

CSIR IN MEDIA



CSIR

NEWS BULLETIN

16 TO 20 AUGUST 2021



Industries Dept, CSIR-IHBT sign agreement

CSIR-IHBT

18th August, 2021

A four-member team of the CSIR-IHBT scientists visited Leh and the Nubra valley for the promotion of aromatic and floriculture crops. The members interacted with farmers and officials of departments and NGOs. The team conducted awareness programmes, met officials of the Industries and Commerce Department, Agriculture Department, farmers, entrepreneurs and NGOs of Ladakh.

The CSIR-IHBT has signed an MOU with the Industries and Commerce Department, Ladakh, for the cultivation of high value aromatic and floriculture crops (lilium, tulip and gladiolus) which are suitable for cultivation in Ladakh.— OC

Published in:

[Tribuneindia](https://tribuneindia.com)

लद्दाख में सुगंधित फसलों व फूलों की खेती को दिया जाएगा बढ़ावा

सीएसआइआर-आइएचबीटी इस ओर बढ़ाएगा कदम : डा. संजय

संवाद सहयोगी, पालमपुर : लद्दाख में सुगंधित फसलों सहित फूलों की खेती को बढ़ावा दिया जाएगा। सीएसआइआर-आइएचबीटी इस ओर अपने कदम बढ़ाएगा। हालांकि यह क्षेत्र प्राकृतिक सिंचाई सुविधाओं से वंचित है पर यहां पर फूलों की खेती की आपार संभावनाएं भी हैं। सीएसआइआर-आइएचबीटी पालमपुर के निदेशक डा. संजय कुमार ने बताया कि संस्थान इस क्षेत्र में सुगंधित फसलों और फूलों की खेती को बढ़ावा देने पर ध्यान केंद्रित कर रहा है।

उन्होंने बताया कि संस्थान ने मई, 2021 के दौरान उद्योग और वाणिज्य विभाग, लद्दाख के साथ उच्च मूल्य वाली सुगंधित फसल (क्लेरी सेज, वाइल्ड मैरीगोल्ड, डैमस्क रोज, लैवेंडर, मिंट, ड्रेकोसेफालम, आर्टेमिसिया) और पुष्पकृषि फसल (लिलियम, ट्यूलिप और ग्लैडियोलस) जो लद्दाख में खेती के लिए उपयुक्त हैं तथा इनकी खेती और प्रचार के लिए समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए हैं। संस्थान



लद्दाख के लोगों को जानकारी देते विज्ञानी • जागरण

ने उद्योग और वाणिज्य विभाग के सहयोग से केंद्र शासित प्रदेश लद्दाख के संस्थान द्वारा किसानों को इन फसलों की गुणवत्तापूर्ण रोपण सामग्री प्रदान की है।

सीएसआइआर-आइएचबीटी वैज्ञानिकों की चार सदस्यीय टीम ने सुगंधित फसलों व फूलों की खेती को बढ़ावा देने के लिए सात अगस्त, 2021 तक लेह और नुब्रा घाटी क्षेत्र का दौरा किया और ठंडे रेगिस्तानी इलाकों में किसानों व विभिन्न विभागों और गैर सरकारी

संगठनों के अधिकारियों के साथ इन फसलों की खेती पर वार्तालाप किया। जागरूकता सह प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम में लेह और नुब्रा घाटी के 70 से अधिक महिला किसानों और बेरोजगार युवाओं ने हिस्सा लिया। मई, 2021 के दौरान इन फसलों की गुणवत्ता वाली रोपण सामग्री किसानों को उद्योग और वाणिज्य विभाग के माध्यम से पहले ही वितरित की जा चुकी है। प्रधान वैज्ञानिक मोहित शर्मा (रासायनिक अभियंता) ने किसानों को सुगंधित फसलों के

विज्ञानियों की टीम कर चुकी है लेह और नुब्रा घाटी क्षेत्र का दौरा, सात गांवों के किसानों को संस्थान की ओर से दिए लिलियम बल्ब

प्रसंस्करण और मूल्यवर्धन के बारे में अवगत कराया। उन्होंने बताया कि सीएसआइआर-आइएचबीटी नुब्रा घाटी में अरोमा मिशन चरण दो के तहत एक प्रसंस्करण इकाई स्थापित करेगा। पुष्प कृषि मिशन के वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक सह नोडल डा. भव्य भार्गव ने बताया कि उच्च मूल्य वाली फूलों की फसलों के माध्यम से किसानों की आय और उद्यमिता विकास को बढ़ाने के उद्देश्य से मिशन शुरू किया गया है।

