

Department of Science & Technology

Important Developments/Achievements

June, 2018

- (i) A bilateral meeting between Hon'ble Minister for Science & Technology and Deputy Prime Minister of Uzbekistan H.E. Mr. Sukhrov Kholmuradov was held in New Delhi on 27th June 2018 to discuss ways to revive Indo-Uzbek bilateral S&T cooperation which is presently dormant. During the meeting it was agreed to cooperate in the areas of Renewable Energy, Metallurgy, Physics, Biotechnology and ICT by supporting bilateral seminars and joint R&D projects.
- (ii) The 1st Indo-French Joint S&T Committee meeting was held on 25th June 2018 in New Delhi. The Committee was co-chaired by Secretary, Department of Science & Technology and Director General, French Ministry of Higher Education, Research, and Innovation, respectively, on the Indian and French side. Both sides discussed their national priorities and programs in Science, Technology and Innovation. The Joint Committee identified i) Energy Research (including energy storage, mobility, on and off grid and grid security), ii) Manufacturing, iii) Water & Waste management, Diabetes and Metabolic disease, iv) Biomedical devices, v) Antimicrobial Research, vi) Weather forecast & climate modeling, and vi) AI & IoT (for healthcare, agriculture, education and skilling, smart cities & infrastructure, smart mobility & transportation, and disaster management) as areas for future collaborations.
- (iii) Thirty young meritorious Indian scholars in the field of physiology and medicine and allied areas participated in the 68th Nobel Laureates meeting held in Lindau, Germany during 24-29 June 2018.
- (iv) The Department deputed 27 young Indian Scientist / Innovators for participation in 3rd BRICS Scientist Conclave which was held in Durban (South Africa) during 25-29 June 2018. The Conclave covered 3 themes namely Energy, Water and Use of ICT for Societal applications. The Conclave also organised BRICS Young Innovators Award competition. One Indian innovator aged 23 years was awarded the "BRICS most promising Innovator" during the Conclave.
- (v) India participated in the "The Fourth Meeting of BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Funding Working Group held on 30 June 2018 in Durban, South Africa. Total 31 BRICS R&D projects were shortlisted /prioritized for funding support out of which India is a partner in 26 projects. Advanced materials and nanotechnology and, Biotechnology and biomedicine including human health and neuroscience once again emerged as leading areas of common interest for collaboration. Other areas include New and renewable energy, Water and pollution treatment, Natural disaster management and ICT".
- (vi) A workshop on India-Thailand Cooperation in Geo-Spatial technology was held at Surveyor General's Office, Survey of India, Dehradun from 19th to 22nd June, 2018.
- (vii) DST Secretary and other DST officials took part in Yoga session on International Yoga Day 2018 furthering the Yoga movement initiated by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

(viii) One day State-level workshop cum meeting of District Nodal Officers (DNOs) for the implementation of INSPIRE Awards – MANAK, was held at Himachal University, Shimla on 14th June 2018.