

## **Nowruz Festival 1398**

The India-Afghanistan Foundation (IAF) and the central Asian studies, school of language literature and culture studies of Jawarlal Nehru University (JNU) jointly celebrated the International day of Nowruz on March 25, 2019 at JNU to bring together the academician and cultural performers at the same platform to reflect the uniformity in the culture of the both countries and would be a positive step for the promotion of the Afghan and India culture.

The event was inaugurated and attended by Mr. Mohammad Khairullah Azad, charg'e d'affaires a.i. of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to India, Prof. Mazhar Asif, chairperson Centre for Persian and central Asian studies JNU, Prof. H.E. Mr. Ashraf Shikhanliyev, Ambassador of Embassy of Republic of Azerbaijan to India, Isa Habibayli, director institute of literature, Prof. Jagdesh Kumar, Vice chancellor JNU and prof. S.A. Hasan from JNU, Mr. Ziaulhaq Akhondzada, IAF secretary as well as diplomats, academics and students from different universities.

Mr. Azad addressed about the Nowruz which marks the start of spring and the rebirth of the nature is one of the ancient festival and inseparable part of our culture which our forefathers celebrated throughout the millenniums and is a much anticipated festival in Afghanistan." On the occasion of Nowruz, families get together, enjoy and it is regarded as the best festival of the year in Afghanistan, Iran and central Asia.

The seminar provided knowledge to the Pashto and Dari / Persian students in terms of historical and cultural relations between Afghanistan and India and will encourage them to gain more knowledge in this regard.

The program was further enlightened with Afghan musicians, dance performance, and songs by groups of Afghan and Indian students. Nowruz celebration was a jubilant moment for both the countries and have been witnessing a strengthened relation of people to people contact spreading across the globe.