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Compiled by Science Communication and Dissemination Directorate (SCDD), CSIR, Anusandhan Bhawan, New Delhi

Mysuru to host International Food Convention from Dec. 7

CSIR-CFRTI, IITR

05th December , 2023

The ninth edition of the International Food Convention – IFCON-2023 – will be held in Mysuru from December 7 to 10. This year's theme of the convention is "TRIMSAFE – Technology Re-engineering for Innovation and Mitigating the risk for a Safe, sustainable, Affordable and secure Food Ecosystem."

Organised by the Association of Food Scientists and Technologists of India (AFSTI) with support from the CSIR-CFTRI, DRDO-DFRL, and CSIR-Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, Lucknow, the four-day convention will be inaugurated by ISRO Chairman Dr S Somnath.

Dr. N. Kalaiselvi, Director General, CSIR, New Delhi will be delivering her address as the chief guest in a virtual mode. Pramoda Devi Wadiyar of the erstwhile Mysuru royal family will inaugurate the exhibition. CSIR-CFTRI Director Sridevi Annapurna Singh, CSIR-IITR Director and AFSTI President Dr. N. Bhaskar, DRDO-DFRL Director Anil Semwal and other dignitaries will be present.

The formal inauguration of the convention will be held at the KSOU Convocation hall at 5 p.m. on Thursday, December 7.

Before the inaugural session, Prof. M. Swaminathan Padma awardee lecture series will be inaugurated and the first lecture of the series will be delivered by Dr. Shashank Joshi, a Padma Shri awardee, who is a consultant endocrine and metabolic physician from Mumbai, at 3 p.m.

on December 7. The IFCON is organised once in five years and the last edition was in 2018 in Mysuru. The four-day conference has already attracted over 2,500 registrations with over 200 delegates from abroad participating and also making presentations.

During the convention, the prestigious AFSTI annual awards will be presented to the achievers in the field of food science and technology. The awards will be presented on the inaugural day and the popular best oral and the poster presentations will be given awards during the valedictory function.

The 18 sub-themes of the convention include chemistry of foods; food for health and wellness; millet as nutri cereals; innovative and intelligent engineering and technological advances in the food chain; food ingredients, enzymes, and additives; green food processing, preservation, and sustainable packaging solutions, future foods, traditional and ethnic foods; dairy and animal food products; food grains and baking technology; food supply chain logistics; food microbiology; food biotechnology and fermentation process.

The exhibition which will have over 100 stalls will be held on December 8 and 9 on the CFTRI campus. The public is allowed to visit the expo on day one from 1 to 5 p.m. and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on December 9. A special pavilion on millets has been organised since the International Year of Millets is coming to a close, said CSIR-IITR Director Dr. N. Bhaskar.

The U.S. Embassy is holding a session on higher education opportunities in the area of food processing. Over 1,500 students from across the country will be participating in the session where there will be presentations on the courses in various universities in the U.S.

At the expo, there will be a CSIR pavilion where the achievements of the CSIR labs will be showcased. FSSAI will also be putting up its stall at the expo, said Dr. Bhaskar. Daily, from December 7 to 10, a two-hour job mela will be organised for the students at the CFTRI campus. On the concluding day, a walkathon will be held in the campus from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Dr. Sridevi Annapurna Singh said the food start-ups working on the CFTRI campus will also be displaying their products at the expo. Also, the millet products of the woman SHG in Bilikere near Mysuru will be displaying its products. IFCON organising secretary Dr. Suresh D. Sakhare and senior Principal Scientist Dr. Ramesh were present.

