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# Use S&T for welfare of society: Vaidya

LOKMAT NEWS NETWORK  
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CSIR - National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI) organised a webinar on 'Integrated Approach for Sustainable Environment on Monday as a part of the National Science Day.

**NATIONAL SCIENCE  
DAY AT NEERI**

Global head of Sustainability and Social Initiatives Wipro Limited,

P S Narayan said that climate change affects every aspect of life with respect to economic, social and environmental conditions. It is a multidimensional challenge, which requires

a good scientific understanding as well as co-ordinated action at national and global level, he added.



Dr Atul Vaidya

Narayan stated that climate change is predominantly known for last three decades with the presence of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Hence it is necessary to control global average temperature which is projected to reach or exceed 1.5 0 C of warming over the next 20 years.

Narayan recalled the India's commitment at Glasgow Climate Summit of achieving net zero emis-

sion by 2070 and reducing carbon emissions by one billion tonnes by 2030.

Assistant professor, Centre for Sustainable Technologies, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore Dr Sreenivasan Ramaswami on the importance of 'Fixed-bed Biofilm Reactor' said that the fixed-bed biofilm reactor is a robust, reliable and compact technology for nitrification of wastewaters.

Assistant professor, Department of Policy and Management Studies, TERI School of Advanced Studies, New Delhi Dr Swarup Dutta said that the anthropocene is a new, present day epoch, according to which the Earth has undergone several changes through human activity.

These changes include global warming, habitat loss, changes in the chemi-

cal composition of the atmosphere, oceans, soil, and animal extinctions, he added.

Dr Dutta mentioned that the foundation of sustainable development lies in sustainable human-nature systems.

He said that there is rising scientific evidence that humanity has now entered a new era that is defined as the Anthropocene, in which humanity is shaping the entire biosphere in a globalised phase of environmental change. environment.

Director, of CSIR-NEERI Dr Atul N Vaidya, in his welcome address said that science and technology should be used for the welfare of society without any limit. Science, technology and policy together play an important role in national development, he added.



## Dr. Jitendra Singh addresses the concluding function of National Science Week on the National Science Day to mark “Vigyan Sarvatra Pujyate”

CSIR

28<sup>th</sup> February, 2022



The Minister said that the spirit of this one week commemoration of “Vigyan Sarvatra Pujyate” is to celebrate and worship science. He said it is an opportunity to introspect and look at how we make up for what we did not have. The goal is also to take the science and scientific thinking to the common man, where he can benefit by imbibing scientific information and innovations and hence develop a deeply scientific mind, he added.

Dr Jitendra Singh underlined Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi’s greeting to the scientists on National Science Day, wherein he said, "National Science Day greetings to all scientists and science enthusiasts. Let us reaffirm our commitment towards fulfilling our collective scientific responsibility and leveraging the power of science for human progress”.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, “Vigyan Sarvatra Pujyate ” (Universal Reverence for Science), a nationwide programme that we commenced on February 22, 2022 at 75 locations including Delhi has received wide participation and all-round appreciation.



During this National Science Week culminating today, that is national science day was an initiative to reflect the struggle and sacrifice that led to the emergence of modern science in India and also chart pathways for the next 25 years leading to dream of 2047. This event was part of the “AzadiKa Amrit Mahotsav” celebrating the 75th Year of Indian Independence. Hence it is also an occasion to pay homage and showcase the achievements of the 75 glorious years of India’s Independence.

The Minister said, all the science and technology ministries and departments joined hands to carry out this programme across the country under the aegis of the Ministry of Culture, Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor (PSA) and Vigyan Prasar, an organisation under the DST was given the role to execute the programme.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, as we celebrate the 75th year of Indian independence, Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, along with freedom fighters, we also want to recall the contribution of Indian scientists such as Mahendralal Sarkar, JC Bose and PC Ray, who struggled to lay the foundation of modern science in India. He added that today India can boast of rapid and transformational changes in sectors like space, atomic energy, renewable, nano-technology, agriculture, digital and IT sector and life sciences under PM Modi.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, India is one of the very few countries that specifically mention science in its constitution. He said, nurturing scientific temper, humanism and a spirit of inquiry and reform is a constitutional duty of every citizen of India.

