

EVENTS IN FEBRUARY 2019

NEHRU SCIENCE CENTRE, MUMBAI

Workshop for Tribal teachers

The centre organized 2 day workshop for tribal teachers in collaboration with VigyanPrasar, Delhi on innovative physics experiments on 1st and 2nd February, 2019. Simple Physics related experiments on various concepts like weight, buoyancy, force, pressure using low cost material were taught to 48 tribal teachers from remote areas around Thane. The workshop was conducted by Shri. Manish Kumar, science communicator, VigyanPrasar. Participation certificates and do it yourself science kits were also distributed to all the teachers at the end of the workshop.

Innovation Festival 2019

3rd Innovation Festival was organized at the Centre during February 2-4, 2019. The festival was inaugurated by the Prof Vasant Shinde, Vice Chancellor, Deccan University, Pune. The main theme for the festival was 'Innovations in Teaching and Learning Methods'. There were in all 52 stalls and about 153 participants. The participants included Teacher Innovators from Maharashtra and Gujarat, Science Communicating organizations such as HomiBhabha Centre for Science Education, Marathi Vidhya Parishad, Agastya International Foundation and a few individual science communicators. Among the other participants were IIT, Bombay with their flagship project FOSSEE, K J Somaiya Institute for Engineering and IT, Auto Institute, Research Innovation Incubation Design Lab, Mumbai, IDC, IIT, Bombay, student projects from Atal Tinkering Labs, student innovators, Individual innovators etc. There was a separate section on innovative Creations wherein several individual innovators and Industrial Design Centre, IIT, Bombay participated with their innovative creations. In addition to the exhibition of the projects, there were demonstrations by artists from J J School of Arts on pottery, clay modelling and spot painting. There were workshops on Fun tricks, fundamentals of air pressure and underwater robotics for students. There were workshops for teachers on the fun with Science and Innovative experiments in Physics. Special Science demonstrations and Make & Take hands-on activities were conducted at the NSC stall for the visitors of the exhibition. The festival culminated with the valedictory address by Shri Keshav Sharma, Airport Authority of India. In all around 9000 students, teachers and the general public visited the festival. During the festival, various workshops were conducted. Workshop on Fun with Science for secondary teachers by Shri Krishnendu Chakraborty, Science Communicator, Kolkata was organized on 2nd – 4th February, 2019 in which 30 teachers participated. 2 separate workshops on Fun tricks and Fundamental of pressure were conducted by SeemaMuralidharan on February 2 and 3, 2019 for 60 and 55 school children. Underwater Robotics by Smarvon was conducted for 64 students on February 3, 2019.

A popular Science talk by Prof. Anil Kumar Gupta, Centre for Management in Agriculture, IIM Ahmedabad was organized on February 3, 2019, on the topic "Innovation". The lecture was attended by 100 visitors.

A popular lecture on the topic “Physics and Mumbai City” was also organized on February 4, 2019 which was delivered by Prof. Vijay Singh, CEBS, Mumbai. 350 students and general visitors enjoyed the lecture.

The launch of Flight Simulator

Flight simulator, a precious artefact donated by Air India, was launched for public viewing by Shri Keshava Sharma, Regional Executive Director, Western Region, Airports Authority of India (AAI), Mumbai on 4th Feb, 2019 at the centre. 60 visitors including officials from AAI were present during the launch.

Inter-school Science Quiz Contest Final (English & Marathi)

The final round of Marathi medium quiz was conducted on 9th February 2019 morning whereas in the afternoon English medium Final round was conducted by Dr. Arnab Bhattacharya, Science Communicator from TIFR. As this year is being celebrated as the International Year of Periodic Table, various interesting and entertaining questions on Chemistry were asked. The quiz was followed by the Valediction and Prize Distribution Function. Over 300 students from both the medium attended the Grand Finale, Prize Distribution & Valediction programme.