उद्योग और वाणिज्य विभाग लद्दाख के सहयोग से सीएसआइआर-आइएचबीटी ने लद्दाख के लेह (रणबीरपुर, स्टकना, तुक्चा) और कारगिल (कारगिल, संकू और कुर्बाथांग गांव) जिलों के सात गांवों में लिलियम बल्ब प्रदान किए। यह क्षेत्र लिलियम व ट्यूलिप के बल्ब उत्पादन के लिए उपयुक्त है।

CSIR-NCL

18th August, 2021

Dr. Rakesh Joshi receives the Young Scientist Award

डॉ. राकेश जोशी यांना युवा वैज्ञानिक पुरस्कार

पुणे, ता. १७ : किटकांच्या प्रादुर्भावामुळे दरवर्षी शेतकऱ्यांचे कोट्यावधींचे नुकसान होते. तसेच कीटकनाशक नाका तोंडात गेल्यामुळे शेतकऱ्यांना जीवही गमवावा लागतो. यावर उपाय म्हणून फक्त कीटकांनाच लागू पडतील अशी रसायने शोधण्याचा प्रयत्न राष्ट्रीय रासायनिक प्रयोगशाळेतील जैवरसायन शास्त्रज्ञ डॉ. राकेश जोशी करत आहे. या योगदानाबद्दल त्यांना वैज्ञानिक आणि औद्योगिक संशोधन परिषदेच्यावतीने (सीएसआयआर) 'युवा वैज्ञानिक : २०२१' पुरस्काराने सन्मानित करण्यात आले.

मुळचे नाशिकचे असलेले डॉ. जोशी यांनी केटीएचएम जैवतंत्रज्ञान

विषयात पदवीचे शिक्षण पूर्ण केले. पदव्युत्तर शिक्षण पुण्यातील मॉडर्न महाविद्यालयात घेतले. त्यानंतर 'एनसीएल'मध्ये पीएचडी केली. सावित्रीबाई फुले पुणे विद्यापीठातील जैवमाहिती आणि जैवतंत्रज्ञान विभागात (आयबीबी) ते पाच वर्षे प्राध्यापक म्हणून कार्यरत होते.

डॉ. जोशी म्हणाले, "मागच्या दहा वर्षात राज्यात हजारो शेतकऱ्यांनी आत्महत्या केल्या



देशाच्या गरजेनुसार संशोधन करण्याची नितांत गरज आहे. परिस्थितीसापेक्ष आणि प्रगल्भ संशोधन देशाला नक्कीच सुजलाम् सुफलाम् बनवील.
- डॉ. राकेश जोशी, वैज्ञानिक, राष्ट्रीय रासायनिक प्रयोगशाळा, पुणे

आहेत. आपण या विषयाकडे मुळाशी जाऊन कधीच पाहिले नाही. युवा पिढीला एकीकडे शेती, तर करायची नसते आणि त्यातील संशोधनातील

कल सुद्धा कमी असतो. यावर एक प्रयत्न म्हणून, माझ्या संशोधनाच्या माध्यमातून फक्त किटकांवरच प्रभावी ठरणार्या औषधांचा मी शोध घेत आहे."

देशातील ३५ वर्षांपेक्षा कमी वयाच्या आणि संशोधनात उल्लेखनीय कार्य करणाऱ्या वैज्ञानिकांचा या पुरस्काराने सन्मान करण्यात येतो. यंदा सात युवा वैज्ञानिकांना गौरविण्यात आले.

Published in:

Sakal

NIIST develops system for safe medical waste disposal

CSIR-NIIST

18th August, 2021

‘The technology enables the disinfection of waste and solidification instantaneously upon mixing’

The National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (NIIST), a constituent laboratory of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), has developed a know-how for safely disposing of biomedical waste.

The technology involves a solidifying agent, which reduces the risk of spillage and aerosolization, and a disinfectant which helps to dispose the waste as non-regulated medical waste.

The CSIR facility said that the technology, 'Disinfection-Solidification System for Pathogenic Biomedical Waste Disposal,' has been transferred to M/s Bio Vastum Solutions Pvt. Ltd. (CML Group), Thrissur. NIIST has come out with the technology at a time when the generation of biomedical wastes has witnessed a sharp increase due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“The technology enables the disinfection of both liquid and solid biomedical waste samples, and results in gelation or solidification instantaneously upon mixing. The complete microbial disinfection followed by immobilisation reduces the risk of spillage and occupational exposure. Transportation and disposal of such disinfected pathogenic waste are easier and safer for a healthcare facility,” NIIST said.

