



**AIPSN** ALL INDIA PEOPLE'S  
SCIENCE NETWORK

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## All India People's Science Network (AIPSN) Statement

**Click Here to Endorse the statement in support of the National Scientific Temper Day on 20<sup>th</sup> August (signature-campaign-form)**  
<http://aipsn.net/post-2/>

Scientific temper is under unprecedented attack in India today.

20<sup>th</sup> August is being observed as National Scientific Temper Day in honour of Dr.Narendra Dabholkar, champion of scientific temper, who was killed in an act of premeditated murder by right-wing communal terrorist forces, on this day five years ago in 2013. The killing shocked the nation, but more rude shocks came when several similar murders were committed over the next several years. Govind Pansare, who worked to support inter-caste marriages, delivered lecture on the true legacy of Shivaji, and condemned the glorification of the assassin of Mahatma Gandhi, was killed in 2015.

M.M.Kalburgi, a scholar who studied socio-religious reform movements of the 12<sup>th</sup> century in Karnataka and the related

challenge to dominant narratives, was murdered in 2016. And Gauri Lankesh, fearless journalist and fierce critic of communal bigotry, was gunned down in 2017. It has now come to light that at least some of these murders were probably committed by the same extremist group. But the common thread definitely was the threat these forces felt from these campaigners for reason and scientific temper, and against bigotry and intolerance.

These murders are extremist expressions of the intolerance openly displayed by some mainstream communal forces, including persons holding high political office, targeting sometimes with violence all those who question their prejudice, communal hate campaigns, and continuous dissemination of fake news, “alternative facts” and falsified histories, including in science.

An imaginary golden past of “Vedic science” is being propagated by these forces. Real and great achievements in science and technology, and rich traditions of rational thought, emanating from the Indian sub-continent are being sidelined, while obviously fake achievements are being proclaimed by top-level Central and State Ministers, Chief Ministers and political functionaries, substituting myth for history, such as that the Ganesh deity was the product of plastic surgery, that aviation and space technology, television and internet existed in India from the time of the Mahabharata, that ancient India had in vitro fertilization etc, and all this several thousands of years before any recorded history. Many other fantastic claims have been made by some state and central leaders, such as that the theory of evolution is wrong and that the Vedas contained theories “better than” Einstein’s  $E=mc^2$ !

In sharp contrast, real and important contributions to science and technology in India emanating from not just the Vedic-Brahmanic tradition but from many different strands of culture in the sub-continent, such as the Jaina, Buddhist,

Islamic, peasant, adivasi and from other working people are being ignored. Contributions of the artisan communities in India, who were actively involved in the development of crafts, technologies and productive forces, are also ignored, revealing persistent social blind-spots and prejudices. Many other civilizations too have made important even seminal contributions. Understanding and highlighting the many real contributions from India to the universal body of S&T knowledge is tribute enough to India's civilizational past, without having to invent any.

Scientists, eminent scholars and others from India and abroad, including Nobel Laureates, who express their disagreement with such views, have been attacked as anti-national, western-oriented, and "sons of Macaulay". Pseudo-histories and anti-scientific views are being incorporated into school curricula and college/ university teaching. So-called "research" to "prove" pseudo-scientific claims in both the sciences and social sciences are being officially funded by government. Universities have become arenas of constant assault, often literally, on intellectual autonomy and critical thinking.

The aggressive anti-science and anti-rational atmosphere whipped up by obscurantist forces with official support has generated a climate of intimidation and even violence in an attempt to suppress a scientific outlook and critical thinking in our educational and intellectual institutions. Funding for scientific research is being cut, while social science research is being throttled.

