

### Report on 90<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of ISNA

The 90<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of Indian Science News Association (ISNA) was celebrated on the 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 at the N.R Sen Auditorium, University of Calcutta. ISNA was established in 1935 by a host of mainly educationists led by Acharya P.C. Ray, Professor Meghnad Saha and others. Since 1935 ISNA has orchestrated several seminars, colloquiums, workshops, courses, etc. in order to disseminate science news among the public at large and make them aware of the significance of science.

The celebration was attended by erudite personalities, research scholars and students from different institutions. The programme commenced with the welcome address delivered by Professor Manas Chakrabarty, Honorary Secretary, ISNA. He enumerated the history of ISNA and its activities.

Dr. Amit Krishna De, Honorary Secretary, ISNA anchored the whole programme and projected on the future endeavours of ISNA. Dr. De also mentioned about the 12-week-long Training Programme on Science Communication and Media Practice which ISNA has been organising since 1983 to train young aspirants who yearn to be science communicators.

Dr. Sivaji Chakravorti from Department of Electrical Engineering of Jadavpur University and President of West Bengal Academy of Science and Technology (WAST) graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour. He briefed the audience on the vision and mission of WAST and spoke on the

significance of science communication. He said, a good science communicator should pay heed to ethical issues and utilize social networking sites meticulously to disseminate scientific news among the masses.

Professor B.V Sharma, Director of Anthropological Survey of India and Director General of Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata and the Chief Guest of the programme highlighted on the criteria required to become a good science communicator and mentioned that



L to R: Prof. Manas Chakrabarty, Dr. Amit Krishna De, Dr. B.V. Sharma, Prof. Bikas K. Chakrabarti, Dr. Sivaji Chakravorti and Prof. Anupam Basu.



L to R: Dr. Amit Krishna De, Prof. Manas Chakrabarty, Prof. Bikas K. Chakrabarti, Shri Prasanta K. Bose, Prof. Anupam Basu, Prof. Prabir Kumar Saha and Dr. Sivaji Chakravorti

science should be communicated in a better way for the welfare of the nation.

Fourth Professor Biswapati Mukherjee Memorial Lecture was delivered by Professor Anupam Basu, Raja Ramanna Chair Professor at Jadavpur University, Honorary Professor at Shiv Nadar Varsity, distinguished Honorary Professor at Sister Nivedita University, former Director of National Institute of Technology, Durgapur and former Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, IIT Kharagpur, West Bengal. Professor Basu delivered a lecture on “Where Language Meets Technology”. He asserted on the relation between language and technology, and how technology can be utilized constructively to save local language. He further spoke on some notable personalities like Rudolf Flesch, Dale Chall and Robbert Gunning. He emphasized on the readability of text and Dale-Chall readability formula which is an assessment that gives a number scale of the readability of content. The Dale-Chall formula is one of the ways to predict how difficult a text is to be read. The scientific gathering was enamoured of Professor Basu’s informative lecture. He was felicitated by the dignitaries on the dais after the deliberation.

Professor Bikas K. Chakrabarti, Vice-President of ISNA and Former Director of Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Kolkata, addressed the gathering and stated about prospects of science communicators in the forthcoming days.

Professor Prabir Kumar Saha, Honorary Treasurer of ISNA, delivered the Vote of Thanks.

He expressed his heartfelt thanks and gratitude to each and everyone who was a part of the celebration. □

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## National Doctor's Day 2024

The National Doctor’s Day 2024 was celebrated jointly by Indian Science News Association (ISNA) and National Environmental Science Academy (NESA), West Bengal Chapter on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2024, the birthday of legendary physician Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy at N.R. Sen Auditorium, Rashbehari Siksha Prangan. Noted physicians Dr. Prakash Kumar Hazra, Director and Head of Cardiology, Manipal Hospital, Dhakuria and Dr. Jaydeb Ray, Principal and Professor of Pediatrics, Institute of Child Health, Kolkata delivered erudite lectures on the occasion. The program started with the felicitation of the speakers with a presentation of tree saplings by Prof. (Mrs.) Julie Banerji, Vice-President, ISNA. Dr. K. Muraleedharan, President,



