## **Constitution Day – Report**



26<sup>th</sup> November 2021, at Alliance University marked the celebration of 72<sup>nd</sup> Constitution Day, in the esteemed presence of Justice N Santosh Hegde as the Chief Guest for the event. Justice Hegde has been a former Justice at the Honorable Supreme Court of India for 6 Years and Lokayukta for the Karnataka State. The event was also graced by the presence of Mr. Abhay Chebbi Pro-Chancellor, Alliance University, Dr. Anubha Singh, Vice-Chancellor, Alliance University, Dr. Punith Cariappa, Pro Vice Chancellor, Alliance University and Dr. Kiran Gardner, Dean, Alliance School of Law, Alliance University. The program started with a Vandemataram song performance by one of the students at Alliance University, with Mr. Abhay Chebbi, delivering the Welcome Address, followed by an address by Dr. Anubha Singh. Professor Devaiah NG recited the Preamble as reminder of the guiding light to the constitution.

The Stage was then set for, the esteemed Chief Guest, Justice N Santosh Hegde for his address. While addressing and calling out to the youth at Alliance University, Justice Hegde very eloquently threw light on the darkness prevailing in the Indian system and the three pillars of Democracy, The Legislature, The Executive and The Judiciary, including the fourth pillar, The Media and Press. Justice Hegde's speech was voluminous in terms of hard and eye-opening facts relating to the failure of the Indian System in upholding the constitutional morality and aspirations. Justice Hegde started his speech with a reference to the parliamentary debate on educational qualifications required to be part of the legislature, to establish how the approach of the politicians has changed from nation first to nation last through the passage of time. The political integrity of the present leaders towards the country was questioned with solid factual backing of working hours in the Parliament. He also emphasized on the quality of contentment in what one has, and not falling in the pangs of the disease called greed. While talking about the executive, the advice was very coherently related, when Justice Hegde talked about the corruption in the system, backed by statistics of various scams. He also shared several instances of corruption that he himself had inquired and acted against, while being the Lokayukta for the Karnataka State. Being a part of the judiciary for a very long time, he was also disappointed with the way things were functioning in the judiciary; namely the long delays in the dispensing of the cases, vain litigations, lack of access to justice, were amongst others. He also condemned the modus operandi of the media and press in Indian system, while stating that the media only has the duty to present the fact as it is and not form opinions and biases, thereafter. While his speech was full of hard-hitting facts, yet in the end, calling out to the youth and students at Alliance University, the reflection of his faith in the new generation of the country was evident. Very inspiringly, he asked the students, to check their morals, follow their morality, earn, but not at the expense of anyone else's exploitation, and be content in what they possess, all of which will one day lead the country towards a future that our forefathers had aspired for. Justice Hegde was also kind enough to take questions from the students in the interactive session, very humbly and very patiently. In the interaction he delved into the question asked by the student and further emphasized on the importance of morality, upbringing, information and right conscience. The student at Alliance University, were awed and inspired by Justice N Santosh Hegde's address and promised to follow his advice and lead the country to a better future. Justice Hegde was then presented with memento as a token of love and gratitude, by Dr. Anubha Singh.

The program ended with Dr. Kiran Gardner, Dean, Alliance School of Law, proposing the vote of thanks followed by the National Anthem.