

CSIR IN MEDIA



CSIR

**NEWS BULLETIN
16 TO 20 JANUARY 2023**



The Minister reviews the preparedness of IISF to be held from 21st to 24th January, 2023 at the joint meeting of six Science Ministries and departments in New Delhi

CSIR

18th January, 2023



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 today said, the StartUp Conclave at India International Science Festival (IISF)-2022 at Bhopal will showcase 300 DeepTech success stories with tech innovative products and technologies in the areas of Health, Agriculture, Industrial Technology, IT, Mobility and Education.

At a joint meeting of six Science Ministries and departments, including Science & Technology, Biotechnology, CSIR, Earth Sciences, Space and Atomic Energy, Dr Jitendra Singh reviewed the preparedness of IISF Bhopal to be held from 21st to 24th January, 2023 and emphasised integrated Start-Ups and integrated R&D.

Dr Jitendra Singh was pleased to note that the Start-Up ecosystem in India has gathered momentum since Prime Minister Narendra Modi unfurled the national flag at the Red Fort in 2015 and gave the slogan of Start-Up India Stand-Up India, thus unveiling a new vision for the country's economy. He said, from 350 odd start-ups in 2014, the number swelled to 75,000 in August, 2022 and only in a few months, the number of Start-Ups climbed up from 75,000

to 88,000 spread across 653 districts of the country. The burgeoning sector has generated more than nine lakh job opportunities, he added

The Minister said, India is also home to 107 Unicorns (companies that reach a valuation of \$1 billion without being listed on the stock market) and 23 of them emerged in 2022 itself. He said, as per International Data, till November 2022, the US leads the start-up industry globally with 704 unicorns, followed by China, which had 243 unicorns, and India is catching up very fast.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, the Start-Up conclave in Bhopal will have exhibits by enablers offering incubation services and shared infrastructure and there will be focused discussions for start-ups, enablers and stakeholders for peer-to-peer learning, networking and sharing best practices. He said, guidance on forming start-up and availing enabling opportunities under Start-Up India will also be provided at the venue.

Some of the important Prime Speakers and Experts who are taking part in IISF, Bhopal are Dr. Krishna Ella, CMD, Bharat Biotech, Dr. Archana Sharma, CERN, Geneva, Shri S.Somanath, Chairman, ISRO, Sh. Anand Deshpande, Founder & CMD Persistent Systems, Prof. A. P. Dimri, Director, DST-IIG, Dr. Anil Bhardwaj, Director, PRL, Prof. Amitava Patra, Director, INST Mohali, Prof. Tapas Chakraborty, Director IACS.

Face-to-Face with New Frontiers in Science will be a platform for cordial interaction and short discussion-based sessions of students/ researchers with people par excellence in various disciplines of S&T. This will certainly inspire students to pursue science and research in his/her career.

Dr. Krishna Ella, CMD, Bharat Biotech, will lead the session titled “Powering Atma Nirbhar Bharat through Science and Entrepreneurship”, while Sh. Anand Deshpande, Founder & CMD Persistent Systems will Chair the Session on “Technological Advancements in Data Science and India’s leadership in Digital Transformation”.

Dr. Archana Sharma, CERN, Geneva will be the Key Speaker on “Journey of a scientist in Unlocking secrets of the universe” , while ISRO Chairman will Chair the Session on “Marching towards Amrit Kaal with Technological Strides in Frontiers of Space”.

Young Scientist Conference will be organised from 22nd January to 24th January. This event is intended for young scientists, Researchers, Faculties and Science Innovators from National laboratories, Academic institutions and from Scientific Industry fraternity. The themes selected for the Young Scientist Conference are Frontier areas of Science Research, Pandemic Challenges, impacts and research in vaccine development, Water resources, conservation, recycling and purification, Biodiversity, Environment & Climate Change, Food and Energy Security for Self-Reliant India.