Developmental programmes are being formulated without significant S&T and other research inputs. Mega projects like the Bullet Train, Smart Cities, Make in India etc., are being undertaken with no scientific inputs in the public domain. Development policies in industry and agriculture, in key infrastructure areas like energy, coal, oil and gas, power, transport and for basic needs like food, water and health are

being driven by corporate interests with little concern for the poor or for the common citizen and without any public scientific debate. Environmental concerns are being systematically sidelined. This systematic devaluation of S&T and research, and the suffocation of critical thinking in educational institutions and in society at large, will severely hamper the future of the country, especially of its youth in this knowledge era.

We assert that promoting scientific temper, defending plurality, harmony and composite culture is a fundamental duty of all citizens, and especially of professional scientists and social scientists, as enjoined in the Directive Principles of our Constitution. The right and duty to question is basic, not only for science, but also for democracy.

It is essential that this onslaught on scientific temper, critical thinking and plurality, be vigorously resisted. Science has an important role to play today in defending democracy and the Indian Constitution. AIPSN appeals to all organizations, institutions and individuals committed to promoting scientific temper to come together for observing the National Scientific Temper Day, and working together in the days to come to defeat the ideology of communal hate politics and build an India of reason and humanity with well informed and empowered citizens.

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369. joginder walia ( Society for Technology and Development )
370. Ravivarma S ( Youth For Science,TNSF )
371. SARAVANAKUMAR P ( GRI-(DU) DINDIGUL )
372. Ajay kumar ( Srkr engineering college )
373. Brij Tankha ( Retd Professor, Delhi University )
374. Rahul Purkayastha ( CRU(NER) )
375. Leju Varghese ( DXC )
376. Mandhapuram Raju ( Mahaveer institute of science and technology )
377. Nishad N T ( Bangalore university )
378. Sushanth V ( BITS Pilani )
379. Gowtham Sidharth ( Society of scientific literates )
380. Dr.C.Ramakrishnan ( BGVS )
381. Ramesh ( Pondicherry Science Forum )
382. Babitha S Bose ( MG university )
383. Seshu korlapati ( Scientific youth force )
384. R PRIYANKA ( Tamil Nadu science form )
385. Anil Chaudhary ( Popular Education and Action Centre (PEACE) )
386. venkatakannarao ( Zph school , kaikaram )
387. Ms Vinaya Malati Hari ( Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samuday, Maharashtra )
388. Prasanna Venkadesh ( Pondicherry Science Forum )
389. Aurnab Ghose ( Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Pune )
390. Jose Mathews ( Karshakasangham )
391. Dr. Kamales Bhaumik ( Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics (Retired as Professor) )
392. Dr. Kamales Bhaumik ( Ex Professor, SINP )
393. Sooraj Nhaloor ( MBPS, Mumbai )
394. Arun B ( CMS college, kottayam )
395. Jagadeesh reddy T ( No institution )
396. Dipak Gaondhare ( Skn sinhgad college of engineering pandharpur )
397. Dr. R. Usha ( Retired from Madurai Kamaraj University )
398. Dr.A.Kannan ( TNSF )
399. Vaghesh ( Government servant )
400. Dr. Megha Saleel Bhatt ( sciknowtech )
401. Rose Hashmi.K ( Student )
402. K.MALAR SELVI ( TNSF )
403. K kadasari ( Retired school teacher )
404. K.mutharasan ( Tnsf )
405. H. Shakila ( Madurai Kamaraj University )
406. Dinakaran ( The Madura College )

