CSIR IN MEDIA

CSIR

NEWS BULLETIN
1 TO 5 DECEMBER 2020

‘Vigyan Yatra’ marks online science fest

CSIR-IHBT

5th December, 2020

The “Vigyan Yatra” programme under the 6th Indian International Science Festival (IISF-2020) was organised through MS-Team and YouTube today at CSIR-Himalayan Institute of Bioresource Technology, Palampur. Dr Sanjay Kumar, Director, CSIR-IHBT, said the introduction of ‘heeng’ and saffron crops in the state would be a milestone to make self-reliant India. He said the institute had played an important role in strengthening the economy of farmers by introducing apple cultivation in Mizoram and north-eastern states of the country. Kumar informed the audience about the efforts of the CSIR-IHBT in cultivating aromatic crops and installing aromatic oil extraction units across the state, which led to Himachal emerging as the largest producer of wild marigold oil in the country. The institute developed food products enriched in iron, protein and fiber, vitamin-D enriched Shittake mushroom for combating malnutrition. It also developed a technology of alcohol-based hand sanitizer and herbal soap. — OC

Published in:

Dainik Tribune

IISF 2020: CSIR-IMMT Bhubaneswar Organises Curtain Raiser Event

CSIR-IMMT

5th December, 2020

The India International Science Festival 2020 (IISF 2020) in its sixth edition will be held between December 22 and December 25, 2020. Various educational institutes across the country are organising curtain raiser event (CRE) to popularise the scientific event. CSIR - Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology (CSIR-IMMT) Bhubaneswar has organised its curtain raiser event today. The Union Minister for Science and Technology, Health and Family Welfare, and Earth Sciences e-inaugurated the curtain raiser programme of CSIR-IMMT for the 6th India International Science Festival 2020 (IISF-2020) today. The Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Minister of Steel Dharmendra Pradhan was the Chief Guest at the event. Dr Shekhar C Mande, DG, CSIR and Secretary, DSIR and Professor Suddhasatwa Basu Director, CSIR- IMMT, Bhubaneswar were also present on the occasion. The theme of IISF-2020 is "Science for Self-Reliant India and Global Welfare". Delivering the inaugural address, Dr Harsha Vardhan said: "The proposed theme of IISF 2020 - Science for Self-Reliant India and Global Welfare is very relevant in the present context when the nation is looking towards science and technology for spearheading growth and for implementing the vision of our Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji of an "Atmanirbhar Bharat" playing a significant role in the global economy." "Many great scientific discoveries and technological advancements in various fields have showcased the excellence of our efforts in science and technology to the world," Dr Vardhan further added. Expressing his happiness that IISF is a celebration of science and technology, Dr Harsh Vardhan said: "IISF, launched in 2015, has, over the years, created a unique platform to inspire curiosity and

make learning more rewarding. This effort will fuel India's drive towards becoming a Vishwa-Guru". He wished IISF 2020, a mega success in achieving its objectives and look forward to huge participation from all sections of society. Mr Dharmendra Pradhan in his address appealed to the scientific community to Innovate for India and create competitive advantage to make India Aatmanirbhar and create products and services which can compete with the best in the world. Underling the role of science and innovation in the development of any society, Mr Pradhan said that the COVID-19 pandemic has once again demonstrated that we have to develop and strengthen our institutional and industrial capacity in scientific knowledge and innovation in all areas.

Published in:
NDTV

Treatment of sewage water is essential to meet the challenge of water scarcity in coming years: Dr. Harsh Vardhan

CSIR-NCL, NEERI

4th December, 2020

Union Minister of Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Health & Family Welfare Dr. Harsh Vardhan today said that treatment of sewage water is essential to meet the challenge of water scarcity in coming years. He called upon Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) scientists to scale up their sewage treatment technology and install it in all their campuses across the country. Dr. Harsh Vardhan was addressing CSIR scientists via virtual medium after inaugurating the eco-friendly and efficient Phytorid Technology Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) at CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory (NCL)-Pune, developed by CSIR- National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Nagpur and CSIR-NCL. The Minister appreciated the Sewage treatment using Phytorid Technology by the CSIR scientists and said that it was a natural treatment method by which treated water could be utilised for various purposes including for drinking. He underlined that today's event be taken as a pledge to take this technology forward for broader use. He also outlined several other such projects by the Department of Biotechnology, Department of Science& Technology and other departments under the Science & Technology Ministry where waste water is being treated for good use. PHYTORID is a subsurface mixed flow constructed wetland system developed and internationally patented by CSIR-NEERI, Nagpur with successful demonstration in the field for more than 10 years of continuous operation as a stand-alone sewage treatment system. Phytorid is a self sustainable technology for wastewater treatment that works on the principle of natural wetland. It uses certain specific plants which can absorb nutrients directly from wastewater but do not