New Age technologies show (22-24 January) aims to promote innovation in cutting-edge technologies such as Artificial Intelligence Machine Learning, Cyber Security, Block Chain, Digital Currency Industry, 4.0, 5G/6G, Quantum Computing, Semiconductor Chip Design, Drone Technologies, Green Energies, Space Technologies, Sensor Technologies, Systems and Synthetic Biology.

There will be NATS Exhibition/ Innovation Showcase [100], where Students will showcase the engineered prototypes and products in various cutting-edge areas.

The meeting was attended by Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India, Secretary, DST, Secretary D/o Space, Secretary, M/o Earth Sciences, Secretary, D/o Biotechnology, Secretary, DSIR and representatives and senior officials of other science departments.

UP Govt inks deal with Hyderabad-based 'InstaShield' to strengthen fight against Coronavirus-19

CSIR-CCMB

20th January, 2023

Hyderabad: With the Yogi government entering into an agreement with Hyderabad-based medical equipment company InstaShield, Uttar Pradesh is set to add an effective weapon to its arsenal in the fight against the novel coronavirus (Covid-19).

InstaShield claims that its device, launched in March 2022, is 99.9 per cent effective in guarding against and destroying all types of viruses including SARS-Covid. It is worth mentioning here that the company's turnover has reached Rs 10 crore since the launch of this particular device in March 2022, an official statement said.

"The owners of the company gave a presentation of this device during the meeting with the delegation of the Yogi Government while Cabinet Minister Baby RMaurya expressed her liking for the innovative product of the company. CM Yogi's team also invited the owners of the company to the Global Investors Summit to be held in Lucknow on February 10-12," the statement added.

After meeting with Team Yogi, Instashield promoter and director CS Jadhav and Hitesh M Patel informed that they started the company in August 2017 and it is registered with MSME, Startup India and Gem Portal. According to them, when the whole world was busy devising ways to tackle Covid-19, InstaShield invented its own to prevent the spread of the pandemic, it added.

"The device was launched in March 2022 and today the company's turnover has reached Rs 10 crore, changing the entire picture of the company. InstaShield is a plug-and-play device that kills viruses with the help of electron-transmitting technology. InstaShield's innovative technology works in closed spaces like homes, offices, schools, hotels, colleges, hospitals etc. without releasing any harmful radiation in the air and on surfaces and keeps the environment

safe and healthy for mankind," a statement from Instashield said. "InstaShield device is a breakthrough device as it uses the first of its kind CCMB approved virus attenuation technology. This technology disables all types of viruses, including SARS CoV2 with 99.9 per cent effectiveness. Hitesh says that a single InstaShield device is sufficient to keep an area of 5000 square feet safe from the virus. The device gets activated within 18 minutes. The InstaShield device technology is patented and supported by TSIC, and ARCI. The device is certified by CSIR-CCMB, Hyderabad as well as other labs like EMTAC, and Vimta. CSIR-CCMB is a Government Council. The company claims that the device is 100 per cent safe for humans and the environment," the company claimed in a statement.

"InstaShield device is a Make in India product. Hitesh says that when the testing of this device was going on, by that time 8 variants of Corona had arrived. The device was tested for all variants and the results were positive. This device is capable of killing the virus in nanoseconds. Within a month of its launch, this device was sold for Rs.1.25 crore. By November 2022, the sales figure had reached Rs 10 crore. In the current financial year, the profit is expected to be Rs.5-6 crore and the sales will be Rs.14-15 crore. The InstaShield device can be ordered online from the company's website and Amazon. Apart from this, dealers and distributors have been made all over India. The company has appointed Shruti Haasan as its brand ambassador," the statement added.

After Hyderabad, the company is now considering setting up its manufacturing unit in UP.

"During the meeting with the UP delegation on Wednesday, both the promoters signed an MoU for an initial investment of 20 crores in UP. Apart from setting up the unit in UP, the company will also do its marketing and promotion here. Hitesh said that UP is a big market and he is impressed by the major changes in infrastructure, connectivity and law and order here under the leadership of CM Yogi. He sought support from the representatives of the government for their investments as well as large-scale business in UP. On behalf of the representatives, they were informed about the safe environment and all the reliefs and incentives provided by the government to investors," the release said.

