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Indian Media Book October 9, 2018 News

# India International Science Festival 2018 concludes in Lucknow.



The four-day long mega science expo, India International Science Festival (IISF) concluded in Lucknow. IISF-2018 witnessed a footfall of more than 10 lakh people and more than 22 thousand registrations, the highest in its four-year history making it the largest festival of its kind in Asia.

IISF which was inaugurated by the President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind saw a confluence of Scientists, researchers, students, farmers and people from a wide spectrum discussing, debating, and witnessing how science and technology are shaping New India. Congratulating all the stakeholders the Union Minister informed the gathering that the four-day long festival saw a presentation of more than twelve hundred research papers, participation of nearly

Speaking at the valedictory function Union Science and Technology Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan said that after witnessing the huge participation in this four-day-long science festival, it will not be wrong to add *Jai Anusandhan* to the quote “Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan, Jai Vigyan” given by former Prime Ministers of India. “More than 1200 research papers were presented, the participation of more than 1500 farmers was witnessed apart from a sea of young enthusiasts of science making this unique festival of its kind in the world,” said Dr. Vardhan congratulating all the stakeholders and further adding that such science festivals should now be a regular feature of not only Central but state government as well.

Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari who was the chief guest at the valedictory function launched a website dedicated exclusively to science in India (<http://scienceindia.in/>). Highlighting the pervasive role of Science & Technology across all the major schemes of Government of India Shri Gadkari said that today is the time to make India a super economic power. “Innovation, Entrepreneurship, Technology, Research and Science; we name it as knowledge and conversion of knowledge into wealth is the future of our country”, said the Union Minister. Sh. Gadkari also elucidated how research and technology in alternative fuel (ESP. Biofuel) is swiftly changing the transport industry.

IISF 2018 also saw two major Guinness World Records being made, one of which was a World Record successful attempt to “isolate DNA” by 550 students from class 8th to 10th standard.

IISF-2018 with its focal theme “Science for Transformation” had more than 23 special events in its 4th edition. The fifth edition of the science festival will be held in eastern India.

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<https://www.firstpost.com/tech>

Friday, October 12, 2018 **Back to FIRSTPOST.**

# IISF 2018: HIGHLIGHTS FROM DAY TWO AT THE 4TH INDIA SCIENCE FESTIVAL IN LUCKNOW

The 4th India International Science Festival got off to a grand start on 5 October at the Indira Gandhi Prathishtan in Lucknow.

The second of the four-day festival saw students in thousands, and Indian researchers from the global science community and members of India's science policy team engage in the day's events.

EU countries extend a welcome to young researchers

The second and final day of the Young Scientists Conference saw a panel of counselors from the EU walk an audience of students and undergraduate students, as well as teachers from across India, through available opportunities for research abroad.



Education counsellors from EU and Switzerland talk to young researchers about opportunities abroad. Image: Tech2

Delegates from Netherlands, Britain and Switzerland were part of the panel that engaged with an audience of high school and university students about research opportunities, scholarships and other nuances of pursuing an education or doctoral programs in their respective countries.

Global Indians brought new Ideas to the table

One of the most engaging conversations during the course of past two days has been the role NRI scientists can play in shaping science in India.

As part of the Global Indian Science and Technology Stakeholder's Meet, one such scientist, Dr Manu Prakash from Stanford University, caught the imagination of students, industry experts and policymakers alike.



Dr Manu Prakash from Stanford Bio-X at the Global Indians Meet on Day 2 of the IISF. Image: Tech2

Prakash heads a collaboration with the Department of Biotechnology, the DBT-Foldscope program, to provide access to microscopes and small collaborative grants to students through partnerships through a network of social organisations in a network of remote villages across India.

"It often isn't about finance or money when you're getting students or anyone you meet excited about science," Prakash said. "The class and quality of mentors you've got to guide you makes all the difference."

The session also brought other delegates from America and Vietnam to renew discussions about opportunities for collaborative research.

#### Better access to education

A parallel dialogue on Day 2 of the National Social Organisations and Institutions Meet (NSOIM) gathered educators and social workers in hundreds to discuss better access to education at the grassroots.

Representatives from these efforts included members from organisations like CARE India and SNEHA, who spoke about ongoing strategies to provide a science education and opportunities to study abroad for students in rural India.