Published in:
The Hindu

Assam: Seminar on 'Ethnopharmacology for Bio-economy'

CSIR-NEIST, CDRI 05th December, 2023

The 10th Convention of Society for Ethnopharmacology, India-cum-National Seminar on Ethnopharmacology for Bio-economy: The New Paradigm (EBNP-2023) was held at CSIR-NEIST Jorhat from November 28 to November 30. The event was jointly organized by CSIR-North East Institute of Science and Technology (CSIR-NEIST), Jorhat with the Society for Ethnopharmacology, India and saw the conglomeration of a galaxy of eminent scientists and researchers from all across the country. Dr G. Narahari Sastry, Director CSIR-NEIST and Chief Patron of EBNP-2003 delivered the inaugural address. Dr Jatin Kalita, organizing secretary briefed about the seminar. Dr Madhu Dikshit, Former Director, CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute (CSIR-CDRI) delivered the keynote address on "Unlocking the Potential of Ashwagandha in Healthcare: Ethnopharmacology Insights and Opportunities," stated a press release.

Published in:
Sentinel Assam

CFTRI may soon come out with compendium on millet recipes

CSIR-CFTRI 05th December, 2023

The CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysuru, which is a nodal agency for the Millet Mission that was launched after the declaration of 2023 as the International Year of Millets, is now preparing to come out with a compendium on millet recipes collecting recipes used by the people in various regions of the country for popularising consumption of millets.

The move is aimed at increasing the consumption of millets, providing diverse recipes in millets, considering their health benefits which will also be studied in detail at the institute.

This is in addition to the research being carried out at the CFTRI here where scientists are engaged in analysing the nutritional value of millets. As many as 100 millet varieties are being researched to evaluate their nutritional worth. Besides looking into various nutritional aspects in the varieties, the premier institute will also look at other factors that are lesser known that could throw more light on why millet consumption needs to be popularised.

Since the announcement of the Millet Mission, the CFTRI has developed more than 15 technologies on millets. This is in addition to about 40 technologies that are already launched by the institute and this includes ragi ball making machine which has been successfully adopted by various institutes and organizations considering its value.

CFTRI Director Dr. Sridevi Annapurna Singh told reporters in Mysuru on Tuesday, December 5, that the technologies had been transferred to the interested agencies and cited the example of a woman SHG at Bilikere near Mysuru which has successfully adopted the technologies and made products out of millets. Recipe booklet on millets is under way and is also part of the Millet Mission for which the Government of India sanctioned a sum of ₹19 crore.

"We need to analyse the health aspects of eating millet. This will take some time and the process has begun. It's an 18-month project and we are in the process of validating the information available. The millet recipe book may take about a year or two to get published," she added.

The shelf life of millets was also being looked at, she said.

Tribal recipes of millets were also included in our research and the institute consulted the Janapada Loka near Bengaluru for throwing light on the recipes, Dr. Singh said.

The recipes will not just be confined to Karnataka but also other States where millets are popular and consumed regularly by the people. "Once the nutritional evaluation is done, we shall look into various other aspects such as preparation of foods and so on."

Dr. Singh said the project had been supported by nine other CSIR labs and it's a big project on the millets.

The institute is also studying whether the waste after millet processing can be converted into biodegradable items such as plates, cutlery and so on. Popularising millet consumption is our priority and clinical trials will have to be carried out to analyse certain aspects, she explained.

Published in:
The Hindu

National seminar on World Soil Day

CSIR-NIIST 04th December, 2023

As part of the World Soil Day, a national seminar will be conducted by the department of soil science, Vellayani Agriculture College on December 5 and 6. The programmes as part of World Soil Daywill be inugurated by vice-chancellor of Kerala University of Agriculture B Ashok. CSIR-NIIST environment technology division head C Keshavachandran will deliver the keynote address. Dean of Agriculture College Roy Stephen will also attend the event.

A national seminar on 'soil-water coexistence for sustainable agriculture' will also be held at Vellayani College of Agriculture on December 6. Besides, a science exhibition on the importance of soil and literary competitions for students have also been organized.

Mission director of national employment guarantee scheme A Nizamuddin; former head of department of soil science, Kerala Agricultural University V K Venugopal and principal scientist, Tuber Crops Research Institute Sreekaryam, V S Santosh Mishra will lead scientific sessions in the seminar.

