

# A Brief Report on

## Regional Children Science Congress-2016

Regional Children Science Congress 2016 of NVS Hyderabad Region was organized at Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru from **1<sup>st</sup> December 2016 to 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016**. The programme was co-ordinated by Sh T.Gopala Krishna, Asstt. Commissioner with the help of the principals of JNV Bangaluru Rural and Urban district as per the direction of Deputy Commissioner, NVS Hyderabad Region.

100 selected Students from 70 Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas across Hyderabad Region participated in the Science Congress. All the students along with the escorts reported to the venue on the forenoon of 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016. All the boys and male escort teachers were accommodated at Sikshak Sadan (Teachers' Community Hall, Govt. of Karnataka) KG Road, Near State Bank Circle, Bangalore which is around 8 km away from IISc. Girls were accommodated at 'Fellow Residence Hostel' of Indian Academy of Science at Jalahalli which is around 7 kms. away from IISc. Boarding arrangement was made at 'A' mess at Indian Institute of Science for all the participants on all days. The participants and escorts were transported to the venue and back to the accommodation daily and for outside visits in BMTC Bus of Govt. of Karnataka arranged for the purpose.

Regional Children Science Congress was inaugurated by Prof. Anurag Kumar, Director, Indian Institute of Science at 930am on 01.12.2016. In the inaugural address the Prof. Anurag Kumar, threw light up on the various avenues available to the students to enter into the Indian Institute of Science and he also appraised the students of the importance of studying basic sciences. Sri A. Y. Reddy, Deputy Commissioner, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, Hyderabad Region presided over the function. Sri A. Y. Reddy in his presidential address

elaborated the aims and objectives of NVS, achievements of NVS, the objective behind the conduct of the Regional Children's Science Congress and the role of JNV students in carrying forward the legacy.

Post inaugural session was addressed by Prof.T.N.Guru Row, an eminent scientist and Dean, faculty of Science, Indian Institute of Science. He delivered a lecture on " Symmetry in Nature". Post lunch session was addressed by Prof. Utpal Nath, Biological Science Department, IISc on "How do Genes control shape and size?"

During the post lunch session, students were taken to Aerospace Laboratories of IISc, one of the best in the country where Prof. Jagadeesh Gopalan narrated the history and origin of IISc and demonstrated various research areas especially the Shock wave experiments through his research scholars. He also conducted a practical demonstration of different types of drones manufactured in the aerospace lab and its flying.

Second day of the Regional Children Science Congress was more exciting for the students. The team visited Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Koramangala, Bangalore where Dr. K P Mahesh received the students and they were taken to various laboratories and introduced to various telescopes. They were also introduced to preparations and manufacturing of various types of Lenses. The modalities of getting admission to the Institute were also explained. The visit was very informative.

Around 12.00 PM students were taken to International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore(IITb). All the participants along with the escort teachers visited various labs. Prof. Sadagopan, Director of IITb addressed the students and reminded them of their responsibilities as the future citizens of India and their role as scientists of future. Prof. Debabrata Das and Prof. Chandrashekar delivered the lectures on "What is Network and Why we need it?" and "World of Data and various Data storing devices" respectively. All the participants were given sumptuous lunch by the IITb.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2016 first session was on “Fun with Chemistry” by the research scholars of Prof. Uday Maitra of Department of Organic Chemistry of IISc. After tea, all the participants were taken to Super Computer Lab, where amazing facts about the fastest super computer and its configuration, working etc were explained by Sri Bhattacharya, one of the research scholars. After lunch, students visited Biology Lab of IISc, where students were exposed to various instruments and its functioning by research scholars of Prof. K.N.Balaji. Then students were taken to ‘Open Circuit Wind Tunnel, where the scaled models of Aircrafts were tested for their wind tolerance capacity. Dr. Sheshadiri, took all the participants inside the tunnel and explained its use. The students were thrilled to enter in the tunnel. In the evening session selected students from various schools presented their seminar papers/projects and it was followed by discussion. Some of the alumni who are doing various courses and researches in various labs of IISc gathered and gave a talk on various avenues available to them in IISc and other academic issues related to their professions.

On 4<sup>th</sup> December 2016, Prof. Praneshachar, Department of Mathematics, IISc, an eminent faculty who was associated with the conduct of Maths Olympiad delivered lecture on ‘Fun with mathematics’. The talk by the professor was very informative and useful. There after the students were taken to ‘Namma Metro’ the Bangalore Metro train for a ride in Metro Train as none of the participants travelled in any metro train till date. The journey commenced from Mysore Sandal Soap Factory, a station near to IISc to another station called Nagasandra for about 30 minutes and back. At Nagasandra, Sri.Siddalingappa the Customer relation officer and Sri Shivayogi, Station Controller of Metro explained the various technical elements pertaining to Metro rail and financial aspects involved in running Metro Trains. The students were really excited and felt very happy with the travel arrangements made.

All the participants were next taken to Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum, Bangalore where students spent about 3 hrs and got opportunities to play and learn with many working models

which involves theories of physics and other science. Again in the evening, remaining students presented their seminar papers and projects prepared under the guidance of their respective teachers.

On 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016, all the participants visited Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) established by Pro. C.N.Rao at Jakkur, Bangalore and attended lectures delivered by eminent scholars arranged by the institute on various science topics. The students got an opportunity to interact with Pro. K.N. Ganesh, the Director of ISER, Pune also. Lunch was offered to all the participants by JNCASR.

On return from JNCASR, the participants visited Nano Technology Laboratories in the campus and watched research at various field pertaining to Nano technology and talked to the research scholars. They also observed Nano particles in some of the laboratories.

News Letters containing the activities of the day, reports, feedback of students and teachers, photograph of the functions and visits etc prepared by a team of teachers were released daily during the function.

The valedictory function started at 4 pm in the CHOKSI HALL of IISC. on the fifth day of Regional Science Congress ie. On 05.12.2016. The Chief Guest of the function was Prof.M.K. Surappa, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, IISC. Sri A. N Ramachandra, Head- Administration, INSTEM, NCBS, Bangalore presided over the function. Shri. AN Ramachandra, narrated the origin and concept behind the organization of children Science congress and the role of the participants to fulfill the objectives. All the participants were awarded with the Participation certificates. The programme concluded at 530pm.

On each day of the congress a News letter- "Navagnaam" was published and circulated among all the participants. The soft copy of the news letter was also sent to all JNVs through email, which covered all important news pertaining to the *programmes* conducted.

From the feedback of students and teachers, it is felt that, the participants and escort teachers were very happy about the visits of various research institutes/ labs, the talk delivered by eminent professors, boarding and lodging arrangements and other logistics.

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