

In the News

CSIR innovations on Millets

"A traditional millet diet is beneficial in diabetes, obesity and a host of other disorders." – Dr Jitendra Singh



Hon'ble Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh, who is also a known Diabetologist and a medical professional, said on 30 January 2023 that a traditional millets diet is

beneficial in diabetes, obesity and a host of other disorders. Millets are rich in essential vitamins, minerals, protein and fibre, and the lesser-known fact is that all the dishes made from rice and wheat can also be made from millets.

Delivering the keynote address at an exclusive event titled "CSIR Innovations on Millets" at CSIR-NPL

Spearheaded by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the United Nations declared 2023 as the "International Year of Millets" at the initiative of the Indian Government last year and was backed by 72 other countries.



(CSIR-National Physical Laboratory), New Delhi, commemorating the International Year of Millets, Dr Jitendra Singh said, after Prime Minister Narendra Modi popularised Yoga globally, it's now time to do so for Millets. He said, 10 of the 12 known types of millets are grown in India, which consist of complex carbohydrates, are slow to digest and hence have a low glycemic index beneficial for blood sugar levels.

The Minister recalled that the first International Day of Yoga (IDY) was celebrated on 21 June 2015, after the IDY resolution of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in December 2014 came at the initiative of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and was passed by unanimous consent. Now, the International Day of Yoga is celebrated on the 21st of June every year worldwide. Similarly, spearheaded by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the United Nations declared 2023 as the "International Year of Millets" at the initiative of the Indian Government last year and was backed by 72 other countries, the Minister informed.

Dr Jitendra Singh also inaugurated an exhibition and released the Desktop Calendar 2023 on Millets at CSIR-NPL, as part of the celebrations of "International Year of Millets-2023" by CSIR Labs. The Minister informed that the exhibition had a display of products and technologies developed in CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute (CSIR-CFTRI), Mysuru, and also other CSIR labs and will showcase the capabilities of CSIR-CFTRI in Millet's R&D and reach out to various stakeholders on the institute's millet-based technologies at the national level.

Dr Jitendra Singh detailed how the Government's initiatives are going to revive the consumption of millet, not just in India, but globally and increase the farmers' income. He also appreciated the efforts of CSIR, especially CSIR-CFTRI, in developing technologies and machineries for processing, value-added products from millets and also in the area of skill development.

Dr Jitendra Singh told the august gathering that millet is a whole grain that is high in nutritional

value and the cereal crop is nutritionally superior to wheat and rice due to its higher protein levels and a more balanced amino acid profile.

The Minister informed that millets are drought-resistant, with lower water requirements, and can be cultivated on poor soils and in hilly terrain and therefore could be produced and promoted in almost all geographical terrains & regions of the world. They are also rich in carbohydrates, protein and minerals like calcium, potassium, magnesium, iron, manganese, and zinc, he added.

Dr Sridevi Annapurna Singh, Director, CSIR-CFTRI, Mysuru welcomed the Union Minister and presented the key contributions of CFTRI, Mysuru, NIIST, Thiruvananthapuram, and IHBT, Palampur, the constituent laboratories of CSIR in this area.

Dr Sridevi informed that CSIR-CFTRI is organising the “One Week, One Lab” programme in the second week of June 2023 to

highlight CFTRI's contribution with special emphasis on millets, among other achievements. This programme is the brainchild of Union Minister of Science and Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh, who is also the Vice-President of CSIR.

Dr Venugopal Achanta, Director, CSIR-NPL, was the Guest of Honour and gave the welcome address. Representatives of food processing industries who have taken CSIR-CFTRI technologies shared their experiences and thanked the organisation for the support. More than 600 participants from various Secretariats & Officials from Central Government Ministries, regulatory bodies, Directors of CSIR institutes, scientists, students, industrial partners and students attended the programme. Interaction with experts, scientists, and industrial partners was the other key activity at the event.