require soil. These plants act as nutrient sinker and remover. Using Phytorid Technology for the treatment of sewage, it is possible to recover and reuse the treated water for gardening purposes. CSIR-NCL is the first CSIR laboratory to use NEERI Phytorid water treatment technology. Compared to the conventional processes, this natural system based Phytorid Technology for sewage treatment is zero energy and zero operation & maintenance (O&M).

Dr.ShekharC. Mande, DG, CSIR &Secretary, DSIR was present on the occasion, while Dr. S. Chandrasekhar, Director CSIR- Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT) and additional charge, Director CSIR-NCL; Prof. Ashwini Kumar Nangia, Ex-Director, CSIR – NCL; Dr.Rakesh Kumar, Director, CSIR-NEERI, Nagpur; K. D. Deshpande, CSIR- NCL and scientists from various CSIR laboratories joined the function online.

Published in:
Udaipur Kiran

CSIR–NGRI

4th December, 2020

సముద్రాల ఉపరితల ఉష్ణోగ్రతలతో ముప్పు

● ఐఎన్‌సీఓఐఎస్ మాజీ డైరెక్టర్ డాక్టర్ సతీష్

ఉప్పల్: సముద్రాల ఉపరితల ఉష్ణోగ్రతల పెరుగుదల, పౌనఃపుణ్యాల మార్పు మానవ జీవితాలను, ఆర్థిక వ్యవస్థను ప్రభావితం చేస్తాయని, హైదరాబాద్ సహా ఇతర నగరాల్లో ఇటీవల వచ్చిన వరదలే ఇందుకు ఉదాహరణ అని ఐఎన్‌సీఓఐఎస్ మాజీ డైరెక్టర్ డాక్టర్ సతీష్ అన్నారు. ఇందుకోసం సముద్రాల్లో హానికరమైన క్షీణతను తప్పించాల్సిన అవసరం ఉందన్నారు. సీఎస్ఐఆర్ నేషనల్ జియోఫిజికల్ రీసెర్చ్ ఇనిస్టిట్యూట్ (సీఎస్ఐఆర్-ఎన్‌జీఆర్ఐ) ఆధ్వర్యంలో గురువారం అంతర్జాతీయ సైన్స్ ఫెస్టివల్ నిర్వహించారు. వెబ్‌నార్‌కు ముఖ్య అతిథిగా హాజరైన ఆయన ప్రసంగించారు. హిందూ మహాసముద్రంలో 0.75 మైళ్ల చదరపు కిలోమీటర్ల లోతున ఫెర్రో మాంగనీస్ తవ్వకం దేశానికి ఎంతో అవసరమైన ఖనిజ సంపదను తీసుకు వస్తుందన్నారు. ఇది ఇంటిగ్రేటెడ్ మైనింగ్ వ్యవస్థకు ఎంతగానో దోహదపడుతుందన్నారు.

Published in:
Sakshi

CSIR-CCMB scientist gets Infosys award

CSIR-CCMB

3rd December, 2020

Dr. Sankaranarayanan is the third scientist from the centre to get the prize in life sciences category

CSIR- Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB)'s Dr. Rajan Sankaranarayanan, a structural biologist studying structures of proteins in cells and how accuracy is maintained by cellular machinery while building proteins across evolution, has won the prestigious Infosys Prize 2020 for the life sciences category announced on Wednesday night. "15 years back, when I proposed the question, people thought the question was non-existent. From then to now winning this prize, I feel having come a long way – thanks to all the support from family and colleagues," said Dr. Sankaranarayanan.

Director Dr. Rakesh Mishra said, "Dr. Sankaranarayanan is an extremely rigorous scientist, and is highly celebrated among his peers in India as well as internationally. All of us in the CCMB community are delighted at him winning the Infosys Prize this year." Proteins are made of amino acids which are present in our bodies in two forms – D and L forms, each a mirror image of the other. However, if D amino acids are incorporated in proteins being built, it can lead to many deleterious effects. The CCMB scientist has found mechanistic details of how such a fundamental process runs in our cells avoiding many possible errors.

