

September 2023

IISER KOLKATA

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Kolkata (IISERK) is an Institute of National Importance established as an autonomous institute for higher education by the then Ministry of Human Resource Development (now Ministry of Education), Government of India, to promote high-quality education and research in basic sciences.



The iGEM Team

Prof. Sayam Sen Gupta, Department of Chemical Sciences received the National Awards to Teachers 2023 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 5th September, 2023. He shared this prestigious award with 12 other academicians from all parts of India.

Prof. Kripabandhu Ghosh has been inducted into the Editorial Board of a Scopus-indexed (Q1) journal SN Computer Science (<https://www.springer.com/journal/42979/editors>) as an Associate Editor.

Prof. Swadhin Mandal has been elected as a Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy.

Prof. Dibyendu Nandi has been selected as a co-recipient for Prof. Pereiah Foundation Award Lecture 2023.

Prof. Punyasloke Bhadury, Department of Biological Sciences represented India at the Water Innovation Meeting organized by UNESCO, European Union, and World Meteorological Organization at Petten, Netherlands, from 27-29 September, 2023.

The scientific discoveries of the iGEM 2023 team of IISER Kolkata have been published by Sanmarg in their Kolkata edition on 18th September 2023 in their National page and by Nagpur-based Navabharat on 30th September 2023. The news article has been written by Archita Sarkar of 19MS in Hindi, in association with Swarnendu Saha of 20MS.

धान की फसल के लिए 'बैक्टीरियल ब्लाइट' खतरा छात्रों ने तैयार किया अभिनव समाधान

■ कोलकाता, नवभारत कनेक्ट. भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा और अनुसंधान संस्थान (आईआईएसईआर) कोलकाता के 12 छात्रों के एक समूह ने एक अभिनव समाधान तैयार किया है जो कि धान के पौधों को प्रभावित करने वाली विनाशकारी बीमारी बैक्टीरियल ब्लाइट से निपटने में सहायता करेगा. इस प्रयोग का उपयोग दुनियाभर के लाखों किसानों के लिए होगा. यह परियोजना फसल प्रबंधन में क्रांतिकारी परिवर्तन लाने की महत्वपूर्ण क्षमता दिखाती है. बैक्टीरिया ब्लाइट, जो कि जैथोमोनास ओरिजा के कारण होता है, यह धान के खेती के लिए एक खतरा है. इसके फलस्वरूप उपज में 10 से 70% रोग अनुकूल स्थिति में हानि होती है. वैश्विक आबादी के एक बड़े हिस्से के लिए चावल एक मुख्य भोजन है. इसके कारण इस रोग की उपचार विधियों की आवश्यकता सर्वोपरि है. प्रोजेक्ट के निहितार्थ दूरगामी हैं, खासकर भारत जैसे क्षेत्रों में जहां धान उत्पादन आर्थिक व्यवस्था और खाद्य सुरक्षा में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है.

Prof. Jayasri Das Sarma is going to conduct the biennial Indo-US Scientific Conference with the 15-year celebration of the start of her lab (JDS Lab) at IISER Kolkata and the Outreach Activities of BAW 2023 in Kalimpong, India, at the foothills of Himalaya, tentatively between 23rd to 31st March 2024 for five days.

Dr. Atul Kumar Singh (DES), Roll No.13RS028, a Ph.D. alumnus who worked under the supervision of Dr. Manoj K. Jaiswal from the Department of Earth Sciences, IISER Kolkata has joined as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geology, North Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong, a Central University in Meghalaya.

Dr. Srayoshi Roy Chowdhury (DCS), Roll No. 15IP012, an IPHD alumnus, has joined O. N. G. C., a Govt. of India undertaking. Dr. Srayoshi has completed her PhD under the supervision of Prof. Debasish Haldar of the Dept. of Chemical Sciences.



The iGEM, represented by Tanusree Mondal and Swarnendu Saha, visited the Naihati New Life Society, on September 10, 2023, and taught the girls of the orphanage, having participants from classes 1 to 12, about the importance of studying bacteria and other microorganisms, and also some physiology. The member representatives, as well as, the girls enjoyed it a lot.



The 3rd National Symposium on Quest Theme 1 was organized at IISER Kolkata from 23 to 24 September 2023.

IISER KOLKATA's Dance Club – Nrutya organized their Annual Dance Production, NRUTYANG on 3rd September 2023.



Dr. Radhika Venkatesan with her PhD student, Aswathi Sasidharan was awarded the BIRAC Ignition Grant (BIG) to launch an agriculture start-up. They envisaged a plant volatile-based product to lure natural enemies of plant pest insects. The proposed technology offers a safe and environmentally friendly way to manage insect herbivores.



Mr. Surajit Sarkar, MD and CFO, Phoenix Conveyor Belt India Pvt. Ltd. handed over a cheque to Prof. Prasanta K. Panigrahi, Director, IISER Kolkata to support the fellowship of a girl student of IISER Kolkata from the Economically Weaker Section (EWS).



