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The Innovation Engine of India

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

CSIR-IICT develops new process to manufacture high-energy rocket propellant

CSIR-IICT

15th June , 2024

CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), in collaboration with Premier Explosives Ltd., has developed an indigenous process to prepare the key material used in CL-20, a high energy material primarily used as propellant in rockets and missiles.

CL-20 or China Lake-20 has better oxidiser-to-fuel ratio than conventional RDX and releases 20% more energy than traditional HMX-based propellants. CL-20 is prepared from the key material generally known as TAIW, using a high concentration of expensive noble metal catalysts. India currently imports TAIW to make CL-20.

The institute's chief scientist N. Lingaiah and his team have now developed a catalytic process with low content and easily accessible catalysts to prepare TAIW. The indigenously developed catalytic process needs only a small amount of catalyst in moderate reaction conditions, is economical and environment friendly.

This technology will help the country overcome dependency on imports and help it become self-sufficient in the development of propellants for its missile and space applications.

The technology was transferred to Premier Explosives Ltd. in the presence of CSIR-IICT D. Srinivasa Reddy and the firm's managing director T.V. Choudhary along with other scientists from both sides on Saturday, according to an official release.

Published in:
The Hindu

J&K: CSIR-IIIM inks pact with UP-based company for joint development of aromatic products

CSIR-IIIM

15th June , 2024

CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (CSIR-IIIM), Jammu entered into a memorandum of agreement (MoA) with an Uttar Pradesh-based private company to collaborate on the value addition of selected aromatic crops of Jammu and Kashmir, its spokesperson said.

The pact with Aromatic & Allied Chemicals, Bareilly, would facilitate the joint development of innovative aromatic products, he said.

The spokesperson said the MoA signing ceremony, held at CSIR-IIIM, marked a significant milestone in the synergy between these two esteemed organisations.

“This collaboration aims to leverage CSIR-IIIM’s expertise in natural product research and Aromatic & Allied Chemicals’ proficiency in the processing of aromatic oils in developing high-value aromatic products that meet market demands and enhance agricultural sustainability,” the spokesperson said.

He said this collaboration will bring the close connection among the farmers of Jammu and Kashmir and the aromatic industries, ultimately will enhance the already booming agri-startup and agri-economy of the region.

Dr Zabeer Ahmed, Director of CSIR-IIIM, expressed said “this collaboration aligns with CSIR-IIIM’s commitment to translating scientific knowledge into impactful applications”.

“By combining our research strengths with Aromatic & Allied Chemicals’ industry insights, we aim to create new avenues for the utilisation of aromatic resources for economic and environmental benefits,” he said.

Dr Ahmed said such ventures would also go a long way to help the progressive farmers for value addition, product development and the market linkage.

Aromatic & Allied Chemicals (AAC), known for its pioneering work in aromatic products, views this collaboration as a strategic opportunity to expand its product portfolio and contribute to the growth of the aromatic industry.

“We are excited to partner with CSIR-IIIM, a premier research institute renowned for its scientific rigour and innovation,” Managing Director of Aromatic & Allied Chemicals, Gaurav Mittal, said.

Together, he said they look forward to developing cutting-edge aromatic products that uphold the highest standards of quality and sustainability.

Published in:
Takeonedigitalnetwork

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Lavender Festival in Bhaderwah attracts buyers, investors

CSIR-IIIM

15th June , 2024

On the concluding day of the third instalment of the 'Lavender Festival', a field visit for buyers, investors, and industrialists from different parts of the country was organised in Jammu and Kashmir's Bhaderwah. The two-day festival celebrated the success of farmers and aimed to further boost lavender cultivation, and value addition, and attract international buyers.

The much-anticipated festival celebrated with the theme 'Lavender Blooms, Business Blossoms, Where Aroma Meets Ambition', was inaugurated by DDC Doda Dhananter Singh Kotwal, DC Doda Harvinder Singh, along with MD JKTPO Khalid Jahangir.

The aromatic lavender has become synonymous with the Bhadaewah valley due to the world-famous and resounding success of progressive farmers who brought the 'Purple Revolution in India'. Bhadarwah gained recognition as the Capital of Lavender in India.

After India's first Lavender Festival celebrated by CSIR-IIIM in Bhaderwah in 2022, it has now become an annual feature, with this year's third installment. Besides hundreds of farmers associated with lavender cultivation, dozens of national and international entrepreneurs and buyers of lavender participated in the inaugural function.