Brain Week Awareness Week 2019

The Brain awareness week was celebrated during February 11th-17th, 2019 at the centre in collaboration with Dr N S Vahia Foundation and with support from McLean Hospital, Harvard, USA. An exhibition on Brain and Mental Health care and also the demonstration of the real human brain was also conducted during the week for schools and general visitors. Famous Australian cricketer Shane Warne inaugurated the exhibition. Total of 42 lectures were also organised during the workshop on various topics related to brain and mental health awareness. Around 6000 general visitors attended these lectures in the span of 7 days.

Around 2700 students and general visitors enjoyed hands-on experience of making neuron structures using pipe cleaners and beads, watching various tissues of the brain through microscopes and thrilling experience of seeing and handling of the real human brain were the fascinating attractions of the workshop.

National Productivity Week 2019

National productivity Week celebration

National Productivity week was celebrated during February 12- 18, 2019 with the support from National Productivity Council, Mumbai Regional Office. The theme for this year was – Circular Economy for Productivity & Sustainability. 3 workshops on ‘Best out of the Waste’ and a Popular Science Lecture on the topic, **The Magic of ‘R’: The Basics of Circular Economy**, was also organized on 16th February 2019 for school students. The resource person was Mr Shrikant Parab, Mentor, Clean We Go NGO and Director of Asia Affairs, Delta Group of Holdings. About 265 students and teachers participated in the workshops and the lecture.

National Science Day 2019 Celebration

National Science Day-2019 was celebrated at the Centre, during 22nd-28th February, 2019 to mark the well-known discovery of a great Indian scientist Sir. C. V. Raman, by organizing the following programmes and competitions for school/college students, teachers and the general public. The theme of this year's National Science Day celebration was "Communicating Science to all"

A. National Geographic Film Festival 2019

As a part of National Science Day 2019 celebration, the centre in collaboration with National Geographic organized a "Nehru Science Centre presents-National Geographic Film Festival" during 22nd to 27th February 2019. During the festival, 5 movies named, Mission to the Sun, Hubble's Amazing Universe, ISS 24/7 on a space station, Curiosity Life of a Mars Rover, Mangalyaan: India's Mission to Mars, were screened. 11 shows were organized for 3020 visitors.

B. Workshop on hands-on science for underprivileged children

Centre conducted 2 workshops on hands-on science for underprivileged children on 22nd & 23rd February, 2019. Hands-on activities like making paper rotocopter, woodpecker, and fish in the bowl were made by the students. Total of 84 underprivileged children from 3 NGS's around Mumbai participated in the workshop.

C. Sit and Draw Competition

On 23rd February, 2019 Sit and Draw competition were held in 3 different categories. The topic for category A was "Nature around us" in which 68 students upto std. 5th participated. For Category B and C the topic was Methods of communication in which 105 students of std. 6th & 7th and 64 students from Std. 8th to 10th participated. 4 Special children also participated in the competition.

D. Inter-School Science Quiz Contest (Written)

Inter School Science Quiz competition was held on February 23, 2019, at Nehru Science centre, Mumbai. The topic was "General Science and Technology". Total 50 MCQ questions were projected on the screen in the form of PPT and students were given answer sheets to mark. Total of 80 students from various schools around Mumbai participated in the quiz.

E. Seminar on Waste Management and its Impact on Climate Change

Clean we go in association with Nehru Science Centre, Mumbai, Invento Club and Indian Environment club had organized a seminar cum lecture was delivered by Mr. Shrikant Parab, Director of Asia Affairs, Delta Group Holding INC. Mentor of Clean We Go, on the topic of waste management and its impact on climate change on 24th February, 2019. About 160 visitors participated in the program.

F. Popular Science Lecture

Two popular science lecture lectures were organised at the centre. On 25th February 2019, the popular lecture was delivered by Padmashree Prf. Rohini Godbole, Centre for High Energy Physics, IISc, Bengaluru on the topic of "Beauty of science and doing science". Around 350 visitors including students, teacher and general public attended the lecture. Prof. Sunar V. Atre, Endowed Chair of manufacturing and materials, Dept. of

Mechanical Engineering, Uni. Of Louisville, USA delivered a lecture on 26thFebruary, 2019 on the topic of “3D printing”. Around 325 visitors including students, teacher and general public attended the lecture.

