

Office of the Chief Public Relations Officer
Jamia Millia Islamia

Press Release

JMI's Department of Geography celebrates World Environment Day on the theme "Ending Plastic Pollution Globally"

New Delhi, June 5, 2025

World Environment Day (WED) was established in 1972 during the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm. Later that year, the UN General Assembly officially designated June 5 as World Environment Day. The first celebration took place in 1973 with the theme "Only One Earth," marking the beginning of what would become the largest global platform for environmental awareness. Since then, WED has grown to be the biggest environmental awareness event in the world. Each year, a host nation spearheads the campaign, which raises awareness of a certain issue. The triple threat of pollution, biodiversity loss, and climate change is worsened by plastic pollution. About 11 million tons of plastic garbage are dumped into water environments annually, and microplastics from landfills and sewage build up in soil, causing environmental damage. Between \$300 to \$ 600 billion is the estimated yearly cost of plastic pollution. WED encourages national governments to implement substantive policy reforms in addition to educating the public. Today, more than 150 countries celebrate the day worldwide, which encourages clean-up drives, plantation initiatives, awareness-raising campaigns, university events, and environmentally beneficial commitments.

The Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEFCC), GoI had asked all Ministries/ Departments to take utmost efforts for mobilizing people participation and to ensure that the initiatives truly become a citizen's movement. Accordingly, all government departments and institutions also take part in this mission. Jamia Millia Islamia, being a top-ranking central university also takes part and contributes to achieve Plastic Free Environment and cleanliness in the country. Jamia also plays a significant role in creating awareness about Plastic Pollution and Biodiversity loss.

The Department of Geography, Jamia Milla Islamia (NIRF 3rd Rank) is pioneer institution in the country in research, teaching and dissemination of geographic knowledge and awareness. The faculty members, non-teaching staff, research scholars and UG & PG students of the department always takes part in such types of activities happily and full support. All teaching, non teaching members and students participated with full

enthusiasm toward this run. Fruits-bearing trees (Java Plum) plantation was done by the faculty members and the students. Cleanliness Drives (Plastic Waste) was also observed with full excitement and responsibility on 3rd June 2025.

Professor, Atiqur Rahman, Head, Department of Geography, addressed the students about the importance of plastic free environment and cleanliness and united efforts to ending plastic pollution globally. All these activities were initiated under the guidance of the Head of the Department. Dr. Hasan Raja Naqvi and Dr. Ismail Haque, Advisors of Jamia Geography Association supervised all these activities and mobilized resources and persons.

On this occasion, faculty members, staff and students took pledge for No Plastic Use. The department organized various activities involving all staff members and students. Clean-up drive, including plogging, collecting and proper disposal of plastic waste was carried out in and around the department building. Awareness and sensitization activities were also carried out. Following teaching staff have participated in the campaign.

All the events were ended at 1.00 pm on 3rd June 2025 with oaths towards the collective action plans for making India cleaner and more plastic free with thanks and best wishes to all participants from the Head of the department (Prof. Atiqur Rahman). The advisors Dr. Hasan Raja Naqvi and Dr. Ismail Haque have given vote of thanks to the faculty members, non-teaching staff and to the dear students of department for making the program successful.

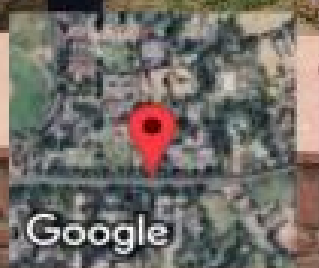
Prof. Saima Saeed
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