407. Richard Audrey ( Independant consultant )
408. P Ignatius Prabhakar ( IFP )
409. Kalpana Nagthane ( VIIT )
410. Jayachandran F ( Pondicherry University )
411. Gita Madhu ( SteamIndiaReports )
412. Rekha Menon ( Asian English Montessori School )
413. Sushant Pavashe ( Rajarambapu Institute Of Technology )
414. Patil Harshad Haridas ( Rit,rajaramnagar )
415. Suyash Toshniwal ( SEARCH Gadchiroli )
416. prachit shah ( Rajarambapu Institute of Technology )
417. Himanshu vivek ( Mitramela miraj )
418. Divya venkta Gupta ( TISS )
419. Sanket tambare ( Rajarambapu Institute of Technology Islampur )
420. Swaroop Patil ( Rajarambapu institute of technology, islampur )
421. Yogeshwari patil ( Rajarambapu Institute of technology ,Islampur )
422. Vikas Suresh Bhosale ( Not employed )
423. Kishor Patil ( Abhinav college )
424. Ghanshyam Sandipan Yenge ( Sakal Media Group )
425. Newton ( IIT Bombay )
426. Vikram Patil ( Tata Institute of Social Sciences )
427. Shauvik Basu ( CWFI )
428. Anasuya Goswami ( NALSAR University )
429. Jayanta Goswami ( Self )
430. S.Mohana ( Tamil Nadu Science Forum )
431. Devaprakash M ( TNSF Sholinganalur Area Branch )
432. Shiva rajkumar rr ( Busines )
433. Rishabh Raghunath ( MVIT )
434. Madhavi ( School )
435. Rajshekar ( Business )
436. K sreenivasarao ( PS teacher at Zphs tallur )
437. M V N Murthy ( The Institute of Mathematical Sciences )
438. SURESH .G ( TamilNadu Science Forum )
439. SADALINGA GOUD PARKALA ( TSRTC )
440. Prasad ( Self )
441. aroor nikhil ( Vaagdevi engineering college )
442. Mahesh ( Jayini Poly clinic )
443. Praveen kumar. B ( Self employed )
444. Vennelakanti Narayana Murthy ( Graduated mechanical engineer )
445. Ramesh Ganapuram ( Engineer civil )
446. G Sathiraju ( Pfi )
447. Balasubramanyam Nayuni ( www.IndianHumanist.org )
448. Sindu vatsavai ( Akhila Bharata Jana Vignana Vedika )
449. Vijayamurthy ( Pondicherry Science Forum )
450. Raghu Menon ( Pondicherry Science Forum )
451. Kali Krishna Jasu ( Paschimbanga Vigyan Mancha )
452. Venkatesh Athreya ( Formerly, Professor and Head, Dept. of Economics, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirapalli )
453. Pradip Kumar Baishya ( SBI STAFF ASSOCIATION )
454. Susmit Isfaq ( National Law University,Assam )
455. PRABINKUMAR NEOG ( INDIVIDUAL )
456. Satyajit Rath ( National Institute of Immunology (retired) )
457. L.Prabakaran ( Centre for Science, Technology and Development