Adapted from PIB Press Release

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CSIR-CIMAP's “One Week, One Lab” Programme

As part of a pan-CSIR programme to showcase products and processes and reach out to the society, the CSIR-Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CSIR-CIMAP), Lucknow conducted the “One Week, One Lab” programme

**1 week
One Lab**



from 30 January to 7 February 2023. During the programme, various activities were organised including Kisan Mela, Scientist-Student interaction, Farmers' Meet, Stakeholders' Meet, Academia Meet, etc. The programme was



**Shri Surya Pratap Shahi
addressing the gathering**

formally launched on 30 January 2023 with the curtain raiser wherein Dr Prabodh Kumar, Director, CSIR-CIMAP, interacted with the media and briefed about the activities under the “One Week, One Lab” programme.

As part of the programme, CSIR-CIMAP organised a Kisan Mela.

Shri Surya Pratap Shahi, Cabinet Minister, Agriculture, Agricultural Education and Agricultural Research, Government of Uttar Pradesh was the chief guest of the Kisan Mela on 31 January 2023. Er Anil Kumar Yadav, Director of the Council of Science and Technology and Dr G.N. Singh, Advisor to the Chief Minister, Government of Uttar Pradesh also graced the event.

After inaugurating the five-day Kisan Mela the chief guest addressed the gathering and planted a sandalwood sapling after which he also inaugurated the CSIR pavilion along with Er Anil Kumar Yadav and Dr G.N. Singh. On this occasion, Director CSIR-CIMAP explained in detail to the farmers the efforts being made by CIMAP to increase their income.

During the event, the Kisan Mela souvenir book ‘*Aus Gyanya*’, CIM-Kayakawach – UV protection herbal product, an agriculture technical handbook of alternative cultivation of mentha and a QR code for information on advanced varieties developed by CIMAP were





Release of Aus Gyanya

released. The farmers interacted with scientists and industry, wherein they were also distributed planting materials. A farmers meet and awareness programme was also conducted at CSIR-CIMAP Research Centres in Bengaluru and Hyderabad on 2 February 2023.

During the open day on 2 February, students and the general public visited Manav Garden, and various facilities of the institute and also got the chance to interact with scientists.

Dr N. Kalaiselvi, DG-CSIR & Secretary, DSIR, during her visit, planted a sandalwood tree.



She also took a round of the 75 high-yielding MAP varieties displayed under 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' and also the stalls of CSIR-CIMAP's beneficiaries, CIMAP distillation technologies and institutional research activities. Besides, Dr Kalaiselvi



During the Farmers' Meet and Awareness Programme

Dr Kalaiselvi interacted with CIMAP's beneficiary farmers & entrepreneurs who shared their experiences and discussed the role of CSIR technologies in transforming their lives. Later she also launched the 'CSIR One Week, One Lab' brochure of CSIR-Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (CSIR-IITR).



also inaugurated other facilities of the institute including the High Throughput Instrumentation Facility, Advanced Glass House Facility for Plant Functional Genomics and Genome Editing, and Tissue Culture and Transformational Facility. She also released high yielding variety 'CIM-Suras', room freshener 'Aero-Clean' and a booklet on *Suitable Aromatic Crops for North-Eastern* and launched the 'Kisan Drone' – helpful in implementing precision agriculture for MAPs cultivation. DG-CSIR also exchanged an MoU with the Uttarakhand Council of Technology, Govt of Uttarakhand to implement the CSIR Aroma Mission in the state and also

exchanged transfer of technology to PIRENS Janseva Foundation and Meghalaya Government.

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On 7 February 2023 Dr Prabodh Trivedi, Director, CSIR-CIMAP, concluded the programme during which Dr Gurenderjit Randhawa, CSIR-CIMAP RC member & Dr M.P. Darokar from CSIR were also present.

CSIR-NIO Conducts “One Week, One Lab” Programme



Prof. B.K. Mishra during the inauguration

Joining the ‘One Week One Lab’ campaign, the CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography (CSIR-NIO), Goa, organised a series of activities from 6-11 February 2023. The week-long programme was inaugurated by Prof. B.K. Mishra, Director, IIT Goa.

A day-long Student-Teacher-Scientist Connect comprising an exhibition, hands-on

**1 week
One Lab**



demonstration, lab visit, scientific lecture, interactive sessions and screening of a documentary on Ocean Science and a talk on careers in Oceanography was organised.