Published in:
The Hindu

CSIR-CCMB (per ICMR directives) Has Successfully Tested REME- PHI Technology Capable of Combating the SARS CoV-2 Virus: Study Undertaken by ZECO Aircon Limited and RGF Environmental Group, USA

CSIR-CCMB 3rd December, 2020

In the battle against the ongoing pandemic, ZECO Aircon Limited, (a leading Indian manufacturer of air management systems and the exclusive distributor of RGF in India), in collaboration with RGF Environmental Group (a US-based environmental design and manufacturing company), has successfully tested it's REME along with PHI technology with CSIR-CCMB laboratory (as per ICMR directives), in a study conducted that revealed the efficiency of REME- HALO with PHI cell on SARS-CoV-2 virus. The technology was found capable of neutralizing active SARS-CoV-2 virus by 97.48% at 15 minutes of activation of REME -PHI Cell on surfaces.

The test was performed in short intervals of 15 minutes each and the same viral reduction was observed by the laboratory for up to 60 minutes. The experiment was completed in duplicates and the values were averaged to calculate % viral reduction.

In September 2020, RGF had performed another test, at the innovative Bioanalysis Laboratories in Cypress, Calif., which looked at neutralizing the virus within the occupied space **in the air and on the surface.**

Commencing in March 2020, the study was overseen by Dr. James Marsden, Executive Director of Science and technology at RGF."The study shows the REME- HALO, to be effective in combating the SARS-CoV-2 virus and emerges as a valuable solution to immediately improve the indoor air quality of residential and commercial spaces and protect occupants against exposure to the SARS-CoV-2 virus." The studies are still underway.

The test procedure used the SARS-CoV-2 virus inside a large chamber (1280cu.ft) representing a real-world air-conditioned office or home. **The virus was nebulized into the space simulating a sneeze or cough from an infected person. With the REME-HALO operating inside the chamber the virus was reduced on contact, resulting in**

a 99.9% reduction of the virus within the simulated real-world space, from air as well as surfaces. "RGF and ZECO have set yet another milestone by successfully testing REME-HALO with PHI technology to neutralize the deadly virus, in USA and in India. It is time to understand that these microbes and effectively reduce cross infections with active air purification technologies. This is not only an accomplishment for RGF and ZECO but will contribute immensely towards the betterment of mankind and will help neutralize the deadliest enemy of humanity at present. From public places, to residential & commercial spaces, REME- PHI is a tested & proven solution that neutralizes the virus from air & surfaces, which is required to **GET INDIA BACK TO WORK**." said Kartik Singhal, Director, ZECO Aircon Ltd., India.

The REME with PHI_is an "active" solution that neutralizes SARS–CoV-2 within the occupied space, eliminating the need for virus particles to travel through the HVAC system air filters or passive UV air purification system.

Published in:
APN News

CSIR–IMMT

3rd December, 2020

SKOCH award for CSIR-IMMT, Bhuneswar

CSIR-IMMT, Bhubaneswar bagged the SKOCH er award in Governance category at 68th SKOCH summit ovember 28, 2020 at New Delhi through digital media. Direcf CSIR-IMMT, Bhubaneswar received the award for 'Design, Dopment and Dissemination of Improved Biomass Cookstoves'. out 170 million Indian households or nearly 800 million people traditional cookstoves for their daily cooking and depend on bios fuels such as wood, dung or agricultural residues. The main prems associated with the traditional biomass cookstoves are inefent combustion and environmental hazards from indoor air polon because of which globally 1.6 million die prematurely every y Cookstove in order to provide cleaner cooking solutions in rurreas to mitigate the drudgery of women and children using traonal chulha a test rig at CSIR-IMMT,Bhubaneswar was set upder MNRE. Under this programme more than 50 cookstoves sud by different manufacturers in India were tested as per BIS aresults were given to MNRE,New Delhi. 500 numbers of natural ft front fuel fired domestic cookstoves and 100 numbers of cnunity cookstoves were distributed to different village people, ools hostels respectively.1100 numbers of CSIR-IMMT design imed biomass cookstove were designed ,developed and distributed anganwadi centres of Nabarangpur district of Odisha. 12,000 nbers of domestic CSIR-IMMT technology cookstoves were asupplied to Alternate Energy Promotion Centre(AEPC),Kathmu ,Nepal by M/s Sai Grameen Udyog,Faridabad. These cookses were designed and developed to save the fuel energy as well a reduce the environment emission. By using these cookstoves re than 40% fuel saving and emissions like carbon Monoxide aParticulate Matter can be reduced considerably.

