## Vigilance Awareness Week 2024 observed at AIIMS Bathinda

The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Bathinda is observing the Vigilance Awareness week 2024, from 28<sup>th</sup> October to 3<sup>rd</sup> November. The theme for this year is "Culture of Integrity for Nation's Prosperity"

The proceedings commenced with the administering of the integrity pledge to the faculty members and staff of AIIMS Bathinda by the Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO), Dr. Sonia Kochhar on 28<sup>th</sup> October, at 11 AM in the auditorium of the institute. Faculty members who were engaged in hospital responsibilities took the E-integrity pledge on the CVC website.



The event was graced by chief guest Dr. Nirmal Ouseppachan, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mansa district, Punjab.

The CVO welcomed the chief guest and attendees and conveyed the wishes of Hon'ble Director Dr. D. K. Singh, Additional in-charge & Director, AIIMS Rishikesh, Dr. Meenu Singh, Deputy Director Administration, Lt. Col. Rajiv Sen Roy and the recently nominated IEMs, Sh. Jitender Sharma and Sh. Mohanty who could not physically join the event due to ongoing work commitments.

The gathering was addressed by Dean, Dr. Akhilesh Pathak, who commended the organizing committee for the planning and conduct of the vigilance awareness week activities. The Medical Superintendent, Dr. Rajiv Kumar, emphasized on the importance of a culture of integrity in everyday working of the institute, and the role of each employee to maintain the same.

The chief guest Dr. Nirmal Ouseppachan, while quoting from the integrity pledge, highlighted the the role of probity, integrity and transparency in public life, giving examples from administration, and ancient Indian texts like the Mahabharata. He explained the importance

of taking individual responsibility and remembered Mahatma Gandhi's message of being the change that we want to see around us.

Sensitisation program was conducted by Dr. Rachna, from the Dept. of Pharmacology, for the faculty members and security personnel and other staff, where they were informed about the perils of corruption, and the mechanisms available under the Central Vigilance Commission to report and fight it.

Dr. Anupinder Thind, from the Dept. of Physiology detailed the events that will be taking place throughout the week. These included various competitions for students – Vigimation (animation), Vigireels (short video clips or reels), Vigiart (painting), e-Posters, Rangoli. A nukkad natak (skit) highlighting the impact of corruption and ways to fight it will be showcased in a public school in the urban health area of AIIMS Bathinda, and also in the OPD area for community sensitization. A walkathon and valedictory function will be held at the conclusion of the week. She ended the meeting with a vote of thanks.