



# IISER KOLKATA 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

## Visit of British Consul General on April 7, 2026



IISER Kolkata had the honour of hosting the US Consul General, Ms. Kathy Giles-Diaz, on 7 April 2026. The visit highlighted the Institute's vibrant research ecosystem through a series of curated laboratory interactions. It concluded with a high-level meeting involving the Deans, Registrar, and Director, during which departments presented their key academic and research initiatives. This was followed by an interactive exchange on IISER Kolkata's research priorities and potential collaborations with U.S. universities and research institutions. Discussions focused on joint R&D projects, technology transfer, space science innovation, and opportunities under the U.S.–India TRUST initiative.

## IISER Kolkata Hosts KVS Teachers for MNNIT Allahabad Training Programme



As part of a workshop and training programme organised by MNNIT Allahabad, teachers from Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) visited IISER Kolkata. A group of 47 teachers visited the Department of Biological Sciences, Chemical Sciences, and Earth Sciences on 9th April 2026, and a group of 66 teachers visited the Department of Physical Sciences on 16th April 2026. The participants engaged with real-time experiments, models, and simulations, strengthening the link between theory and practice. Interactions with faculty and researchers provided insights into ongoing research, career pathways, and emerging scientific opportunities. The visit fostered curiosity, making it an enriching and professionally rewarding experience for all participants

## Krishnagar Government College Students and Faculty Visit IISER Kolkata



Students and faculty from Krishnagar Government College visited IISER Kolkata on 9 April 2026 for a one-day educational tour, offering them a glimpse into the Institute's academic and research environment. The visit featured facility tours, laboratory interactions and engaging sessions with faculty and research scholars, providing meaningful exposure to contemporary research in Chemical Sciences. The programme was well received by the visiting group, with Dr, Sulakshana Karmakar, HoD, Dept. of Chemistry, noting its academic value for the students and appreciating the warm hospitality extended by the Institute.

## IInvenTiv 2026 at ISM Dhanbad

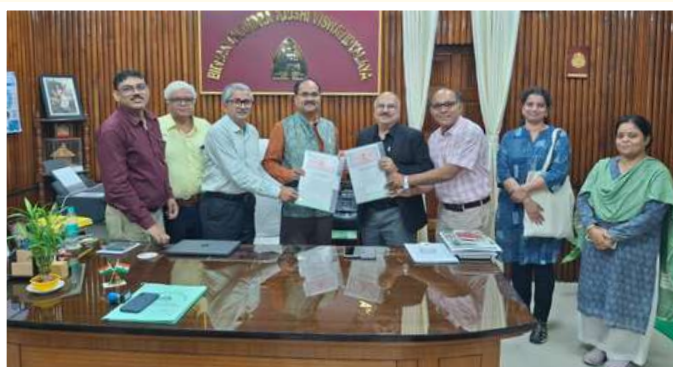


Prof. Amirul Islam Mallick and his team, Sandeep Yadav (PhD student), Om Khare (BS MS student), and Priyanshu Mallick (BS MS student) from IISER Kolkata participated in IInvenTiv 2026 at Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad (6-7 April 2026).

They presented “VenoSure”, a biomarker-based, multiplexed capillary point-of-care diagnostic for rapid snake species identification, which is under developing in collaboration with Prof. Ayan Banerjee (IISER Kolkata) and Dr. Sayantan Banerjee (AIIMS Kalyani).

The innovation aims to enable rapid, accurate detection of species-specific snake venom (the “big four”), offering a scalable solution to improve snakebite diagnosis and public health, especially in resource-limited settings.

## IISER Kolkata Signs Memoranda of Understanding with BCKV and Bose Institute



IISER Kolkata signs an MoU on 16th April 2026 with its neighbouring University Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya (BCKV) in order to foster research collaboration and provide opportunity for professional, scholarly, and academic interaction in matters relating to scientific research, science education, and related areas, and to facilitate advancement of knowledge therein, based on reciprocity and mutual benefit.



IISER Kolkata signed an MoU with the Bose Institute on 18th April 2026 at IISER Kolkata Saltlake Guest House. The purpose of this MoU is to implement cooperative and collaborative activities in areas of mutual interest that address multidisciplinary scientific and technological problems and advance educational goals by advancing research through inventions, improvements, and discoveries relevant to the country. The Deans of Research and Development of both the Institutes will coordinate the collaboration.

## Ek Pehal Marks its 11th Anniversary



On 15th April, Ek Pehal celebrated its 11th Anniversary with around 70 children from the neighbouring villages of Ghoragachha, 7 No., and 16 No., alongside the current pool of Ek Pehal volunteers. The programme was inaugurated by Prof. Tapas Kumar Sengupta in the presence of Dr. Debasis Koley (Dean of International Relations and Outreach), Dr. Amirul Islam Mallick (Associate Dean of Student Affairs), and Dr. Shirshendu Chowdhury, Faculty-in-Charge of Ek Pehal. A Panchatantra-themed puppet show, performed by the Ek Pehal children with narration and support from the first-year batch, emerged as one of the highlights of the wonderful evening. This was followed by a dance performance by Ek Pehal students and a screening of a popular episode from the renowned Indian cartoon series Krish, Trish and Baltiboy.