Published in:

Indian Express

CSIR–IMMT

3rd December, 2020

सीएसआईआर-आईएमएमटी भुवनेश्वर को मिला एसकेओसीएच पुरस्कार

भुवनेश्वर. सीएसआईआर-आईएमएमटी भुवनेश्वर ने डिजिटल मीडिया के माध्यम से नई दिल्ली में 68 वें एसकेओसीएच शिखर सम्मेलन में गवर्नेंस श्रेणी में एसकेओसीएच रजत पुरस्कार प्राप्त किया है. सीएसआईआर-आईएमएमटी को डिजाइन, विकास और बेहतर बायोमास कुकस्टोव के प्रसार के लिए पुरस्कार मिला.सीएसआईआर-आईएमएमटी भुवनेश्वर के निदेशक ने पुरस्कार हासील किया. लगभग 170 मिलियन भारतीय घरों या लगभग 800 मिलियन लोग अपने दैनिक खाना पकाने के लिए पारंपरिक रसोइयों का उपयोग करते हैं और बायोमास ईंधन जैसे लकड़ी, गोबर या कृषि अवशेषों पर निर्भर करते हैं.

पारंपरिक बायोमास कूकस्टोव्स से जुड़ी मुख्य समस्याएं इनडोर वायु प्रदूषण से होने वाली अपर्याप्त दहन और पर्यावरणीय खतरे हैं, जिसके कारण विश्व स्तर पर हर साल 1.6 मिलियन लोग समय से पहले मर जाते हैं. कुकस्टोव ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में क्लीनर खाना पकाने के समाधान प्रदान करने के लिए सीएसआईआर-आईएमएमटी, भुवनेश्वर में एक परीक्षण रिग का उपयोग करके महिलाओं और बच्चों की नशे की लत को कम करने के लिए एमएनआरई के तहत स्थापित किया गया था. इस कार्यक्रम के तहत भारत में विभिन्न निमार्ताओं द्वारा आपूर्ति किए गए 50 से अधिक रसोइयों का बीआईएस के अनुसार परीक्षण किया गया और परिणाम एमएनआरई, नई दिल्ली को दिए गए.ओडिशा के नबरंगपुर जिले के आंगनवाड़ी केंद्रों के लिए सीएसआईआर-आईएमएमटी डिजाइन में सुधार, बायोमास कुकस्टोव के 1100 नंबर डिजाइन, विकसित और वितरित किए गए थे.

Published in:
Navbharat Times

CSIR–NML

3rd December, 2020

NML holds curtain raiser of IISF on virtual platform

MI NEWS SERVICE

JAMSHEDPUR: India International Science Festival (IISF) is an annual event organized every year jointly by the Government of India and Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA) to create a common platform for students, researchers, innovators, entrepreneurs and artists for fruitful interactions.

IISF is an endeavor to motivate young minds and create interest in science.

The 6th IISF-2020 will be held on a virtual platform on December 22-25.

The theme of this year's festival is -'Science for Atmanirbhar Bharat and Global Welfare'. CSIR is the nodal organization for organizing the 6th IISF. Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union minister of Science and Technology, Earth Sciences and Health & Family Welfare, expressed his desire to arrange more than 100 curtain raiser ceremonies PAN India to make people aware of this annual event of IISF and to increase the visibility of this event.

The curtain raiser of IISF organised on a virtual platform by NML on Wednesday.

To honour his desire, CSIR-National Metallurgical Laboratory (NML), Jamshedpur organized a curtain raiser ceremony on a virtual platform today.

The chief guest for the event was Prof. Karunesh Kumar Shukla, director, National Institute of Technology (NIT), Jamshedpur. Shubhra Dwivedy, CEO and one of the Founding Members at SEEDS, was the guest of honour. The programme contained a short video on NML's contributions to society. Shubhra Dwivedy, delivered a lecture on "Science for Inclusive Development", in which she discussed various activities taken up by her organization to connect science and the common people and how SEEDS has grown to a life changing organization for the rural communities of India. She mentioned that science and society in isolation is unimaginable and emphasized that science education should focus on societal needs to develop a sustainable lifestyle for all of us, especially for the marginalized section of our society. Prof. Shukla, spoke on "Science, Technology & Society".

