

Hamdard Institute of medical Sciences and Research (HIMSR), conducted a **symposium on ‘ Role of Medical Colleges in Making University Colleges & Schools a Tobacco Free Campus ‘** on **30th July** afternoon. It was jointly sponsored by Ministry of Health and WHO Country Office, New Delhi and inaugurated by Sri Anshu Prakash, Principal Secretary Health Delhi Government. World fame cardiologist Professor S Pamavati was the guest of honour. The symposium was preceded by unveiling of series of educative and innovative posters prepared by Tobacco Cessation Clinic of Hamdard Hospital, carrying strong health message regarding harmful effects of tobacco on pregnant mothers, infants and children. Prof. Dwivedi, Dean & Principal of HIMSR narrated the origin of Tobacco Cessation Clinic at Jamia Hamdard and objectives of the symposium. He also described various health promoting measures undertaken by Hamdard Hospital to check the menace of tobacco in and around university campus. Dr GN Qazi, vice chancellor of the Jamia Hamdard expressed the firm conviction of having a tobacco free Hamdard campus and promoting the holistic health of community through various health care based institutions of university, primarily by HIMSR. There were three very important talks by distinguished speakers including Dr. Jagdish Kaur, Prof. Smita Deshpande and Prof. Manoj Sharma highlighting the current scenario of morbidity and mortality due to tobacco, colossal economic, social, spiritual and environmental damage done by tobacco industry and various means to get rid of this problem. At the end of the symposium the young students from nearby Hamdard Public School presented a thought provoking and educative street play which was like icing on the cake. The symposium was attended by a large number of students and faculty included a representative each from GTB Hospital, LRS Chest and TB Institute, RML Hospital and Public Health Foundation, Maulana Azad Institute of Dental Sciences and LNJP Hospital.