"The company is working on enhancing the InstaShield device, after which one device will be sufficient to kill the virus in an area of 25,000 square feet. Work is on to make it effective for swine flu and bird flu as well. InstaShield is set to launch its IPO in December 2023. Exports are expected to start by February 2023. Through investment in UP, the company will be able to use a bigger platform and will be able to earn huge profits under the umbrella of CM Yogi," Hitesh, a company official said.

IMMT among 6 organisations working on extracting valuable materials from red mud

CSIR-IMMT, NML

20th January, 2023

The CSIR-Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology (IMMT) Bhubaneswar along with five other organisations are working on extracting valuable materials from red mud, a by-product of alumina production from bauxite. Important materials like iron oxide, alumina, titania and rare earth elements (REEs) can be separated from the red mud.



An industry produces more than one tonne of red mud to get one tonne of alumina. Huge amounts of red mud get deposited in the premises of aluminium companies across the world. It has now become a headache for industries to manage the by-product. If the by-product gets into water resources, water gets contaminated. It also affects agriculture too because it is alkaline in nature, said the official sources.

IMMT has signed MoU with CSIR-National Metallurgical Laboratory (NML), Jamshedpur, Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre (JNARDDC), Nagpur and three aluminium industries- Nalco, Hindalco and Vedanta- to conduct research for holistic utilisation of red mud for extraction of metallic values and residue utilisation.

Suddhasatwa Basu, director of CSIR-IMMT Bhubaneswar, said around Rs 8 crore has been spent for the project. “We have developed a pilot plant to separate alumina, iron oxide and REEs including scandium, lanthanum, cerium, neodymium, gallium and yttrium. It can be used for making special alloys, batteries, magnets, and other products necessary for the electronics sector,” he added.

He said they have used thermal beneficiation and extraction methods to separate the materials. This pilot plant can be used as demonstration purposes for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) so that the industries can set up big plants to process the red mud and extract materials by starting mass production.

After extracting the materials from red mud, the remaining portion can be used for making tiles, geopolymer and bricks. It can be used for landfilling or constructing roads. “We are hopeful that MSMEs will come up and start working on this by taking help from aluminium industries,” he added.

Basu said red mud is the secondary source of REEs. “Rare earth is the need of the hour. REEs can be separated from the red mud for its utilisation in the automobile and electronics sector,” he added.

Hyderabad: IICT forays into development of Rechargeable Aluminium Batteries

CSIR-IICT

20th January, 2023

City-based Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT) on Friday announced its foray into development of Rechargeable Aluminium Batteries (RAB), which are well-known sustainable energy storage systems that can be an efficient alternative to Lithium-Ion batteries, which at present dominate the battery sector.

To this effect, MoU was signed and exchanged between MD, Luminous Power Technologies, Preeti Bajaj and Director, IICT, Dr Srinivasa Reddy in the presence of senior officials from the research institution and Luminous Power Technologies. Senior scientists said that IICT already has a proven track record as a knowledge partner in the chemical sector and now it is involved in developing materials in alternative battery chemistries as next-gen technologies.

“Our focus is to develop sustainable solutions using abundantly available materials on earth’s crust and I am glad Luminous Power Technologies has joined us as industry partner to translate the environmentally friendly energy storage technology on RABs being developed by our scientists,” Director, IICT, Dr Srinivasa Reddy said.

RABs are amongst the most promising post-lithium energy storage systems (ESS) that offer higher safety and lower cost. While there is always a question mark over the future availability of Lithium, the Aluminium as a metal is abundant and its battery technology is considered to be cost-effective. MD, Luminous Power Technologies, Preeti Bajaj said “We are particularly energized to see how we can value add to our consumers and industry actively supporting the Science and Technology community”.

