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Science congress draws to a close

Special Correspondent



Innovators: Winners of the Young Scientist and Children's Scientist awards of the 23rd Kerala Science Congress line up after receiving the awards at the Centre for Earth Science Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, on Monday. — Photo: C. Ratheesh kumar

The curtains came down on the 23rd Kerala Science Congress (KSC) at the Centre for Earth Science Studies here on Monday evening with the distribution of awards for young scientists and children who presented scientific papers.

C.T.S. Nair, Executive Vice President, Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment (KSCSTE), delivered the valedictory address and gave away the awards.

Addressing the gathering, he stressed the need for more emphasis on basic science research.

Basic science

He said the craze to secure admission for professional courses like medicine and engineering had shifted the focus from basic science. Mr. Nair called upon scientists to focus on socially-relevant research.

Kerala Science Congress chairman R.V.G. Menon said the participation of women scientists was encouraging.

The large number of girls who participated in the children's science congress was also a good sign, he added.

A. Subramoniam, Director, Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (TBGRI), Kamalakshan Kokkal, Joint Director, KSCSTE and S.G.Sreekanteswara Swamy, Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology were present.

The following are the winners of the Young Scientist award: Information Technology and Computer Science — M. Manoj, National Institute of Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (NIIST); Agriculture — S. Shanavas, Central Tuber Crops Research Institute (CTCRI); Biotechnology — N. Sai Shyam, NIIST; Chemical Sciences and Technology — K.P.Vivya, NIIST.

Earth System Science and Geo Informatics — V.J.Rajesh, Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology; Environmental Science — V.N. Anupama, NIIST; Fishery and Veterinary Sciences — Hiron M. Harshan, College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Mannuthy; Health Science — Lynda Velutheril Thomas, research scholar; Life Science — U. Prakash Kumar, Centre for Medicinal Plants Research; Physical Science — M.K.Suresh, Mar Ivanios College.

Paper presentation

The schoolchildren who were presented with prizes for their papers presented at the congress are: P.Akhila, VV Higher Secondary School, Tamarakulam, Alappuzha; V.V.Adarsh, GHSS, Kottila, Kannur; Shonima Nelliath, GHSS, Munderi; S.Keerthika, UPGS Karunagapally, Kollam; Linda Mathew, Vimala Hridaya HSS, Kollam; V.A.Parvathy, Sree Narayana Public School, Kollam; H. Bhuvaneshwari, SMV HSS, Poonjar, Kottayam; Sachu Reji, St.Mary's HSS, Teekoy, Kottayam.

T.K.Muhammed Juvais, KPEHS, Kayakody, Kozhikode; Nimnadas, Memunda HSS, Kozhikode; St.Paul's EM HSS, Thenhipalam, Malappuram; V.V.Arsha, RM HSS, Melattur, Malappuram; Achu S.Kumar, SNDP HS, Chathankary, Pathanamthitta; H.Bhavana, Carmel GHSS, Thycaud, Thiruvananthapuram; Shafna Ramsana, DVMNNM HSS, Maranalloor, Kattakada.

Swathy Krishna, MMR HSS, Neeramankara, Thiruvananthapuram; Helvin M.Geevar, Government VHSS, Pazhanji,

Thrissur; S.Aswin, Perambra HSS, Kozhikode; Neeraja S.Nair, GHSS, Venjaramoodu, Thiruvananthapuram; Ashley Sreejan, Perambra HSS, Kozhikode and M.P.Shilpa, GHSS, Iringallur, Palazhi, Kozhikode.

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