

Today's Paper » NATIONAL » KERALA

Published: September 22, 2010 00:00 IST | Updated: September 22, 2010 04:24 IST

Internship science camp at NIIST

Special Correspondent

200 students from schools across the State are taking part in the camp

As many as 200 students from schools across the State are participating in a week-long internship science camp that began at the National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (NIIST) here on Monday.

Named INSPIRE, the camp is designed to strengthen the science and technology base at the national level by attracting young talent to science.

Students with high academic record in Class 10 and pursuing Plus One and Plus Two in the science stream were selected for the camp, sponsored by Department of Science and Technology of the Union government.

Inaugurating the camp, B.N. Suresh, Director, Indian Institute for Space Science and Technology (IIST), highlighted the original contributions made by ancient India such as decimal systems, zero, metallurgy and astronomy. He also recalled the contributions made by visionaries such as Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in the post-Independence era in establishing and nurturing a number of science and technology institutions and public sector enterprises.

He emphasized the immense potential of the three T's, namely IT (information technology), BT (biotechnology) and NT (nanotechnology) in the development of the science and technology sector in India.

Laboratory visits

Suresh Das, Director, NIIST, CSIR who delivered the presidential address, said that by 2030, India would outstrip the U.S., Japan and Germany to become the second largest economy in the world, next to China. "In order to make this a reality, India has to make major strides in the field of science and technology; for it is well known that every leading nation in the history of mankind has been a leader in science and technology," he said.

The camp comprises interactive technical lectures and experimental demonstrations by reputed scientists and academics, laboratory visits and scientific demonstrations, visits to other scientific institutions, science quiz, video screening of major scientific discoveries and innovations, and distribution of educational tools.

The INSPIRE programme is designed to attract students to the study of science and build the required critical human resource pool for strengthening and expanding the research and development base.

Designed to strengthen science, technology base

Interactive technical lectures, demonstrations