He charted the Indian developments over thousands of years in science and technology. He delivered a very engaging speech and said that through technology, science reaches society. He also emphasized the synergism of scientists, administrators and leaders, which was needed to maximize the benefits of technologies developed indigenously.

Published in:
Morning India

CSIR–NML

3rd December, 2020

इंडिया इंटरनेशनल साइंस फेस्टिवल 22 से

- एनएमएल में कार्यक्रम को लेकर किया गया पूर्वाभ्यास
- केन्द्रीय मंत्री हर्षवर्द्धन ने दिया निर्देश, साइंस फेस्टिवल के प्रचार पर जोर

जमशेदपुर, 2 नवम्बर (रिपोर्टर): इंडिया इंटरनेशनल साइंस फेस्टिवल आईआईएसएफ भारत सरकार व विजना भारती विभा की ओर से 22 से 25 दिसम्बर तक कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया जाएगा जिसमें छात्र व छात्राएं, शोधकर्ता भाग लेंगे. इंडिया इंटरनेशनल साइंस फेस्टिवल में छात्र, शोधकर्ता, उद्यमी व कलाकार के विचार के आदान-प्रदान को एक मंच प्रदान करता है.

इंडिया इंटरनेशनल साइंस फेस्टिवल का आयोजन युवाओं के विज्ञान को विकसित करने, उनकी विज्ञान में रुचि पैदा करने का प्रयास है. इस बार विज्ञान के लिए आत्मनिर्भर भारत व वैश्विक कल्याण के विषय पर विशेषज्ञ अपनी बात करेंगे. केन्द्रीय विज्ञान, प्रौद्योगिकी व स्वास्थ्य मंत्री डा. हर्षवर्द्धन ने साइंस फेस्टिवल को जन-जन तक पहुंचाने पर जोर दिया. बुधवार को एनएमएल सीएसआईआर में इंडिया इंटरनेशनल साइंस फेस्टिवल को लेकर प्रैक्टिस करने पर जोर दिया. बुधवार को पूर्वाभ्यास वर्चुअल किया गया जिसमें मुख्य अतिथि एनआईटी के निदेशक प्रो. करुणेश कुमार शुक्ला व सीड्स संस्था की सीईओ व शुभ्रा द्विवेदी थी थी. इस मौके पर समाज के लिए एनएमएल के योगदान पर व्याख्यान किया गया जिसमें उन्होंने विज्ञान व आम लोगों को जोड़ने के लिए अपने संगठन के बारे में जानकारी दी. भारत के ग्रामीण सामुदाय के लिए एक जीवन बदलने व संगठन के रूप में विकसित हुई. उन्होंने कहा कि विज्ञान व समाज में मे अलगावा अल्पनीय है. उन्होंने इस बात पर जोर दिया कि विज्ञान शिक्षा को सामाजिक रूप से हम सभी के लिए मजबूती है. प्रो. के के शुक्ला ने विज्ञान, प्रौद्योगिकी व समाज के बारे में जानकारी दी. उन्होंने कहा कि प्रौद्योगिकी के माध्यम से विज्ञान अपने समाज तक पहुंचता है.

Published in:
New Ispat Mail

CSIR–IICT

2nd December, 2020

Science festival from December 22

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

The sixth India International Science Festival (IISF) with the theme 'Science for Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Global Welfare through Science, Technology and Innovation' will be held between December 22 and 25. Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the annual science event will be held in virtual format.

To showcase the science festival's importance, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT) on Tuesday organised a curtain raiser event.

"The 2018 edition of IISF at Lucknow recorded a footfall of 8 lakh demonstrating that public is curious to know the work being carried out in research laboratories. Therefore, it is our duty to showcase the research work to the common people," Dr Shekhar C Mande, DG CSIR said in the event here on Tuesday.

School students, researchers, teachers, national and international scientists, technocrats, industrialists, innovators, entrepreneurs, craftsmen, artisans, farmers, agri-sector, exhibitors, diplomats, policy makers would be a part of the virtual mega India International Science Festival (IISF), Director, IICT, Dr S Chandrasekhar said.