Published in:

[Telangana Today](#)

"Vigyanika — Science Literature Festival" Event in IISF, Bhopal

CSIR-NIScPR

19th January, 2023



Vigyanika, a Science Literature Festival is going to be organised during 22 & 23 January, 2023 in the Indian International Science Festival (IISF), MANIT, Bhopal. The venue of this Vigyanika event is the Auditorium, Mechanical Engineering Department, Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology, Bhopal. "Science Literature Festival" is being organised as part of the 8th India International Science Festival (IISF).

The inaugural will also have eminent personalities including Dr. N. Kalaiselvi, Secretary, DSIR & Director General, CSIR, Dr. Shekhar C. Mande, President, Vijnana Bharati & Former Director General, CSIR and Prof. Ranjana Aggarwal, Director, CSIR-NIScPR. The annual India International Science Festival, which is in its 8th edition this time, showcases and celebrates the fruits of science and technology. IISF aims to engage the public with science and demonstrate how science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) provide solutions to improve our lives. This year's IISF is being coordinated and organised by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Ministry of Science & Technology and Vijnana Bharati.

Since the launch of IISF in 2015, the "Science Literature Festival" has emerged as one of the well-attended events. Aligned to the larger objective of IISF, the Vigyanika will showcase

India's rich legacy of promoting science & inculcating scientific temper among the public through multilingual scientific literature, science poetry, science drama and folk art. Vigyanika seeks to promote discussions and deliberations on challenges and future roadmap for effective communication of scientific knowledge.

As India is celebrating Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav to mark 75 years of Indian independence, Vigyanika will also commemorate the Amrit Kaal aligned with science and technology in India through discussions. India is also going through the Presidency phase of the G20 and Indian Institute of Science is the Secretariat for Science 20 (S20). S20 will address the scientific aspects such as climate change, food security and health. One keynote address and one special talk aimed at S20 have been organised in Vigyanika event. Vigyanika will have six sessions, including keynote lectures, panel discussions, and interactions with authors, depiction of scientific ideas through drama & folk dance, and Vigyan Kavi Sammelan. One science drama on Galileo will also be performed by the Shadow Cultural & Social Welfare Society, Bhopal. About 40 eminent scientists, science communicators, authors, science leaders, and policy makers are set to take the stage at Vigyanika.

About 300 science writers, communicators, artists, journalists, young and budding authors, researchers, college students, children, science enthusiasts, science policymakers and citizens are expected to participate in Vigyanika event. For school children from Bhopal, an on-the-spot painting & drawing competition on the theme "India@100 -- My Country, My Vision" has been planned. Other innovative online competitions include Short Play Video Making and National Blog Writing. Mentalism Show by Shri Harish Yadav, Mentalist, Magician & Science Communicator, Jaipur, Rajasthan and Science Kathputli Show by Shri Vikas Mishra & Team have also been scheduled on 22 January 2023 at Bhopal. The CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR), New Delhi, Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Govt. of India and Vijnana Bharati are coordinating Vigyanika.

Published in:

[Pib](#)

CSIR-IIIM workshop: Farmers asked to follow scientists' advisories to enhance quality

CSIR-IIIM

19th January, 2023

CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine, Jammu organised a workshop-cum-seed distribution programme at KVK Kathua as part of the CSIR Floriculture Mission, which was attended by progressive farmers and entrepreneurs of district Kathua and scientists of KVK. Dr Iqra Farooq, the Project Associate, gave a detailed technical presentation on the commercial production of marigolds and demonstrated its nursery-raising technology to the participants.



While welcoming the participants, Dr Vishal Mahajan, commended CSIR-IIIM for organising such a programme and providing quality seed material of marigolds and assistance to farmers, thereby providing unique opportunities for agri-entrepreneurship in the production of the crop due to its high marketability. Dr Mahajan assured of his support and collaboration with CSIR for such initiatives.

Tajinder Singh, while speaking at the occasion, hailed the work done under the CSIR Floriculture Mission to promote the sector throughout the UT of J&K. He advised the farmers to follow the technical advisory provided by scientists of KVK and CSIR to enhance the quality of the flower produce. He encouraged the farmers to tap the markets outside J&K as well.

