

## Prime Minister inaugurates the 104<sup>th</sup> Indian Science Congress

Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi inaugurated the 104<sup>th</sup> Indian Science Congress 2017 at Tirupati in Andhra Pradesh on 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2017. “If we want science to deliver, we must not constraints it”, he said. In his hour long address to science scholars, scientists and dignitaries; he strongly emphasized the need for institutions to give more importance to research and envisioned India to be one of the top three countries in science and technology by 2030. He also paid tribute to Padma vibhushan Dr. MGK Menon, an institution builder and eminent scientist at TIFR, Mumbai, whom the country lost in November 2016.



Members of the dais included Shri E. S. L. Narasimhan, Governor of Andhra Pradesh, Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of State for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, Union Minister for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, Shri Y. S. Chowdary, State Minister for Science & Technology and Earth, Professor D. Narayana Rao, Sciences General President of the Indian Science Congress Association and Professor A. Damodaram, Vice Chancellor of Sri Venkateswara University who also joined hands to inaugurate the Indian Science Congress.

Dr. Harsh Wardhan advocated that innovations in science and technology have the potential to meet the growing needs of today and address the challenges of the future. He emphasized the need to find solutions to waste management, water pollution, clean energy, development of newer and better vaccines, agriculture and animal husbandry for sustainable and holistic national development.



The Indian Science Congress is a premier institution with headquarters in Kolkata and over 30,000 scientists, who meet in the first week of January every

year. They discuss innovations in science and technology with an emphasis to stimulate research that is crucial for development.

This year's science congress is an endeavor to build upon and hold true to its theme- Science and Technology for National Development. Beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> of January, the congress will provide an opportunity to scholars and visionaries to listen to eminent Nobel laureates from across the globe and Indian scientists who have made a significant contribution to the society.

The 5 days of the Indian science congress in the holy city of Tirupati will help scientists showcase their research, and network with like-minded community of scholars. PM Modi congratulated the Indian scientists by saying, "The nation will always be grateful to the scientists who have worked tirelessly to empower our society by their vision, labour, and leadership".

The upcoming week until January 7<sup>th</sup>, will witness seminal sessions in the field of cyber security, environment and clean energy, nanotechnology, space research, and advanced computing. It will also hold special sessions during the women's science congress, and children science congress that aim to attract young and enthusiastic talent into science. A science communicators meet for academicians, activists, journalists, film makers, scientists, and communicators will provide for professional growth and popularization of science.

Meanwhile, 18,000 participants and scientists from Indian universities and research institutions at the Indian Science Congress 2017 would brainstorm on critical scientific issues and developments in the upcoming week in Tirupati.

Bhavya Khullar  
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