

The DEI Diamond Jubilee Memorial Lecture - A Brief Report

May 19, 2025

The Diamond Jubilee of the REI was celebrated in the year 1977 with great zeal and fervor to commemorate the successful completion of 60 years of the Institute. The Diamond Jubilee Memorial Lecture Series instituted, thereafter, by His Holiness Dr. M.B. Lal Sahab, the founder Director of DEI, has been a regular feature ever since.

The DEI Diamond Jubilee Memorial Lecture is part of a rich tradition that DEI has been practicing since its very inception, inviting illustrious speakers who have made significant contributions in their professional fields. An intellectual treat, this event is awaited by all stakeholders, particularly, students and staff. This year the DEI Diamond Jubilee Memorial Lecture was held on May 19, 2025 at the Convocation Hall of the Institute. **Prof. Anil Kumar Tripathi, Director, Indian Institute of Science, Education and Research, Mohali, Chandigarh**, was invited to deliver his talk on the topic, ‘Human Civilization: An Eternal Journey of Inquiry, Ingenuity and Innovation’.

Prof. Anil Kumar Tripathi, senior Professor of Biotechnology, is currently Director of IISER Mohali. Earlier he has been Director of Institute of Science Banaras Hindu University and also served as Director of CSIR – CIMAP, Lucknow. Prof. Tripathi is a National JC Bose fellow and holds fellowship INSA (Indian Natural Science Academy), New Delhi, IASC (Indian Academy of Sciences), Bangalore, NAS (National Academy of Sciences), Allahabad, NAAS (National Academy of Agricultural Sciences), New Delhi.

The event began with the Institute Prayer followed by the introduction of the Diamond Jubilee Memorial Lecture Series by the Registrar of the Institute, Prof. Anand Mohan. Director DEI, Prof. C. Patvardhan, introduced the Chief Guest and delivered the welcome address. The highly insightful and impressive talk delivered by Prof. Tripathi was an eye opener. Tracing the progress made by man in almost every field – agriculture, medicine, science and technology through innovation, invention, research and discovery, Prof Tripathi highlighted the wonders of science. However, he then asked a vital question – Have we been able to develop a civilized human being? Can we call a world in which nations have empowered themselves with nuclear weapons, civilized? He also mentioned that while all those who were responsible for making major breakthroughs in various fields of knowledge were awarded the Nobel Prize as was the intention of Alfred Nobel when he constituted the Nobel Prize fund, yet even Alfred Nobel was skeptical as to whether these innovations would finally lead to human welfare or would lead to destruction.

The questions and comments that followed Prof Tripathi’s talk drew the attention of the audience and Prof. Tripathi himself towards the value-based education provided at DEI as well as the sustainable healthcare habitat in which the Dayalbagh community leads a life of ‘better worldliness’. The event ended with a vote of thanks and high Tea served in the lush lawns of the Convocation Hall premises.



Prof. Anil Kumar Tripathi delivering the Diamond Jubilee Lecture



Prof. C. Patvardhan, Director, DEI, delivering the Welcome Address



Distinguished Guests at the Diamond Jubilee Lecture