

**Foundation Stone of New Academic Block Laid by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Aligarh
Muslim University at AMU Murshidabad Centre**

Honorable Vice-Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University Lt. Gen. Zameer Uddin Shah (Veteran) today laid the foundation stone of the New Academic Block at AMU Murshidabad Centre. The multi-storied block, to be completed in a phased manner, will host the present three departments and will let the Centre start new courses, once it gets completed. The foundation stone laying ceremony started with the recitation of a Surah from the Holy Quran by Hafiz Mohammad Jahangir.

During the ceremony, organized in the lawn of the mini-auditorium of the Centre, the Vice Chancellor said that when he assumed the office, five years back, there was a lot of opposition against AMU Off-Campus Centres. People from various groups met him, to convince him to close these Centres. But it was his firm view that these Centres will spearhead the educational mission of Sir Syed across the length and breadth of the country. He said his views have been reconfirmed by the kind of academic works these Centres have achieved with very little resources.

He further urged the students that they are the ambassadors of Aligarh Muslim University and it is their responsibility to always uphold the name of their alma mater. He informed the huge gathering of faculty members, non-teaching staff and the students that he has taken the issue of funding of the Centres with the highest authorities in the Ministry of Human Resource and development and he is hopeful that the funds would be released soon.

Welcoming the Honorable Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Badaruddoza, Director AMU Murshidabad Centre said that it is primarily because of the perseverance of the Vice Chancellor that AMU has scaled new heights. He further said that during the last five years, the present Vice Chancellor has improved the academic environment of our University, forged new partnerships with reputed universities, and engaging our Alumni in a manner that has no parallel in the recent past. As a result many alumni have contributed generously for the cause of the University. Dr. Badaruddoza added that as the Director of the Centre he always received the unbinding support of the administrative team of the Honorable Vice Chancellor.

He further informed that during the current academic session, the Centre has organized around 20 academic and co-curricular activities. The prominent among them are the successful inspection by Bar Council of India; organizing Multi-disciplinary International Seminar; arranging six-month computer typing certification course for school students; hosting Workshops for Women Writers, private school teachers, and scholars on Data Analysis.

On this occasion, the Honorable Vice Chancellor also released the first Hall Magazine of the Centre – Murshid-e-Alig along with the placement brochure of MBA final year students. The program was conducted by Dr. Syed Atif Jilani. Mr. Saif Hussain, BALLB student mesmerized the audience with a beautiful song. The program ended with the singing of University Tarana followed by National Anthem.

Later, the ‘Campus Gymnasium’ for boys was inaugurated by VC Sir while girls section of the gymnasium was inaugurated by Mrs. Sabiha Simi Shah.

The Vice Chancellor Sir also Presided over the Valedictory function of the one-week Workshop on “Data Analysis using STATA.” He congratulated all the participants for successfully completing the course and gave away the certificates. In his address, he said that such programs are the actual reflection of the academic work being carried out by AMU. He also said that he is glad that scholars from various reputed universities and institutes like IIM Calcutta, JNU, BHU, CSD have participated in this workshop.

Dr. Badaruddoza informed the Vice Chancellor that this workshop was jointly organized with SNAP Academy. It not only drew scholars from all the corners of the country but the resource persons of this workshop were also associated with equally respectable international universities. He added that Dr. Zakariya Siddiqui from Australian National University and Dr. Saijuddin Sheikh from John Hopkins University taught Data Analysis using NSS data during this entire course. He further said that being a residential workshop it allowed the participants to continue with classes from 9:30 in the morning till 8 or 9 pm in the evening.

Mr. Sabir Ahamed of SNAP Academy spoke on the objectives of the Academy and its purpose of organizing such workshops. The Valedictory function started with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Mr. Ahmar Afaq. Ms. Pakeeza Khan proposed the Vote of Thanks.