

Press Release

JMI organizes Brainstorming Workshop on Solar Energy in collaboration with DST, GoI

The Department of Applied Sciences & Humanities, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) and the Department of Science & Technology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India jointly organized a day long Brainstorming workshop on the innovative solar PV technologies and possibilities of their commercialization for large area PV modules in collaboration with industries on 21st December, 2022. The workshop provided a platform for the stakeholders from Academia, Industries, policy intervenors and policy makers to identify the challenges, feasibility and way forward to make impactful inroads, mitigating impediments towards *Aatmnirbhata* in Clean and renewable Solar Energy for the nation.

Dr. Anita Gupta, Advisor and Scientist G, DST through her thought-provoking speech as the Chief Guest of the event underlined the aspirations of the government in asserting the self-reliance in the energy sector for the nation and focused on creating a conducive indigenous ecosystem for nurturing and maturing of key technological breakthrough especially in solar energy. She stressed on the need of collaborative ventures where Industries, researchers and academicians find a complimentary and symbiotic symphony to optimize the real potential of this great nation.

Prof. Mini S Thomas, the Dean Faculty of Engineering and Technology, JMI in her welcome speech assured the stakeholders that JMI as a premiere intuition has all wherewithal to take lead in the area of clean and renewable energy and apprised the gathering that the university through its learned faculty members and researchers have been adopting interdisciplinary approaches in the converging areas of research and is committed to reclaiming the epithet of *Viswaguru* for the nation and added that in the leadership of JMI Vice Chancellor Prof. Najma Akhtar, the university has been taking big strides in critical areas of research.

Prof. Vikram Kumar, renowned expert on Solar Energy and former Director of NPL (CSIR) and SSPL (DRDO), the Guest of the Honour of the program in his speech talked about the need of opening the newer avenues for academia and industries to interact and collaborate. He also highlighted that technology developed indigenously should be scaled and commercialized for this adequate funding and nurturing is required and the bottlenecks are to be identified and removed.

The workshop saw the active involvement of leading industries, academia and policy framers working in the area of Solar Energy. Some renowned panelists were Dr. V.K.Kaul, Executive Director, Central Electronics Limited, Dr. Prabir Kanti Basu, Sr. Vice President, Reliance New Energy Solar, Dr. B.Prasad, Addl General Manager, BHEL/MNRE Solar PV Plant, Prof. P. K. Bhatnagar, an expert on Solar Energy from University of Delhi, Prof. P. Ramaswamy from SSN, Chennai, Prof Mohammad Khaja Nazeerudin, EPFL, Switzerland and many others noted researchers from premier institutions and industry representatives.

The Coordinator of the Workshop, Prof. Zishan Husain Khan expressed his satisfaction at the enthusiasm and willingness of panelists to transform the Solar Energy landscape in India by 2030 and thanked the Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India for such a meaningful initiative. He believed that the churning of ideas that was seen in all the seven intense and specific sessions of workshop will undoubtedly go a long way for the collaboration of industry and academia and policy framers to transform a new India.