Published in:
Times of India

Safe sewer cleaning practices discussed

CSIR-CSIO 03rd December, 2023

Chandigarh MC, in collaboration with Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-Central Scientific Instruments Organisation (CSIR-CSIO) organised a seminar on safety awareness and technological interventions in sewer cleaningas a part of "Clean Toilet" campaign. It was attended by sewermen, expert speakers, and stakeholders from the field of public health and engineering.

The interactive session provided participants with an opportunity to share their experiences, challenges, and recommendations for enhancing the sewer cleaning process. Among the key topics discussed during the seminar were occupational hazards and safety protocols, and training and capacity-building initiatives.

Published in:
Times of India

National Botanical Research Institute seeks to provide steady supply of flowers for Shree Jagannath Temple

CSIR-NBRI 02nd December, 2023

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)-National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI) is discussing the development of floriculture in Odisha's Puri district with the Shree Jagannath Temple Administration to ensure the consistent supply of flowers for rituals at the temple.

The premier Lucknow-based R&D centre has created a small garden for demonstration near the Gundicha temple in Puri. A Sun-shaped green patch has been developed near the Bhakta Niwas complex.

"Due to space constraints, we were not allocated a large piece of land to initiate floriculture and meet the temple's flower requirements. The garden primarily features plants associated with the Navagraha [deities]," Ajit Kumar Shasany, Director, NBRI, said, adding, "We are seeking collaboration with the temple administration to meet the demand for flowers."

In Hinduism, nine heavenly bodies and deities are believed to influence human life on Earth.

N. Kalaiselvi, Director General (D-G), CSIR, and Secretary to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), presided over a discussion on a roadmap for scientific research in the country for the next three years. Directors of over 30 research laboratories made presentations on future projects.

Dr. Shasany said flowers like jasmine and marigold, and basil (nine different species will be planted) were used in large quantities at the Jagannath temple.

"It is a unique institution that focuses on plants and flowers, so it is only natural for the NBRI to step up and contribute to the preservation of flower species utilised in the Jagannath

temple," he remarked. "Since Puri has sandy land around the temple, we have already identified 20 to 30 farmers in the Nimapara area in Puri district. Flowers from these clusters will be supplied to the temple," Dr. Shasany said.

A Puri-based start-up is expected to work on by-products from basil.

The Lucknow-based research institute was in the news for developing a new lotus variety with 108 petals named 'NBRI Namoh 108'.

Published in:
The Hindu

CSIR-NEERI

02th December, 2023

Water conservation crucial for climate change adaptation: Dr Sukumar Devotta

LOKMAT NEWS NETWORK
NAGPUR

Water conservation is crucial for climate change adaptation and mitigation, said Dr Sukumar Devotta, former director, CSIR-NEERI and Professor of Eminence, Anna University, Chennai here on Friday. He was speaking at the inaugural session of a workshop on 'Water Resources Management in Changing World'.

The global climate crisis is inextricably linked to water, he added. He said that though the Paris Agreement clearly defines 2 degree Celsius as the upper limit for global warming and lists 1.5 degree Celsius as a more desirable goal, we cannot afford to go above 1.5 degree Celsius.

India depends on rainwater for ground water recharge. But uneven rainfall is affecting ground water recharge adversely, he said. Dr Devotta mentioned that now people should say 'Water is running out of India' rather than saying 'India is running out of Water'.

Dr Sukumar Devotta speaking at the inaugural session of workshop on 'Water Resources Management in Changing World' in Nagpur on Friday as other guests are seen seated on the dais.

He advised to think beyond conventional water resources. He suggested the scientists to work more on water recovery from non-conventional sources like recycling of industrial wastewater for zero liquid discharge and recovery of water from sewage.