Improper treatment of pathogenic biomedical waste can lead to harmful microbes infecting patients, health workers and the general public. Incineration of the wastes, on the other hand,

leads to air pollution and is also expensive. Following the COVID-19 outbreak, the amount of biomedical waste generated has seen a steep increase globally, NIIST scientists noted.

Citing the 2016 annual report of the Central Pollution Control Board, they pointed out that India produces 517 tonnes of biomedical waste per day. A joint report by the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (Assocham) and Velocity, pegged the per-day generation in 2018 at 550 tonnes, which was projected to touch 775.5 tonnes per day by 2022.

“Kerala produces, on average, 37 tonnes of biomedical waste per day. An additional 18 tonnes of biomedical waste is produced in the State after the surge of COVID-19,” according to NIIST.

Published in:

[Thehindu](https://www.thehindu.com)

I Think, Therefore I Am, Abroad: Why India Needs To Respect And Invest In Scientific Talent In The Next 25 Years

CSIR-NISCAIR, NIScPR, NAL, NIIST

18th August, 2021

India should aim to have about 1,000 scientists per million (10 lakh) population by around 2050, Dr Gangan Prathap, former director of CSIR–National Institute of Science Communication & Information Resources (CSIR-NISCAIR), said on 17 August.

He was speaking at the three-day virtual national conference, titled Science and Technology in India: A Historical Introspection with a Contemporary Perspective, organised by CSIR–National Institute of Science, Communication & Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR) to commemorate the 75th year of India’s Independence.

CSIR, short for the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, is an Indian research and development (R&D) organisation with a pan-India presence through a combination of national laboratories, outreach centres, innovation complexes, and more.

Dr Prathap was among three distinguished scientists who spoke during the session “Growth of Science in India: A Quantitative Perspective”, which is one of six sessions, besides two panel discussions, being held between 16-18 August.

Getting India’s researchers per population figure up to 1,000 per million in the next 25 years, as Dr Prathap recommends, would mean a growth of nearly one million Indian scientists over the course of this period. “We have to increase our scientific population from 350,000 — that was the estimate by DST (Department of Science and Technology) last year — to about 1.35 million,” Dr Prathap said.

He pointed out that while this figure might seem “big”, China already has two million scientists and the United States of America (US) and European Union (EU) have 1.5 million

scientists each. Considering that India is larger in population terms than either the US or EU, it should look to improve its standing in this regard.

In a written reply to a question in Lok Sabha, Science and Technology Minister Dr Jitendra Singh had recently said the number of full-time-equivalent researchers per million people in India had increased to 255 in 2017 from 218 in 2015 and 110 in 2000.

Though this may be seen as growth, the figure is low in absolute terms. Just within Asia, countries like South Korea, Japan, United Arab Emirates, and Iran record a higher count for researchers per million population. Neighbouring Pakistan fares slightly better too.

In its report about the Covid-19 pandemic and its management, presented to Rajya Sabha in November 2020, the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare had flagged the low count.

“The Committee expresses concern over the low number of researchers in the country and lack of research culture among students,” the report said, contrasting India’s figure of 252 researchers per million population (citing data by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics or UIS) against China’s 1,370.

Besides the researchers per million metric, India can do much better in R&D expenditure as well. India’s gross domestic expenditure on R&D is the lowest among the top 10 economies. India’s R&D spending as a share of GDP is only 0.7 per cent, according to UIS data.

Dr Prathap says this share should be lifted to 3 per cent of India’s GDP. However, in heading towards this goal, the private sector has to do more heavy-lifting. “Since public spending in India is just 20 per cent of the GDP, only 0.6 per cent (of the desired 3 per cent) needs to come from government resources. The remaining 2.4 per cent has to come from the private sector, and that is not happening in India,” Dr Prathap said.

This echoes the call of the Economic Survey 2020-21 to increase R&D expenditure as a percentage of GDP to 3 per cent. The report had said India was looking up in innovation but needed greater participation from the industry.

