

### India International Science Festival (IISF)- 2016

- Inauguration of Mega Science Technology & Industry expo by Dr. Harsh Vardhan and Shri Y.S. Chowdary.
- Science Village- Mega Student Camp, one of the main focus of IISF, 2016.
- Students for the science village were selected under Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana Scheme, laid by the government.



India International Science Festival (IISF)- 2016, jointly organized by Ministry of Science and Technology and Ministry of Earth Sciences in collaboration with Vijnana Bharti (VIBHA), commenced at National Physical Laboratory (NPL), Delhi on December 7.

The mega event aims to provide a single platform to promote interaction among the young generation and scientists to share as well as spread ideas and discoveries. The 2<sup>nd</sup> India International Science Festival (IISF) kick-started with the inauguration of Mega Science Technology & Industry Expo by Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Science & Technology and Ministry of Earth Sciences, and Y.S. Chowdary, Minister of State for Science and Technology.

The five day festival is showcasing outstanding achievements developed by Indian laboratories in the recent past. The main focus of the event are Young Scientists' Meet, Scientific Workshops, DST-INSPIRE national level camp, Science Village, Industry-Academia Interaction, International Science Film Festival, Mega Science Technology & Industry Expo followed by cultural programs and other activities.

Speaking on the occasion Dr Vardhan said: "Any new and innovative idea will be appreciated and supported by our science department and the government. Let's learn science in a more creative way."

Science Village- Mega Student Camp, is said one of the main focus of IISF 2016. Nearly 1000 students visited the festival on the inaugural day. The participants included many outstation students also. Dr.

Girish Sahni, Secretary, Department of Scientific & Industrial Research, Professor Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, Department of S&T, and Dr. Vijay Raghawan, Secretary, Department of Bio-Technology accompanied the ministers to the camp. Also present on the occasion where, Dr. Vijay P. Bhatkar and A. Jayakumar, President and General Secretary respectively of the co-organizing agency VIBHA.

Reaching the unreachable is the main moto of this mega camp. Students were selected by the Members of parliament from the villages in their areas. Selected students were divided into eight houses. These houses are named after the eminent scientists.

“In terms of science, these events have a lot to teach and tell us” says Deepti Chawla, a teacher from Raman Lal Shorawala International School, Raval Village, Mathura. Their school was nominated by actress-politician Hema Malini under Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana, scheme.

The exhibition will continue up to December 11 and cover exciting information and ideas about many cutting edge technologies, scientific ideas in exciting fields in addition to display of innovative models by young students. The formal inauguration of the IISF and Young Scientists'Conclave will be done on December 8 by Union Minister for Home Affairs Rajnath Singh.

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Ref: IISF 2016