Farmers expressed happiness that the Lavender Festival has become a regular feature, boosting their confidence and giving them international recognition. However, they missed Dr. Jatinder Singh, whom they credited with their success.

Sourabh Sharma, General Manager JKTPO, said the visit aims to let buyers and investors understand the nuances of growing organic lavender by giving them first-hand experience in the lavender fields itself, fostering better understanding between farmers and prospective purchasers.

The buyers and investors who converged from across the country to participate in the prestigious festival stated that the field visit has given them confidence that the lavender grown in Bhadarwah is purely organic. This initiative will surely help project the aromatic flower in domestic and international markets more effectively.

Published in:
Greaterkashmir

Boosting Sweetness in Stevia Using Gamma Radiation

CSIR-IHBT

14th June , 2024

The perennial herb Stevia rebaudiana Bertoni, native to South America, is renowned for its intense sweetness and potential health benefits. The key compounds responsible for its sweetness are stevioside and rebaudioside-A, which are significantly sweeter than traditional sugar and have been the focus of research for over a century[2][3]. Recent research conducted by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (CSIR-IHBT) aimed to enhance these sweetening compounds through induced mutagenesis using gamma-rays[1].

In the study, healthy seeds of the 'Madhuguna' variety of Stevia rebaudiana Bertoni were irradiated with ten different doses of gamma rays ranging from 5 to 100 kR. Gamma-rays are a form of ionizing radiation that can induce mutations in the DNA of organisms. The seeds were exposed to these doses in a controlled environment at CCS Haryana Agricultural University in India.

The results of the study showed significant variations in the growth parameters of the seedlings. It was observed that doses above 40 kR resulted in absolute mortality, meaning the seedlings could not survive such high levels of radiation. The optimal dose for inducing beneficial mutations without causing excessive damage was found to be between 20-23 kR based on probit analysis, a statistical method used to analyze binary response variables.

High-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) was used to profile the glycosidic content of 296 mutants. This technique allows for the separation, identification, and quantification of components in a mixture. The study found that higher doses of radiation generally decreased the total steviol glycoside content. However, doses of 5 kR and 10 kR were effective in increasing the overall glycosidic content, making these doses promising for future stevia mutation programs.

In addition to glycosidic profiling, the study also examined the nuclear DNA content of the mutants using flow cytometry, a technique that measures the physical and chemical characteristics of cells. It was found that the total nuclear DNA content decreased with increasing radiation doses. The average genome size at doses of 5, 10, 15, 20, and 30 kR were slightly reduced compared to the control, indicating that gamma radiation can induce changes at the genomic level.

This research builds on previous studies that have highlighted the potential of Stevia rebaudiana as a low-calorie sweetener with additional health benefits such as antioxidant, antimicrobial, and antifungal properties[3]. The ability to enhance the glycosidic content through mild doses of gamma radiation could make stevia an even more attractive alternative to traditional sweeteners, especially for those who need to restrict carbohydrate intake in their diets.

In conclusion, the study conducted by CSIR-IHBT demonstrates that mild doses of gamma rays (5 and 10 kR) can effectively improve the mean steviol glycoside content in Stevia rebaudiana Bertoni. This finding could be instrumental in future stevia mutation programs aimed at enhancing the sweetening properties of stevia while maintaining its health benefits.

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“300 women Scientists to get research grants for 3 years under CSIR-ASPIRE scheme” says Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh

CSIR

14th June , 2024

“300 women Scientists to get research grants for 3 years under CSIR- ASPIRE scheme” says Dr. Jitendra Singh Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space and MoS Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, today in New Delhi.

Chairing a review meeting of Department of Scientific and Industrial research (DSIR) Dr. Singh said Innovations in Science and technology should be to empower citizens in line with the Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s vision to promote ease of living. While taking review of the working of DSIR and CSIR, Dr. Jitendra Singh commended the CSIR- ASPIRE scheme which is a testimony of governments efforts to support women scientist. Aspire is a Special Call for Research Grants for Women Scientists launched on the occasion of International Women’s Day last year. Around 3000 proposals were received. After screening and independent reviewing, the area-wise research committees recommended a total of 301 research proposals for support.