Dr Vandana Mishra, a program manager for CARE India's Teachers' Resource Lab in Uttar Pradesh points out that the uses of scientific temper extend well beyond schools, universities or laboratories in the context of rural India.

“Among girls who are marginalised poor.. scientific temper is an important skill to handle situations in their daily lives – be it menstrual and personal hygiene, nutrition, addressing the many health issues that plague them, even their superstitions,” Mishra says.

“The real disease here is a lack of awareness.. which is something that a healthy scientific temper can correct.. and organisations like ours are helping develop just that.”

### **Debating the education system**

One of the most laudable sessions from the day was a closed-doors meeting of over 50 educators from schools, universities and the central board of education to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of our education system.

The session dwelled largely on input from educators on what works and doesn't at the level of schools and educational institutes.



The STAR education roundtable on Day 2 of the IISF. Image: Tech2

“There may be 1000-2000 children in school that will actually take science forward.. out of the 10,000 children in all. What we need is exchange programs, or teaching faculty from universities to get trained to educate and inspire young minds in science the right way,” said a school principal from DPS.

"Is there any merit in a section devoted to objective (multiple-choice) questions in our board exams at all?" and "What about improving incentives for science teachers to perform better?" were some of the other questions being raised at the roundtable with teachers, academics, Vigyan Bharathi members and members of the education ministry.

Inauguration of the IISF by President Kovind

Day 2 ended in an audience of thousands awaiting the inauguration and President Ram Nath Kovind's address at the Science Festival.

"From the green revolution to the space program to a thriving biotech industry, science has been among the biggest drivers of India's post-1947 modernisation," the President said.



President Kovind address an audience of thousands at the IISF. Image: Tech2

Appreciating the progress of India's frugal innovation in engineering and design, the President said that the 'Jugaad' mentality attributed to Indians has its own role to play in the growth of science, and is "something important and worth encouraging."

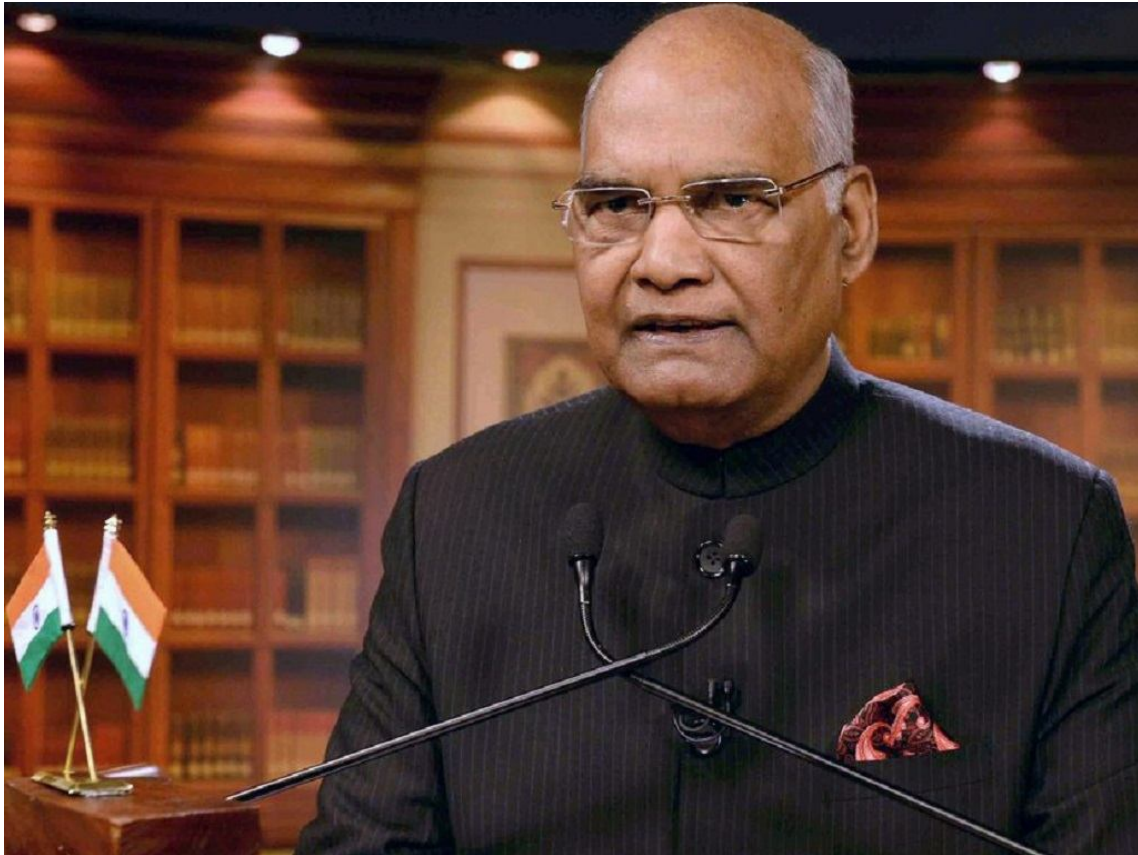
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Friday, October 12, 2018 **Back to FIRSTPOST.**