Published in:
Telangana Today

CSIR–IICT

2nd December, 2020

22 నుంచి 'ఇంటర్నేషనల్ సైన్స్ ఫెస్టివల్'

ఈనాడు, హైదరాబాద్: దేశాభివృద్ధిలో శాస్త్ర సాంకేతిక ప్రాధాన్యం, శాస్త్రవిజ్ఞానంపై విద్యార్థులు, ప్రజలకు ఆసక్తి కల్పించేందుకు నిర్వహిస్తున్న ఇండియా ఇంటర్నేషనల్ సైన్స్ ఫెస్టివల్(ఐఐఎస్ఎఫ్) ఈనెల 22వ తేదీ నుంచి 26 వరకు వర్చువల్ విధానంలో జరగనుంది. కేంద్ర సైన్స్ అండ్ టెక్నాలజీ, బయోటెక్నాలజీ, కౌన్సిల్ ఆఫ్ సైంటిఫిక్ అండ్ ఇండస్ట్రియల్ రీసెర్చ్(సీఎస్ఐఆర్), ఎర్త్ సైన్సెస్, ఐసీఎంఆర్, విజ్ఞానభారతి సంస్థలు సంయుక్తంగా నిర్వహిస్తున్న వేడుకపై మంగళవారం ఐఐసీటీ అవగాహన కార్యక్రమం నిర్వహించింది. వర్చువల్‌గా జరిగిన ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో సీఎస్ఐఆర్ డీజీ శేఖర్ మండే మాట్లాడుతూ.. పరిశోధనలను ప్రజలకు వివరించడం తమ కర్తవ్యమన్నారు. ఐఐసీటీ సీనియర్ ప్రిన్సిపల్ శాస్త్రవేత్త, విజ్ఞాన భారతి, తెలంగాణ ప్రాంత ప్రధాన కార్యదర్శి డాక్టర్ రామానుజ్ నారాయణ్ మాట్లాడుతూ విద్యార్థులు, ఉపాధ్యాయులు, వ్యాపారవేత్తలు, పారిశ్రామికవేత్తలు, గృహిణులు పెద్దఎత్తున పాల్గొనేలా వేర్వేరు కార్యక్రమాలకు రూపకల్పన చేసినట్లు తెలిపారు. ప్రాథమిక పరిశోధనలను ప్రోత్సహించాల్సిన అవసరం ఉందని కేంద్రీయ విశ్వవిద్యాలయ ఉపకులపతి డాక్టర్ అప్పారావు అన్నారు. ఐఐసీటీ డైరెక్టర్ ఎస్.చంద్రశేఖర్ మాట్లాడుతూ వేడుకలో వివిధ గిన్నిస్ రికార్డులను సాధించబోతున్నట్లు చెప్పారు.

Published in:
Eenadu

CSIR chief slams 'faulty' Chinese report on Covid-19 origin

CSIR

1st December, 2020

Slamming a recent Chinese research report which claimed that Covid-19 had origins in India or Bangladesh, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Director-General Dr Shekhar C Mande on Tuesday said that the study was shoddily done and was riddled with errors. "There is a paper which is under consideration of publication in Lancet. It has not been peer-reviewed yet, so we can't say what the peer review system will do to it. But it claims that the origin of the SARS-CoV2 virus is in India, and having read the paper myself fully and thoroughly understood what it says, the study is very shoddily done. The analysis was very badly done, and I don't think it will stand the scrutiny of a peer review system," Dr Mande told ANI.

Dr Mande further said that the Chinese reported a high monkey-human interaction in India, which had nothing to do with the virus.

"The combination of methodologies that they have used to show that the virus originates in India or Bangladesh is quite faulty, it is not right. For example, they have taken sequences from one database. That database has only selective sequences that have been submitted. So it is not a random sample of sequence," he said. He further informed that there were too many loopholes in the study and therefore its veracity could not be confirmed, adding that it can be comfortably said that the study is wrong.During a media briefing on Monday, World Health Organisation (WHO) Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said that some countries are politicising the origin of the virus. "We're doing everything to make sure that we know the origin. Some have been politicising this. Our position is very clear that we'll start the study from Wuhan, know what has happened there and based on findings, to

explore if there're other avenues," said Ghebreyesus. Commenting on Ghebreyesus' statement, Dr Mande said: "WHO goes very rationally about finding these things. We don't need to bring any political angle to it, what we want is to go to the bottom of the truth and there is science behind it. Scientifically, we explore every question and try to see where the origin of the virus is, and today the consensus is that the origin of the virus is in Wuhan province of China. So there is a general consensus in the world and it is what we would like to trust," he further said. Taking to Twitter, Dr Mande shared the link of the study, saying: "Plenty of glaring errors in the study. I've pointed out in a series of my tweets that the study design, conduct and analysis are faulty. Hopefully the scientific world will reject the hypothesis."

