

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Mata Sundri College for Women, University of Delhi, successfully organised the **1st International Conference on “Integrating Sciences and Social Sciences”** on 21st April 2026 in hybrid mode. The theme of the conference was **“Bridging Scientific Innovation and Social Transformation for a Sustainable Future”**.

The conference was conducted under the esteemed patronage of Prof. (Dr.) Harpreet Kaur, Principal. The event was meticulously planned and executed by a dedicated organising committee comprising Prof. Lokesh K. Gupta (Director, IQAC) as Advisor, Dr Meenu Goel and Dr. Kalpana Sharma as Conveners, and Dr. Archana Verma and Dr. Kamini Kaur as Co-Conveners. The success of the conference was further ensured by the committed efforts of the organising members, namely Dr. Rameet Kaur, Ms. Varsha, Dr. Komal Goel, Dr. Komaldeep Kaur and Dr. Mandeep Kaur.

The Inaugural Address was delivered by the Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Harpreet Kaur, of Mata Sundri College for Women. In her address, she highlighted the significance of interdisciplinary learning and emphasised the need to integrate scientific innovation with social responsibility to achieve sustainable development. She appreciated the efforts of the organising committee and encouraged participants to actively engage in meaningful academic discussions and knowledge sharing.

The session further featured eminent speakers who shared valuable insights:

Dr. Amitabh Ranjan (Guest of Honour), International Policy Expert (Alumnus, NESAT—National Defence University, USA) & Registrar, Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi, highlighted the urgency of addressing environmental challenges through sustainable innovation. He discussed climate-smart agricultural practices such as makhana cultivation and cautioned against ecological imbalances caused by excessive eucalyptus plantation. He advocated for sustainable solutions like hydroponics and precision irrigation, emphasising responsible resource management.

Dr. Saket Bihari (Keynote Speaker), International Policy Expert (Global Academic Collaborations with USA, Australia & New Zealand) & Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi, elaborated on the concept of scientific temper as a rational and evidence-based approach. He pointed out the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application and stressed the importance of applying scientific understanding to real-life challenges for societal progress.

Dr. Manoj Kumar Patariya (Distinguished Speaker), International Science Communication Expert & President, International Science Writers' Association (Global Organisation), emphasised the need to develop a scientific mindset in everyday life. He highlighted the importance of curiosity, inquiry, and innovation, encouraging individuals to adopt scientific thinking beyond academic settings.

Prof. Lokesh K. Gupta (Director, IQAC) addressed the challenges posed by increasing dependence on digital technologies. He encouraged students to maintain independent thinking, creativity, and self-learning while using technological tools responsibly.

A major highlight of the conference was the organisation of 12 parallel technical sessions, comprising 6 online sessions and 6 offline sessions. These sessions covered diverse interdisciplinary themes across sciences, social sciences, management, psychology, and technology. The conference witnessed active participation of approximately 250 presenters, making it a vibrant platform for academic exchange and research dissemination.

Outstanding research contributions were recognised through Best Paper Presentation Awards, while all participants were awarded certificates of participation.

The conference concluded with a valedictory session that included the presentation of the conference report, concluding remarks by the Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Harpreet Kaur, award and certificate distribution, and a formal vote of thanks.

The conference was a resounding success, effectively fostering interdisciplinary dialogue and reinforcing the importance of integrating scientific innovation with social responsibility. It provided a meaningful platform for collaboration, knowledge sharing, and academic excellence.