## PRESIDENT KOVIND TO INAUGURATE 'INDIA INTERNATIONAL

President Ram Nath Kovind will inaugurate the fourth "India International Science Festival (IISF)" on October 6, it was announced on Monday.



New Delhi: President Ram Nath Kovind addresses the nation on the eve of Republic Day in New Delhi on Thursday. PTI Photo / RB(PTI1\_25\_2018\_000203B)

Speaking at the curtain raiser of the event, Minister for Science and Technology Harsh Vardhan dedicated the festival to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, for bringing "science to the centre stage of national agenda".

"All stakeholders will assemble to collectively work towards 'Vigyan se Vikas' — contributing to the Making of a New India as envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi who is taking forward the legacy of late Atal Ji," Harsh Vardhan said, according to a statement.

"IISF-2018 is expected to be represented by approximately 10,000 delegates including 5,000 students, 550 teachers, 200 students from North East Region, 20 international delegates and approximately 200 startups," the statement said.

Vajpayee is known to hail science through his slogan "Jai Vigyan" that added to an already popular "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan" slogan given by another former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri.



"Desi Coolant" by Ant design, Delhi is among the 'frugal engineering' displays at the IISF this year. Image: Tech2

Also at the inauguration was Chief Minister of UP, Yogi Adityanath, Secretary of the Department of Biotechnology, Dr Renu Swarup, Secretary of Department of Science and Technology Professor Ashutosh Sharma, and Union Minister of Science and Technology, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Ministry of Earth Sciences, Dr Harsh Vardhan, who the President jokingly referred to as being given a few many titles.

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By BioVoice News Desk -  
October 8, 2018

IISF 2018: President calls for improving women's representation in science





**Lucknow:** President of India, Mr Ramnath Kovind has rued that there was not adequate representation of women in higher science and called for speedy efforts to overcome the problem.

*“There are 3,446 scientists working at the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. But, of them, only 632, or 18.3 percent, are women. In a week when women scientists have won Nobel Prizes for physics and for chemistry, this is a telling statistic. It is a reminder of the scientific potential of our daughters that we are not adequately harnessing. This is both a social and systemic challenge. It is our collective responsibility to overcome it”, he said.*

*Formally inaugurating the four-day India International Science Festival, which began on 6th October, he also called for converting science into a mass movement and promoting tinkering and innovation as an everyday activity in laboratories, universities and schools.*

*“Jugaad, cut-paste experiments and frugal innovation have their role. Even so, if we are to transform India into a middle-income economy and an advanced industrial power, we need to upgrade the engines of knowledge creation. Science and technology are not a mere add-on – their cross-cutting nature and role in every field and in all our flagship programmes and developmental efforts have to be appreciated,” the President said.*

*Further, he noted that science had always been a part of Indian culture and it was time there was a quantum jump. “Centuries ago, our ancestors were uncovering the secrets of mathematics and the concept of the zero. They were applying the lessons of science in fields as far apart as medicine and metallurgy. From the Green Revolution to our space programme to the creation of a thriving biotech and pharmaceutical industry, science has driven our post -1947 modernisation. Today, in the first quarter of the 21st century, in the age of robotics and precision manufacture, of bioinformatics and gene editing, of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and Artificial Intelligence, it is time for a quantum jump”, he said.*

*Besides, he observed that India’s R&D investments were on the rise and the government had announced the Prime Minister’s Research Fellowship Scheme. “It (the fellowship scheme) will promote development through innovation and has a budget of Rs 1,650 crore for seven years beginning 2018-19. These are exciting times for science in India. The resources are now available. It is for our talent pool to respond”.*

