

IUST CELEBRATES VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK

(IUST, 1 November): Commemorating the anti-corruption drive being held across the valley, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) and Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB), jointly organized a workshop on “Maintaining Integrity and Prevention of Corruption at Workplace” in which an integrity pledge administered by Registrar IUST Prof. Naseer Iqbal was undertaken by the employees and students, aiming to sensitize the employees and students of the University about the evil effects of corruption in the society.



Vice Chancellor IUST Prof. Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, who was the Chief Guest during the workshop, congratulated the joint efforts of ACB and IUST in organizing the highly relevant workshop, emphasizing the significance of the integrity pledge undertaken amidst the event. Underlining the

importance of principles of integrity and honesty Prof. Romshoo quoted examples from his experience in Japan and other places where people uphold these values. "Even at the international level, it is not always the financial corruption that can corrupt a society but other fifty percent may be about undue favors, favoritism, moral dishonesty in simple affairs of daily lives which hamper our growth and socio-economic development especially in this part of the world, which ranks high in corruption indices," he added.

Hoping the workshop would benefit the student community, SSP ACB South Kashmir Mir Aftab Aalam shared his experiences from the field during his keynote address and informed the gathering about the working of ACB. Stating the importance of the transformation of complaints getting digitized, Mr. Aalam pointed on how “lot of people are now encouraged” to resist the menace, due to the convenience of having to file formal complaints online that traditionally were lodged in offices.

“From the last two years, we have shifted our focus to provide access to the public over the digital platforms, where one is just seconds away from filing a complaint on the contact numbers given on our websites.”

Enlightening the audience about the situation on ground, Joint Director Prosecution ACB Gulshan Ahmad spoke on how “rampant is the corruption in our society” and how it “degrades the morals of our society”.

“For centuries, laws have been made to eradicate this menace but surprisingly the corruption rates are increasing”. He further pointed the necessity of requirement of certain “watchdogs” in every sector and departments, who can play a pragmatic affect in lessening the “polluted” sectors.



Sr. Prosecuting Officer Farooq Shagoo highlighted the vitality of roles for a public servant, which need “to be followed judiciously” without embezzlements of their powers, thereby promoting any illegality. “A power invested in an officer which gets used arbitrarily by him, is a power misused by him”.

Professor of Law, KU, Prof. Mohammad Hussain accentuated the responsibilities of the educational institutions and other platforms, including the roles of public servants and teachers in coming together to fulfil the pledge in exterminating bribery. He stressed the importance of ethics in the society.

The workshop was attended by Deans, HoDs, Officers, faculty members and students from IUST and a team from ACB. Dean of Students Dr Anisa Jan presented the vote of thanks.

**Issued through
 Public Relations and Media Centre**