Dr. Amirul Islam Mallick's grant application for "Catalyst funding for pump-priming projects" in collaboration with the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, UK, has been approved for funding by the BactiVac Network, University of Birmingham, UK. They will utilize this fund to progress their current concept of live vector-based mucosal vaccine strategy against Campylobacter Jejuni along the pipeline to licensure.



To continue with the Angdaan Mahotsav campaign started on 1st July 2023, a Seminar on Organ Donation was organized by the Staff Club in association with the Medical Unit of IISER Kolkata on 13 September 2023. Two talks were delivered, on organ donation and eye donation respectively. Dr. Satabdi Sarkar (Associate Professor, AIIMS Kalyani) gave a talk on "Organ donation - a step to save lives" and Dr. Pinaki Sengupta and Dr. Ashis Majumdar (Regional Institute of Ophthalmology, Kolkata) delivered a talk on "Corneal Donation and Corneal Retrieval". Both the talks were very informative and inspirational. Important details regarding donation procedures have also been put up on the Institute's intranet.

Rajbhasha Pakhwada



IISER Kolkata celebrated Rajbhasha Pakhwada from 14 to 29 September 2023. Pakhwada started with Akhil Bhartiya Rajbhasha Sammelan at Pune and the last day of the Pakhwada was celebrated as Hindi Divas Samaroh on 29 September 2023 with pledge taking and other cultural programmes. To motivate the employees many competitions were organized during the Pakhwada.

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Kolkata
 भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान कोलकाता



Swachhata Pakhwada

1st - 15th September, 2023



Venue- Between Visitors' Hostel and ICV Hostel front area, IISER Kolkata Campus

Purpose- Developed for Students' Garden

Swachhata Pakhwada

IISER Kolkata celebrated Swachhata Pakhwada from 1 to 15 September. Many initiatives related to swachhata were enthusiastically taken up by the Institute. A pledge ceremony was also organized on 15th September 2023.



Teachers' Day

IISER Kolkata Celebrated Teachers' Day and felicitated two successful teachers, our own Prof. Narayan Banerjee and Padmashri (2020), Mr. Kazi Masum Akhtar.



The iGEM, represented by Adrika Chaudhuri, Saptarshi Maity, Tanusree Mondal, and Swarnendu Saha, visited the Garden High School on 11th September 2023 and 19th September 2023. On the former day, the participants were from Bal Vatika classes 1&2, and, on the second day, the students ranged from classes 3 and 4. On both days, students enjoyed seeing elephant toothpaste reactions, plasma balls, taking part in a drawing workshop, and other fun scientific activities.

Seminars and Colloquia

[Earth Science Journal Club Seminar] Basil Saleem (IISER Kolkata); Friday, Sep 01, 2023.

Hands-On Workshop on observational; Saturday, Sep 02, 2023.

Dance Workshop 2023] Dance Club (DoS Office); Saturday, Sep 02, 2023.

Maths Club seminar; Saturday, Sep 02, 2023.

Ek Pehal IISER Kolkata; Sunday, Sep 03, 2023.

Janmashtami (Cultural Night); Monday, Sep 04, 2023.

Teachers' Day Celebration; Tuesday, Sep 05, 2023.

Teachers' Felicitations Programme] Mr. Kazi Masum Akhtar (IRO Office); Tuesday, Sep 05, 2023.

Ek Pehal Teachers' Day Celebration; Sunday, Sep 10, 2023.

Painting Competition] DoIRO office; Wednesday, Sep 13, 2023.

[Organ Donation: Myths & Facts] Dr. Satabdi Sarkar (Associate Professor, AIIMS Kalyani); Wednesday, Sep 13, 2023.

[DES Seminar] Dr. Omnath Saha (Geological Survey of India); Wednesday, Sep 13, 2023.

[DBS Seminar] Prof. Biswadip Das (Department of Life Science and Biotechnology, Jadavpur University, Kolkata); Wednesday, Sep 13, 2023.

Onam Cultural Rehearsal; Friday, Sep 15, 2023.

Ek Pehal's computer workshop; Sunday, Sep 17, 2023.

[Institute Colloquium] Prof. Sourav Pal (Ashoka University);

QuEST Workshop 2023; 23-24 September, 2023.

["Molecular Dynamics Simulations"] Neelanjana Sengupta 23-24 September, 2023.

Workshop on observational Astronomy; Saturday, Sep 23, 2023.

[Special Seminar] Prof. Naval Bajpai (ABV-Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management); Monday, Sep 25, 2023.

[DPS Seminar] Shreenanda Ghosh (Johns Hopkins University); Tuesday, Sep 26, 2023.

Alumni Talk by Ksihan Singh (9ms); Friday, Sep 29, 2023.

Hindi Day and the Closing Ceremony; Friday, Sep 29, 2023.

IISER Kolkata has an exciting victory against AIIMS Kalyani in a friendly football match between the two institutes.