The next programme, Hands-on with Technology/Techniques, on 7 February 2023, was mainly targeted at school children demonstrating sampling tools,



During Student-Teacher-Scientist Connect



During Hands-on with Technology/Techniques



Shri Nilkanth Halarnkar
addressing the gathering

simulation of ocean processes, particle tracking, hydrography, remote sensing, robotics, etc.

The Startup-Meet, “Entrepreneurship prospects in marine science & technologies” included interaction with start-ups, undergraduates and postgraduates on 8 February 2023. Along with this, Research Opportunities in Oceanography event was also

organised for PhD, dissertation, and internship programmes in Oceanography.

Shri Nilkanth Halarnkar, Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, Factories & Boilers, Government of Goa, was the Chief Guest during the event, “Society & Stakeholder Connects – Skill Development in Aquaculture Sector: Catalyst for Blue Growth”, on 9 February 2023. The event aimed at providing an overview of the Skill India Ecosystem in the Aquaculture Sector and undertaking skill gap analysis in the aquaculture sector and also to widen the Skill Base for Doubling Farmers’ income by Doubling Production.

The “Industry Connect: A Meet with Industry Representatives” programme was organised on 10 February 2023.

The week-long programme concluded with a Society Connect event, an awareness programme on fishery waste-to-wealth at Panaji & surrounding villages for the local community.

“Vigyanika – Science Literature Festival”

CSIR-NIScPR Organises Vigyanika as part of 8th IISF



Release of “Vigyanika” Theme Book during Inaugural session, inaugurated by Dr N. Kalaiselvi, DG-CSIR (centre); Keynote Lecture delivered by Dr Shekhar C. Mande, former DG-CSIR (second from right). Prof. Sanjay Tiwari, Vice Chancellor, Bhoj Open University, Bhopal (second from left) was the Guest of Honour. On extreme right, Shri HasanJawaid Khan, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NIScPR & Chief Coordinator, “Vigyanika”. Extreme left, Dr Manish Mohan Gore, Scientist, CSIR-NIScPR & Coordinator “Vigyanika”.

CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication & Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR), New Delhi, organised yet another successful edition of “Vigyanika – Science Literature Festival” at the 8th India International Science Festival (IISF) in Bhopal. CSIR-NIScPR organised the earlier editions of “Vigyanika” during the IISF events at Chennai, Lucknow, Kolkata, New Delhi and Goa.

As a part of the 8th IISF, the “Vigyanika – Science Literature Festival” was organised at the Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology (MANIT), Bhopal, during 22-23 January 2023. “Vigyanika” provided a forum

to deliberate on mechanisms to take science to every corner of the country through effective science literature, disseminated through the multitudes of media channels available today. The sessions during “Vigyanika” also deliberated on challenges to science communication and mechanisms to encourage new initiatives in taking science to the public.

As in its earlier editions, this year too “Vigyanika” offered a rich fare of Keynote Lectures, Panel Discussions and Scientific Sessions interspersed with interactions with S&T authors, Vigyan Kavi Sammelan, Science Drama,

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Dr Kalaiselvi said that science communication connects science with society. She emphasised that the use of regional languages in communicating scientific concepts was critical to empowering the citizens of the country.

Science Puppetry and exciting competitions. The event was attended by around 300 experts and delegates comprising science communicators, academics, researchers, scientists, students, etc.

“Vigyanika” was inaugurated by the Director General of CSIR and Secretary, DSIR, Dr N Kalaiselvi who appreciated that CSIR-NIScPR had successfully organised five earlier editions of Vigyanika as part of IISF. Dr Kalaiselvi said that science communication connects science with society. She emphasised that the use of regional languages in communicating scientific concepts was critical to empowering the citizens of the country. Regional language communication adds a local flavour and context to the communication making it more palatable and more connected to audiences, she said. Dr Kalaiselvi also appreciated that as part of “Vigyanika” innovative forms of communication would also be displayed such as science drama, science puppetry and mentalism show.