**Studies, Pudukkottai )**

458. R. Ramanujam ( Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai )
459. RAVI KUMAR REDDY VANGA ( BSNL )
460. Viswa Keerthy S ( self )
461. Dr.Ranjit Choudhury ( Goalpara College )
462. ASHISH PARE ( MADHAY PREDESH VIGYAN SABHA BHOPAL M. P. V. S. )
463. Aakash Aazad ( Delhi University )
464. Ashish Tiwari ( The creative P.S. khargone M.P. )
465. Komal Srivastava ( Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti Rajasthan )
466. Rajesh kashyap ( Jan natya Manch kurukshetra )
467. Dilip Chatterjee ( BSPS )
468. Dipa Sarkar ( PBVM )
469. Ashish Mehta ( Self )
470. Laxminarasaiah ( Jana vignana vedika, Telangana )
471. Kukkala chennakeshavulu ( BVSR Constructions Pvt Ltd )
472. Ankur ( Cdac, bangalore )
473. Suman ( PGIMS , ROHTAK )
474. SANAT SEN ( FMRAI-----WBMSRU )
475. Deepak Soni ( Vlsss )
476. Rajesh Kumar ( hgvs )
477. T SRINATH ( ZPHS Shivunipally, Telangana )
478. Prajval Shastri ( BGVS Karnataka )
479. Amit Kumar ( Jatan Natye Kendra )
480. Shamsuddin Sheikh ( Restaurant Owner )
481. Sitangsu Kumar Bhaduri ( Individual )
482. I Raju Bhat ( FMRAI/TMSRU )
483. Sumahan Chakraborty ( FMRAI , WBMSRU )
484. Chandra nath banerjee ( FMRAI/WBMSRU )
485. Baikuntha nath Sahu. working committee member of FMRAI (ODISHA) ( FMRAI )
486. Sagarnil Pal ( The SCS Group )
487. Pradeep Sharma ( FMRAI UPMSRA )
488. Prabir Bhaskar ( Fmrai /WBMSRU )
489. Debashis Bhattacharjee ( FMRAI )
490. Utpal samanta ( WBMSRU )
491. GAUTAM Ghosh ( FMRAI )
492. KAUSHIK BANERJEE ( WBMSRU )
493. Amit Mukherjee ( FMRAI/WBMSRU )
494. Niloy Ganguly ( Fmrai,wbmsru )
495. Subhojit Basu ( FMRAI )
496. Santanu Datta ( PBVM,Alipurduar District )
497. Sourav ( FMRAI )
498. Biswakalyan sur ( Wbmsru )
499. Sanjukta Ganguli ( Ex SINP )
500. Sumahan Chakraborty ( FMRAI )
501. SHUBRANGSHU BHATTACHARYYA ( FMRAI/WBMSRU )
502. Subhojit Basu ( FMRI STATE UNIT )
503. Dipankar Chakraborty ( FMRAI,WBMSRU )
504. Subhamoy roy ( WBMSRU )
505. Atanu Roy ( WBMSRU )
506. SUDEEP DAS ( FMRAI/WEST BENGAL )

507. **GOPINATHAN SUNDARARAMAN ( FMRAI/TNMSRA )**  
 508. **Aniruddha Sinha Roy ( FMRAI/WBMSRU )**  
 509. **Arindam Modak ( FMRAI )**  
 510. **S Dasgupta ( FMRAI/BSSRU )**  
 511. **Ramesh Sundar ( FMRAI )**  
 512. **Ashim Kumar Ghosal ( FMRAI / WBMSRU )**  
 513. **Anirban ( WBMSRU-FMRAI )**  
 514. **BISWAJIT DEB ( FMRAI )**  
 515. **Santanu ( FMRAI )**  
 516. **Santosh Kumar Kar ( Jaya Durga High School )**  
 517. **Dr. Probir Kumar Ojha ( jadavpur University )**  
 518. **Puspak Pal ( PBVM )**  
 519. **Jayanta Mukherjee ( BSSR Union )**  
 520. **Tapan Saha ( Bangiya Bijnan Parishad )**  
 521. **Kamales Bhaumik ( Former Professor, Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Kolkata )**  
 522. **Ponnarasu Singaram ( company in Melbourne, studied Monash University )**  
 523. **ASESH BHATTACHARYA ( UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA )**  
 524. **R Viveganandan ( DGM(Rtd), Tamilnadu Industrial Investment Corporation )**  
 525. **Prof. Bhaskar Mazumder ( Dibrugarh University )**  
 526. **Dr. O.P.LATHWAL ( HGVS )**  
 527. **Amita ( Education )**  
 528. **Thirumal Dubbaka ( St Vincent hospital , little Rock, Arkansas, usa )**  
 529. **Surendar N ( TNSF TN )**  
 530. **Naresh Prerna ( Jatan Natya Kendar )**  
 531. **Ravivarma S ( Youth For Science,TNSF )**  
 532. **Anup Sarkar ( BSPS )**  
 533. **Arunabha Misra ( Vidyasagar College )**  
 534. **Parameswari Murugesan ( Education )**  
 535. **JAYAMURUGAN T ( TamilNadu Science Forum )**  
 536. **Nirangkush Nath ( SFI Assam State Committee )**  
 537. **Somenath Mozumder ( Chakdaha Ramlal Academy,Chakdaha,Nadia,WB )**  
 538. **Dr. Bidyut Kumar Paul ( Indian Statistical Institute, Former Prof. )**  
 539. **Bhaskar Majumder ( PBVM WB )**  
 540. **K.Srinivas ( Jana Vignana Vedika(AP) )**  
 541. **Chandranath Bandyopadhyay ( Paschimbanga Vigyan Mancha )**  
 542. **DEBASISH PAL ( PBVM )**  
 543. **Gautam Gangopadhyay ( University of Calcutta )**  
 544. **S.Chatterjee ( IIA, retired )**  
 545. **Tapan Saha ( Bangiya Bijnan Parishad )**  
 546. **Tanusree Chakrabarti ( PBVM )**  
 547. **Prof. Dilip Kumar Basu ( Paschimbanga Vigyan Mancha )**  
 548. **Prof. Subimal Sen ( Paschimbanga Vigyan Mancha )**  
 549. **Satyajit Chakrabarti ( PBVM )**  
 550. **Utpal Datta ( PBVM )**  
 551. **Pradip Kumar Mahapatra ( Paschimbanga Vigyan Mancha )**  
 552. **Dr. S. Krishnaswamy ( Retired from Madurai Kamaraj University )**  
 553. **P. Rajamanickam ( Retired from S.N. College, Madurai )**  
 554. **Arbind kumar tiwary ( YUVA )**