Dr. Singh expressed his satisfaction over the success of ‘One Week One Lab’ initiative and directed the team to scale it up and work on lines of ‘One Week One Theme’ initiative. ‘One Week One Lab’ (OWOL) campaign of CSIR showcases the diverse legacies, exclusive innovations and technological breakthroughs of the network of 37 CSIR labs situated across the Nation, working in diversified domains of science and technology. He said “Our aim

should be to build stronger connect with various industries and MSMEs, start-ups and other stakeholders, and not just confining it within the walls of laboratory, he added.

Union Science & technology minister also directed to carry forward and scale up the Seaweed mission along with its Commercial cultivation to promote sustainable green economy. Going further he highlighted the fact that India produces 774 tonnes of biomedical waste daily, and lauded CSIR's efforts which transforms Pathogenic Biomedical Waste into Value-added Soil Additives. DR. Jitendra also congratulated Team CSIR on its successful endeavors such as E-Tiller, 108- Petal lotus, and success of purple mission.

He also directed scientists of CSIR to integrate Phenome India-CSIR Health Cohort Knowledgebase (PI-CHeCK) with artificial Intelligence and Machine learning models to enable the development of targeted diagnostic and prognostic technologies, thus paving the path for Precision Medicine in India and perhaps, globally. He also enquired on the progress of comprehensive database of Indian women foot anthropometry and gait identification of defective gait pattern at early stage of development of supportive/corrective footwear to prevent progression of osteoarthritis and other complications arising out of aging in women.

"Biomanufacturing and Bio-foundry will drive India's future bioeconomy and promote "Green Growth" said Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh while chairing a review meeting of the Department of Bio-Technology (DBT) today. Addressing the meeting he highlighted that India's bio-economy has grown 13 folds in the last 10 years from $10 billion in 2014 to over $130 billion in 2024. He expressed his belief that with PM Modi's leadership India now has an enabling ecosystem of industrial development and entrepreneurship. Dr. Jitendra Singh said, "In keeping with India's realization of a global vision, the last 'Vote-on-Account' envisaged an exclusive scheme to promote biomanufacturing and bio-foundry".

He said, the scheme will help transform today's consumptive manufacturing paradigm to the one based on regenerative principles. It will provide environment-friendly alternatives such as biodegradable polymers, bio-plastics, bio-pharmaceuticals and bio-Agri-inputs to supplement

Bio-Start-Ups and bio-economy, he added. He directed the scientists and officials that we have to maintain this momentum and promote and empower farmers and Agri-entrepreneurs.

Dr. Jitendra Singh gave a mantra that we should work to achieve BIO E3 i.e. Bio-economy, Environment and employment. He also emphasized on development of indigenous technologies and products. He motivated DBT to harmonize integration of research between research Institutions, Industrial R&D and Start Up Ecosystem.

Dr. Rajesh Gokhale, Secretary, Department of Bio-Technology and Dr. N. Kalaiselvi, DG CSIR along senior scientists and officials of both the departments were present for the meeting.

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Pib

`Where Aroma Meets Ambition…': Come, Smell The Lavenders At Bhaderwah Campus

CSIR-IIIM

14th June , 2024

Two-day Lavender Fest-2024 today commenced at the Bhaderwah Campus, University of Jammu in Doda. Organized under the theme "Lavender Blooms, Business Blooms: Where Aroma Meets Ambition," the festival celebrates the vibrant lavender cultivation in the region. The event was inaugurated by Dhananter Singh Kotwal, Chairman of District Development Council Doda, with the traditional lighting of the lamp.

Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh, Managing Director JKTPO Khalid Jahangir, and Rector Bhaderwah Campus, J.P Singh Jarul were also present, emphasizing the significance of lavender cultivation to the local economy and the community.

The festival, organized by Kulraj Singh, Joint Director Handloom, Jammu, and Incharge GM, JKTPO, showcased a variety of stalls from different departments, including NRLM, displaying their achievements.

In his address, Khalid Jahangir highlighted the goal of hosting a world conference on lavender and noted Bhaderwah's prominence in the country and the world for its "purple revolution." He also mentioned the organic certification of local products such as walnuts, selie honey, and saffron.

The Deputy Commissioner lauded the hard work of progressive lavender farmers like Touqeer Bhagwan and Bharat Bhushan and emphasized promoting local indigenous species and connecting buyers with sellers.