*The President also urged the scientific community to mentor and open its doors to budding researchers and students in universities. “Budding researchers and students look to senior scientists for guidance, support and access to laboratories and equipment. With such generosity of spirit and of intellect, Indian science will carry much greater weight. It will move closer to building a best-in-class ecosystem”, he said*

*Science and Technology Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan said the government had been working to encourage scientific endeavours across the country. “The Start-Up and Stand-Up programmes are helping people with bright ideas to realise their dreams without any reservation.”*

(India Science Wire)

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Hindustan team, Lucknow

- Last updated: Fri, 05 Oct 2018 07:30 PM IST

## Create a sense of science and science to make something new for the country and society

Union Science Minister calls on the children of school children from all over the country. The science gram was organized at NBRI campus under the International International Forum for International Science (IISF-2012). Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Science and Technology Minister inaugurated the fourth session of Science Gram. Addressing the children on this occasion, he called upon Science Mahakumbh to create awareness and to make something new in life for the advancement of the country and society. Said that there is no need to break the stars in the sky to become big in life. The Chief Scientific and Co-ordinator of Science Village, Dr. N.BRI, is taking part in 2200 children from villages for adoption of 400 MPs. SK Tiwari told that before the Mahakumbhu in Allahabad, this Mahakumbh of science is happening in Lucknow. In this, 2200 children from class 9 to 11 are taking part in the adoption of 400 MPs from across the country under the Prime Minister MP Adarsh Gram Yojana. Its main goal is to contact the students of rural India and give them information about the achievements of India in areas of science and technology. Name of eminent scientists in six villages of science village has been made in six science universities. Those whose names are famous scientists of India Missilemen and former President, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, Sir Cavi Raman, Dr. Vikram Sarabhai, Dr. Homi Jahangir Bhabha, Dr. Hargobind Khurana and Dr. Jesse Bose has been kept. 2200 children and their teachers have been made members of one of these houses. On the first day of the festival, on Friday, children were shown and explained to the students in the living experiments of physics and chemistry. Students got an opportunity to discuss various topics of science with scientists. Along with this, the visits of labs and scientific films were also performed.

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**NEWS SERVICES DIVISION**  
ALL INDIA RADIO

Oct 07, 2018, 32PM

### **Uttar Pradesh: IISF 2018 Lucknow attracting huge gathering every day**



In Uttar Pradesh, fourth Indian International Science Festival, IISF 2018 Lucknow is attracting a huge gathering every day. Today is the third day of the four-day fest.

The Science fest was inaugurated by President Ramnath Kovind yesterday. Union Minister Nitin Gadkari is slated to attend the valedictory session tomorrow.

The stalls of various departments DRDO, ISRO, ICAR, ICSR, Nuclear science, Biotechnology, Medical Health, Railways including others are center of attraction of people.

Our correspondent reports that main function is taking place at Indira Gandhi Pratisthan but events are also being held at several other venues in the capital city.

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#### **Hindustan Times**

‘States should initiate their own science fests’

- Hindustan Times (Lucknow)
- 8 Oct 2018
- HT Correspondent lkoreportersdesk@htlive.com ▪  
LUCKNOW: Union minister for science and technology, Dr Harsh Vardhan on Sunday said states should initiate organising their own science festivals to promote science, technology and research in various fields.

Talking about IISF-2018, the minister said more than 12,000 delegates had turned up for the fest in Lucknow and this itself was an indication about the grand success of the event.

“IISF was aimed at taking people on a journey to learn something new about science,” the minister said while interacting with the media on the third day of IISF-2018.

Vardhan also inaugurated North East Students’ Conclave at the Indira Gandhi Pratishthan (IGP) here to broaden their horizon of knowledge on science and technology.

The minister expressed hope that all the participating students were messengers for the growth of science in North East. “The fact that so many students from seven sister states have travelled to Lucknow to attend IISF-2018 itself underlines the importance of science,” said the minister.

Manipur’s deputy chief minister Yumnam Joykumar Singh attended the North East Students’ Conclave.

He said only development of knowledge could shoot out the problems of N-E region. Nearly 240 students from N-E participated in the conclave, said Dr T Madhan Mohan, consultant advisor, NER DBT.

The other attraction of the day was the inauguration of Industry Academia Conclave that aims to provide support system for focused involvement of university and industry on product and application research.

Representatives from the industry and academia discussed institutional tie-up in R&D for improving efficiency in production processes and allied areas.