Dr Suphla Gupta while interacting with the participating farmers informed them about the significant progress achieved through the implementation of different verticals of the mission

over the past more than one year in different parts of J&K. In his address, Dr Shahid Rasool, Nodal Scientist of the Mission in J&K acknowledged KVK, Kathua and the Department of Agriculture, Jammu, for the active support and coordination for the conduct of such programmes in the Jammu division.

“The CSIR under the leadership of the Union Minister of Science and Technology has developed and disseminated many technologies and has created many innovation-driven platforms for sustainable development of agriculture and farmers,” he said.

He said the CSIR Floriculture Mission, which is being implemented across the country, has provided much-needed momentum to the floriculture industry while also significantly uplifting the economic status of the farmers. He thanked the Director, CSIR IIIM, Dr D.S Reddy for his patronage and guidance. Efforts of the KVK team led by Dr Vishal Mahajan, Bhavna Verma, Ritu and Pravin Kumar were also appreciated.

On the occasion, the seeds of hybrid marigolds were distributed among 49 farmers associated with the cultivation of marigolds from the Kathua.

8th edition of Indian Int'l Science Festival to be held in Bhopal from January 21 to 24

CSIR-IICB

19th January, 2023

The 8th edition of Indian International Science Festival (IISF) will be held in Madhya Pradesh's Bhopal from January 21 to 24 featuring as many as 15 different outreach programmes where students across the country will be able to showcase their scientific models and get exposure to Guinness Book of World Record, young scientist conference.

The students will be given an opportunity to interact with the scientists and other programmes related to scientific interventions and research.

A press conference was held at the Calcutta Press Club in which organizers appealed to the young generations so that they come forward in large numbers and participate in the programme. Five students from each district of Bengal are expected to take part in the event. Students will get access to laboratories where the scientists can guide them through their projects and provide them with important insights on science and technology.

Arun Bandyopadhyay, Director of CSIR – Indian Institute of Chemical Biology (CSIR-IICB) who attended Thursday's event said that IISF is the biggest platform in the country to bring together students, researchers, innovators, artists, and the general public to celebrate achievements in the field of science and technology. Young students will get a platform to showcase their scientific models and to interact with the scientists.

IISF is a medium to encourage the young minds towards the field of science and to promote the networking of stakeholders working towards the propagation of science.

Indian International Science Festival is an initiative of the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Earth Science. Fifteen different outreach programmes include Startup conclave, Young Scientific Conference, Students' Innovation Festival, Face-to-

face with new frontiers in science, Guinness book of world record, Mega Science and Technology Exhibition, New Age Technologies show.

There will be programmes like Young scientist conclave where scientists across the world will take part in discussions, present various science projects, and interact with students. The teachers will be imparted knowledge on how to make students interested in various science projects.

Workshop on TB at Palampur institute

CSIR-IHBT

17th January, 2023

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-Institute of Himalayan Bio-resource Technology (CSIR-IHBT), Palampur, observed National Youth Day here. An awareness workshop on the 'Pradhan Mantri TB Muktbharat Abhiyan' was organised on the occasion.

Padma Shri Dr Omesh Bharti, an epidemiologist and Principal of the State Institute of Health and Family Welfare, Shimla, presided over the function. He informed the audience about tuberculosis (TB), variables influencing the disease such as nutrition and immunity and the stigma associated with it.

He described his family's experience of supporting a TB patient and overcoming the stigma. He also praised the efforts of the CSIR-IHBT to alleviate malnutrition by developing nutrient-rich food products.

Earlier, Kangra district TB Officer and epidemiologist Dr Rajesh Kumar Sood gave a presentation on 'Community support to TB patients under the PM TB eradication programme'.