“The business sector in India contributes much less to gross expenditure on R&D (about 37 per cent) when compared to businesses in each of the top ten economies (68 per cent on average). This is despite the fact the tax incentives for R&D were more liberal in India when compared to those in the top ten economies,” the Survey said, noting that the government is currently carrying the bulk of India’s R&D spending, unlike in other top countries.

India must significantly ramp up investment in R&D, the Survey recommends, calling for a major thrust from the private industry.

In his session at the conference yesterday, Dr Prathap also said India’s R&D will be “reasonably successful” if the country can match its share of the global GDP with its share of global R&D output.

Dr Prathap was trained as an aerospace engineer, receiving both his Bachelor of Technology (B Tech) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degrees from the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras.

Among his many roles have been serving as a scientist at National Aerospace Laboratories, CSIR–Centre for Mathematical Modelling and Computer Simulation, CSIR-NISCAIR, and CSIR–National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology.

His areas of expertise are structural mechanics, computational mechanics, and information science. In parallel, he has maintained an interest in research evaluation, bibliometrics, and scientometrics for over 30 years.

He received the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize in Science and Technology in 1990, a prestigious award given out every year for outstanding contribution to science and technology.

Dr Prathap spoke at the ongoing science and technology conference held to commemorate “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav”. The virtual event kicked off on 16 August with its chief guest, former CSIR director-general and Padma Vibhushan Dr R A Mashelkar inaugurating it.

The Government of India is celebrating the Mahotsav to commemorate 75 years of Indian Independence. Many activities highlighting India’s accomplishments in various sectors are being planned and organised as part of this celebration.

Published in:

Swarajyamag

Modi Govt contemplating CET to streamline recruitment process in country: Dr Jitendra

CSIR-IIIM

18th August, 2021

JAMMU, Aug 17: To streamline the recruitment process, the Narendra Modi Government is contemplating Common Eligibility Test (CET) all over the country which will be valid for three years. This was stated by Union Minister in PMO with Independent charge of Ministry of Science and Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh at an interaction with aromatic crop-growing farmers conducted under CSIR-Aroma



Mission Phase-II at CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine here today.

The Union Minister said that the process was to be started by September this year but due to COVID pandemic it has been delayed. He added that the CET will be held all over the country in a single day and the centers for holding the tests will be at all the district headquarters of the country. This would save the time of the candidates as well as provide them opportunity in taking part in the CET and there would be no threat of clashing the examinations of different departments. Earlier candidates were facing problems due to clashing of the examinations, he said. Dr Jitendra Singh said that this is the second revolutionary decision of Modi Government for the youth of the country after abolishing the interviews for the class third and class fourth posts so that the eligible candidates don't face humiliation during the interviews.

The Minister said that earlier the candidates getting 100 percent marks in written tests were dropped in interviews by giving preference to those candidates getting five percent marks.

This was a great injustice with the promising and brilliant youth of this country which was done away with by Modi Government so that the deserving person can get his due.

He regretted that the erstwhile J&K State Government had also delayed the process for abolition of interviews but soon after the Governor's rule was imposed, this decision was also implemented in the erstwhile State of J&K.

Dr Jitendra Singh, while taking a strong dig at the opponents who are oft repeatedly saying that nothing happened after the August 5, 2019 said they are suffering from myopia as the overall development which took place in J&K over the years is not visible to them. "There are 29 States and five Union Territories in the country and due to COVID, the developmental projects were delayed all over the country including J&K", he added.

Dr Jitendra Singh said the Government has made huge investment in Health Sector and Food Industry and before reaching to any conclusion all factors needed to be counted. But it is unfortunate that the past hangover is still there, he added.

The Union Minister strongly ruled out that there is any discrimination with any region of J&K UT under the Narendra Modi regime. He said the projects in Jammu region have picked up while they got delayed in Kashmir due to prevailing conditions there, though they were simultaneously sanctioned for the two regions of the UT. In this regard he made the reference of Biotech Park of Kathua and AIIMS, Jammu. He said while Biotech Park of Kathua is going to be completed soon while in Kashmir the work has not been even started. Same is the case with AIIMS Kashmir as Jammu AIIMS is going to start second batch of MBBS this year while the AIIMS Kashmir has not even started first batch yet, he added.

He said equitable development of both the regions of J&K has taken place under BJP led Government at Centre and this was also stated by PM during the Independence Day speech at Red Fort.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that for the first time under Modi, the Space Technology Institute has been established in Central University of Jammu (CUJ) and earlier it used to be only in South.