According to South China Morning Post, a paper from researchers in China proposed that the first transmission of SARS-CoV-2 may have taken place on the Indian subcontinent. The report was based on research into strains of the virus provided by 17 countries and regions, and claimed to trace the earliest outbreak to India or Bangladesh.

The deadly virus which emerged in China's Wuhan province has now infected more than 63 million people worldwide, and claimed the lives of more than 1.4 million.

Published in:
Hindustan Times

Jorhat based NEIST kickstarts second phase of CSIR Aroma Mission in Nagaland

CSIR-NEIST

30th November, 2020

Jorhat based Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-North East Institute of Science and Technology (CSIR-NEIST) has launched a Multi-locational Trial and Regional Research Experimental Field at Mokokchung in Nagaland. The field is a part of the second phase of CSIR's Aroma Mission and is the first facility to be set up in Nagaland. NEIST is going in a big way to popularise the cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants (MAP) in northeast India under CSIR Aroma Mission programme. CSIR laboratories have successfully completed the first phase of the aroma mission, which is a flagship project of CSIR. A team of scientists led by the director CSIR-NEIST, G. Narahari Sastry met the village council of Nukshiyim village in Yaongyimsen, Mokokchung district led by I Nukshi, its president and they jointly inaugurated the facility. Dr Sastry stressed the importance of converting the rich biodiversity and abundant occurrence of rare medicinal and aromatic plants, for the benefit of the local people. "The very cause of propagating MAP is to promote local rural entrepreneurship and augment the standard of living in rural areas by encouraging this new alternative economic activity. "Cultivation of medicinal plants and herbs which boosts the immunity and develops resistance to fight infectious diseases by promoting the general health of the population is of outstanding importance," he said. Dr Sastry further said that the high value of aromatic plants and fragrant flowers due to their rich possession of natural oils are doing very profitable business and linking them to the perfumery industry is expected to pay rich dividends to farmers. "Therefore, CSIR along with other organizations have embarked on a mission directed towards the cultivation of MAP is likely to augment the earnings of the

people living below the poverty line by adopting this new means of livelihood. "CSIR-NEIST has undertaken the plan of setting up of about 15 Multi-locational experimental research fields in the North East Region (5 farms in Assam, 4 in Arunachal Pradesh, 1 each in Manipur, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim and Tripura) to fulfil the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in doubling the farmers' income in the next few years," Sastry said. He added that the principal approach was to ensure identification, domestication, and cultivation of rare, threatened and endangered species of medicinal plants to sustain the modern pharmaceutical industries and also for sustenance of India's strong traditional system of medicines. High-scale production of these medicinal plants will be beneficial to meet the industrial demands as well as cease the import of the raw materials further boosting the country's economy.

The team of scientists handed over saplings of Tinospora Cordifolia (Giloy), which is a powerhouse of antioxidants and boosts the immunity levels, to I Nukshi, president, S Wati, secretary. The team comprises SP Saikia, principal investigator, CSIR Aroma Mission, Mohan Lal, co-investigators Ilika Zhimo, senior scientist and Himangshu Lekhak and Director, CSIR-NEIST.

Published in:
Northeast Now

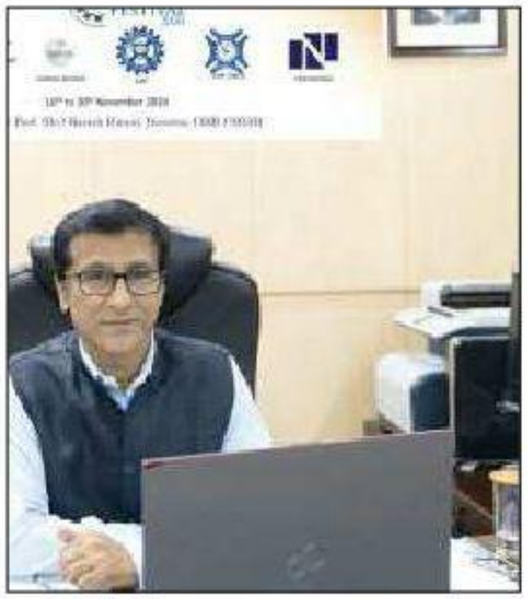
CSIR-CMERI

28 November, 2020

भारत के छठे अंतरराष्ट्रीय विज्ञान महोत्सव 2020 से संबंधित कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन

