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People's Science

an AIPSN *newsletter*



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People's Science

"People's Science" is a newsletter from All India People Science Network (AIPSN) – a network of over forty Peoples Science organisations spread all over India.

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ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

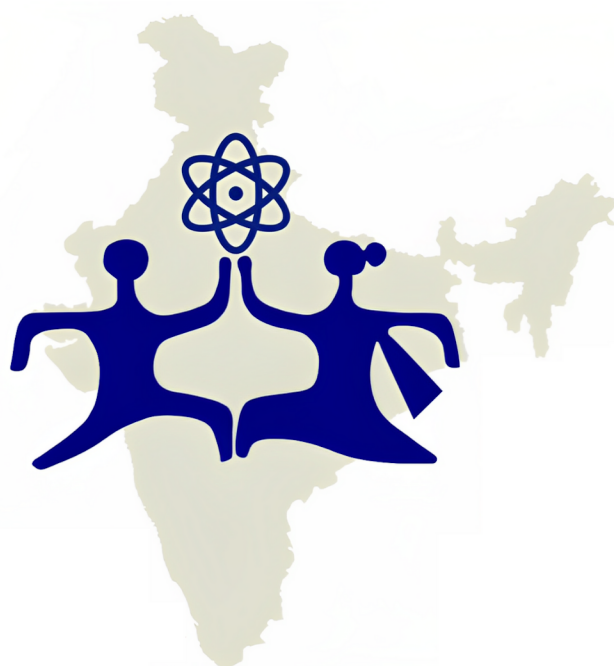
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The All India People's Science Network is a network of over forty Peoples Science organisations spread all over the country. The AIPSN started its journey formally as a network of activist organisations involved in Science Popularisation in the year 1988. However, our work had started earlier during the Bharat Jan Vigyan Jatha, in 1987, supported by the National Council for Science and Technology Communication (NCSTC). Since then the AIPSN has emerged as a pioneer in activities related to science communication and popularisation.

During the course of its journey and several campaigns the AIPSN uses diverse communication strategies using Kala Jathas, slide shows, video films, public meetings, street theatre, etc. Thirty five years after its formation, the AIPSN has a significant presence in over half the districts in the country, spread across all major states.

During the 17th All India Peoples' Science Congress held in Bhopal, between June 6-9, 2022, AIPSN pledged to bring out a periodic newsletter, which documents the work and provides another platform to express critical observations and demands of AIPSN on important issues. AIPSN is happy to restart the newsletter "Peoples Science" or "जन विज्ञान" on the occasion of the National Education Assembly, held in Delhi on April 30, 2023.



This is a modest restart of the AIPSN newsletter which had been published earlier during 1998-2000. Please write to us with your feedback, suggestion, comments and contributions here: aipsnpeoplescience@gmail.com

Scientifically Yours
Editorial Team

AIPSN AWARDED NARENDRA DABHOLKAR MEMORIAL AWARD

AIPSN received the Narendra Dabholkar Memorial Award by the Maharashtra Foundation. Maharashtra Foundation is an organisation founded by well wishers of Maharashtra from USA. Dr Dabholkar was closely associated with work of Maharashtra Foundation and used to organise their yearly program in Maharashtra .

After the brutal assassination of Dr Narendra Dabholkar ,Maharashtra Foundation had initiated an award in memory of Dr Narendra Dabholkar. This is ninth year of this award. For the last three years they have started considering organisations and people outside Maharashtra for this award.

This year their selection committee considered the name of AIPSN for the award. The Award was handed over in a large ceremony in Pune on 28th January 2023. The selection committee has considered AIPSN for this award due to its outstanding work in the field of spreading rationalism in society.



NATIONAL ACTION: 17TH ALL INDIA PEOPLE'S SCIENCE CONGRESS

The 17th All India People's Science Congress was organised in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh from June 06 to June 09, 2022.



The Congress was held against the background of an extraordinary situation due to the COVID-19 pandemic because of which the Congress, originally scheduled in 2020, got delayed by two years.

