



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.

Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy Inaugurates State-of-the-Art O-PTIR Facility (June 6, 2026)



Dr. Satheesh Reddy, Member of the National Security Advisory Board and Former Secretary, Department of Defence R&D, visited IISER Kolkata on the 6th June 2026. As part of World Environment Day celebrations, Dr. Reddy planted a sapling on the institute's campus, reaffirming the commitment to environmental sustainability and conservation.

During his visit, Dr. Reddy inaugurated the state-of-the-art Optical Photothermal Infrared Spectroscopy and Raman Spectroscopy (O-PTIR) Facility at IISER Kolkata. This advanced analytical platform integrates infrared and Raman spectroscopic techniques, enabling the detection and characterization of extremely small particles in the submicron size range with high precision.

The newly established facility will significantly strengthen research capabilities in environmental monitoring and pollutant characterization. In particular, it will play a crucial role in identifying and analyzing harmful microplastics and other emerging contaminants in environmental samples, thereby supporting efforts toward a cleaner, healthier environment.

The inauguration marks an important milestone in IISER Kolkata's pursuit of cutting-edge scientific research and its commitment to addressing pressing environmental challenges through advanced analytical technologies.

IISER Kolkata Observes World No Tobacco Day (June 1, 2026)



World No Tobacco Day 2026 was observed at IISER Kolkata on 01 June 2026 at 3:00 PM in the Asima Chatterjee Lecture Hall. The programme was attended by students, faculty members, and staff of the Institute.

The event began with a No Tobacco Pledge taken by all participants. An expert from the Tobacco Cessation Clinic (TCC), Department of Psychiatry, AIIMS Kalyani, delivered an informative talk on the harmful effects of tobacco use and the importance of tobacco cessation.

The programme was graced by the presence of the Dean of Students, Dean of Wellness, the invited Clinical Psychiatrist from AIIMS Kalyani, clinical psychiatrist of IISER Kolkata and the Assistant Registrar (Students Affairs). The event served as an important initiative to promote awareness and encourage a tobacco-free lifestyle among the Institute community.

IISER Kolkata Hosts Transformative Inter-IISER Directors' Meeting (June 12, 2026)



The IISERs Directors' Meeting hosted by IISER Kolkata on 12 June 2026, concluded on a highly productive and inspiring note, strengthening collaborative research as coordinated Inter-IISERs research project on thematic cutting edge areas, and Floating of common interdisciplinary courses across all IISERs, setting a new directions for academic and research excellence across the IISER system.

Major outcomes of the meeting included:

- Felicitation of Prof. Arvind Natu, Chairperson, Board of Governors, IISER Kolkata, in recognition of his exceptional contributions to science, education, and institution building.
- Launch of the new Master's Programme in Chemical Biology, marking a significant step towards promoting interdisciplinary education and training at the interface of chemistry and biology.
- Inauguration of the campus PNG (Piped Natural Gas) connection and a plantation initiative, reaffirming IISER Kolkata's commitment to sustainable and environmentally responsible campus development.
- The meeting reflected the collective vision of the IISER community to further strengthen India's scientific enterprise through innovation, interdisciplinary research, and collaborative leadership.

IISER Kolkata Holds Its 13th Convocation Ceremony (June 23, 2026)



The Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Kolkata successfully conducted its 13th Convocation on 23 June 2026 at its campus. The ceremony marked an important milestone in the academic journey of graduating students. A total 365 degrees were awarded across various programmes of the Institute.

The Chief Guest for the occasion was Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, while Prof. Rajiv Prakash, Director, IIT Bhilai, graced the ceremony as the Guest of Honour.

Addressing the graduating students, Prof Sood emphasized the importance of scientific excellence, innovation, and societal responsibility in shaping the future of the nation. The convocation celebrated the achievements of the graduating class and recognized the contributions of faculty, staff, and families in supporting the students' academic success.

The Institute congratulates all graduating students and wishes them success in their future endeavors as researchers, innovators, entrepreneurs, and leaders contributing to science and society.