L to R: Dr. Amit Krishna De, Prof. Manas Chakrabarty, Dr. Prakash Kumar Hazra, Prof. Julie Banerji, Dr. Jaydeb Ray and Shri Prasanta K. Bose



L to R: Shri Prasanta K. Bose, Dr. Arnab Kumar Banerjee, Dr. Amit Krishna De, Prof. Manas Chakrabarty, Prof. Prabir Kumar Saha, Dr. Jaydeb Ray and Prof. Julie Banerji

ISNA and Former Director, CSIR-CGCRI addressed the gathering online. Prof. Banerji delivered the welcome address where she remembered Dr. Bidhan Chandra Ray as a remarkable figure in India's medical history and as the first Chief Minister of West Bengal, he left an indelible mark on health care and society. She ended her speech by saying that on Doctor's Day let all honour Dr. B.C. Roy's legacy and express gratitude to all healthcare professionals for their tireless service. The two speakers Dr. Prakash Kumar Hazra and Dr. Jaydeb Ray were introduced to the audience by the Honorary Secretaries of ISNA, Prof. Manas Chakrabarty and Dr. Amit Krishna De, respectively Dr. Hazra in his speech described Dr. B.C. Roy as a beacon of compassion, dedication and healing whose legacy transcends time and touches the lives of countless individuals. He dwelt on the various revolutionary modern technologies available in cardiac and health care services and also urged the gathered audience to educate the public about the challenges doctors face in society. Dr. Jaydeb Ray, renowned child health specialist, in his presentation highlighted the dangers of child obesity, its future health risk, the principles of therapy, specially the rule of 5-2-1-0 and other school level approaches to prevent obesity. He ended his talk highlighting that only person's / family's will and lifestyle changes are most important and there are no miracle cures to cure obesity. Both the presentations were heartily appreciated by the audience. Shri Prasana K. Bose, Chairman, Training Program, ISNA and Prof. (Mrs.) Julie Banerji then distributed certificates to the participants of the online workshop on "Science Tabloid Making in Bengali" held during June 26-28, 2024 organised by ISNA. The tabloid named "Sahoj Bigyan" prepared by the students was also released by the dignitaries. The program ended with a vote of thanks by Prof. Prabir Kumar Saha, Honorary Treasurer, ISNA. □

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### **International Faculty Development Program on "Empowering Faculty" – A Report**

The International Faculty Development Program on "Empowering Faculty: Unlocking Opportunities in Research, Academic, and Industry through Effective Scientific Paper, Plagiarism, Grant, and Patent Writing" was successfully organized by the Department of Basic Science & Humanities of Dr. Sudhir Chandra Sur Institute of

Technology and Sports Complex, Dum Dum, Kolkata-700074 from 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024, with notable participation by researchers, faculty members and academicians (both offline and online). The purpose of the program was to learn, share insights and cultivate meaningful connections with people who have proven their excellence in the respective fields.

Day-1 of the program commenced with the 'Welcome Address' by Prof. (Dr.) Saradindu Panda, the Principal of Dr. Sudhir Chandra Sur Institute of Technology and Sports Complex. The first Invited Speaker was Prof. (Dr.) Abhijit Mallik of Department of Electronic Science, University of Calcutta whose topic of deliberation was "Unlocking Potential: Empowering Faculty for Research Excellence and Career Advancement". The same topic was also explained by other eminent speakers to provide different viewpoints. Prof. (Dr.) Sabyasachi Bhattacharya of Agriculture and Ecological Research Unit of Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) and Prof. (Dr.) Jyostna Kumar Mandal of Department of Computer Science Engineering of Kalyani University spoke on the same topic. Dr. Sourav Sarkar of the Department of Material Science and Technology of Jadavpur University explained pursuing research will not only enhance professional or academic credentials but will also help to contribute to the discovery or development of something novel that can make differences in people's lives or a change in the world. One must focus on the key elements to achieve excellence in research.

The next day started with the engrossing speech by Dr. Anuradha Mitra, Senior Scientist in Aditya Birla Science & Technology. Her topic of lecture was "Exploring Opportunities: Bridging the Gap between Academia and Industry". Dr. Partha Bairi, currently working as a Senior Scientific Officer in Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association (ATIRA), demonstrated how one can transform research findings from academia to industry and collaboration with industries to bring about the changes in the welfare of human population.