Dr Jitendra Singh terming the IIM, Jammu as pride of Jammu paid glowing tributes to its founder Director, Sir R N Chopra. He said the research on Mint tablet which is commonly available in market was held in this institute many years back. He said besides, IIM, AIIMS, Jammu, SKUAST, Biotech Park, IIT, High Altitude Medicinal Plants Research Institute, Baderwah and other institutions are in real sense the pride of Jammu. He asked those who are parroting pride of Jammu at every now and then should try to understand in real sense that what is actually the pride of Jammu.

Dr Jitendra Singh, while lauding the role of progressive farmers and young entrepreneurs from J&K urged the officers present in the function to provide every sort of help and assistance to them as these people have become role model for others especially for the youth who are hankering after petty Government jobs. He said start ups are more lucrative.

Reiterating the Modi Government's commitment to double the farmers' income, Dr Jitendra Singh said that instead of 2022 "we would achieve target before that in case there is no Third Wave of COVID."

On the occasion, the Union Minister and Principal Secretary Agriculture Navin Choudhary interacted with young farmers and entrepreneurs who included Bharat Bushan from Khelani Doda, Touqeer Bhagwan from Doda, Sandeep Razdan from Jammu and Gyan Chand of Basohli who shared their experience that how after cultivating the medicinal plants like Lavender, Lemon Grass and other medicinal plants they have not only doubled their income but increased it to four to six folds.

Dr Jitendra Singh flagged off two trucks of Lemon grass to Kathua and Udhampur districts to be supplied for farmers of two districts for cultivation in their fields by Agriculture

Department along with Navin Choudhary and Divisional Commissioner, Jammu Dr Raghav Langer who was also present in the programme. Earlier in his address, Dr. D Srinivasa Reddy, Director, CSIR-IIIM, Jammu, welcomed the guests and briefly introduced CSIR-Aroma Mission and other research activities of CSIR-IIIM Jammu. He said that the CSIR-IIIM would ensure the progress of farmers and entrepreneurs through scientific and technological interventions. He said the CSIR-IIIM is reaching out to the farmers in close collaboration with the UT administration and the local agricultural universities.

Dr. Sumeet Gairola, Nodal Scientist, CSIR-Aroma Mission, gave a presentation on the introduction, achievements, and future of the CSIR-Aroma Mission. He explained how the CSIR-Aroma Mission is transforming the lives of farmers in Doda through Lavender cultivation. He also informed that the success of Lavender cultivation in Doda under CSIR-Aroma Mission is now being popularly referred to as the “Purple revolution in Jammu.”

Prof J P Sharma, Vice-Chancellor, SKAUST, Jammu, emphasized that the Government is now focusing on increasing productivity and value addition. Navin Kumar Chaudhary, Principal Secretary to Government of J&K, Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare Department, detailed the schemes of the Agriculture Department and urged the farmers to take full advantage of the schemes.

Dr Dhiraj Vyas, Principal Scientist and Head Plant Sciences presented the vote of thanks while Aditi conducted the proceedings. The programme was attended by more than 100 farmers and entrepreneurs engaged in the Aroma industry from different districts of Jammu and Kashmir. Several senior scientists and HODs of CSIR-IIIM, including D.M. Mondhe, Abdul Rahim, Zabeer Ahmed, G.D Singh, Asha Chaubey, Scientists of the Plant Sciences & Agrotechnology Division, were also present. Director Agriculture Jammu, other officers and BJP Kissan Morcha president, Omi Khajuria were also present on the occasion.

Published in:

[Dailyexcelsior](http://Dailyexcelsior.com)

Focus of agricultural sectors should be on productivity rather than production: Dr Jitendra Singh

CSIR-IIIM

17th August, 2021

While lauding the role of the scientific community, the Minister said that CSIR played a significant role in the growth of the aroma industry in India and helped the growers and farmers by enhancing their farm incomes. Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh said in Jammu today that many Start-Up avenues of self-employment are more lucrative than government jobs and the need is only to change the mindset which is inclined to prefer a small-time government



job with a meagre salary instead of a self-employed Start-Up initiative which could comparatively beget manifold returns from the beginning itself.

During interaction with Agriculture Start-Ups, young entrepreneurs and farmers after inaugurating the one-day awareness cum training programme for farmers under CSIR- Aroma Mission Phase-II at CSIR- Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM), Dr Jitendra Singh was told by a young entrepreneur that by using modern technology in cultivation, he had started earning Rs. 3 lakhs per annum from beginning itself from a bare one hectare of land while two B-Tech graduate engineers said that their income through a similar Start-Up initiative had doubled within a short span of five months.

