

Office of the Chief Public Relations Officer
Jamia Millia Islamia

Press Release

Jamia Millia Islamia Showcases Best Practices Aligned with UN SDGs on the occasion of the 105th Foundation Day; JMI ranked 3rd under the 'SDG category' in NIRF 2025 Rankings

New Delhi, November 3, 2025

As part of its 105th Foundation Day celebrations, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) showcased its best practices aligned with the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by organizing a workshop on the topic, "UN Sustainable Development Goals: Opportunities and Challenges" and a booth on SDGs at the Talimi Mela complex to curate and present its achievements. This acquires significance given that JMI was ranked 3rd under the SDG category in the recently announced NIRF 2025 rankings, positioning it as a leading university across India, in terms of meeting the requirements of sustainable and inclusive development.

Recognizing the importance of an SDG-focused approach in higher education institutions, JMI formed a dedicated team of faculty members and students under the leadership of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Mazhar Asif and Registrar, Prof. Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi.

The booth and the workshop were inaugurated by Shri Kiren Rijiju, Hon'ble Minister of Parliamentary and Minority Affairs, who also released a brochure highlighting JMI's best practices related to each of the 17 SDGs. Prof. Ahteshamul Haque, Coordinator of the SDG event, explained to the Hon'ble Minister JMI's initiatives under each goal of the SDG and apprised him that JMI has published 8,680 research papers related to SDGs, as per the SCOPUS data. Undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral students presented their on-going projects addressing various SDG targets to Shri Rijiju ji. The Union Minister appreciated the best practices that JMI had dutifully taken up to achieve SDGs by 2030 and appreciated the work of the team involved in showcasing the same at the booth, besides, summarizing them in the form of a brochure for others to learn, appreciate and follow. Worth mentioning that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all UN members in 2015, created 17 world SDGs. The aim of these global goals is peace and prosperity for people and the planet while tackling climate change and working to preserve oceans and forests. The SDGs highlight the connections between the environmental, social and economic aspects of sustainable development.

The SDGs workshop featured three eminent speakers: Prof. Prerna Gaur - Director NSUT, New Delhi, Dr. Anil Kumar- Director, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, Govt of India,

and Mr. Abhinav Jain, Project Director GiZ India. Prof. Ahteshamul Haque welcomed the guests during the workshop and briefed the audience about the origins and background of the SDGs and their importance.

In his address, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Prof. Mazhar Asif emphasized that SDGs are closely linked with individuals' daily habits and urged students "to incorporate sustainable and environmentally friendly practices in their everyday lives". He highlighted that "the essence of these goals has long been embedded in Indian traditions and lifestyles since ancient times".

Registrar Prof. Md Mahtab Alam Rizvi underscored the importance of a sustainable lifestyle, while stressing the need for "clean energy, zero carbon emissions, and smart transportation". He appreciated the efforts made by the SDG organizing team for showcasing the best practices of JMI on the occasion of the 105th Foundation Day.

Prof. Mohammed Shareef, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, expressed concern over rising carbon emissions and proposed actionable strategies to mitigate them at the national level. Prof. Neelofer Afzal, Dean, Students' Welfare, elaborated on JMI's student-centric awareness initiatives, such as the 'Nasha Mukht Abhiyan', aimed at promoting responsible citizenship.

Dr. Anil Kumar highlighted that the Govt. of India has fixed targets of generating power from renewable energy sources which are to be addressed under SDGs. Prof. Purna Gaur appreciated the best practices documented by JMI and the university's efforts to meet the demand and informed about the funding schemes by IEEE for taking up projects to meet SDG targets. Mr. Abhinav Jain informed the students about the fundamentals of SDGs and provided insights into GiZ India's collaboration with 25 ministries to address challenges in power, mining, and other areas. The event also witnessed participation from Mr. Munawwar Hussain, Design Engineer, SIEMENS Energy, the Industry Partner for the program, along with the IEEE JMI Student Branch.

Prof. Ahteshamul Haque served as the coordinator of the SDG event, with Prof. Shabana Mehfuz as co-coordinator. Both thanked the VC, JMI Prof. Asif and the Registrar, JMI, Prof. Rizvi for their unwavering support towards attaining the objectives of SDGs at JMI and in showcasing them at the 105th Foundation Day celebrations.

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