On the occasion, the stalls from various departments and self-help groups were inspected by the dignitaries. The event was also attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Bhaderwah Sunil Kumar, CEO BDA Bal Krishan, district officers, self-help group members, progressive farmers, students, and the public.

Bhaderwah also known as Chota Kashmir has emerged as the lavender capital of India.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in the 99th Edition of Mann ki Baat, appreciated the efforts of the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research- Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (CSIR-IIIM) in supporting farmers in the cultivation of Lavender in Bhaderwah Aroma Mission.

CSIR-Aroma Mission is a flagship project of CSIR under which Lavender cultivation is being promoted in the temperate regions of J&K. The aim of the project is to increase the income of small and marginal farmers and develop agriculture-based Startups. The project is being directly monitored by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (IC) of the Ministry of Science & Technology. Under his directions, CSIR-IIIM is implementing Lavender cultivation in Bhaderwah and other parts of J&K.

Due to the intervention of CSIR-IIIM, a new industry around Lavender cultivation has developed in the region. More than 2500 farmers are cultivating Lavender in different parts of J&K. Women are primarily employed in the Lavender fields for harvesting and processing the flower, which has increased women's income in the region.

Many young entrepreneurs have started small-scale businesses through the value addition of Lavender oil, hydrosol, and flowers. CSIR-IIIM conducted many skills development programs and trained more than 2500 farmers and young entrepreneurs from J&K on Lavender cultivation, processing, value addition, and marketing.

Published in:
Thekashmirmonitor

मंकी पॉक्स की गुत्थी सुलझी! DDU और CSIR IGIB के वैज्ञानिकों का बड़ा दावा

CSIR-IGIB

14th June , 2024

दीनदयाल उपाध्याय गोरखपुर विश्वविद्यालय और सीएसआईआर-आईजीआईबी के वैज्ञानिक से मिलकर मंकी पॉक्स की गुत्थी सुलझा ली है. मंकी पॉक्स एक पशुजन्य बीमारी है. इसकी पहचान पहली बार 1970 में पश्चिमी और मध्य अफ्रीका में हुई. यह रोग वायरस के कारण होता है. जो संक्रमित जानवरों से मनुष्यों में फैलता है.

शोध में पता चला हक़ी कि ये वायरस मंकीपॉक्स वायरस के जीन ओपीजी-153 में विशेष रूप से 'एटीसी' मोटिफ समय के साथ घट रहे हैं, जिसके कारण संक्रमण की दर बढ़ गई है. हालांकि, इस कमी के साथ ही वायरस की मनुष्यों को बीमार करने की क्षमता कम हो गई है. इस शोध में कुछ ऐसे डीएनए मोटिफ भी मिले हैं, जो सभी मंकीपॉक्स वायरस में संरक्षित हैं.

ऐसे फैलता है मंकीपॉक्स वायरस

मंकीपॉक्स वायरस घावों, शारीरिक तरल पदार्थों, श्वसन की बूंदों और दूषित वस्तुओं के सीधे संपर्क से एक व्यक्ति से दूसरे व्यक्ति में फैल सकता है. मंकीपॉक्स के लक्षण चेचक के लक्षणों से मिलते-जुलते होते हैं, जिनमें बुखार, सिरदर्द, ठंड लगना, शारीरिक कमजोरी और लिम्फनोड की सूजन शामिल हैं. प्रारंभिक लक्षणों के बाद, मरीजों को त्वचा पर दाने और घाव दिखाई देने लगते हैं, जो आमतौर पर चेहरे, हाथों और पैरों पर होते हैं. हाल के वर्षों में मंकीपॉक्स के मामलों में तेजी से वृद्धि देखी गई है. विशेष रूप से भारत सहित 100 से अधिक देशों में इसके मामले देखने को मिले हैं.