In response, the Minister said, there is a take-home message for the misguided youth who keep struggling for a daily wage job which may not fetch them more than Rs. 6,000 per month, whereas here we have young Start-Ups who are not only providing a lucrative livelihood for

themselves but also for their peers. Time has come, said the Minister, for the youth and their parents to decide the priorities with clarity. He said, no government in the world can provide a Sarkari job to every youth but a responsible government like the one headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has unfolded amazing opportunities for the youth to earn a livelihood through self-employment.

Even in government jobs, said Dr Jitendra Singh, the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) has abolished interviews, as a result of which there will be lesser and lesser scope for jobs through nepotism, favouritism or any other considerations by manipulating the interview marks. Therefore, it is the responsibility of every right citizen to educate the youth to determine his priority with clarity and to decide whether he has merit and talent for a government job or skill and entrepreneurship to earn a livelihood through a vocation outside the government sector, he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh gave an elaborate account of the landmark achievements of the Institute making a special reference to the 'mint' plant being used on a wide scale commercially that is a part of the legacy of the institute. While referring to the expanding footprint of lavender farming in the UT, he said that the Institute has played a pivotal role in the purple revolution in India that is helping the farming community in increasing their income and improving livelihood.

While lauding the role of the scientific community, the Minister said that CSIR played a significant role in the growth of the aroma industry in India and helped the growers and farmers by enhancing their farm incomes. The institute has contributed towards the development of aroma-based entrepreneurs and in creating job opportunities through its research, skill development and outreach initiatives.

Referring to the clarion call given by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for doubling the farmer's income by 2022, Dr Jitendra Singh said that Jammu and Kashmir were progressively

improving farmer's income with the support of allied sectors and institutes like IIIM Jammu. He said that the focus of agricultural and allied sectors, and researchers should be on productivity rather than production. The Minister said that the immense potential of technology in improving the livelihood of people should be harnessed by all departments collaboratively. He urged the youth to actively seek the livelihood opportunities being created by the Government. He encouraged the youth to become agro-entrepreneurs that fetch greater incomes.

He said that the developments in Science and technology in domains like those of agriculture need to be at the centre stage of the public discourse. This, he said, would help in better recognition and awareness of the role of science in various fields as well as in the development of scientific temper among the masses. While reiterating the commitment of the Government towards balanced development in the various regions of the UT, Dr Jitendra Singh said that various projects like AIIMS Jammu, Ring Road Project in the Jammu region were progressing at a fast pace and people of the region stand to benefit from such social and physical infrastructural projects.

Naveen Choudhary earlier in his address said that the change in strategy with a focus on productivity, value addition, technology and reducing wastage of perishable farm produce have been game-changers for increasing farmer's income. Dr D.S. Reddy, Director, CSIR-IIIM, in his address said that in recent years the aroma project was giving positive results as a result of a collaborative effort of the Scientific Community and the agricultural department through continuous interactions and coordination. Prof J P Sharma, Vice-Chancellor SUKAST, Jammu emphasised the fact that with a focus on aromatic and medicinal plants the incomes of farmers could be raised substantially.

Dr Jitendra Singh flagged off two mobile vans for awareness of the Mission and inspected Stalls showcasing the processed products of aromatic plants from the UT. He also unveiled a song in Baderwahi language composed by artist Maloop Singh for mass awareness to attract

the farming community to embrace lavender farming. Project Aroma of CSIR-IIIM focuses on catalyzing setting up of cooperatives for marketing, promotion of cultivation and processing of high value Maps, development of superior varieties and their agro technologies, setting up of distillation units and processing facilities, skill and entrepreneurship development, value-addition and product development from MAPs. The Institute aims to cover 9000 Hectares in next three years in Jammu. Himrosa CK 10, Mint, lavender, Lemongrass Rosa grass, Ocimum, Rosemary, Wild Marigold, Salvia are some of the variety of aromatic plants under phase II of Aroma Mission. The project covers Fourteen high-value aromatic crops extended on a 3247 ha area covering 17 states and benefitting more than 3100 farmers. Around 190 Trainings/Awareness Programmes have been organized under CSIR Aroma Mission in 13 states.