आत्मनिर्भर भारत अभियान में नागरिकों का योगदान अनिवार्य : डॉ चंद्रशेखर

पिलानी (सीमा सन्देश सं)। सीरी पिलानी संस्थान के पूर्व निदेशक एवं सीएसआईआर के चांसलर डॉ चंद्रशेखर एवं संस्थान के निदेशक डॉ पी सी पंचारिया के अतिथ्य में विज्ञान गांव की ओर कार्यक्रम के दौरान सामाजिक उत्तरदायित्व का निर्वहन करते हुए सीएसआईआर-सीरी (CSIR-CEERI) के वैज्ञानिकों द्वारा विकसित ई-असिस्ट ट्राईसाइकिल फील्ड ट्रायल और उपयोगकर्ताओं से फीडबैक प्राप्त करने के लिए दिव्यांगों को वितरित कीं। आज दिनांक 14 जनवरी 2023 को संस्थान में आयोजित सादे किंतु गरिमाय कार्यक्रम में 15 ई-ट्राईसाइकिलें जरूरतमंद दिव्यांगों को वितरित की



गई। इस अवसर पर अपने संबोधन में डॉ चंद्रशेखर ने सभी ई-रिक्शा प्राप्त करने वाले दिव्यांग साथियों से अनुरोध किया कि वे संस्थान द्वारा विकसित इस ई ट्राई साइकिल के संबंध में अपना

फीडबैक और सुझाव संस्थान को अवश्य दें ताकि इसके आगामी संस्करणों में और सुधार किया जा सके। उन्होंने इस ट्राइक का विकास करने के लिए डॉ बोत्रे और उनकी टीम की मुक्त

कंठ से सराहना की और कहा कि हमारा देश ऐसे कदमों से आत्मनिर्भरता की ओर अपने कदम बढ़ा रहा है। उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार का आत्मनिर्भर भारत अभियान तभी सफल हो सकेगा जब

सरकार के साथ-साथ हम सभी इसमें अपना योगदान दें। संस्थान के निदेशक डॉ पी सी पंचारिया ने कार्यक्रम में उपस्थित सभी दिव्यांग वंधुओं और संस्थान के अधिकारियों को मकर संक्रांति की वधाई देते हुए कहा कि संस्थान अपने सामाजिक उत्तरदायित्व को भी भली-भांति समझता है। उन्होंने कहा कि संस्थान के वैज्ञानिकों द्वारा विकसित यह ट्राई साइकिल प्रथम चरण के सफल फील्ड ट्रायल के उपरांत शोध एवं विकास कार्य को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए चर्चनित दिव्यांगजनों को वितरित की जा रही हैं। उन्होंने आशा व्यक्त की कि आज यह ट्राई साइकिल प्राप्त करने वाले सभी दिव्यांग वंधु इस शोध कार्य में हमारा

सहयोग करेंगे और अपने सुझाव समय-समय पर हमें देते रहेंगे। डॉ बीए बोत्रे ने सभी दिव्यांग जनों को ट्राई साइकिल के संबंध में आवश्यक जानकारी दी। ई-रिक्शा प्राप्त करने वाले सभी दिव्यांग जनों को रिक्शा चलाने के संबंध में आवश्यक प्रशिक्षण भी दिया गया। मीडिया को जानकारी देते हुए संस्थान के मीडिया एवं जनसंपर्क अधिकारी रमेश वौरा ने बताया कि डॉ बी ए बोत्रे को ई-ट्राईसाइकिल के विकास के लिए अंतरराष्ट्रीय दिव्यांग दिवस 2022 के अवसर पर नई दिल्ली में आयोजित समारोह में भारत की राष्ट्रपति श्रीमती द्रौपदी मुर्मू जी द्वारा राष्ट्रीय पुरस्कार से सम्मानित भी किया जा चुका है।



Please Follow/Subscribe CSIR Social Media Handles



[CSIR INDIA](https://www.youtube.com/CSIRINDIA)



[CSIR_IND](https://twitter.com/CSIR_IND)



[CSIR India](https://www.facebook.com/CSIRIndia)



[CSIR India](https://www.linkedin.com/company/CSIR-India)



[csirindia](https://www.instagram.com/csirindia)