Dr Jitendra Singh also presented Science Communication Awards on National Science Day, celebrated every year on 28th February to commemorate the announcement of the discovery of the ‘Raman Effect’ by Sir C.V. Raman, for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1930. DST instituted National Awards for Science Popularisation in 1987 to stimulate, encourage and recognize outstanding efforts in the area of science and technology communication and popularisation as well as inculcate scientific temper among masses.



Dr Jitendra Singh released three coffee-table books published by Vigyan Prasar. The first one titled “Department of Science & Technology: Past-Present-Future”, accounts for how DST has been shaped since its inception in 1971 and has shaped the scientific tradition and guided innovation in India. It also provides a glimpse into its future scientific goals.

The second titled “75 under 50: Scientists Shaping Today's India” explores personal lives and professional accomplishments of 75 scientists, providing an in-depth look at the diversity surrounding them, such as their differing backgrounds, reasons for becoming scientists, obstacles they faced, and their work in different disciplines.

The third book “75 Founders of Modern Science in India” celebrates the 75th year of India’s Independence, that is, Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, by recalling the outstanding contribution of modern Indian scientists in making India a great civilization in the contemporary world.

A Science cartoon book, entitled Meet, Greet & Tweet with Plasma Toons, written by Dr. B. S. Munjal and Dr. Suryakant Gupta of Institute of Plasma Research, Department of Atomic Energy was also released. It is a novel attempt to attract the young ignited mind of India with the policy of catch them young. This cartoon book gives a wide canvas of maximum number of applications of plasma research for the societal benefit.

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## Need to improve quality of R&D

CSIR-NGRI

27<sup>th</sup> February, 2022

Smart, intelligent, nature-inspired materials will determine the future of science and technology, leading to the rise of intelligent machines with the convergence of ‘cyber-physical-biological sensors’. The “autonomous decision-making and action will determine new directions and new players”, said Ashutosh Sharma, former secretary to the director of Science & Technology (DST), on Monday.

Delivering a lecture on ‘Science and scientists in the new millennium: A brave new world’ organised by the CSIR-NGRI on the occasion of National Science Day, Mr Sharma underscored the need for improvement of quality of research and development, recognising the country’s needs and transforming knowledge to profits. While there has been a rise in scientific publications, startups, unicorns and so on in the past few years, much more has to be done to take full advantage of the demographic dividend which would last for the next three or four decades only, he added.

NGRI director V.M. Tiwari, as the in-charge director of CSIR-IICT, presided over the event where IIT-Kanpur chemistry professor Vinod K. Singh spoke on ‘Excellence Towards S&T’ where it was reiterated that for sustainability of the country’s progress, technology was important, and this can happen through strong science”. “Effective governance, leadership and management together can bring about quality research,” he said.

At the ICAR- National Academy of Agriculture Research Management, joint director G. Venkateswarlu said an integrated approach of science and technology was the mantra of the research worldwide



. Director Ch. Srinivasa Rao explained how agricultural engineering, farm mechanisation and food processing was gaining importance in the country. He also highlighted how science and technology had played a crucial role in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic.



## CSIR-NML Jamshedpur hosts virtual lecture to make learning science interesting

CSIR-NML

27<sup>th</sup> February, 2022

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)-National Metallurgical Laboratory (NML), Jamshedpur, organised a virtual lecture for school students and teachers to make science lessons interesting. The lecture on Computational Material Science was held on February 25 under the CSIR-Jigyasa Virtual Laboratory project. Mita Tarafder, chief scientist and head of knowledge resource and information technology (KRIT) division at CSIR-NML, delivered the welcome address. She welcomed the guest speaker and the audience and introduced the CSIR Jigyasa programme.



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Tarafder discussed how to make learning science effortless and innovative with scientific content such as 3D printing and e-waste recycling. The programme will be available in the form of videos, comics, animation, games and simulation.

The guest speaker for the evening was Sunil Kumar, senior scientist at CSIR-NML. He discussed hardware and software, various operating systems and programming languages and basic concepts of atomistic simulation that included writing code, compilation and execution of code.



He ended his lecture by discussing common simulation methods and their applications and also the software and books available on this subject. A question-and-answer session followed.





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