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### NIIST science camp from tomorrow

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About 200 students from schools across the State are expected to participate in an internship science camp, 'Inspire,' being organised by the National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (NIIST) here from September 20 to 24.

Students with good academic record in their 10th class are selected for the camp. The programme is launched by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, to strengthen the base in science and technology at the national level by attracting young talent.

The basic objective of the programme is to communicate to the youth, the excitement of creative pursuit of science and attract them to the study of science at an early stage as well as to build the required critical human resource pool for strengthening and expanding science and technology system and research.

The camp seeks to motivate talented youth to take up research by providing opportunities for them to interact with global icons of science, including Nobel laureates and reputed scientists and academicians. A pressnote issued by the NIIST said this component of the programme was designed to work as a life-long catalysing experience for Plus One and Plus Two students in the science stream.

The camp is scheduled to be inaugurated by B.N. Suresh, Director, Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST), Thiruvananthapuram. Suresh Das, Director, NIIST will preside over the function.

The camp comprises interactive technical lectures and experimental demonstrations by reputed scientists and academicians, 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.

Some of the scientists and academicians who will interact with the students include George Thomas, Professor, IISER, on 'Inspirations from 20 {+t} {+h} Century Experiments;' Udhay Maithra, IISc, Bangalore, on 'Chemistry is Fun;' Vijayakumar Ambat, CUSAT, on 'Mathematics everywhere;' A.K. Gupta, SCTIMST, on 'Radiology — imaging, intervention and beyond;' Anil Bhardwaj, VSSC, on 'Chandrayaan;' S.V.S. Narayan Murthy, VSSC, on 'Magic world of materials: excitements and challenges;' Dr. Suresh Das on 'Materials for new age' and D. Ramaiah, NIIST, on 'Light in medicine.'

The valedictory address on September 24 will be delivered by A. Jayakrishnan, Vice-Chancellor, University of Kerala.