During his Keynote Lecture, Dr Shekhar C. Mande, President, Vijnana Bharati & former Director General, CSIR spoke on the need



DG-CSIR Dr N. Kalaiselvi delivering the Inaugural Address

to pursue disruptive science to find innovative solutions. He cited several instances where CSIR scientists had come up with innovative solutions that eventually yielded great dividends for the country. He narrated how multinational companies refused to set up base in India for the production of milk powder because they possessed technology to produce milk powder from cow milk and India had an abundance of buffalo milk. Eventually, through an innovative solution, scientists of CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute (CSIR-CFTRI), Mysuru, developed technology to produce milk powder from buffalo milk, thus ushering in a revolution in milk production in the country. Giving several such examples, Dr Shekhar Mande emphasised



A view of the audience during the inauguration of “Vigyanika — Science Literature Festival”

that the country needed disruptive solutions to the problems in various sectors.

The Guest of Honour Prof. Sanjay Tiwari, Vice Chancellor, Bhoj Open University, Bhopal, apart from his message on the significance of science communication also appreciated CSIR-NIScPR's popular science magazines.

The Vigyanika Theme Book, a collection of science poems (*Samakaleen Hindi Vigyan Kavita Sanchayan*) and science books in Kannada published by Vigyan Prasara were released by the dignitaries.

Earlier, during his welcome address, Shri Hasan Jawaaid Khan, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NIScPR elaborated on the scheduled sessions during "Vigyanika". Dr Manish Mohan Gore, Scientist, CSIR-NIScPR delivered the vote of thanks and Ms Shubhada Kapil, Associate Editor, *Vigyan Pragati* moderated the inaugural session.

"Vigyanika" had two-panel discussions. The first discussion was focused on the importance of regional science communication, its status, challenges and scope.

Regional science communicators in Tamil, Kannada, Marathi, Bengali, Urdu & Hindi were the panellists. The session was moderated by Dr TV Venkateswaran, Scientist, Vigyan Prasara. The second panel discussion featured science authors discussing the key points of their science books, and the scope and challenges in creating scientific literature. The session was moderated by Shri Pallava Bagla, science communicator and science photo journalist.

"Vigyanika" also featured two scientific sessions in which 17 papers on science communication research & new initiatives were presented. While the first session was chaired by Prof. Sunil Kumar Gupta, Vice Chancellor, Rajiv Gandhi Proudlyogiki Vishwavidyalaya, Bhopal and co-chaired by Dr Saket Singh Kaurav, Head, Regional Science Centre, Bhopal; the second session was chaired by Shri Prabal Roy, Head, Centre for Science Communication, Rabindranath Tagore University, Bhopal and co-chaired by Dr J.P. Shukla, Senior Principal Scientist, CSIR-AMPRI, Bhopal & Dr Apoorva Pauranik, Neurosurgeon & science communicator, Indore.



Session "Apni bhasha, apna vigyan". From left: Dr N. Narayani, Dr Irfana Begum, Dr Arati Halbe, Dr T.V. Venkateswaran, Dr Partha Pratim Das, Mr ASKVS Sharma and Dr Manish Mohan Gore.

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A special and exciting parallel session was organised for school children in which about 100 students from Bhopal Public School participated. The children were treated to a Mentalism show and a Science Puppetry show. A drawing competition on the theme "India@100 – My Country, My Vision" was also organised for the students.



Meet the Author session. From left: Mr Pramod Bhargava, Dr P. A. Sabareesh, Ms Swati Tiwari, Dr Archana Sharma, Mr Pallava Bagla, Mr Pankaj Chaturvedi, Mr Amit Kumar, Mr Niranjana Dev Bhardwaj and Dr Meher Wan

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The evening session on the first day featured a science drama "Galileo", which played to a packed audience. The drama, staged by the Shadow Cultural and Social Welfare Society, Bhopal depicted the life and struggle of the Italian astronomer Galileo giving the

message that scientific awareness is essential for the development of society.

"Vigyanika" also featured a *Vigyan Kavi Sammelan* Chaired by Dr Santosh Chaubey, Chancellor, Rabindranath Tagore University, Bhopal and Co-chaired by Shri Neelesh Malviya, TV actor & poet and featured well-known poets delivering science messages through their poems before the audience.

