

## **Press Report: One Day IISF Outreach Program organized at CSIR-NEIST, Jorhat**

A One Day Outreach Program as a precursor to the Second India International of Science Festival was organized at CSIR-NEIST, Jorhat on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016. The participants were entrepreneurs, NGOs and Students of different educational institutions from in and around Jorhat including Kendriya Vidyalaya, Kaziranga University, Luit Valley Academy, Army Public School, Crescent Academy and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya. A total of 175 students, 17 teachers besides many local entrepreneurs, NGOs, etc participated in the programme.

The Day was observed as Open Day and began with the inauguration of the Exhibition by Dr D.Ramaiah, Director, CSIR-NEIST. The participants were fascinated by the display of achievements of Indian scientists particularly CSIR and CSIR-NEIST and to learn of the forthcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> IISF to be held at CSIR-NPL, New Delhi from 7<sup>th</sup> December to 11<sup>th</sup> December 2016. A flyer depicting the various aspects of Science for the masses – ‘India International Science Festival 2016’ was distributed among all. The participants were enthralled by the working model of Micro light Propeller Hydro Turbine by Mr Kamal Chandra Saikia and Innovative Extraction of Bioproducts from Biomass by Mr Bhagaban Baruah and lauded the technical guidance provided by TOCIC-NEIST, under the PRISM project sponsored by DSIR. All participants visited the labs and interacted with scientists. The face to face program with scientists was a lively affair with interactions over wide range of topics and stretched way beyond the scheduled time and continued during lunch. A technical session was held at 2 pm and Director Dr D.Ramaiah presided over the session and welcomed all to the technical session and spoke briefly on the significance of the Outreach Program and introduced all.

The Children were enthused by the deliberations of Guest of Honor Dr Uddhab Kumar Bharali who said that Innovation cannot come to those who are comfortable, but must be considered as assignment. An Innovation becomes one in the true sense only when it finds an end user. Dr Bharali gave a brilliant exposition of some notable one from his repertoire of 118 inventions. The participants were amazed to see that his innovations benefitted all strata of people and also to animals.

Chief Guest, Dr Sunil Rai, Vice Chancellor of Kaziranga University complimented Dr Bharali on his numerous innovations and introspected on the blessings of science and invoked everyone to be proud of their heritage. He said that complicated problems can have simple solutions. He further recommended that innovations should be for the masses and be environment friendly.

Child scientists who have represented the state in national level and the country in International level were also felicitated on the occasion. They are Miss Bidisha Gogoi, Ms Dimpri Deori, Mr Debojit Gogoi and Mr Prudom Priyanga Dutta.

Miss Teetu Yoka, Secretary of the Action Aid Society, Arunachal Pradesh enthused students that rather than looking for jobs, they should innovate and have their own enterprise. They can then even provide employment to others.

While giving their feedback all the participants expressed that they felt **privileged** to be a part of the IISF Outreach Program. Students expressed their experience as **inspirational, enriching** and requested the institute for such opportunities in future as well.



Inauguration of the Exhibition



Interaction with Exhibitors



Interaction with Scientists

