

Dr. Sunil Kumar delivered a special address at the “National Youth Conference on Revolutionizing Innovation for a Sustainable Economy” organized by Jaipuria Institute of Management, Indore. In his address, Dr. Kumar emphasized that innovation must move beyond technological advancement to become responsible, inclusive, and sustainability-driven. He highlighted that environmental challenges are interconnected, waste is not merely a byproduct of human activity but a reflection of how we design production systems, consume resources, and govern institutions. Inefficient systems lead to waste accumulation, whereas well-designed systems can transform waste into valuable resources.

Underscoring the importance of a circular economy, he called for a shift from the linear “produce–use–dispose” model to approaches centered on resource recovery, material reuse, energy extraction, and lifecycle thinking. He stressed that scientific waste management is not limited to treatment and disposal, but involves closing resource loops, minimizing losses, and maximizing value.

Dr. Kumar also highlighted the critical role of youth as present drivers of change. He noted that innovation should not be guided solely by efficiency or profitability, but must equally address environmental integrity, social equity, and long-term resilience.

Concluding his address, he urged collective efforts to build systems that are efficient, resilient, and environmentally responsible, ensuring that innovation contributes not only to economic growth but also to ecological balance and societal well-being.