Till March 2021, more than 13 lakh rooted plants of Lavender were provided to more than 800 farmers in the Jammu region (like DodaBaderwah) for more than 200 acres. As per estimates provided by the institute, the income of farmers who adopted Lavender increased from around Rs. 20,000/- per acre to more than Rs. 180,000/- per acre.

Published in:

[Devdiscourse](#)

Udupi students selected for CSIR award

CSIR

17th August, 2021

UDUPI: Two SSLC students from Charamakki Narayana Shetty Memorial Government High School- Ardi Village, Kundapur, Udupi district - Anusha and Rakshita Naik - have been selected for the CSIR (Council of Scientific and Industrial Research) innovation award (for school children for 2021) for their project 'gas saving kit'.



The award is sponsored by Science and Technology Ministry of Union Government. This gas saving kit, once placed on the stove, enables a family of four to source hot water for bathing while cooking food simultaneously.

In this device, water moves through a copper coiled frame kept over the flaming stove, and the water that moves through the outlet pipe gets heated in the process. Among 14 schools that have been selected for the award from across the country, this is school is the only government school and the only school from the state.

Published in:

[Newindianexpress](https://www.newindianexpress.com)

CSIR-NIScPR holds national conference to mark Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

CSIR-NIScPR, NISCAIR, NISTADS

16th August, 2021

The Government of India is celebrating "AzadiKaAmritMahotsav" to commemorate the 75th year of independence of progressive India and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements. The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 'AzadiKaAmritMahotsav' by flagging off 'Dandi March' from Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad on 12th March 2021. Government Ministries, Departments, Institutions and many other entities are committed to celebrating the 75th year of India's independence across the country highlighting the achievements of India in different sectors.

CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (NIScPR) is organizing three days National Conference (virtually) during 16-18 August 2021 commemorating AzadiKaAmritMahotsav. The theme of this significant conference is "Science and Technology in India: A Historical Introspection with a Contemporary Perspective". The conference aims to situate the contribution of Indian science and scientists within the freedom movement of India and the post-independence era to build a new India making a global mark during 75 years of independence.

The conference consists of six important sessions focused on building the Infrastructure of Science: Learning from the Past, important transitions in Indian STI, academia-industry linkages and entrepreneurship: from the colonial times to present, growth of science in India, Indian science in the 21st century and the new education policy 2020. In addition to these technical sessions, two-panel discussions have also been included in this conference.

One panel discussion is dedicated to the presence of women in science and technology with the theme 'Women in S&T: Challenges and Opportunities in emerging context'. The second panel discussion will talk about the role of science communication in the development of a

rational society. The theme of the second panel discussion is 'Science and Society: Some Reflections for Building a New Model for Closer Engagement'

The Chief Guest of the conference is Padma Vibhushan Dr Raghunath Anant Mashelkar who will inaugurate the event. Dr Mashelkar is an Indian chemical engineer and the former Director-General of the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR). Shri Jayant Sahasrabudhe, National Organizing Secretary, Vijnana Bharati will be the Guest of Honour in the inaugural session. Dr Shekhar C. Mande, present Director-General of CSIR will deliver presidential remarks in the session. Well, known scientists, academicians, educationists, researchers and science communicators will speak in various sessions of the conference. The target audiences of this conference are students, researchers, academicians, scientists, policymakers, etc.

While talking about the National Conference, Prof. Ranjana Aggarwal, Director, CSIR-NIScPR said "We are aware that India has a rich scientific heritage and in the modern period, our scientists have played a pivotal role in shaping the nation. Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav gives us an opportunity to revisit our scientific legacy with the modern development is STI. And CSIR-NIScPR is organizing this National Conference to introspect our S&T heritage with a contemporary perspective.

During the conference, the logo of the CSIR institute NIScPR (National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research) will also be launched on 16th August 2021. CSIR-NIScPR has emerged out of the merging of two well recognized CSIR Institutes namely the National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources (NISCAIR) and the National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies (NISTADS). The broad mandates of the new institute are to promote Science Technology and Innovation policy studies and science communication among diverse stakeholders and act as a bridge at the interface of science, technology, industry and society which is essential to a robust S&T ecosystem in the country. The core research activity of the institute is in different areas of the

STI ecosystem, in traditional knowledge, developmental challenges identified under sustainable development goals, science-society studies with strong alignment to government policy and programs. CSIR-NIScPR also publishes 19 journals in different areas of science and technology, along with publishing three popular science magazines (Science Reporter in English, VigyanPragati in Hindi and Science Ki Duniya in Urdu) and three R&D newsletters.

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