The organisations instrumental in organising the 17th Congress in Bhopal were MP Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti, MP Vigyan Sabha, Eklavya in association with the National Secretariat of the All India People's Science Network (AIPSN).

The central theme of the Congress was ***"The Idea of India"***. In organising this Congress, AIPSN stresses that "The future beckons India, especially its youth. To achieve its due, India needs to re-generate, re-imagine and take forward the values and aspirations of its freedom movement in the contemporary context, learning from all the missteps, failures and missed opportunities over the years. No country can progress if its people are divided against each other. 75 years after Independence, can we allow ourselves to be divided again?"

The Congress opened in a unique way – it began with a reading of the Preamble of the Indian Constitution. The Congress was organised at the Extol College, dedicating the venue and naming it as Dr. Amit Sengupta Parisar.



The AIPSC was inaugurated by K. K. Shailaja, former Health Minister of Kerala who had provided an able leadership during the COVID-19 crisis in Kerala. The Keynote speaker at the Inaugural Plenary was P. Sainath, renowned journalist and writer. Other speakers included Dr. Sabyasachi Chatterjee, President AIPSN, Ramprakash, writer, D. Indumathi, eminent scientist and Rajesh Joshi, writer & poet.

The 4-day Congress saw participation of about 700 scientists, academicians, and activists from across 25 states of India. Over the four days, the AIPSC saw 9 sub-plenaries and 22 workshops on some of the important themes, namely scientific temper, education and New Education Policy 2020, health, self-reliance, gender and social justice, environment, climate change, livelihoods, privatisation of public sector units and cultural diversity.

The workshops saw enthusiastic participation and experience sharing from several grassroots activists, scientists and other subject experts. The workshops discussed the topics such as Community learning centres & digital education, Early Childhood Care, Communicating Science and Demystifying Anti-science, Drug Policy and Drug Pricing, Digital Health Mission, Maternal, adolescent and child health, Industrial Policy for Job Generating Sustainable Industrialization, Rural & Urban Livelihood, Gender and Social Justice for Empowerment, Sustainable Agriculture, Environment Conservation and Climate Change, among others.

On the concluding day of the 4-day discussions and deliberations, the 17th All India People's Science Congress at Bhopal unanimously adopted a resolution against projects to study racial purity.



Members of the new Executive Committee with guests during the closing ceremony

FROM THE
PAGES OF
HISTORY:

30 YEARS OF AIPSN – FROM KANNUR TO BHUBANESWAR

T G KANNUR

This was presented as the report of the General Secretary for the 16th AIPSC at Bhubaneswar.

All India Peoples Science Network (AIPSN) was formed on 12th February 1988 in Kannur, Kerala at the first All India Peoples Science Congress (AIPSC). The first Congress was organised along with the silver jubilee conference of Kerala Sastra Sahitya Parishad (KSSP). Around 90 delegates representing 26 organisations from different parts of the country assembled at Sapphire Hotel auditorium on 11 and 12 February. There was no formal inauguration for this first AIPSC, as it was the formation conference. This first historical congress formally started with a keynote address by Prof. Udgaonkar, who presided over this meeting and who became the first president of AIPSN.

Background

Even though AIPSN was established in 1988, the background work started a decade before it, if not earlier. It is on record that the first science organisation in India, Bangeeya Vigyan Parishad, initiated by Prof. Satyendra Nath Bose, was formed in 1948 at Kolkata. Thereafter, Assam Science Society was established in 1953 and Orissa Vigyan Parishad in 1960. Then came Kerala Sastra Sahitya Parishad (KSSP) in 1962 and Federation of Indian Language Science Associations (FILSA) at BARC campus in Mumbai in 1967.

From 1972 onwards, attempts were made by KSSP to contact working scientists in various institutions, especially in metro cities. FILSA leaders visited various states to discuss with small groups of scientists. As a result, the first informal scientists' meet was held at Bangalore in 1973. During November 10-12 1978, KSSP organised an All India Convention of Peoples Science Movements in Thiruvananthapuram. More than 100 scientists representing around 20 groups participated in this three-day convention. Lot of discussions were held in many areas like formal and non-formal education, people's health movements, scientific research and technology and KSSP's slogan – science for social revolution.