उछाल के कारणों का पता लगाने और वायरस के फैलाव को बेहतर ढंग से समझने के लिए, शोधकर्ताओं ने एक व्यापक अध्ययन किया. इस अध्ययन में, दुनिया भर से इकट्ठा किए गए 404 मंकीपॉक्स वायरस के जीनोम का विश्लेषण किया गया. इस विश्लेषण से बार-बार आने वाले डीएनए अनुक्रमों का पता चला. जो वायरस के विकास और संक्रमण की दर को प्रभावित कर सकते हैं. यह महत्वपूर्ण अध्ययन हाल ही में प्रतिष्ठित जर्नल 'वायरस एवोलुशन' में 'कम्पेरेटिव जीनोम एनालिसिस रीवील्स ड्राइविंग फोर्सेज बिहाइंड मंकीपॉक्स वायरस एवोलुशन एंड शेड्स लाइट ऑन द रोल ऑफ एटीसी ट्रिन्यूक्लियोटाइड मोटिफ' शीर्षक के अंतर्गत प्रकाशित हुआ है.

रिसर्च में इन्होंने निभाई भूमिका

इस शोध में प्रमुख वैज्ञानिकों के रूप में डीडीयू के इंडस्ट्रियल माइक्रोबायोलॉजी डिपार्टमेंट के डॉक्टर साहिल महफूज और सीएसआईआर-आईजीआईबी नई दिल्ली के वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक देवरिया के भाटपाररानी के रहने वाले डॉ. जितेंद्र नारायण और उनके निर्देशन में शोध कर रही शोधार्थी प्रीति अग्रवाल ने भी इस शोध में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है.

डॉ. साहिल के अनुसार मंकीपॉक्स वायरस के जीन ओपीजी-153 में विशेष रूप से "एटीसी" मोटिफ समय के साथ घट रहे हैं, जिसके कारण संक्रमण की दर बढ़ गई है. हालांकि, वे यह भी बताते हैं कि इस कमी के साथ ही वायरस की मनुष्यों को बीमार करने की क्षमता कम हो गई है. डॉ. जितेन्द्र के अनुसार, उन्हें इस शोध में कुछ ऐसे डीएनए मोटिफ भी मिले हैं, जो सभी मंकीपॉक्स वायरस में संरक्षित हैं. वे बताते हैं कि इन संरक्षित मोटिफ का उपयोग सामान्य पीसीआर विधि द्वारा वायरस की पहचान में किया जा सकता है.

डीडीयू गोरखपुर विश्वविद्यालय के इंडस्ट्रियल माइक्रोबायोलॉजी विभाग के समन्वयक और वनस्पति विभाग के विभागाध्यक्ष प्रोफेसर अनिल कुमार द्विवेदी ने हर्ष व्यक्त करते हुए कहा है कि यह शोध वायरस के संक्रमण की दर में होने वाले बदलाव को समझने में अत्यंत उपयोगी है. उन्होंने कहा कि इस प्रकार के अध्ययन से हमें वायरस के व्यवहार और उसके फैलाव के पैटर्न को समझने में मदद मिलती है, जिससे हम बेहतर रोकथाम और उपचार के तरीके विकसित कर सकते हैं.

DDU कुलपति ने शोधकर्ताओं को दी बधाई

डी.डी.यू. की कुलपति प्रोफेसर पूनम टंडन ने शोधकर्ताओं को बधाई देते हुए कहा कि इस तरह के शोध अन्य वायरस पर भी होने चाहिए. ऐसे में समय पर उनके संक्रमण को रोकने में मदद मिलेगी. उन्होंने जोर देकर कहा कि वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान और अध्ययन महामारी विज्ञान को समझने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाते हैं और इससे हमें नई बीमारियों से निपटने के लिए तैयार रहने में मदद मिलती है.

Published in:

Abplive

CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute enters Strategic Consultancy Agreement with M/s. Sai Chamois Inc, Dindigul

CSIR-CLRI

13th June , 2024

CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute is pleased to announce a significant step forward in its environmental sustainability of leather sector drive with the signing of a consultancy agreement with M/s. Sai Chamois Inc, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu, a renowned leader in Chamois (oil tanned) leathers. Under the terms of the agreement, CSIR-CLRI will provide M/s. Sai Chamois Inc. with expert guidance and support in treatment of their wastewater, and reusing them in subsequent batches of oil tanning, leveraging their extensive experience and proven track record in the industry. "We are excited to partner with CSIR-CLRI as we embark on this transformative journey," said Mr. Rajeswara Rajha, Partner. "The expertise of the CSIR-CLRI team would be very useful in ensuring our commitment to a safer environment. This adds to our USP as we have always been a metal free leather processing unit" he added. CSIR-CLRI is equally enthusiastic about the partnership. "We are thrilled to be working alongside M/s. Sai Chamois Inc and contributing to their continued growth and success," said Dr KJ Sreeram, Director CSIR-CLRI. "Together, we are committed to delivering exceptional results and delivering maximum value to M/s. Sai Chamois Inc. and its stakeholders.“ “This consultancy agreement underscores M/s. Sai Chamois Inc's commitment to excellence, innovation, and continuous improvement” said the Project Leader Dr P Saravanan, Chief Scientist of CSIR-CLRI. “CLRI is also proud that the Managing Director of the company Mr. R. Siddharth Rajha, Managing Partner is an alumnus of the institute (2015-2019)” said Dr P Shanmugam, Chief Scientist.