The Valedictory Session was chaired by Dr Santosh Chaubey, Chancellor, Rabindranath Tagore University, Bhopal with Guests of Honour Prof. KG Suresh, Vice Chancellor,



Science drama "Galileo" was a centre of attraction during "Vigyanika"



Vigyan Kavi Sammelan. From left: Mr Vishal Muliya, Dr Prachi, Ms Shuchi Mishra, Mr Neelesh Malviya, Mr Sudhir Saxena, Dr Santosh Chaubey, Dr Manish Mohan, Dr Shubhrata Mishra, Ms Shubhada Kapil, Mr Mohan Sagoriya, Mr Pankaj Prasoon, Mr Om Prakash Yadav, Ms Sarika Gharu, and Ms Radha Gupta



Mentalism show (left) and science puppetry show for children (right)

Makhanlal Chaturvedi University of Journalism, Bhopal and Dr CM Nautiyal, Program Consultant, Science Communication, Indian National Science Academy (INSA). Dr Santosh Chaubey said that there is a need for human sentiments, scientific thinking and temperament even among science communicators. Prof. K.G. Suresh pointed out the challenges present before humanity like cancer & climate change and stressed the adoption of science communication and rational thinking by the common citizens to resolve these challenges.

During the Valedictory session, a special lecture was also delivered by Prof. BS Balaji, Associate Professor, School of Biotechnology, JNU on 'Educational Tools for

the Divyang — Promise of a New Beginning'.

Shri Hasan Jawaaid Khan, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NIScPR welcomed the guests and Dr Manish Mohan Gore, Scientist, CSIR-NIScPR, delivered the key points discussed during "Vigyanika". Ms Shweta Srivastri conducted the programme.

While all the sessions of "Vigyanika" recorded appreciable attendance, the event was also widely covered in the press and Doordarshan.

CSIR-NIScPR also showcased its popular science magazines, books and journals in the Mega Science Expo pavilion at IISF Bhopal. Thousands of science lovers visited this stall of CSIR-NIScPR.

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Seaweed-based fertiliser based on CSIR-CSMCRI technology launched

CSIR-CSMCRI has exhaustive research expertise in seaweed research and has developed animal feed additives, commercial cultivation of seaweeds and generation of energy through microalgal feedstock in addition to the biostimulant.

Contributing to 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan' of the Govt of India, a seaweed-based bio-stimulant for various crops named 'Sivarika' using an indigenous technology developed by CSIR-Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Institute, Bhavnagar, Gujarat, was launched in the market in 2023 by Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO).

KRIBHCO is a premier national level Cooperative Society of India engaged in fertiliser production and distribution and is registered under Multi State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) Act, 2002. CSIR-CSMCRI is a pioneer R&D laboratory in the area of seaweed research in the country.

CSIR-CSMCRI has developed seaweed-based agro-technologies for enhancing the yields and quality of several crops including flowers, spices, vegetables as well as arable crops using seaweed biostimulants.

Dr Kamalesh Prasad, the divisional chair of the Natural Products and Green Chemistry



group in CSIR-CSMCRI informed that seaweed-based biofertiliser 'Sivarika' modulates the antioxidant system and expression of differential gene expression which could explain better crop growth and yield response upon application of this natural fertiliser sap.

Dr Kanti Bhooshan Pandey, Senior Scientist and Public Relation Officer of the institute informed that CSIR-CSMCRI has exhaustive research expertise in seaweed research and has developed animal feed additives, commercial cultivation of seaweeds and

generation of energy through microalgal feedstock in addition to the biostimulant. All these findings formed the basis of several policy decisions taken by the Govt of India recently to promote the seaweed sector. This product is cultivated and harvested from the Indian coast and is a source of livelihood for many fishermen families. 'Sivarika' is manufactured using patented know-how transferred to M/s Pushpa J Shah-Ankleswar in 2019, he added.

CSIR-NEIST Organises International Seminar and Workshop CRISPR/Cas-based Plant Functional Genomics and Computational Modelling (ISWCPC-2023)



Lamp lighting ceremony of ISWCPC-2023

CSIR-North East Institute of Science and Technology (CSIR-NEIST), Jorhat, Assam, organised an International Seminar and Workshop on CRISPR/Cas-based Plant Functional Genomics and Computational Modelling (ISWCPC-2023) from 17-21 January 2023.