The celebrations continued with the anniversary cake-cutting ceremony and the felicitation of the graduating volunteers of the 2026 batch (21MS, 21RS, and 20IP), who were honoured for their dedication and contributions to Ek Pehal. The evening concluded with cheerful interactions among the children, faculty and volunteers over a grand dinner, capturing the warmth, camaraderie, and shared bond that has defined Ek Pehal's eleven-year journey.

## Students Achievements



Sharanya Chatterjee (23MS118), a third-year BS-MS student from the Department of Biological Sciences, has been selected for the prestigious Kyoto University Short-Term Academic Research (KU-STAR) Program 2026.

Sharanya will be spending her summer (from May 19th to July 10th, 2026) at Kyoto University, Japan. Affiliated with the Graduate School of Biostudies, her research will focus broadly on Genome Stress Response.



PhD candidate Ms Suchitra Mitra working with Prof. Sujata Ray has received the ANRF travel grant, which facilitated her attendance and presentation at EGU 2026.

## Students Achievements



Manoj Jakhar doing PhD with Prof Prasanta Sanyal, has received highly competitive internship at International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Vienna

## Alumni Accolades



We are pleased to share that Dr. Sourav Banerjee, who completed his PhD in 2022 from Prof. Rupak Datta's lab, has joined the Division of Medical Research, Faculty of Medical & Health Sciences, SRM Institute of Science and Technology as an Assistant Professor. Following his PhD, he pursued a postdoctoral fellowship at University of Cambridge. At SRMIST, Dr. Banerjee will establish an independent research program in Molecular Parasitology, focusing on human-infective protozoan parasites.

## April Publications

### Department of Earth Sciences

- Biswajit Roy, Santrupta Samantaray, Kanva Goyal, Sourav Mukhopadhyay, Prasanta Sanyal: [n-Alkyl lipid signatures across similar plant-soil continuum reveals depth-dependent edaphic controls on carbon stabilisations](#), Organic Geochemistry, 2026, 105216, ISSN 0146-6380.
- Mohmmed Talib, Aniket Choudhary, Kripabandhu Ghosh, Gopala Krishna Darbha: "[Hybrid ML-Driven simulation Exploring the Fate of Environmentally Relevent Nanoplastics in comples Aqueous](#)." in Water Research on 25 April, 2026.

## Patents Granted

Prof. Gopala Krishna Darbha and his research team have recently been awarded a Certificate of Registration of Design from the Patent Office, Government of India, for their innovative filtration device.

## Seminars and Colloquium

[CESSI DPS Colloquium] Prof. Dipankar Banerjee (Director, IIST) -- Aditya L1: India's First Dedicated Space-Based Solar Observatory, Date: Wednesday, Apr 01, 2026.

[DPS Colloquium] Prof. Tanmoy Das (IISc-Bangalore) -- Geometric Approach to Low-Energy Modellings in Quantum Materials, Date: Wednesday, Apr 01, 2026.

[DBS Seminar] Dr. Surojit Sarkar (Seattle Children's Research Institute) -- "Cellular Immunotherapies to Solid Tumors: Neuroblastoma and Glioblastoma in the Crosshairs", Date: Thursday, Apr 02, 2026.

[Gluon Talk] Prof. Siddhartha Lal & Prof. Nirmalya Ghosh (IISER, Kolkata) -- Exploring the emergence of novel states of quantum matter & Spin Orbit Interaction and Weak measurements in Plasmonic metamaterials: A Classical-Quantum Handshake, Date: Wednesday, Apr 08, 2026.

[DMS Seminar] Ujan Gangopadhyay -- Limit Theorems for Step Reinforced Random Walks, Date: Wednesday, Apr 08, 2026.

[DPS Colloquium] Prof. Sreerup Raychaudhuri (BHU) -- Mathematics, Physics and Astronomy in India before the European Conquest, Date: Wednesday, Apr 15, 2026

[DPS Group Seminar] Dr. Shyamashish Dey (HRI, Prayagraj) -- Dark Matter phenomenology with vector-like fermions, Date: Thursday, Apr 16, 2026.

[DMS Seminar] Ujan Chakraborty -- Ergodic Average Dominance for Unimodular Amenable Groups, Date: Wednesday, Apr 22, 2026.

[DMS Topology & Geometry Seminar] Aritra Bhowmick -- Introduction to Cut Locus in Geometry, Date: Monday, Apr 27, 2026.

[DPS Seminar] Prof. Dipanshu Bansal (IIT Bombay) -- Probing electron-phonon and spin-orbital-phonon coupling using spectroscopy measurements and simulations, Date: Monday, Apr 27, 2026.

[DPS Seminar] Prof Syed Minhaz Hossain (Indian Institutes of Engineering Science and Technology (IEST), Shibpur) -- Silicon Quantum Structures: Synthesis, Charge Transport and Light Emission, Date: Friday, Apr 17, 2026

[DMS Seminar] Ujjal Koley (Faculty, TIFR Bangalor) -- Holder continuous solutions to inhomogeneous incompressible Euler flows, Date: Monday, Apr 27, 2026.

[DPS Seminar] Dr. Ravi Sharma (RWTH Aachen, Germany) -- Studying Neutrinos Beyond the Standard Model through Cosmological Observations, Date: Tuesday, Apr 28, 2026.

[DMS Topology & Geometry Seminar] Aritra Bhowmick -- Intersection of Cut and Focal Locus, Date: Wednesday, Apr 29, 2026.

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