IISER Kolkata Celebrates International Day of Yoga (June 21, 2026)



IISER Kolkata celebrated the 12th International Day of Yoga on June 21, 2026. This year's theme, “Yoga for Healthy Ageing,” highlights the importance of yoga in promoting lifelong health, physical fitness, mental well-being, and resilience.

IISER Kolkata shines at the 1st Inter-Institute Yoga Competition 2026!



IISER Kolkata delivered an outstanding performance at the 1st Inter-Institute Yoga Competition held at IISER Berhampur, Odisha, on 15–16 June 2026, securing the Overall Runner-Up position among participating IISERs.

Ms. Deepika Samantaray

- Gold – Traditional Yoga (Women)
- Gold – Artistic Yoga (Single Women)
- Gold – Artistic Yoga (Pair Women)

Ms. Kanika Mahato

- Silver – Artistic Yoga (Single Women)
- Bronze – Traditional Yoga (Women)

Mr. Vidhi Bhushan

- Silver – Artistic Yoga (Single Men)
- Silver – Traditional Yoga (Men)

Congratulations to our talented students for their remarkable achievements, dedication, and excellence in Yoga. Your success has made the IISER Kolkata community proud!

IISER Kolkata Co-Hosts Landmark AI Summit (June 5, 2026)

IITs, ISI, IISER, JU team up with GreenAI to roll out low-cost AI Lab as service

RITWIK MUKHERJEE
Kolkata, 14 June

Kolkata's home-grown startup GreenAI Services Pvt Ltd is teaming up with some of India's premier and best known academic & research institutes to develop and roll out AI Lab as a service. Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Kolkata, Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), IIT Kharagpur, IIT Kanpur, Jadavpur University are some of these premier institutes in India. GreenAI is working with on this.

"The whole idea is to make AI tools available to a much larger segment of the society in a much more affordable, transparent,

sustainable manner, particularly in the educational sector and in the public sector. This assumes great significance in the wake of the NEP (new education policy) making AI learning mandatory across educational institutions," said Prof. Prasanna Majumder, Founder and Director of GreenAI Services. Speaking on the sidelines of a symposium, jointly organised by IISER Kolkata and GreenAI Services, championing sustainable and right-sized AI on World Environment Day in Kolkata, Majumder presented scalable frameworks for democratising technology.

He demonstrated how GreenAI Services is

developing highly effective, low-cost AI laboratories that can be rapidly built and deployed at the school and college levels across the country, in line with NEP 2023, bridging the digital divide without massive infrastructure budgets.

Prof. Arnab Bhattacharyya of IIT Kanpur spoke on the broader objectives of the India AI Mission. He reinforced that the core goal of the mission - developing AI models strictly for India - intrinsically relies on the dual pillars of Sovereign AI and Sustainable AI.

Compared to English, processing Indian languages requires a much deeper understanding of complex linguistic morphologies and



other unique regional nuances.

Because standard approaches fall short, Large Language Model training methods must incorporate highly specialised mechanisms designed specifically to accommodate these structural differences and accurately process such diverse, intricate language systems. Prof.

Bhattacharyya's observations certainly put things into a macro-level policy perspective.

Prof. Sudeshna Sarkar from IIT Kharagpur spotlighted India's traditional knowledge systems, noting their deep roots in oral traditions and tribal communities. She proposed a visionary approach to tech education -

delivering it within a "culturally soaked ecosystem." This framework aims to empower students from indigenous communities to learn cutting-edge technology natively, ensuring that a Santal or Boro student can master AI in their own language.

The initiative brought together top technologists, academics, and industry leaders to discuss the future of eco-friendly, culturally inclusive artificial intelligence in India.

Prof. S.K. Khare, Director of IISER Kolkata, highlighted the successful partnership between the institute and GreenAI Services in conceptualising and executing the 5 June

event, emphasising the critical need to align the nation's rapid technological advancement with global environmental consciousness.