"Plagiarism and Misappropriation in Science" was the topic of deliberation of Prof. (Dr.) Kevin Flynn of Plymouth Marine laboratory, UK. His topic of lecture was of immense importance for academicians who just have completed their Ph.D. and want to embark their presence in the field of research. Plagiarism has been emerged as an important issue while submitting research to a reputed journal. Researchers must try to write and incorporate their own thoughts without help of any Artificial intelligence (AI) tool or just copying from other's work.



Dr. Subhalakshmi Ghosh, the Director of Alona Life Sciences Pvt Ltd was one of the Keynote Speakers of Day-3. Effortlessly and lucidly, she illustrated the topic “From Idea to Innovation: Navigating the Patent Drafting Process”. ‘Patent Drafting Process’ was also covered by Mr. Chiranton Biswas, an Advocate at Legal Professional Directorate General of Foreign Trade Ministry of Commerce, India. Dr. Vivekananda Mandal, an Associate Professor in the Department of Pharmacognosy of Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, also spoke on the Broadfield of Patent Drafting Process on Day-4.

“Maximizing Scholarly Impact: Strategies for Effective Scientific Paper Writing & Securing Funding: Mastering Grant Proposal Development for Academic Success” was the topic of presentation for both Prof. (Dr.) Nitin Kumar Chattopadhyay of Department of Chemistry, Jadavpur University and Prof. (Dr.) Suhrit Ghosh of the School of Applied & Interdisciplinary Sciences in Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science (IACS). Prof. Chattopadhyay pellucidly elicited some basic yet crucial points that authors need to consider while documenting a manuscript, which is undoubtedly advantageous for people who are new in

the field of research. Prof. Chattopadhyay then focused on ‘Quality Research’. The author must check the authenticity, reproducibility and value of the work before publishing in a reputed peer reviewed journal. The title of the manuscript must be short and crisp and the manuscript must be as compact as possible in order to save the space of the journal. Authors must pay attention to the aspect of morality or ethics while writing down a manuscript.

Prof. (Dr.) Pabitra Kumar Chakrabarti of The University of Burdwan was the last speaker of this wonderful event providing his perspective on “Securing Funding: Mastering Grant Proposal Development for Academic Success”.

This academic event served as a valuable platform for researchers, scholars, faculty members, intellectuals and distinguished speakers by fostering meaningful collaborations, joint initiatives, and stronger ties through the mutual exchange of knowledge and experiences. □

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## INDIAN SCIENCE NEWS ASSOCIATION

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### Students Award on Basic Science Research

**Indian Science News Association (ISNA)** with generous donation received from Professor Mrinal Kanti Dewanjee, USA, is inviting applications from **students of XI and XII standards** for **two awards - one in Physical Science and the other in Life Science**. Each award comprises a cash prize of Rs. 10,000.00 (Rupees ten thousand) and a certificate.

#### *Procedures*

- i. A write-up in Microsoft Word (.doc, .docx) no more than 2000 words in English or Bengali on the **Importance of Basic Science Research including Translational Research** and their impact on Society should be submitted in duplicate to the Honorary Secretaries, Indian Science News Association, 92, A.P.C. Road, Kolkata 700009 in the following e-mail address: isna.mkd.award@gmail.com
- ii. Xerox copy of the self-attested mark sheet of class X Board Examination must be submitted.
- iii. Applicants must be residents of West Bengal.
- iv. Applicants must have scored at least 85 % average marks in Science subjects in Class X of the Board examinations.
- v. Applications should be forwarded through the respective Heads of the Institutions.
- vi. Last date of receiving applications is 22nd November, 2024.
- vii. The write-up will be screened by an Expert Committee, appointed by a competent authority.
- viii. Selected candidates will have to present their proposals, stated in the write-up, before the Expert Committee.
- ix. Awardees would be required to deliver a powerpoint presentation during the Award-giving ceremony.

