

World Pharmacist Day 2021 at BITS, Pilani

Department of Pharmacy, Pilani Campus celebrated the World Pharmacist Day 2021 on 25th September 2021 by organizing a Virtual Conference on the theme, "**Pharmacy: Always trusted for your health**". The objective of the conference was to recognize the role of pharmacists in healthcare and to acknowledge the vast contribution of Prof. R N Saha, Acting Vice-Chancellor, BITS Pilani to the field of Pharmacy.

Prof. Hemant R Jadhav, Head of the Department welcomed the dignitaries and the participants to the conference and highlighted the life-saving role played by the pharmacists even in the distressful and grief-stricken times of COVID-19 pandemic. Prof. R.N. Saha in his opening remarks, advocated the power of counselling, care and mental support provided by the pharmacists that go a long way in the recovery of the patient's physical and mental health. He reinforced the potential role of building the trust with the patient to ensure his well-being. Prof. Saha congratulated the department on achieving newer heights and strengthening their PhD program and research goals. Prof. Sudhir Kumar Barai, Director, BITS Pilani, Pilani campus recognized the immense contributions of Prof RN Saha in teaching, research, administration and management of the institute since his joining. He acknowledged the untiring support and trust rendered by the pharmacists across the world in the extreme times of pandemic and providers of vaccines to preserve the health and safety of the community. Prof. R. Mahesh enlightened the audience with the journey of Prof R N Saha as a pharmacist and as a member of Department of Pharmacy, BITS Pilani since 1986. The conference featured lectures by eminent speakers, Prof. Atmaram P. Pawar, Poona College of Pharmacy (*Role of pharmacist in Healthcare*), Dr. Pronobesh Chattopadhyay, Scientist-F, Head of Division and Admin, DRDO, Tezpur (*Healthcare for Defense Personnel*) and Dr. Rahul Somani, Head- Global Pharmacovigilance, Alkem Laboratories Ltd. Mumbai (*Role of pharmacist in patient safety*). The conference was attended by more than 400 participants.