The occasion was also graced by Prof. Debasis Koley, the Dean of International Relations and Outreach of IISER Kolkata. A major highlight of the symposium was the address by Amitava Nag, CEO of Bhasini, who underscored a powerful synergy between national tech initiatives and the Green AI movement.

Championing resource-efficient computing, Nag presented a groundbreaking, real-world use case: running AI-based, voice-first call centres utilising just three GPUs.

He emphasised that rather than relying on astronomically costly and energy-intensive data centres for generalised Large Language Models (LLMs), India is strategically poised to pioneer more inclusive, domain-specific, and language-specific models. Continuing the dialogue on linguistic inclusivity, the IIT Guwahati team discussed their legal informatics initiative to translate Assam High Court judgments into Assamese, Mizo, and Bodo. Responding to this, Prof. Kripabandhu Ghosh of IISER Kolkata highlighted the ongoing challenge of navigating low-resource data availability to train these domain-specific legal AI models.

As the world observed World Environment Day 2026 and in consonance with Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of sustainable development, IISER Kolkata, in collaboration with IIT Kanpur and GreenAI, co-organized a day-long summit dedicated to the concept of "Sustainable Intelligence." The initiative was led by the Department of Computational and Data Sciences, IISER Kolkata, under the guidance of Dr. Kripabandhu Ghosh, the Departmental Head.

In the global race towards larger models and greater computational capability, the unique requirements of a developing nation like India often remain overlooked. Sustainable Intelligence, in the Indian context, extends beyond energy-efficient data centres. It encompasses the sustainability of culture, language and economic resources.

By co-hosting the summit at the Salt Lake Guest House, the Institute underscored the vital interface between foundational scientific research and applied AI. A key addition to this year's agenda was "Sustainable Intelligence for India," exploring how sustainable AI models can accelerate breakthroughs in climate modelling, molecular biology and materials science without the substantial carbon footprint associated with massive general-purpose LLMs.

The event deliberated upon four critical pillars:

- **Linguistic Equity:** Bringing under-represented Indian languages into the fold of LLMs to ensure that the benefits of AI reach every citizen.
- **Right-Sized Intelligence:** Promoting SLM's and efficient architectures capable of operating on affordable, locally available hardware.
- **Domain Depth:** Addressing data gaps in agriculture, indigenous medicine and local governance.
- **Indian Knowledge Systems:** Leveraging AI for preserving and utilizing knowledge systems unique to the Indian subcontinent.

গ্রিন এআই-এর সাহায্যে দেশীয় প্রযুক্তি তৈরি করবে আইসার

পরিবেশ বাঁচাতে অপ্রয়োজনীয় এআই ব্যবহারে লাগাম-বার্তা

কৃত্রিম বুদ্ধিমত্তা বা কৃত্রিম স্মার্ট অসহায়তা হতে পারে। এটি শুধুমাত্র মানুষের জ্ঞানকে প্রতিনিয়ত বর্ধিত করে। এটি শুধুমাত্র মানুষের জ্ঞানকে প্রতিনিয়ত বর্ধিত করে। এটি শুধুমাত্র মানুষের জ্ঞানকে প্রতিনিয়ত বর্ধিত করে।

আইসারটি কলকাতার অধ্যাপক অর্পিত ভট্টাচার্য, আইসার কলকাতার অধ্যাপক কৃষ্ণাঙ্ক সেন, আইসারটি কলকাতার অধ্যাপক সুজা সারকার এবং মিসএআই সার্কিটের ডিরেক্টর প্রসেনজিৎ মজুমদার।

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Senior faculty members from IIT KGP, IIT Kanpur, Jadavpur University and IIT Guwahati shared their valuable insights during the summit. Representatives from BharatGen, BHASHINI, DST and MeitY also participated in the deliberations.