555. Dr R. S. Dahiya ( Haryana Gyan Vigyan Samiti )
556. Er A Seyad Abu Thahir Aasif ( Engineer, Tamil nadu science forum )
557. Udhayan ( Senior Technical Officer, CSIR-CEERI Chennai )
558. Shatabdi Bhattacharjee ( Georgia State University )
559. Dr S S Khatri ( Department of Physics, North-Eastern Hill University, Shilong )
560. Agnimeel Das ( Leo Club of Ranaghat Gaurav )
561. Dr.Deepika Bhattacharjee ( Tinsukia College,Tinsukia,Assam )
562. Feroz Siddiqui ( R.B.A.Hindi Secondary School )
563. Swapan Kumar Roy ( Head,Dept. of Borany, Shillong College )
564. Dr. V. Muruganandam ( Associate Director, VINSTROM , RKM Vidhya Perth, Chennai )
565. Dr. Manabendra Bath Bhattacharjee ( Retd. Head, Department of Chemistry, Shillong College, Shillong, Meghalaya )
566. Aurnab Ghose ( IISER Pune )
567. Dr. Manabendra Bath Bhattacharjee ( Retd. Head, Department of Chemistry, Shillong College, Shillong, Meghalaya )
568. Dr. MIHIRLAL ROY ( Former Principal Scientific Officer, Tripura State Council for Science & Technology )
569. K K Natarajan ( Retired Professor )
570. Er P Murugesu Pandian ( Hosur Local Centre - The Institution of Engineers (India) )
571. Muthu. siluppan ( (TNSF)TN Govt.Treasury Dept. )
572. venkata Ramanaiah ( MPPs pulivendra tada SPSR NELLORE )
573. T.Ramesh ( AIPSN )
574. Kolagani VaraPrasad ( Sri Adarsha High School )
575. Deepa ( Sri padmavathi mahila university tirupati )
576. M.Udayendiran ( Periyar arts college Cuddalore )
577. JANARTHANAN S ( Headmaster (retired)..Govt.Hr.Sec.School.Kanchipuram Dt., )
578. S SYED MOHAMMED ABBAS ( Er.Perumal Manimekalai Polytechnic College, HOSUR )
579. Sundhararajan D ( Inisys Technologies )
580. Sethuraman S R ( PMC Tech, Hosur )
581. Dr. Y. Srinivasa Rao ( Bharathidasan University )
582. Satnam Singh ( People's Health Movement )
583. Dr R. S. Dahiya ( Haryana Gyan Vigyan Samiti )