Newsletter

April- June, 2016

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Uttarakhand State Council For Science & Technology

Editorial

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the latest edition of the Council's Newsletter. We are happy to inform you that we dedicated this quarter entirely to our science popularisation programmes. This helped the participants to have a good idea of a number of our scientific projects that aim to give a push for development in the hill state.

Some of our science popularisation activities were meant for students and gave them the much-needed exposure. This reminds me of an interesting hands-on training programme on robotics. Students enjoyed the programme thoroughly as it was their maiden exposure to the science of designing and building robots.

Like them, yet another set of students got scientific exposure while attending a popular lecture on 'Vision 2035 for Science and Technology for common masses' that was organised to mark the National Technology Day. Similarly, a poster competition was organised for a group of students to mark the Earth Day.

The Council also held a series of programmes at the Vigyan Dham here and elsewhere in the state to mark the World Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Day. A series of lectures, symposia and workshops organised as part of the programme gave the participants a deep insight into a complex web of IPR issues.

Similarly, at another workshop dedicated to the mountain eco system, the participants had a bird's eye view of how the Council is leveraging Science and Technology to give an impetus to the state's rural economy.

We also invited His Excellency Governor Dr. K K Paul to inaugurate a symposium. Speaking on the occasion, he quite rightly stressed on the need to develop Uttarakhand, a region endowed with a vast species of medicinal plants, as herbal state.

Finally, I take this opportunity to assure you that we will ensure that our scientific innovations continue to benefit the people.

Dr. Rajendra Dobhal
Director General

UCOST Activities

Sh. Alok B. Lal, Former Director General of Police visited Vigyan Dham

Sh. Alok B. Lal, former Director General of Police, Uttarakhand visited the Regional Science Centre at Vigyan Dham on 12th April. During his visit he expressed satisfaction with the science popularisation programmes and other initiatives being taken up by UCOST to boost development in the state.

Earth Day Celebrated

A programme was held to mark the Earth Day at UCOST on 22nd April. Speaking on the occasion, DG, UCOST Dr. Rajendra Dobhal stressed on the need for sustainable development by making judicious use of natural resources. Former Senior Scientist at Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology Dr. A.K. Dubey spoke on how the rivers originating from the Uttarakhand Himalaya nurture life. He also threw light on the mountain region's geological structure and its seismic vulnerability. Former Vice Chancellor of H.N.B. Garhwal University, Srinagar Prof. A.N. Purohit said the increase in human population in the region also boosted the growth of flora and fauna. On the occasion, a poster competition on the theme 'Clean Your City' was also organised. Students from the state participated in the competition and the winners were presented with cash awards.

Dr. Rajendra Dobhal to head Sustainable Development Forum:

Dr. Rajendra Dobhal, Director General, UCOST has been selected as the Chairman of Sustainable Development Forum (SDP), a recently formed group of former Bureaucrats, Technocrats and Agriculturists. The forum will work on water, climate change, livelihood and energy related issues affecting the fragile ecosystem of the Himalayas and other mountain regions. Senior Forest Officer Shri S.T.S. Lepcha will be the Vice Chairman of the forum while Shri K.S. Rautela, a technocrat and Ms. Binita Shah, an organic farming expert, will be its treasurar and secretary respectively.

National Technology Day celebrated

A programme was held to mark the occasion of National Technology Day at Vigyan Dham, UCOST on 11th May. It was organised jointly by UCOST, TIFAC, DST Govt. of India and NASI, UK Chapter. Prof. A.N Purohit, Former VC, HNB, Garhwal University was the chief guest of the function. On the occasion Dr. Prabhat Ranjan, Executive Director, TIFAC, delivered a popular lecture on "Vision 2035 for Science and Technology for common masses". Around 150 Students participated in the programme.

Popular Lecture on Birla Science Museum, Pilani

A popular lecture on 'An overview of Birla Science Museum, Pilani in Rajasthan' was delivered by its director Dr. V.N Dhaulkhandi at the Regional Science Centre (RSC), Dehradun on 31st May .

Meet to assess women's participation in S&T held

Prof. V.K Jain, Vice-Chancellor, Doon University chaired the IInd Local Advisory Committee (LPAC) meeting of the Project titled 'Assessing the Participation of Women in Science & Technology within the University System of Six States' held at UCOST On 28th May. Dr. Praveen Arora, Head, CHORD

(NSTMIS), DST, New Delhi and Dr. Rajendra Dobhal, DG, UCOST were also present in the meeting. Dr. Kirti Joshi, SSO, UCOST & PI of the project gave its brief overview at the programme.

Dr. Kunal Satyarthi, IFS, Joint Member Secretary, HP Council visited UCOST

Dr. Kunal Satyarthi, IFS, Joint Member Secretary, State Council for Science, Technology and Environment, Himachal Pradesh

visited Vigyan Sadan & Regional Science Centre on 9th May. Director General, UCOST briefed Dr. Kunal about its various activities and initiatives.