The programme commenced with the inaugural address by the Director, Prof. Sunil Kumar Khare, IISER Kolkata, followed by a welcome address by Prof. Debasis Koley, the Dean of International Relations and Outreach. Dr. Kripabandhu Ghosh, coordinated the academic proceedings of the summit, contributing significantly to its successful conduct.

More details can be found by visiting the website: <https://www.greenai.services/iisergreenai.html>

Invited Keynote Talks by Prof. Rajkumar Buyya and Prof. Soumya K. Ghosh (June 26, 2026)



The Department of Computational and Data Sciences (CDS), IISER Kolkata hosted keynote lectures by Prof. Rajkumar Buyya (University of Melbourne, Australia) and Prof. Soumya K. Ghosh (Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, India) on 26th June 2026 at 10:30 AM at the M. N. Saha Lecture Theatre, IISER Kolkata, in hybrid mode.

The first keynote talk, entitled “Neoteric Frontiers in Cloud and Quantum Computing” was presented by Prof. Buyya. The speech focused on several core areas, including innovative cloud architectures, Aneka 6G platform, empirical field results, quantum advancements, and future outlook. The talk specially emphasized on Quantum Function-as-a-Service (QFaaS) and iQuantum to enable researchers in testing and predicting how quantum workloads behave in a combined cloud-edge infrastructure without spending expensive Quantum Processing Unit runtime.

The second keynote talk was on the topic of “Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) to Geospatial Cloud: Enabling Location driven Services” and was presented by Prof. S. K. Ghosh. This talk explored the concept of geospatial data, challenges in handling geospatial data, design of SDI & Geospatial Cloud, interoperability standards, processing frameworks, and practical application scenarios. Both the lectures offered invaluable insights into research thinking as well as interdisciplinary learning, making the entire session thought-provoking for all the attendees.

International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (June 26, 2026)



IISER Kolkata has celebrated International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on 26th June, 2026. An awareness generation campaign has done throughout the campus and communities. Posters for drug free IISER Kolkata campus have been displayed at notice board of hostels, lecture hall complex, research complex, and administrative building. In presence of Prof. Debasis Koley, Dean of International Relation and Outreach (DOIRO), IISER Kolkata and Prof. Debasish Halder, FIC, Nasha Mukti Bharat Abhiyaan, IISER Kolkata BS-MS students, MSc students, PhD students, post-doctorate researchers, faculty members and staff members (Nasha Mukti Mitr (earlier master volunteers)) have taken the pledge against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

Dr. Debashis Adhikari Visits Chemical Sciences (June 19, 2026)



Dr. Debashis Adhikari from IISER Mohali have visited DCS, IISER Kolkata on the 19th June 2026. He interacted with BS-MS students, MSc Chemistry students, PhD students and faculty members. He delivered a talk and shared his experience with DCS members.

Prof. Swapan Kumar Pati Visits Department of Chemical Sciences



Prof. Swapan Kumar Pati from Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research Bangaluru and a visiting adjunct research professor of DCS, IISER Kolkata, has visited DCS IISER Kolkata. He has interacted with BS-MS students, MSc Chemistry students, MSc Sustainability students, PhD students, post-doctorate researchers, Ramanujan faculty fellow, Inspire faculty fellows, faculty members and staff members. He has delivered a lecture entitled "Computational Modelling of Homogeneous and Heterogeneous Catalysts for Producing Value-added Products".

Former Director Prof. R. N. Mukherjee Visits Chemical Sciences (June 23, 2026)



Prof. R. N. Mukherjee, a distinguished inorganic chemist and former Director, IISER Kolkata have visited DCS, IISER Kolkata on 23rd June 2026. He has interacted with Bs-MS students, MSc Chemistry students, PhD students and faculty members. He has shared his experience with DCS faculty members.

JK Tyre Research, Head Dr. Prasenjit Ghosh Visits Chemical Sciences (June 25, 2026)



The J K Tyre Research Head, Dr Prasenjit Ghosh visited DCS, IISER Kolkata on the 25th of June 2026. He has interacted with masters and PhD students and faculty members in the research areas include polymer chemistry and material science. There was also a talk from J K Tyre by Dr. Prasenjit Ghosh entitled "Material science as a driver of tyre industry advancement".