The event was graced by esteemed Chief Guest, Prof. Ch Mohan Rao, CSIR-Distinguished Scientist, and Former Director of CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CSIR-CCMB), Hyderabad, and thirty other eminent speakers and resource persons from India and abroad. Prof. Ch Mohan Rao in his inaugural keynote address



Prof. Prabodh K. Trivedi, Director, CSIR-CIMAP, Lucknow delivering the Keynote address

stressed that CRISPR/Cas-based system will be the future for India in agriculture, bio-energy and health therapeutics.

Prof. G. Narahari Sastry, Director, CSIR-NEIST, was the Chief Patron and Organising

CSIR-NEIST has been holding a premier space in leading science in the NER as well as in the country towards societal benefit and self-sustainability.



Release of Souvenir of ISWCPC-2023

Chairman of ISWCPC-2023. Prof. Sastry informed that the year 2020 marks the epoch-making event where Nobel laureates Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer A. Doudna discovered one of gene technology's sharpest tools, the CRISPR/Cas9 genetic scissors, which have not only revolutionised basic science but also invoked opportunities to develop climate-resilient crops and lead to ground-breaking new medical treatments. The CRISPR technology of genome editing has unlocked the gates for anew era of gene editing therapies, with a promise to transform genomics research, drug developments, and crop improvement. Scientists and researchers at CSIR NEIST have undertaken advanced biological research in the areas of breakthrough technologies like CRISPR/Cas-based genome editing



Prof. G. Narahari Sastry, Director, CSIR-NEIST delivering a keynote address

and translational genomics, data science and bring translational interventions for society in terms of surveillance, diagnostics, therapeutics, and other solutions. With the advanced technologies, instrumentation and most enthusiastic scientific human resources. CSIR-NEIST has been holding a premier space in leading science in the NER as well as in the country towards societal benefit and self-sustainability.

The grand event hosted 400 participants from all over India, and International speakers and participants joined online. The event was mainly focused on thematic areas of CRISPR/Cas-based Plant Genomics, Biotechnology, and Computational Biology to strengthen the research and entrepreneurship activities of the North Eastern Region.



Practical demonstrations at ISWCPC-2023

The structured two-day workshop conducted for 60 participants provided theory and hands-on and practical demonstration of the CRISPR/Cas genome editing pipeline from the selection of target gene to the evaluation of CRISPR-editing events by eminent resource persons from the field.

The panel discussion on “CRISPR/Cas: present and future for Indian R&D scenario”

highlighted the significance of this cutting-edge technology for India in the coming years.

The event ended with concluding remarks and a way forward note from Prof. Sastry who emphasised on the capacity building, collaboration and further strengthening of R&D of CSIR-NEIST on CRISPR/Cas-based systems in Agriculture, Health and Energy sectors.

Jigyasa Programme at CSIR-CSMCRI

“Swami Vivekananda the basis of restoration of Indian pride” – Dr Shekhar Mande



“Research institutes of science & technology and centres of higher education should be established in India and the people of India should study in Indian institutions, rather than foreign countries”: this concept of Swami Vivekananda is the basis of the concept of New India today, said Dr Shekhar C. Mande, former Director General, CSIR, and former Secretary, DSIR, New Delhi, in his address to the students. He was the keynote speaker in the CSIR-Jigyasa programme which was celebrated on the occasion of Swami Vivekananda Jayanti and Amrit Mahotsav of Independence

on 12 January 2023 at CSIR-Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Institute (CSMCRI), Bhavnagar, Gujarat.

On the occasion of National Youth Day, CSIR-CSMCRI organised an online seminar on the topic “Role of Scientists in India’s Freedom Struggle”. Dr Mande said that Swami Vivekananda changed the perception of the world towards India and informed the world that India’s knowledge and science are well developed. He narrated the history of the CSIR and described its contribution to the research activities of the country.

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The programme intended to provide basic information about patents and other intellectual property rights. It also covered patent searching and drafting and information on career aspects related to IPR.

Dr Kanti Bhooshan Pandey, Senior Scientist and PRO of the Institute informed that hundreds of students and teachers from various Kendriya Vidyalayas, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas and Atal Vidyalayas of Gujarat State and Daman-Diu participated in this seminar. The participants were

welcomed by Dr Biswajit Ganguly, Chief Scientist and the programme was concluded by Dr Mangal S. Rathore, Principal Scientist with a vote of thanks. The programme was coordinated by Dr Doongar Ram Chaudhary, Principal Scientist and Coordinator.