सन्मार्ग संवाददाता

दुर्गापुर : भारत के अंतर्राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान महोत्सव का आयोजन विज्ञान भारती तथा भारत सरकार के विभिन्न वैज्ञानिक विभागों द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से किया जाता है। इस वर्ष सीएसआईआर नोडल संगठन के रूप में विज्ञान के इस महोत्सव के छठे संस्करण का आयोजन 22 दिसंबर से 25 दिसंबर के दौरान वर्चुअल माध्यमों से करेगा। सीएसआईआर - सीएमईआरआई, दुर्गापुर ने भारत के अंतर्राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान महोत्सव' 2020 (आईआईएसएफ) के 6 वें संस्करण के प्री-इवेंट्स से सम्बंधित अनेक रोचक तथा ज्ञानवर्द्धक कार्यक्रमों की श्रृंखला का आयोजन वर्चुअल माध्यम से आयोजित किया। 24 नवंबर से 27 नवंबर तक आयोजित कार्यक्रमों के दौरान महोत्सव के इस वर्ष की थीम 'विश्व कल्याण हेतु आत्मनिर्भर भारत' पर आधारित वर्चुअल तकनीक प्रदर्शन, स्कूल के छात्रों के लिए एम्फीबियन रोबोट्स और वैज्ञानिक तकनीकों के विकास पर आधारित रोचक जिज्ञासा कार्यक्रम, नैनो विज्ञान पर प्रख्यात वैज्ञानिक काव्याख्यान तथा संस्थान द्वारा विकसित सौर ऊर्जा, स्मार्ट ग्रिड, सामुदायिक वायु



डॉ. (प्रो.) हरीश हिरानी

शुद्धीकरण संयंत्र आदि का प्रदर्शन, कचरा निष्पादन की संपोषणीय तकनीक का आभासी भ्रमण और व्यख्यान, नवोन्मेषित कृषि तकनीकों के प्रदर्शन सहित अनेक रोचक और ज्ञानवर्धक कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन किया गया। इन सभी कार्यक्रमों में विभिन्न आभासी माध्यमों से 17000 से अधिक लोग जुड़े। 27 नवंबर को आयोजित समापन समारोह को विज्ञान भारती के राष्ट्रीय संगठन सचिव जयंत सहस्त्रबुद्धे ने मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में वर्चुअल माध्यम से सम्बोधित किया जिसमें बड़ी संख्या में संस्थान के वैज्ञानिक, शोधार्थी, छात्र, कर्मी आदि ने भाग लिया। इस दौरान संस्थान के निदेशक डॉ. (प्रो) हरीश हिरानी ने कहा कि संस्थान द्वारा विकसित किये जा रहे विभिन्न तकनीकों और वैज्ञानिक शोध के द्वारा देश और आम जन की समस्याओं के समाधान के उचित और प्रभावी समाधान की दिशा में लगातार सी एस आई आर - सी एम ई आर आई कार्यरत है। समारोह के मुख्य अतिथि जयंत सहस्त्रबुद्धे ने कहा कि देश और समाज के समक्ष उपस्थित सभी समस्याओं का समाधान हमें आत्मनिर्भर ज्ञान, विज्ञान और शोध के माध्यम से करना होगा। आत्मनिर्भर भारत देश के साथ-साथ वैश्विक समुदाय की समस्याओं के समाधान के लिए भी आवश्यवक है। इस दौरान उन्होंने इस बात को रेखांकित किया कि भारत में ज्ञान और अनुसंधान की एक महान परम्परा रही है, जिसने मानव और विश्व के कल्याण के लिए अनेक योगदान दिए हैं। उन्होंने भारत के पूर्व राष्ट्रपति डॉ. एपीजे अब्दुल कलाम को याद किया जिन्होंने एक ज्ञान आधारित आत्मनिर्भर और संपन्न भारत के विकास का आह्वान किया था। कार्यक्रम के अंत में डॉ अंजली चटर्जी ने धन्यवाद ज्ञापित किया।

Published in:
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