Develop Uttarakhand as a herbal state: Guv

Governor Dr. K.K. Paul has said efforts need to be stepped up to establish Uttarakhand as a leading herbal state.

Speaking at a symposium he said the immense herbal wealth the state is endowed with, needs to be tapped to boost development.

The symposium on 'Herbal Research: Opportunities, Challenges and Beyond' was held at Vigyan Dham (UCOST) on 4th June . The management of the Universities' Journal of Phytochemistry and Ayurvedic Heights (UPJAH) organised the event. "I hope the symposium will prove to be an important step towards developing Uttarakhand as a herbal state", the Governor said.

On the occasion, he also released the 20th volume of the the bi-annual Universities Journal of Phytochemistry and Ayurvedic Heights. He congratulated Dr. Rajendra Dobhal, DG, UCOST, for shaping up a "wonderful" place like Vigyan Dham, a hub of scientific activities and innovations.

Popular lecture on 'Vitamin D for Healthcare' held

UCOST and National Academy of Sciences (NASI) organised jointly a popular lecture on13th May on "An overview of Vitamin

D for Healthcare". Delivering the talk Dr. Vinit Mehrotra, a professor at the Department of Biochemistry of Himalayan Institute Hospital Trust Jolligrant, said vitamin D can be naturally synthesised by the human body from solar UV rays. Fifteen to 30 minutes of sunlight exposure is sufficient for daily need of the body, he said.

UCOST, AVINEON sign MoU

UCOST and AVINEON India Pvt. Ltd Hyderabad signed an MoU on 9th May for setting up a DST (GoI)- funded geo-portal and clearing house for the Uttarakhand Spatial Data Infrastructure.

Workshop on Mountain Ecosystem held

UCOST and National Academy of Sciences India (NASI), Allahabad organised jointly a two-day workshop on 'Science & Technology for Rural Economy in Mountain Ecosystem' that began on 27th June at Vigyan Dham, Jhjara, Dehradun.

Speaking at the function Dr. Rajendra Dobhal, DG, UCOST explained how the Council through its various projects being implemented in collaboration with S&T institutes is giving a push for the state's development besides resolving livelihood issues. Padma Vibushan Prof. Manju Sharma, Former Secretary, Biotechnology, (GoI) suggested small entrepreneurs and businessmen living in the mountain regions can leverage scientific and traditional knowledge to create various products. Keynote speaker Prof. L.M.S Palani, former director, G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development, Kosi

Katarmal, Almora spoke on "Science & Technology for Rural Economy in Mountain Ecosystem".

Prof. Tandon, CEO, Bio tech Park, Lucknow spoke on the role of mobile phones in bringing IT closer to rural population. Dr. Purnima Sharma, MD, BCIL, New Delhi, highlighted the BCIL's role in promoting start-ups with innovative business ideas. .

Dr. Savita, Director, FRI, and VC FRI University threw light on the initiatives being taken by FRI in conservation of the forest eco-system of the Himalaya region. .

Prof. Veena Tandon, a Sr. Scientist at NASI explained as to how the awareness programmes on dairy farming, aquaculture, bee keeping etc can uplift the state's rural economy.

A panel discussion on how to strengthen the rural economy:

Eminent scientists from across the country held forth on strengthening the rural economy at a panel discussion held at the Vigyan Dham. Dr. C.S. Nautiyal, Former Director, NBRI while chairing the session shared his views on the need to uplift the rural economy through value addition of the products based on natural resources. Dr. V.B. Mathur, Director, Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun stressed on the need for having an early warning system so that the mountain ecosystem could be protected by taking timely action to check natural disasters such as forest fires. Dr S P Singh, former V-C of HNB Garhwal University emphasised on the need for biodiversity conservation through optimum resource utilisation. Prof. Promila Pathak, Dept. of Botany, Punjab University spoke on the importance of commercial cultivation of orchids to boost the rural economy.

Patent Information Centre (PIC)

World IPR Day Celebrated

A workshop on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) was organised to mark the world IP day (26th April 2016) by UCOST. Speaking on the occasion Dr. Rajendra Dobhal, Director General, UCOST presented the IPR scenario from the pre-Independence time to present day. The guest speaker of the workshop Dr. Laxman Prasad, former advisor, Dept. of Science & Technology, GOI delivered a talk on "Patent: From Researcher's Angle". Noted environmentalist Shri Chandi Prasad Bhatt stressed on the need to protect the vast biodiversity of Uttarakhand through a proper IPR regime.

