

Students of Gujarat visit Trombay

Students of Gujarat who have excelled in a state-wide STEM Quiz conducted by the State Council for Science and Technology during early 2022 have been provided an opportunity to interact with the BARC scientific community directly by visiting the Trombay campus on 18th of June.

The day before their visit to BARC Trombay campus, the twelve students and their instructors had been to Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, an institute which has gained significant reputation as a centre of excellence for pure and applied research in physics and mathematics in India. Here, students closeted with the scientists to make good sense of the work being pursued unrelentlessly over the years by the scientific community.

After cosying up to the warm hospitality extended by BARC at the newly created DAE Convention Centre in Anushaktinagar soon after their arrival in the evening hours of 17^{th} , these students went to bed with high hopes realising the fact that the "experience (for which) we have been waiting so keenly ever since" is set to unfold the following day.

"As soon as I came to know (the fact that) we would get a chance to enter BARC, I couldn't control my anxiety levels," said a student when asked about his initial impression after the visit. In the midst of nature's abode, these students "enjoyed every moment" in the company of scientists as they visited Dhruva facility, Modular Laboratories, Nuclear Agriculture and Biotechnology labs as well as those housing the Food Technology facilities.

The second half of the day, students paid attention to presentations on research reactors of BARC and the life saving role of radioisotopes, which originate primarily in these reactors and are processed in later stages before they are

dispatched to hospitals for treating various life-threatening diseases, including cancer.

Following this, a skit was enacted in which the performing characters (BARC staff) have addressed the unfounded myths associated with the nuclear energy by employing a mix of popular songs and folk to shed the potential negative publicity about nuclear energy activities. The research activities under nuclear agriculture and biotechnology in BARC have so far yielded 52 new varieties of crops and the finer aspects of this activity have been covered in a presentation for the students, which according to them was "quite informative".

In the last leg of the program, each of the 12 students were presented with certificates of appreciation signed by Director of Knowledge Management Group as well as a hard copy of the book entitled 'Non-power Applications of Nuclear Technologies', edited by Director BARC and Director of Chemistry Group. BARC bid adieu to the students on 19th of June.

Mega Exhibition in Dehradun

'Rise in Uttarakhand – A Mega Exhibition' - has been promoted by the state government and it saw participation from various scientific research bodies under the ambit of state as well as the union government, including DAE, ISRO, DRDO and CSIR. Besides, state-run industrial units, rural cooperative bodies constituted by women self help groups too participated by setting up their stalls at the event.

As per the organisers, the event was planned to bring both industry as well as general public under a single roof so as to facilitate sharing of prospective ideas, which may result in setting up of new industrial units and contribute to job opportunities for the young and educated people of the state.



A majority of the visitors at DAE exhibition in Dehradun expressed deep sense of satisfaction on the positive contributions made by DAE and its constituent units in making India self reliant in several highly sophisticated technology domains over the last more than seven decades.



School students and engineering graduates of prominent institutes situated in the vicinity as well as far-flung areas of Dehradun thronged the three-day exhibition in a major way. which began on 7th of July. Prominent individuals who visited the event include Chief Minister of Uttarakhand Shri Pushkar Singh Dhami, a Rajya Sabha member from the state and various cabinet level ministers of the state government.

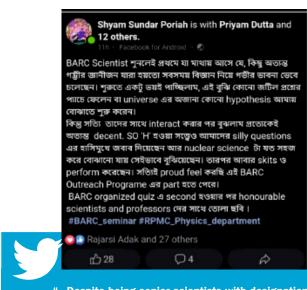
At the event, the Department of Atomic Energy was represented by Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC). The BARC stall was attended by two officers of Scientific Information Resource Division, who engaged with the visitors constructively and gave them a detailed account on the multidiversified nature of scientific research in the centre and also new innovations to support the growth of nuclear energy activities in India. R&D activities of BARC which are specific to the state of Uttarakhand, such as rejuvenation of ageing springs in the upper reaches of Himalayan ranges were increasingly brought to the notice of the visitors to the stall.

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DAE scientists warm up to students in Kolkata

As part of their mission to educate young minds on the positive benefits of nuclear energy, senior officers of several DAE units, including BARC, VECC, BRIT have visited colleges in the vicinity of Kolkata during April 26th-30th, 2022, including to Ramakrishna Mission Residential College in Narendrapur; Vijaygarh Jyotish Ray College in Jadavpur; College Square campus of University of Calcutta, and Raja Peary Mohan College in Hooghly.

The program included presentation by scientists on multi topics such as on Nuclear Reactors, The World of Neutrinos, Innovation and Career Opportunities in DAE, Applications of Radiation and Radioisotopes in Agriculture and Healthcare etc. To strike a positive chord with the students and to also drive home the message properly, stage plays were performed on nuclear energy by making use of terminology which forms part of our daily routine. In addition, quiz programs were organized and the winning students were recognized and feted properly.



.Despite being senior scientists with designation of SO/H, they answered all of our silly questions smilingly and made us understand 'Nuclear Science' in a simplest way. They have performed skits also. I really feel proud to be part of this 'BARC Outreach Programme'...