Published in:

Pib

Over nine lakh tulips to be planted across CapitalOver nine lakh tulips to be planted across Capital

CSIR-IHBT

13th June , 2024

Over nine lakh tulips will be planted across Delhi during the flowering season, Raj Niwas officials said on Wednesday. “In a meeting chaired by Lieutenant-Governor V.K. Saxena yesterday [Tuesday], a blueprint was prepared for the sourcing and planting of tulips in the upcoming flowering season. The meeting was attended by the horticulture departments of various civic and government agencies,” an official said.

The number of tulips planted across Delhi this year is nearly twice more than last year’s tally of five lakh tulips, and nearly six times more than the 1.5 lakh tulips planted in 2022.

According to officials, about 2.5 lakh tulip bulbs will be sent by the CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology, as well as other centres where the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) had sent the harvested tulip bulbs procured previously for further regeneration. Additionally, the NDMC and Delhi Development Authority (DDA) will procure 3.25 lakh and four lakh tulips from the Netherlands. Other civic agencies will purchase tulips from the NDMC and DDA as per their requirements.

Sources in the NDMC told The Hindu that a single tulip bulb from the Netherlands costs approximately ₹25 to ₹35. Last year, a total of ₹87 lakh was spent on the project. The final tender for the procurement of fresh tulips for this year is, however, yet to be drawn up.

In the meeting, the L-G also directed civic bodies to sell potted tulips at reasonable prices

through its nurseries in different parts of the city. This year, tulips will adorn several parks and recreational spaces across the Capital, including areas near the Yamuna riverbed, like Asita, Baansera, and Yamuna Vatika, as well as city forests.

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The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR) organizes a workshop on 'Science and Technology Communication' in collaboration with Global Health Strategies (GHS)

CSIR-NIScPR

12th June , 2024

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR) organized a workshop on 'Science and Technology Communication' in collaboration with Global Health Strategies (GHS) on 11th June 2024 at Pusa campus, New Delhi.

The CSIR-NIScPR is a constituent laboratory under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India. The organized workshop is a one-of-a-kind initiative that brought together science communicators, scientists and educators from various backgrounds to discuss how scientists and researchers can interact with the media and use social media platforms to communicate technical evidence and research in simpler terms.

Prof. Ranjana Aggarwal, Director, CSIR-NIScPR, while addressing the workshop emphasized the need for such collaborative efforts to promote scientific understanding. She also highlighted the need to continue such initiatives in the future to ensure continued growth.

Dr. Rajni Kant Srivastava, Senior Advisor, Global Health Strategies & Former Head, Policy and Communications Division, ICMR HQ and Director, ICMR-RMRC Gorakhpur commended the CSIR-NIScPR and ICMR's collaborative efforts in training scientists in

science communication. Mapping our communications needs, Understanding the Media Landscape in India and Understanding Messaging for Journalists and Mastering Media Interactions and Making S&T Go Viral: Communications for social media and Mastering Social Media Content were some of the themes discussed at the workshop.

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Action plan for first 100 days to continue India's progress under the leadership of PM Shri Narendra Modi, says Dr. Jitendra Singh while assuming charge as the Union Minister of Science & Technology (Independent charge)

CSIR

11th June , 2024

Dr Jitendra Singh assumed charge Minister of State(Independent Charge) Ministry of Science and Technology today at Council Scienific and Industrial Research(CSIR) headquarter in New Delhi. Soon after assuming the charge as Union Minister ,Dr. Jitendra Singh convened a joint meeting of six Science Ministries/ departments and their Secretaries wherein he discussed the first 100 days Action plan under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi.

