Department of Science & Technology

Important Developments/Achievements

August, 2018

(i)   Children's Science Congress is being organized all over the country on the Focal Theme of "Science Technology and Innovation for Clean, Green and Healthy Nation". Regional Workshop to orient the State Coordinators and State Academic Coordinators to new Focal Theme was organized in Chandigarh University, Mohali from 29-31 August, 2018. State Coordinators and State Academic Coordinators from the northern states of J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Chandigarh, Haryana and Delhi attended.

(ii)   Augmenting Writing Skills for Articulating Research (AWSAR), a new initiative that aims to communicate and disseminate Indian research stories among masses in a format that is easy to understand and interesting for a common person. Department of Science and Technology (DST) invited popular science articles from Indian PhD Scholars and Post-Doctoral Fellows (PDFs) working in R&D Universities and Institutions about their respective research through *Call for Entries* that is open from 15 August 2018 till 30 September 2018.

(iii)   Mobile Science Exhibition (MSE) Bus was launched by Pushpa Gujral Science City, Kapurthala-Punjab INDIA. 400 students at Punjab Public School Nabha visited the MSE. Director General School Education (DGSE), Punjab was contacted to outreach all districts of Punjab for the visit of MSE. A detailed visit schedule in Coordination with DGSE and District Education Officers of the State for the academic session 2018-19 was planned.

(iv)   1st Meeting of Technical Advisory Committee on "Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, Medicine (STEMM)- India Initiative" (Bharat Vigyan Darshan) was organized on 30-31st August, 2018 at Fakir Mohan University, Balasore, Odisha. Necessary recommendation/suggestions were made for new/ ongoing proposals. Project completion report of completed project were also evaluated during the meeting.

(v)   DST representative participated in the Science Diplomacy Programme organised by The World Academy of Science (TWAS) during 20-24 August 2018. The participants for this course were drawn mainly from developing countries like from Africa (Kenya, Nigeria, Sudan, South Africa, Uganda), Latin America (Argentina, Costa Rica, Mexico, Venezuela), South East Asia (Indonesia, Malaysia), South Asia (India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka). These participants were academician, researchers, policymaker, diplomats etc. The course was essentially meant for capacity building in Science Diplomacy in developing countries and build next generation of science diplomats and scientists who may engage in international negotiation on various global issues.

(vi)   The 9th session of the India Bulgaria Joint Committee for Science & Technology Cooperation Meeting was held during August 8-10, 2018 at the Ministry of Education and Science (MES), Sofia, Bulgaria.

(vii) The Department has brought out a publication entitled 'Directory of R&D Institutions 2018' eleventh in the series containing list of around 6862 R&D institutions, distributed sector-wise under Central Government, State sector, Public Sector, Private Sector and Higher Education. Details of complete addresses of R&D institutions including phone, fax, e-mail and web site have also been given wherever possible. The Directory is widely used by professionals engaged in policy making, planning science, administration, industry, teaching and research apart from other stakeholders active in S&T sector in the country.

(viii) Smart Girds R&D Conclave was organised on 27th August, 2018 at IIT Delhi, New Delhi to create possible collaboration among academic institutions, utilities and industries to exploit for its commercialization and deployment in real time. This Smart Grids Conclave brought together 151 participants with 86 participants from 22 academic institutions, 43 participants from 32 Industries and 22 participants from 18 utilities companies for discussion on various issues pertaining to deployment of smart grids.

(ix) A National Centre for Development of Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Processes for Clean Coal Technologies for Power Applications has been supported to develop processing and fabrication technologies namely, coating welding machining and new materials for the high performance power generating systems (HPPGS) in coal based power plants.

(x) Project Advisory and Monitoring Committee on National Programme on Carbon Sequestration (NPCS) Research under SPLICE Division was held on Monday the 20th August, 2018, at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Total 9 projects were reviewed in the meeting. A proposal on a Network Programme on Bioalgal Sequestration was presented and discussed during the meeting.

(xi) Dr Rajiv Kumar, Vice-Chairman NITI Aayog released reports of Five Working Groups contributing to Sustainable development in the Indian Himalayan Region set up by NITI Aayog in 2017 on Thursday the 23rd August in the presence of Dr VK Saraswat, Member and Shri Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog. One of the Working Groups on "**Inventory and Revival of Springs in the Himalayas for Water Security**" was led by the Department of Science & Technology.

(xii) A kick-off meeting was held on 14th August, 2018 at IIT, Bombay on SMART Planning and Operations of Grids with Renewables and Storage (SPOReS) to implement smart building efficiency solutions government offices.

(xiii) An IoT based integrated water management project having innovative water harvesting in situ quality and quantity sensing and monitoring and novel water disinfection and treatment system has been initiated in 16 villages of Buhana Panchayat in Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan.

(xiv) A Pilot Project having Smart Control Architecture with Real Time Smart Meter Data has been setup at the corporate office of Bangalore Electricity Company Limited (BESCOM). The system architecture has the ability of intelligent monitoring of consumer load on distribution network. Activation /De-activation of the load can be done remotely to have better assets management.