CSIR-NPL Organises Online Training Programme

CSIR-National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL), New Delhi, conducted a two days online training programme on “Awareness about IPR” during 24-25 January 2023, under the aegis of the CSIR Integrated Skill initiative. Some of the most eminent personalities from industry and academia were a part of the online training programme.

Inaugurating the session, Dr Nidhi Singh, Senior Principal Scientist, CSIR-NPL, briefed about the online training programme.

First day on 24 January 2023, Smt. Soumya Gopinathan from Mercedes-Benz Research and Development India presented an introduction to patents. Mr Robin Varghese from Johnson Controls delivered his talk on “Parts of a Patent and its Significance”. Dr Ravi Vaikuntachar from Honeywell Technology Solutions discussed IPR as a career.

Second day on 25 January 2023, Dr Saurabh Yadav from H.N.B. Garhwal University, gave an introduction to trademarks, copyrights, industrial design, SICLD and geographical indication.



Further, Prof. (Dr) Gouri Gargate from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, presented insights into patent searching and drafting.

The programme intended to provide basic information about patents and other intellectual property rights. It also covered patent searching and drafting and information on career aspects related to IPR. This training programme was specifically designed for students, researchers, academicians and aspiring IP professionals. More than 90 participants attended the programme.

Concluding the programme, Dr Girija Moona, Senior Scientist, CSIR-NPL, presented the vote of thanks.

CSIR-NIScPR Celebrates its 2nd Foundation Day



Prof. Ranjana Aggarwal, Director, CSIR-NIScPR (extreme right) addressing the Foundation Day Function

CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR), New Delhi, celebrated its 2nd foundation day on 13 January 2023. CSIR-NIScPR came into existence on 14 January 2021 with the merger of two internationally acclaimed CSIR Institutions, namely, CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources (CSIR-NISCAIR) and CSIR-National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies (CSIR-NISTADS). Since then, CSIR-NIScPR is directed towards becoming a globally renowned institution in the domain of Science Policy Research and Science Communication, using the rich legacy spanning more than seven

decades and the robust inherent capabilities of the erstwhile institutions. The new institution has taken big strides to promote Science, Technology & Innovation (ST&I) Policy Studies and Science Communication among diverse stakeholders and act as a bridge at the interface of science, technology, industry and society.

In her welcome address, Prof. Ranjana Aggarwal, Director, CSIR-NIScPR, discussed the strength and rich legacy of CSIR-NIScPR and said, “We must keep accelerating our activities to make them tangible, visible and fruitful to society.”

Prof. BN Jagatap, Senior Professor, Department of Physics, IIT Bombay & Chairperson, Research Council, CSIR-NIScPR,

CSIR-NIScPR is directed towards becoming a globally renowned institution in the domain of Science Policy Research and Science Communication, using the rich legacy spanning more than seven decades and the robust inherent capabilities of the erstwhile institutions.



Scientific publications released during CSIR-NIScPR Foundation Day Function

delivered the Foundation Day lecture. He illustrated the evolution of the Indian education system from the English Education Act of 1835 to the National Education Policy 2020. The lecture was thought-provoking and inspiring as well.

On this special occasion, dignitaries also released various scientific publications including the special issue of the *Journal of Scientific & Industrial Research (JSIR)* focussing on 'Industry 4.0: A Way Forward for Self-Reliance and Sustainability'; *TRL Assessment Bulletin*; a book titled '*Science & Technology Quiz: Celebrating Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav*', comprising

questions from varying fields highlighting the Indian S&T contributions; a Flip-book titled '*Treasure of Indian Traditions*'. Besides, the names of the winners of the SVASTIK photography contest were also announced. The competition was organised in the year 2022.

During the Foundation Day Celebration, PhD students of CSIR-NIScPR showcased their research findings through the poster presentation. Concluding the programme, Dr Yogesh Suman, Senior Principal Scientist, CSIR-NIScPR, proposed the vote of thanks.

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