"Action plan for the first 100 days is intended to continue India's progress under the leadership of PM Shri. Narendra Modi, says Dr. Jitendra Singh.

Addressing the media after assuming charge, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh said "India is a frontline nation under PM Modi to offer leadership to the world in the field of Science & technology.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said "The special priority were Startups in the last 10 years under PM Modi which is evident from the statistical figures from 350 Startups in 2014 to 1.5 lakh 2024 with more than 110 unicorns". Bio economy has gone up by many folds and the progress will continue in this term .

Dr. Singh highlighted that the Patronage of PM Modi has played an active part in introducing new Technologies making the Innovations technologies such as Road construction technology, AI driven Healthcare, has brought ease of living for citizens of the country.

He expressed his confidence in carrying forward this mission for the next 20 years when India usher in 2047.

Innovations became part of infrastructure development when India will celebrate its Centenary year of Independence.

Union minister categorically mentioned that towards nearing the end of its Second term the government brought Anusudhan National research foundation (NRF) legislation was introduced which makes India A frontline nation in Science and technology.

Highlighting India' s progress in the Space sector Dr Singh said "India's esteem has risen due to its achievements in Space with successful landing of Chandrayaan-3 on the south pole of the moon and steady progress towards India"s first Human Space flight mission – Gaganyaan mission."

We have no dearth of Scientific Acumen in the country, only lacking was the commitment from the policy making side emphasising the government's focus. Dr. Singh briefed that Innovation in Bio-economy, Blue-economy, Space economy will remain a priority.

Union Minister took a review meeting having presence of all secretaries in Science and Technology Ministry . Dr. Ajay Kumar Sood, PSA to Government of India along with Prof. Abhay Karandikar, secretary, DST ; Dr. Rajesh Gokhale, Secretary,DBT along with senior scientists of ISRO and CSIR were also present.

Dr. Jitendra Singh sensitized senior officials on the PM's plan for 100 days. He also discussed plans to revamp CSIR to increase its efficiency and contribution in the country's progress.

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Students from Karnataka, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu get lessons on food safety in Mysuru

CSIR-CFTRI

11th June , 2024

CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysuru, observed World Food Safety Day by organising interactions and demonstrations for the benefit of students. The theme of World Food Safety Day-2024 is 'Food Safety: Prepare for the Unexpected'. This year's theme emphasises the significance of being ready for food safety incidents, regardless of their severity, the institute said.

World Food Safety Day was announced by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2018. It was first celebrated on June 7, 2019. The day aims to raise awareness about the importance of food safety and to encourage actions that help prevent, detect, and manage food-borne risks, it stated.

In view of this, CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute, which is a constituent laboratory of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, observed the day on its campus recently.

Parvatham Giridhar, Chief Scientist and Head, Food Safety and Analytical Quality Control Laboratory (FSAQCL), CFTRI, provided insightful details about the purpose and significance of observing World Food Safety Day, emphasizing the importance of ensuring the safety of the food supply. Rajeshwar S. Matche, Chief Scientist and Head, Food Packaging Technology Department, inaugurated the event and addressed the gathering on the importance of World

Food Safety Day 2024, its benefits to the society, highlighting the essential role of students in promoting awareness of the day. He encouraged active student participation in safeguarding food safety for all. Arrangements were made in the Department of Food Safety and Analytical Quality Control Laboratory of CSIR-CFTRI under the supervision of Dr. Giridhar. The students were told about the two important aspects of food safety - "Food Safety is Everyone's Business" and "Food Safety is a Shared Responsibility". Scientists, technologists, scholars and research students of the Department organised the demonstration on the detection of adulterants in edible oils, spice products, sweets, milk, honey etc.

The analytical instruments used by food safety laboratories were exhibited during the programme. Demonstration on food hygiene and microbial safety was also arranged.

Posters on food regulation, food labelling and nutritional labelling, food addition and contaminants were also exhibited. More than 200 students from various colleges participated in the programme which included the students from Government PU College, Vontikoppal, Mysuru, Master in Public Health postgraduate students from School of Public Health, JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research, Mysuru and UG and PG students from Department of Biotechnology, Maharani Lakshmi Ammanni College for Women (Autonomous), Bengaluru, Dr. NGP Arts and Science College, Coimbatore, and Gujarat State Biotechnology Mission Students, Gujarat. The students were provided with participation certificates

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