#### *Brief Profile of Professor Mrinal K. Dewanjee*

Professor Dewanjee, M.Sc. (Chemistry; Dhaka University, Bangladesh), Ph.D. (Nuclear Chemistry/ Physics; McGill University, Canada) was the beneficiary of "Lab Bench-to-Bedside" Translational Research from NIH for developing radioactive tracers for noninvasive imaging and measuring tools in cardiovascular diseases, coronary thrombosis and platelet emboli in neurovascular diseases in animal models. He made the algebraic equation for measuring the platelet density on injured walls of artery and artificial surface of cardiovascular prostheses. They used the methods, approved by the FDA, USA, for imaging site of MI and arterial platelet-thrombi and evaluated the effect of several platelet-inhibitors in animal models and patients. He also measured the platelet emboli in brain from carotid injury and showed the linear relation of shear and platelet fragmentation. At present Professor Dewanjee is an Honorary Guest Scientist at Neurobiology, Neurodegeneration & Repair Laboratory, National Eye Institute, National Institutes of Health, USA. His present interest is in Neuronal Synapse, Longevity and STEM Cell Research, used to treat stroke, retinal blindness, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases. ScholarGPS, a California-based Company giving rankings to all scholars worldwide, has recently named Mrinal K. Dewanjee as a Top Scholar, belonging to the top 0.5% of all scholars.

**Honorary Secretaries, ISNA**

## APPLICATION FOR STUDENT AWARD ON BASIC SCIENCE RESEARCH

1.	Name of the Student	
2.	Father's Name	
3.	Guardian's Name	
4.	Address, Phone and e-mail ID	
5.	Date of Birth	
6.	Class (with stream) as on 22 <sup>nd</sup> November, 2024	
7.	Percentage of average marks in Science subjects in Class X of the Board examination.	
8.	Name of the present School / Institution with address, e-mail ID and phone number	
9.	Have you received any other Awards? If so, mention details.	
10.	A write-up (MS Word: .doc or .docx) in English or Bengali not exceeding 2000 words on the 'Importance of Basic Science Research including Translational Research and their impact on Society'.	

### Declaration:

I hereby declare that the information furnished above is true and that the enclosed essay is an original writing of mine and that I will abide by the terms and conditions of the competition.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the student with date

### Certificate

Certified that the student, named above, is a bonafide student of this Institution which is a Government / Government-aided and recognized School / Institute and that the particulars furnished above have been verified from relevant records and are correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Head of the Institute with seal



**INDIAN SCIENCE NEWS ASSOCIATION**  
**PUBLISHING THE JOURNAL**  
**SCIENCE AND CULTURE (ISSN 0036-8156, SINCE, 1935)**

In response to our appeal for donations published in the Journal *Science and Culture*, 2023 (November-December) issue, the Members of the Council of Indian Science News Association (ISNA) gratefully acknowledge the receipt of a total of Rs. 1,54,200.00 (One lakh fifty four thousand and two hundred only) till May, 2024 from the following persons.

All donations given to ISNA are exempt from Income Tax under Section 80G of Income Tax Act, Govt. of India.

**Professor Manas Chakrabarty**

**Dr. Amit Krishna De**

*Honorary Secretaries, ISNA*

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Prof. Arnab Rai Choudhuri, Bangalore  
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## INDIAN SCIENCE NEWS ASSOCIATION PUBLISHING THE JOURNAL

SCIENCE AND CULTURE (ISSN 0036-8156, SINCE, 1935)

### Renewed Appeal for Donations

Dear Members and Well Wishers,

You are aware that in the November-December issue, 2023 of *Science and Culture*, we appealed to you for giving donations to our organization Indian Science News Association. We are happy to inform you that we have received positive response from many of you. However, it appears that a crosssection of you have not yet favoured us with your financial support.

We, therefore, once again appeal to those of you, who have not yet positively responded, to reconsider our appeal and favour us with your generous donations. All donations given to ISNA are exempt from Income Tax under section 80G of Income Tax Act.

Hope to be duly obliged.

**Professor Manas Chakrabarty**

**Dr. Amit Krishna De**

*Honorary Secretaries, ISNA*

### The proforma for sending the donations to ISNA

I would like to contribute

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