Dr Satish Wate, another former director, CSIR-NEERI in his address suggested to evolve new carrying capacity methods to tackle climate change and ensure sustainable development. He said that making water a part of economic development will enable people to access basic water and sanitation services. Dr Wate stressed on the need of a holistic water management system in urban areas for a sustainable future.

Speaking on the occasion, Payden Payden, deputy head, World Health Organisation (WHO) India, said that one in four people globally does not have access to safe drinking water at home and two in five persons do not have access to safe sanitation. She expressed concern over poor sanitation in various countries. She said joint efforts are needed to improve sanitation through proper water and waste management. India can potentially prevent around 400,000 deaths from diarrhoea and water related ailments if it manages to achieve universal rural coverage under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

Deependra Singh, chairman and managing director, Indian Rare Earth Limited (IREL) spoke about water management in heavy mineral industries. He briefed about rare earths extraction plants operational in various parts of the country. He said the global water demand will reach 4,350 billion cubic meters in terms of withdrawal by 2040.

Dr Pawan Kumar Labhasetwar, chief scientist and head, water technology and management division, CSIR-NEERI delivered the welcome address. Dr Paras Pujari, senior principal scientist, CSIR-NEERI gave an outline of the workshop.

Published in:
Lokmat Times

CSIR-NEERI

02th December, 2023

मीथेन उत्सर्जन को कम करना जरूरी : सरीन

CSIR-NEERI में जलवायु परिवर्तन और CCUS पर कार्यशाला

■ **नागपुर,** व्यापार संवाददाता.

नागपुर. तीन मुख्य ग्रीन हाउस गैसों ने 2022 में रिकॉर्ड तोड़ दिया और इसका कोई अंत नहीं दिख रहा है. राष्ट्रों को मौजूदा पेरिस वादों से आगे बढ़ना होगा या 2.5-2.9 डिग्री सेल्सियस की ग्लोबल वार्मिंग का सामना करना होगा. वैश्विक वायु मंडल और महासागरों की बदलती अम्लता चिंतनीय है. मीथेन उत्सर्जन को यथासंभव कम करने की आवश्यकता है. वैज्ञानिकों को जलवायु परिवर्तन से निपटने के लिए वायु मंडलीय रसायन विज्ञान पर और अधिक शोध करना होगा. यह कहना है डीएसटी-एसईआरबी प्रतिष्ठित फेलो, भौतिक अनुसंधान प्रयोगशाला, अहमदाबाद के प्रोफेसर मनमोहन सरीन का. वे सीएसआईआर-राष्ट्रीय पर्यावरण इंजीनियरिंग अनुसंधान संस्थान (सीएसआईआर-नीरी) द्वारा 'जलवायु परिवर्तन और कार्बन कैप्चर, उपयोग और भंडारण (सीसीयूएस)' पर आयोजित एक दिवसीय कार्यशाला के उद्घाटन अवसर पर संबोधित कर रहे थे.

परेशान कर सकती है महासागरों के जैविक पंप को : उन्होंने आगाह किया कि वायु मंडलीय कार्बन डाईऑक्साइड की बढ़ती सांद्रता महासागरों के जैविक पंप को परेशान कर सकती है जो वायु मंडल से कार्बन एकत्र करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है. सरीन ने समुद्र की कार्बन सिंक क्षमता बढ़ाने के लिए एल्युमीनियम के महत्व पर प्रकाश डाला. प्रतिभागियों को वर्चुअली संबोधित करते हुए प्रो. राजशेखर बालासुब्रमण्यम ने कहा कि वैश्विक स्तर पर सामूहिक, सहयोगात्मक प्रयासों और स्वच्छ ऊर्जा स्रोतों के उपयोग के माध्यम से तेजी से डीकार्बोनाइजेशन की आवश्यकता है. उन्होंने वायुमंडलीय कार्बन डाईऑक्साइड को उपयोगी उत्पादों में परिवर्तित करने की आवश्यकता पर जोर दिया. सिंगापुर के ओसीबीसी जलवायु सूचकांक के बारे में बताते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि यह अध्ययन लोगों को हरित प्रथाओं को अपनाने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए सिंगापुरवासियों के बीच पर्यावरणीय स्थिरता, जागरूकता और जलवायु कार्यवाही के वर्तमान स्तर को मापने के लिए किया गया था. उन्होंने निर्माण कार्यों में कार्बन प्रबंधन और सर्कुलर इकोनॉमी पर स्विच करने की आवश्यकता पर जोर दिया.

सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने की आवश्यकता

डॉ. सुकुमार देवोत्ता ने कहा कि भारत कम से कम 2050 तक अपनी भविष्य की ऊर्जा जरूरतों के लिए कोयले पर निर्भर रहना जारी रखेगा. ग्लोबल वार्मिंग को सीमित करने के लिए भारत को एक सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने की आवश्यकता है. उन्होंने बताया कि एकत्रित कार्बन डाईऑक्साइड का उपयोग करके मिथेनॉल संश्लेषण महंगा है, इसलिए उन्होंने वैज्ञानिकों को कार्बन डाईऑक्साइड को मूल्यवान उत्पादों में बदलने के लिए नवीन रसायन विज्ञान का उपयोग करने की सलाह दी जिसमें लागत में कटौती करने की क्षमता है और साथ ही साथ पर्यावरणीय और सामाजिक प्रभाव भी पड़ते हैं. उन्होंने कहा कि अधिक मूल्यवर्धित उत्पाद प्राप्त करने के लिए कार्बन को हरित हाईड्रोजन से जोड़ने की जरूरत है. डॉ. देवोत्ता ने वैज्ञानिकों को अपशिष्ट जल उपचार के दौरान कार्बन कैप्चर के लिए और अधिक विकल्प तलाशने की सलाह दी. डॉ. साधना रायलू ने कार्बन कैप्चर, उपयोग और भंडारण में क्रॉस-डिसिप्लिनरी अनुसंधान के महत्व के बारे में बताया. सीएसआईआर-नीरी के निदेशक डॉ. अतुल वैद्य ने कार्बन कैप्चर, उपयोग और भंडारण के क्षेत्र में सीएसआईआर-नीरी द्वारा शुरू की गई गतिविधियों के बारे में जानकारी दी.

Published in:
NavBharat

CSIR Structural Engineering Research Centre organises Atal Tinkering Laboratories workshop for school students

CSIR-SERC, CSIO, NEERI

26th December , 2023

As part of Atal Tinkering Lab Adoption and Mentoring, CSIR-Structural Engineering Research Centre, Chennai (CSIR-SERC) and CSIR Chennai Campus (CMC) jointly organized the Jigyasa ATL workshop in Thanjavur District.

The workshop were organized at the following schools:

1) Govt. Girls Hr. Sec. School-Mariamman koil, Thanjavur
2) Govt. Girls Hr. Sec. School-Pattukottai
3) Govt. Hr. Sec. School-Vandairiruppu
4) Govt. Girls Hr. Sec. School-Nachiarkoil

Scientific lectures and hands-on demonstrations has been delivered by the following scientists & Technical Officer:

1) Dr. S. Maheswaran, Senior Principal Scientist, CSIR-SERC
2) Dr. G.S. Ayyappan, Senior Principal Scientist, CMC-CSIO
3) Dr. R. Balagopal, Principal Scientist, CSIR-SERC
4) Dr. M. Keerthana, Principal Scientist, CSIR-SERC

5) Dr. T. Rajesh, Senior Scientist, CMC-NEERI
6) Mr. E. Ashokkumar, Scientist, CSIR-SERC
7) Mr. R.D. Sathish Kumar, Principal Technical Officer, CSIR-SERC

and the necessary support and other arrangements were taken care by Mr. S. Balakrishnan, Technician, CSIR-SERC

More than 500 students and 50 teachers were participated in the Jigyasa ATL workshop.

Published in:
Pib

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