G. Street Play / NukkadNatak

Street play / NukkadNatak was organised at NSC, Mumbai on February 26, 2019 in which 5 schools participated in the competition on the topic of “Science and Society”. 5 street plays were performed by 53 Students. 150 visitors enjoyed the street play competition. At the end of the program to give an idea about how real street plays should be performed, a special street play was organized by the centre which was performed by the artist of Natyashala Charitable Trust, Mumbai

H. Under Water Robotics Workshop and Competition

Under Water Robotics workshop & competition was held on February 26, 2019 at the centre by Mr. Mirza Samnani of Team Technovators. All students got hands-on experience of making ROV robots. They also had a competition to build robots and test in water in the given time limit. In the end, all teams had quiz competition. After these various competitions, 2 teams were selected as winners for 1st and 2nd prize. Around 52 students and their 8 teachers from 10 various schools around Mumbai participated in the workshop.

I. Science Toys making Workshop for specially-abled children

The workshop for specially-abled children was organized by the centre on 27thFebruary, 2019. 60 children along with their teachers participated in the workshop. During the workshop activities like vibrating snake, balancing toy, slime etc were prepared by the students.

J. Hands-on Science for School students

Workshop on Hands-on Science for School students of std. 7th to 9th was organized at the centre on 27thFebruary, 2019. The workshop was conducted by Curiosity Gym. Several hands-on activities which included Fun learning activities on Science, Critical Thinking, Computer Science, Maths, Exposure to Design Thinking paradigms. 50 students from around 10 schools thoroughly enjoyed all the activities and were excited to learn much more from the mentors of Curiosity Gym.

K. Sir C.V. Raman Memorial Lecture

The event was culminated on 28thFebruary, 2019 by organizing Sir C. V. Raman Memorial lecture. Dr. A. P. Jayaraman, Nuclear Scientist & Chairman, National Centre for Science Communicators delivered the lecture on the topic “Raman: An Ideal Student Model”. He also distributed prizes to the winners of various competitions. About 250 visitors including students, teachers and the general public attended the lecture and the valedictory function. On this occasion, the special temporary exhibition “Gandhi&Science” was formally inaugurated by Dr. A. P. Jayaraman.

L. Special Science shows and sky observation program

During this event, 27 science shows were conducted for 1572 visitors. Also, 7 special sky observation program were organized during the week for 350 visitors.

M. Outreach programme at Observation Home and Children's Home, Dongri

As a part of National Science Day celebration, in accordance with the theme (Communicating Science to all), the Centre organized an outreach programme for the socially and financially deprived children at the observation Home (Children's Aid Society), Dongri, Sandhurst Road on 28th February 2019. A science show on "Fun with Science" was organized for a group of 256 children at the children's home and a hands-on workshop, for a group of 74 students in the age group of 12 -14 years.

The event was catalyzed and supported by the National Council for Science and Technology Communication (NCSTC), Department of Science and Technology, Government of India and Rajiv Gandhi Science and Technology Commission, Government of Maharashtra.

Mobile Science Exhibition in Kolhapur District

During the month, Mobile Science Exhibition(MSE) on curriculum-based was organized in 9 different schools of Kolhapur district. In addition to the exhibition, science shows and science film shows were also organized for the students and teachers.

Visits of Underprivileged Children

During the month, visits of 9329 underprivileged students and teachers from 64 institutes / NGOs were organized. They were given exposure to the various facilities at the centre under this scheme. Guided tour to the galleries, Science Odyssey show, 3D science show, Science on a Sphere show and Science Shows were organised for these children. They were also provided refreshments.

Package Tour

During the month, the Centre has extended the facility of package tour on advance booking for 13393 students and teachers of 92 schools. Apart from Science Odyssey, Science on a Sphere and 3D shows, they were given a guided tour of the galleries, science shows, and spark theatre shows were also organized.