



Jawaharlal Nehru University

Press Note

12 November 2021

The Statue of Swami Vivekananda in JNU was unveiled last year on 12 November 2020 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi Ji. Today, JNU celebrated the first **Foundation Day** of Swami Vivekananda's Statue by organising a webinar. Shri Anupam Kher, the legendary film actor, director, producer and a former Chairman of the Film and Television Institute of India as well as the Film and Television Censor of India, delivered his address highlighting the relevance of Swami Vivekananda and his thoughts to modern India. He said that Swami Vivekananda's statue in JNU will inspire the students and visitors to imbibe his thoughts and philosophy. He emphasized the message of compassion, vision of oneness, love for our country and youth-led developments. Sushri Pranjali Yerikar from Vivekananda Kendra, delivered the keynote address and said that Swami Vivekananda worked for the youth of India and strove to bring the common people of India to the main stream of country development and progress. Swami ji championed the cause of educating the girl child of India and those who are deprived of an opportunity for education.

Today's event was organized to pay tribute to Swami Ji's vision and hard work towards developing a strong character and personality among the youth of India. His statue in the JNU reminds us of the great ideas and his life in the service of humanity; his life signifies the messages of a philosophy of inclusiveness and strength of a moral nation he dreamed of India, indeed of the world.

Other speakers in the programme celebrated the various facets of the life and teachings of Swami Vivekananda, and their continuing relevance in the world today.

[Prof. Rana P. Singh]

Rector