

## **“Swachhta Pledge” to mark Gandhi Jayanti**

The University of Kashmir on Friday organised a ‘*Swachhta Pledge*’ event under the *EBSB (Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat)* programme and a special cleanliness drive to mark the 151st birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Vice-Chancellor Prof Talat Ahmad read out the ‘*Swachhta Pledge*’ at a function which saw active participation of top academics and officers. The 12-point ‘*Swachhta Pledge*’ urges upon citizens to remain committed towards cleanliness and end littering. “I will devote 100 hours per-year, which is two hours per-week, to voluntarily work for cleanliness,” the Pledge reads, calling for propagating the message of ‘*Swachh Bharat Mission*’ in villages and towns.

Addressing the participants, Prof Talat said: “One of the important things that Mahatma Gandhi laid special emphasis on is cleanliness; the cleanliness of our homes, and our surroundings, for good health of the citizens and a clean environment around.” He said the entire society—children and elderly, students, teachers and officers—needs to join hands collectively and make the ‘*Swachhta Pledge*’ a continuous process.

Prof. Talat Said “Today, we also have some great initiatives like ‘*Swachah Bharat Abhiyan*’ to reinforce the need to ensure cleanliness all around for the greater good of the society”. In light of today’s event, a message should go out from the University that “we all shall continue to follow this Pledge round-the-year and with even greater vigour in future.” Later, Vice Chancellor inaugurated a special cleanliness drive, organized by Department of Students Welfare, to mark Gandhi Jayanti.