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IUST concludes workshop on Antimicrobial Resistance, trains 24 researchers

Awantipora, Oct 19: The Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) has concluded a week-long hands-on workshop on 'AMR: Integrating Immunology and Infectious Diseases,' supported by the Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. The programme attracted 110 applications, from which 24 early-career researchers from institutions across Jammu and Kashmir were selected for intensive laboratory training and scientific interactions.

Presiding over the valedictory session, Vice Chancellor Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo emphasised the need to address Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) through a One Health approach. He observed that tackling AMR and other health challenges is essential to achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat. The session was attended by Registrar Prof. Shamim Ahmad Shah, Dean Academic Affairs Prof. Sheikh Aijaz Bashir and Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Parray, Scientist F, CSIR-IIIM.

The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Aabid Hussain Shala, Dean Research, IUST, in the presence of university officers, including Finance Officer Mr. Sameer Wazir, who appreciated the initiative for promoting scientific learning and innovation. The workshop highlighted the importance of integrating immunology with infectious disease research to advance understanding of antimicrobial resistance and support the development of improved diagnostics, vaccines and treatment approaches.

Coordinated by Dr. Arsheed A. Ganaie, Organising Secretary, and Dr. Rais Ahmad Ganai, Co-organising Secretary, the workshop combined expert lectures with more than nine practical sessions covering antimicrobial susceptibility testing, molecular detection of resistance genes, biofilm studies, host-pathogen interactions and bioinformatics. Resource persons from leading research institutions, medical colleges and universities across the country contributed to the scientific deliberations.

Addressing the participants, Dr. Ganaie encouraged them to translate the knowledge and skills acquired during the workshop into future research and collaborations. He also invited them to explore research ideas and partnerships with IUST. The organisers expressed gratitude to the Department of Health Research, university leadership, resource persons, technical staff, student volunteers and the Estates Department for their support in successfully conducting the programme. The workshop concluded with a renewed emphasis on strengthening research capacity and preparing young scientists to contribute to the growing challenge of antimicrobial resistance.

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