Popular Lecture on National IPR Policy 2016

Keynote speaker Shri. Yashwant Dev Panwar, Head, Patent Facilitation Centre, New Delhi explained the objectives of the IPR policy. He said the policy emphasises on bringing education and research, administration and management within the ambit of IPR.

IPR Awareness Workshop at MB PG College, Haldwani:

A daylong workshop on "Building Awareness on Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) in Higher Education" was organised at M.B Government Postgraduate College, Haldwani on 4th April. It was inaugurated by Prof. H.S Dhami, Vice-Chancellor, Kumaon University. Dr. Rajendra Dobhal, DG, UCOST and Dr. B.C Melkani, Director, Department of Higher Education were guests of honour. About 400 participants including faculty and students participated in the workshop which was convened by Dr. Kamal Kishore Pande of M.B. Postgraduate College, Haldwani.

Lecture Series on Intellectual Property Right (IPR)

Dr Anju Rawat, Scientist, IPR cell, UCOST delivered a series of three lectures on IPR issues. Some 155 students from different parts of the state attended the lectures.

Regional Science Centre (RSC)

Hands-on training on robotics

Some 27 students from different parts of the country participated in five-day each three hands-on programmes on Robotics held at the Regional Science Centre in June. Robotics is the branch of engineering such as mechanical and electrical that deals in design, construction, operation, and application of robots, as well as computer systems for their control, sensory feedback, and information processing. The participants were awarded with certificates of participation.

Centre of Excellence on Forest based Livelihood in Uttarakhand

A Centre of Excellence (CoE) on Forest based Livelihood in Uttarakhand has been created by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF & CC) at Uttarakhand State Council for Science and Technology (UCOST). A first of its kind in the state, the COE delves on issues related to forest based products and dependence of forest fringe dwellers on forest resources. Project Advisory Committee (PAC) for the project has been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Dr. Rajendra Dobhal, DG, UCOST with Shri S.T.S. Lepcha, Ex-PCCF & MD Uttarakhand Forest Development Corporation, Dr. B. P. Tamta, Scientist-E, Non Wood Forest Product Division, Forest Research Institute, Dehradun and Shri Mahendra Singh Kunwar, Secretary, Himalayan Action Research Centre as expert members.

List of Workshop & Seminars

S. No.	Name & Address of the Convener/ Organizing Secretary	Topic/Title	Duration
1.	**Dr. Arun K. Agarwal,** Head, Dept. of Botany, Govt. PG College Uttarkashi, Vishwanath Marg, Uttarkashi-249193	Crop Diversity and Entrepreneurship Development in Himalayan Region	29th Sep 01st Oct, 2016
2.	**Mr. Uday Kirola,** Organizing Secretary Secretary, cky lkfgR; 'kks| ,oa lao?kZu lfefr Ranikhet Road, Dwarahat, Almora	Balshaitya mein vigyan lekhan	10th -11th Sept, 2016
3.	**Mr. S.K Singh** Principal Scientist, S.E Group, CSIR- Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee	Advances in repair and Rehabilitation of Concrete Structures	27th -28th May, 2016
4.	**Mr. Kamal Joshi** Dept. of Electrical Engg, Faculty of Technology, Uttarakhand Technical University, Dehradun	Green Technologies	28th April ,2016
5.	**Mr. Anil Taneja** Regional Director- Uttarakhand PHD Commerce of Commerce & Industry, Dehradun, Uttarakhand	Conference on Ayush : Uttarakhand	17th June, 2016
6.	**Prof. Mahesh C. Joshi,** Professor & Head, Dept. of Mathematics & Computer Science, D.S.B Campus, Kumaun University, Nainital	19th International Conference on International Academy of Physical Sciences (CONIAPS- XIX) and Symposium on Fixed Point Theory and Dynamical Systems	17th -19th Oct, 2016

HR News

1. An interview of Dr Rajendra Dobhal, DG, UCOST was broadcasted by radio channel- 'Radio Zindagi 90.8 FM' at 11am with repeat broadcast at 4pm on 29th April.
2. Dr. Kirti Joshi Bhatt, SSO (I/C) gave lecture during the workshop titled 'paryavaran sarankshan mein mahilayein aivam yuva varg ka yogdaan' on 8th June at ONGC auditorium.
3. Dr. Kirti Joshi Bhatt SSO (I/C) gave lecture about the activities of UCOST on 28th Jun during the NASI workshop.
4. Dr. Kirti Joshi Bhatt, SSO (I/C) gave lecture on Understanding Patents & its role in India at M.B. P.G. College, Haldwani on 4th April.
5. Mr. Manoj Kumar Singh, UCOST, Dehradun delivered a lecture on "Classification of IP" at M.B. P.G. College, Haldwani on 4th April.
6. Mr. Himanshu Goel UCOST, Dehradun delivered a lecture on "Technology Transfer" at M.B. P.G. College, Haldwani on 4th april.

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