uttarakhand State Coordinating University and Head, Department of Political Science, HNB Garhwal University, presented an overview of the program. In his talk he focused on importance of fundamental duties and emphasized on the coexistence of fundamental right and fundamental duties. He also highlighted the need of awareness of our fundamental duties as a citizen of India for better future of the country.

Shri. Manoj Singh Rana, the Chief Guest of the event started his talk by discussing on principle, goals, and objectives set up by the framers of the constitution. He stated that the 85 words in the Preamble of India are the gist of the Indian Constitution. The order in which they are placed in the Preamble is also relevant and is a result of series of debates by the Constituent Assembly. He emphasized that every citizen of India should be aware of the spirit of the Constitution, his fundamental rights and

more importantly his/her fundamental duties as a citizen of India. In his talk he cited various judgments by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dealing with the conflict arising out of fundamental right and duties. Specifically, he discussed judgments by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India arising out of conflict arising amongst fundamental right and duties with respect to National Anthem and National Flag. He deliberated that Fundamental rights, Directive Principles and Fundamental Duties should be understood in totality and not in isolation. He also expressed that future which we are giving to the next generation is very much related to the duties we perform as a citizen of India now. Going a step further, he expressed that leaving of one's fundamental right has immediate effect mostly on the subject, however not doing one's duty has a more lasting impact on the society and future of country. He also emphasized on the need for introducing study of constitution and fundamental duties in the primary education so as to inculcate the habit of performing duties rightfully.

Prof. S.C. Bagri in his presidential address talked about the duties, as a student, as a teacher and staff in the Institution of higher education. He cited various examples wherein discharge of duties as a student or a teacher becomes important. He also called for the need for formation of Constitution Clubs in the University by the students for creating awareness about the fundamental duties in and around Srinagar town.

Dr. J.P. Bhatt presented vote of thanks on the behalf of Committee for celebration of 70th Anniversary of Constitution Day. The programme ended with the reciting of National anthem.

In all, 87 participants attended the programme which included Prof. R.N. Gairola, Prof. Himanshu Baurai, Prof. M. K. Singh, Engr. Rajen Prasad, President Student's Union Ankit Rawat, Ex-President Student's Union Ankit Acholi and Secretary Student's Union Pradeep Rawat.

Members of the Committee, namely Prof. Rakesh Kunwar, Dr. Jyoti Tiwari, Dr. Prashant Kandari, Arun Shekhar Bahuguna and Dr. Nitin Sati helped in the successful conduct of the programme.