



Department of Chemistry, University of Delhi
in association with
Institute of Nano Medical Sciences

cordially invites you to the

Prof. Harish C. Gaur Centennial Memorial Lecture

on
Himalaya and Climate Change

By

Padma Vibhushan Dr. Murali Manohar Joshi

Former Minister of Human Resource Development,
Science and Technology, Home Affairs
Government of India

on Thursday, the 12th February 2026 at 2:00 P. M.

Venue: T. R. Sheshadri Seminar Hall, Department of Chemistry, University of Delhi, Delhi -110007

Prof. Satish K. Awasthi

Head, Department of Chemistry
University of Delhi, New Delhi
will preside over the function

R.S.V.P.

Prof. Satish K. Awasthi
Head
Department of Chemistry
University of Delhi, Delhi

Prof. Rajeev Gupta
CEO
Institution of Eminence (IoE)
University of Delhi, Delhi

Prof. Indrajit Roy
Director
Institute of Nano Medical Sciences
University of Delhi, Delhi

Dr. Snigdha Singh
Deputy Director
Institute of Nano Medical Sciences
University of Delhi, Delhi

Programme

Welcome Address by Professor Indrajit Roy Director, Institute of Nano Medical Sciences, University of Delhi	2:00 P.M.
Felicitation Ceremony of <i>Padma Vibhushan</i> Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi Former Minister of Human Resource Development, Science and Technology, Home Affairs Government of India	2:05 P.M.
Introductory Remark by Professor Rajeev Gupta CEO, Institution of Eminence (IoE), University of Delhi	2:15 P.M.
Introduction of Speaker by Professor Ramesh Chandra Founder Director, Institute of Nano Medical Sciences, University of Delhi	2:25 P.M.
Centennial Memorial Lecture by Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi Former Minister of Human Resource Development, Science and Technology, Home Affairs Government of India	2:30 P.M.
Presidential Address by Prof. Satish K. Awasthi Head, Department of Chemistry, University of Delhi	3:20 P.M.
Remarks and Vote of Thanks by Prof. Akhilesh K Verma Department of Chemistry, University of Delhi	3:25 P.M.
High Tea	3:30 P.M.

Padma Vibhushan Dr. Murali Manohar Joshi

Murli Manohar Joshi (born 5 January 1934) is an Indian politician. He is one of the founding members of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and served as its President from 1991 to 1993. In addition to his role in the BJP, he has been a lifelong member of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), a Hindu nationalist organisation. Joshi is the former Member of Parliament from Kanpur Lok Sabha constituency. He is a former professor of physics in University of Allahabad. He is one of the senior most leaders of the BJP and one of the founding members. Joshi later became the Union Human Resources & Development Minister in the National Democratic Alliance government. Joshi was awarded Padma Vibhushan, the second-highest civilian award, in 2017 by the Government of India.



Joshi had his early education in Chandpur, district Bijnor and in Almora, from where his family hails. He completed his B.Sc. from Meerut College and M.Sc. from Allahabad University. In Allahabad, one of his teachers was Rajendra Singh, who later became the Sarsanghchalak of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh. Joshi did his doctorate in physics at Allahabad University. The subject of his doctoral thesis was spectroscopy. He published a research paper in Physics in Hindi, which was a first of its kind. After completing his PhD, Joshi started teaching physics at Allahabad University.

Joshi was born in Delhi on 5 January 1934. His family hails from Almora in Kumaon region, which is now part of the Uttarakhand state. His father's name was Manmohan Joshi. In 1966, Joshi was married to Tarla Joshi, a lady of his own community and similar family background, in a match arranged by their families in the usual Indian way. The lifelong marriage has proven entirely harmonious and conventional. The couple are the parents of two daughters, Nivedita and Priyamvada.

Joshi is known to have been influenced by the life and work of Babasaheb Ambedkar, Mahatma Jyotiba Phule and Deendayal Upadhyaya. He was elected Member of Parliament from Almora. When the Janata Party (which then included his party) came to power forming the first non-Congress government in Indian history, Joshi was elected General Secretary of the Janata Parliamentary Party. After the fall of the government, his party came out of Janata Party in 1980, and formed the Bharatiya Janata Party or the BJP. Joshi first looked after the Central Office as a General Secretary and later became Party Treasurer. As General Secretary of BJP, he was directly in charge of Bihar, Bengal and North-Eastern States. Later, when BJP formed a government in India under Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Joshi served as the Human Resource Development Minister in the cabinet. Joshi was a three-term M.P. from Allahabad before he was defeated in the Lok Sabha elections of May 2004. He won election to the 15th Lok Sabha from Varanasi as a BJP candidate. He also served as the home minister for 13 days government in 1996. Joshi was appointed as Chairman of the Manifesto Preparation Board of the BJP in 2009. He was honoured as "Proud Past Alumni" of Allahabad University by Allahabad University Alumni Association.

He was a sitting MP from Varanasi and he vacated that seat for Narendra Modi in 2014 Lok Sabha Elections. He later contested from Kanpur and won from the constituency by a margin of 2.23 lac votes.

Professor Harish C. Gaur

Prof. Gaur was an exceptional academician, visionary scientist, and devoted mentor whose contributions to chemical sciences and higher education continue to inspire generations. His unwavering commitment to research excellence, institutional development, and student mentorship has left an indelible mark on University of Delhi and the broader scientific community. Professor Gaur served as Head of the Department of Chemistry from 1979 to 1981, a period of active teaching, research, and curriculum development. He oversaw undergraduate, honours, postgraduate, M.Phil., and doctoral programs; chaired Committees of Courses; supervised examinations; and guided decisions on staffing and research supervision. His leadership style emphasized academic rigor, collegiality, and steady institutional growth.



He later served as Dean of the Faculty of Science, extending his responsibilities beyond chemistry to the wider scientific community within the University. As Dean, he worked closely with multiple departments on academic planning, curriculum matters, and long-term policy issues. These roles placed him at the center of University decision-making and reflected his standing as a trusted academic leader. Professor Gaur was deeply involved in University governance through service on key statutory bodies, including the Academic Council, the Executive Council, the Court, and the Faculty of Science. He also served as Chairman of the Standing Committee (Students) of the Academic Council, where he addressed student-related academic and welfare matters that required sensitivity and balance. In addition, he was a member of the Academic Planning Committee and several admissions advisory committees. His repeated appointment to such bodies highlights the trust placed in his judgment and his reputation for fairness and careful decision-making.

His research provided foundational understanding of electrode kinetics, ion transport, and thermodynamic properties in molten salt systems. Throughout his career, Professor H. C. Gaur remained closely connected to a small and influential group of international scholars who defined the field of molten-salt electrochemistry. These were not occasional contacts but long-standing professional relationships built on shared scientific values, sustained dialogue, and mutual respect. Together, they formed a core international circle that shaped both the field's trajectory and the University of Delhi's standing within it. He co-authored a landmark 1977 review on chronopotentiometry in molten nitrates, halides, and mixed electrolytes. In 1974, he was a Leverhulme Visiting Fellow at the University of New South Wales, further cementing his international reputation. At a time when international academic exchange was limited, such engagements provided rare exposure to global research practices and helped situate the Delhi laboratory within the mainstream of international science.

His work continues to influence electrochemistry and materials science, particularly in high-temperature processes like electrodeposition, metal extraction, and corrosion studies.