

Cluster University of Jammu

PRESS RELEASE

26th Feb., 2018

Book Launch and Panel Discussion on “PEOPLE NEXT DOOR”



Cluster University of Jammu organised Book Launch and Panel Discussion on PEOPLE NEXT DOOR authored by T.C.A. Raghavan, Former High Commissioner to Pakistan at GCW Gandhi Nagar, Constituent College, CLUJ. **Prof. Amitabh Mattoo, Hon'ble Advisor to Hon'ble Chief Minister, J&K was the Chief Guest.** Speaking at the occasion Prof. Amitabh Mattoo complimented the author at his earnest endeavour in writing the book with an in depth understanding of Indo-Pak Relations. He stated that apart from focussing upon political and security concerns the book evokes other key perspectives pertaining to peace and development and is one of the best reads on Indo-Pak history.

Prof Anju Bhasin, Vice Chancellor, CLUJ in her special address congratulated Sh. T.C.A. Raghavan author of “PEOPLE NEXT DOOR”. She exhorted the need for Universities to offer innovative platforms for exchange of Ideas to enhance the intellectual landscape of institutions of higher learning. She emphasised on the significant role of Universities to inculcate critical thinking among students.

Sh. T.C.A. Raghavan former High Commissioner to Pakistan, Key speaker and author of PEOPLE NEXT DOOR while addressing the gathering dwelt on the contours of Indo-Pak relations and also analysed the reasons that prevented development of ties. He shared his experiences about life in Pakistan and gave an insightful perspective to Indo-Pak journey of seventy years. He also read some excerpts from his book.

The Panel Discussion was chaired by **Mr. Rahul Jalali, Chairman Federation of Press Club of India** who held the forum together and facilitated meaningful deliberations. The panelists for the panel discussion included Prof. Dipanker Sen Gupta, Dean Students Placement Cell, University of Jammu, Prof. Tajuddin, Head, Department of Political Science, University of Jammu, Ms. Anuradha Bhasin, Executive Editor, Kashmir Times and Dr. Ellora Puri, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Jammu. All the panelists congratulated the author at the narrative style of book. They further added that the book provides a historical overview of Indo-Pak Relationship and analytical insights into emergence of curious history of India's Relations with Pakistan. They also stressed that the two countries had a chance of breaking out past patterns and that any issue can be dealt through a flexible approach by identifying green shoots rather than raising red flags. They further highlighted the pivotal role of civil society on both sides in pressurising their respective governments to script chapter of peace.

Prof. Ashok Aima, Hon'ble Vice chancellor Central University of Jammu, Mr. Khurshid Ahmad Ganai, IAS Chief Information Commissioner, Mrs. Ranjana Sen Gupta, Associate Editor of Penguin Publishing House were the special guests on the occasion.

Earlier the programme started with a formal Welcome address by Prof. Poonam Dhawan, Dean Academic Affairs CLUJ. Controller Examination, Deans of various faculties, CLUJ, Principals of Constituent colleges, academic coordinators of Integrated Programmes, President CTA, Distinguished Academia from University of Jammu, Teaching Faculty from colleges, Prominent Media Heads, scholars and students attended and participated in the event making the occasion momentous. Prof. Aekta Gupta anchored the proceedings. Programme facilitation team included Prof. Sudhanshu Sharma, Prof. Surinder, Prof. Shammi, Prof. Bharti Slathia, Prof. Suresh Sadotra, Dr. Indu Khajuria and Dr. Eva Sharma.

Dr. Twinkle Suri, Dean Students Welfare CLUJ delivered the formal vote of thanks.

Dr. Twinkle Suri
Dean Students Welfare
Cluster University of Jammu