

Syama Prasad Mookerjee was an underrated academician: Dr Jitendra

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Introducing a new narrative to the profile of Bharatiya Jan Sangh founder, Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee, Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh said on Sunday that Mookerjee was an under-rated academician and while the history failed to do justice to him by not adequately acknowledging his self-effacing contribution in public life, a greater injustice was meted out to him by not adequately acknowledging his sterling role as an academician which was recognised even by the British rulers.

Delivering an Academic Lecture on the subject "Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee and his contribution to Higher Education", Dr Jitendra Singh described Syama Prasad Mookerjee as a 'prodigal child' who grew up into a 'versatile genius', which enabled him to achieve so much in life in a short span of just 52 or 53 years of age.

At a time when there were very few Universities in India, which were mostly controlled by the British and



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh delivering an Academic Lecture on Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee, on Sunday.

dominated by the British faculty, he said, Syama Prasad Mookerjee rose to become the Vice-Chancellor of Calcutta University at the age of 34 and in spite of his multifarious activities, Mookerjee delivered as many as over 22 Convocation addresses in different Universities of India and some of the thoughts expressed in his convocation addresses are timeless quotable quotes with a universal relevance.

Describing Mookerjee as an emancipated thinker, Dr Jitendra Singh quoted from his Calcutta convocation address on March 2, 1935, where he had said "Surrender not the convictions you hold dear, but learn to appreciate the points of views of your opponents".

Dr Jitendra Singh said, Mookerjee's political vision was also guided by sound academic logic and as an evidence, he quoted from his Nagpur University Convocation address of 1936, wherein he said, "India fell mainly because her people were at the critical hour divided and disorganized. We revelled in internal strife, which ceased for a time when great things like Asoka and Akbar ruled over destinies of India."

Lashing out at some of the left-leaning intellectuals for dubbing Mookerjee as a "Hindu protagonist", Dr Jitendra Singh quoted from his Agra University Convocation address of November 23, 1940 to explain what Hinduism meant to Mookerjee in the context of India when he had said, "I would ask you to fulfill in

abundant measure your obligation for the revival of the glory of Hindu culture and civilization, not from a narrow bigoted point of view, but for strengthening the very root of nationalism in this country."

Describing Mookerjee as a perfect blend of conviction and courage of conviction, Dr Jitendra Singh recalled that Mookerjee resigned from the post of Vice-Chancellor when he got involved in agitation against the British Government and resigned from the Union Cabinet because of his ideological differences with the then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

Even in his political thoughts, Dr Jitendra Singh said, Mookerjee was inspired by a deep sense of academics that reflected in the slogan "Ek Nishan, Ek Vidhan, Ek Pradhan", which he gave before making the ultimate sacrifice of his life for the integration of Jammu and Kashmir. Even today, he said, these six words' acronym sums up the entire 75 years' history of post-independence Jammu & Kashmir.

GMC Kathua organises International Virtual Cancer Conference

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Department of Radiation Oncology, Government Medical College (GMC) Kathua under aegis of Association of Radiation Oncologists of India North Zone Chapter supported by LBN Radiations of Hope-A Cancer Care Foundation on Sunday organised CRAB-ECON 9th International virtual Cancer Conference.

Theme of conference was 'Decoding Cancer Genetics' and is first such conference organised from Jammu and Kashmir.

The conference was attended by luminaries in Oncology and Researchers in field of Cancer Genetics.

Dr Deepak Abrol Incharge Radiation Oncology GMC Kathua and Dr Abhishek Shankar Associate Professor AIIMS Patna were the Programme Directors while Dr Shamim Ahmad, Additional Professor AIIMS Delhi and Dr Rakesh Kumar from School of Biotechnology SMVDU were organising



Doctors addressing International Virtual Cancer conference.

Secretaries.

Conference was organized under patronage of Dr Anjali Nadir Bhat, Principal GMC Kathua.

Dr Anil D'Cruz, President of International Union Against Cancer, Geneva and well known Head and Neck Cancer Surgeon also attended the meeting and praised the organisers of CRAB-ECON for organising the event annually.

Key resource faculty included Padamshri Dr Ashok Vaid Chairman

Medical Oncology Medanta

who spoke on Hereditary Breast and ovarian Cancer Syndromes, Dr Purvish Parikh President ICON who spoke on value of Molecular Testing in the Real World, Dr Abhishek Shankar from AIIMS Patna who spoke on Molecular prevention of Cancer.

Dr Rajesh Vashistha, President AROI from Bathinda, Dr Rakesh Kapoor Director Tata Sangroo and Mullahmpur and Dr G V Giri Secretary

AROI from Bangalore delivered inaugural address.

Dignitaries and faculty who delivered the talks and chaired the sessions were Dr Manoj Gupta Dean

Academics AIIMS Rishikesh, Dr AFM Kamaluddin Secretary Oncology Club Bangladesh, Dr V Srinivasan Secretary ICRO from Chennai, Dr Meenu Gupta Professor and Head from Dehradun, Dr Neeraj Jain Senior Vice

President NZAROI from Amritsar, Dr S N Senapati

from Orissa, Dr Jyotsna Suri from GMC Jammu, Dr Vikas Roshan from AOI, Dr

Priyanshu Chaudhary and Dr Piyush Mehta from Mohali and Dr Ankur Mittal from Oswal Ludhiana, Dr Mukesh Tanwar from Rohtak, Dr Manoj Kashyap from Amity Stem Cell Institute, Dr Sonali Verma from the SMVND, Dr G R Bhat from SKIMS, Dr Asif Amin from University of Kashmir and Dr Audeesh Bhat from Central University of Jammu.

A best paper session was also conducted in which Dr K Anildev won Lajwanti Bhagatnath Gold Medal.

Pertinent to mention that LBN Radiations of Hope is a Cancer Care Foundation Trust involved in cancer awareness among masses and is also working for cause of Continuing Medical Education in India.

Dr Amritpal Singh

and Dr Sachin Gupta,

Associate Professor and

Incharge Mushroom Unit

briefed the dignitaries about the services being provided to the farmers, students and

young entrepreneurs by the

Mushroom Unit of

SKUAST-Jammu.

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