Students Achivements



Brishti Ghosh
(23MS075)

We are pleased to share that two IISER Kolkata students have been selected for sponsorship under the CSR initiative of the Punjab National Bank.

The sponsored students are:

- Brishti Ghosh (23MS075)
- Varad Mahendra Paithane (24MS219)



Varad Mahendra Paithane
(24MS219)



Seminars and Colloquiums

[DPS Seminar] Dr. Ritam Mallick (IISER Bhopal) -- Neutron Stars: A Window to Probe High-Density Matter Through Multiple Fronts, Date: Tuesday, Jun 02, 2026, Time: 2:30 p.m. - 4 p.m.

[Seminar talk] Prof. Debashish Goswami (ISI Kolkata) -- Quantum group symmetry in mathematics and beyond, Date: Wednesday, Jun 10, 2026, Time: 2:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

[DMS Seminar] Dr. Souvik Goswami (IHES, France) -- Introduction to algebraic cycles, Date: Thursday, Jun 11, 2026, Time: 3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.

[DBS Seminar] Prof. Nawajes Mandal (Assistant Director of Research, Ophthalmology, Hamilton Eye Institute, UTHSC) -- "Sphingolipids in Human Disease: Bridging Mechanistic Insights and Biomarker Development", Date: Tuesday, Jun 16, 2026, Time: 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

[DMS Seminar] Prof. Somnath Jha (IIT Kanpur) -- Some cases of the cube sum problem, Date: Wednesday, Jun 17, 2026, Time: 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

[DPS Seminar] Dr. Pankaj Saha (Theory Center of KEK, Japan) -- Beyond Perturbation Theory: Lattice Simulations of Nonlinear Dynamics in the Early Universe, Date: Wednesday, Jun 17, 2026, Time: 2:30 p.m. - 4 p.m.

[DMS Seminar Series] Dr. Souvik Goswami -- Survey of algebraic cycles, Date: Thursday, Jun 18, 2026, Time: 4 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

[DBS Seminar] Dr. Md Salehin (Department of Biology, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (NC A&T), USA) -- "Reprogramming Stress: CRISPRing Hormonal Control of Proteostasis-Mediated Phenotypic Plasticity Under Abiotic Stress(es)", Date: Friday, Jun 19, 2026, Time: noon - 2 p.m.

[DCS Visitor's Seminar] Dr. Debashis Adhikari (IISER Mohali), Date: Friday, Jun 19, 2026, Time: 3 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

DMS Seminar] Harshith Sairaj A (PhD scholar, Western University) -- Polynomial Convexity of Smooth Manifolds embedded in $\{C\}^n$, Date: Wednesday, Jun 24, 2026, Time: 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

[DPS Seminar] Dr. Subhra Sengupta (Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence (SN IoE) - Delhi-NCR) -- Theory of Spin-orientation on Correlated Thin Films - a Subtle Interplay between Strain and Multipole Coulomb Interactions, Date: Wednesday, Jun 24, 2026, Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

[DPS Seminar] Dr. Anirban Mukherjee (Princeton University, USA) -- Hyperuniformity: a novel form of characterization from materials science to biological systems, Date: Wednesday, Jun 24, 2026, Time: 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

[DCS Visitor's Seminar] Dr. Prasenjit Ghosh (Director, Hari Shankar Singhania Elastomer & Tyre Research Institute (HASETRI), Mysore, Karnataka) -- "Material Science as a Driver of Tyre Industry Advancement", Date: Thursday, Jun 25, 2026, Time: 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

[CAFM Colloquium] Professor Tomoyuki Akutagawa (Tohoku University, Japan) -- Dynamics and Physical Properties of Molecular Assemblies, Date: Monday, Jun 29, 2026, Time: 3 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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