After five years, in 1983, a second convention was organised, again in Thiruvananthapuram. By this time, Karnataka Rajya Vijnana Parishad (KRVP) and Delhi Science Forum were established in 1976 and 1979 respectively.



The Bhopal gas tragedy of 1984 created an atmosphere to discuss the abuse of science and technology across the world and specifically in India. Many concerned scientists wanted to respond and they were attracted by various science organisations in different states. Bharat Jana Vijnana Jatha 1987 (BJVJ), the epoch-making kala jatha supported by NCSTC became a medium to bring all the activated groups of scientists as its organisers. Culmination of five kala jathas at Bhopal created a lot of enthusiasm and it resulted in the first AIPSC and establishment of AIPSN. Before the BJVJ, KSSP had organised a Tamilnadu kala jatha in 1983 and another national kala jatha from Bangalore to New Delhi in 1985, which helped groom scientists and activist groups in these states to transform into organisers of BJVJ.

AIPSN was conceived as a network with sufficient flexibility, providing freedom to individual member organisations to carry on their state level activities, while jointly taking up few nationally coordinated programmes, so as to sustain a national thread.

The All India Peoples Science Congress (AIPSC) became the most important platform of AIPSN member organisations for sharing experiences as well as discussing theoretical aspects of science popularisation and policies on science and technology. Till 1990, AIPSCs were organised every year and interestingly, there were two AIPSCs in 1990, in Bengaluru during March 1990 and in Mumbai during December of the same year, due to preponement for some reasons. After the Mumbai AIPSC, it was decided to be held every two years. On a few occasions, the gap was extended to even three years.

AIPSC	VENUE	YEAR AND DATES
I	Cannanore(Kannur), Kerala	1988 February 11-12
II	Kolkata, West Bengal	1989 March 15-18
III	Bangalore(Bengaluru), Karnataka	1990 March 08-11
IV	Mumbai, Maharashtra	1990 December 25-28
V	Hissar, Haryana	1992 March 07-11
VI	Hyderabad, AP	1994 March 22-25
VII	Bhopal, MP	1996 February 15-18
VIII	Nalanda, Bihar	1998 November 09-13
IX	Chennai, Tamilnadu	2001 December 18-21
X	Shimla, Himachal Pradesh	2003 October 10 -14
XI	Guwahati, Assam	2006 February 02-05
XII	Ranchi, Jharkhand	2008 December 20-23
XIII	Thrissur, Kerala	2010 December 27-31
XIV	Lucknow, UP	2013 February 25-28
XV	Bengaluru, Karnataka	2015 May 21-25
XVI	Bhubaneswar, Odisha	2018 February 08-12

Table 1: Various Peoples Science Congresses: Venue and Date

AIPSN grew through various nationally coordinated programmes. **Total Literacy Campaign** was the first major programme initiated by AIPSN, after the successful Ernakulam model. Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti (BGVS), which is an integral part of the present AIPSN, was established in 1990 for running the literacy programme, supported by National Literacy Mission. Bharat Gyan Vigyan Jatha (BGVJ) of 1990 and BGVJ-2 of 1992 extended the reach of the movement to villages to provide a strong platform for the literacy campaign. SAMATA kala jatha of 1993 again improved the access.



'Hamara Desh' programme of 1993-94 was a strong response from AIPSN during the post NEP era. More than a dozen authentic booklets were prepared on various development areas and thousands of copies were circulated, thereby influencing the intelligentsia as well as activists throughout the nation.

The '**Desh Ko Jano Desh ko Badlo**' (DDJB) campaign of 1996-97 initiated planning for local development, based on local natural resource assessment in many villages. Based on Kerala's experience of decentralised planning, DDJB campaign made a good orientation in many states, towards intervening in panchayati raj institutions and decentralisation. The Nalanda AIPSC of 1998 was oriented to this experience. Around 40 panchayat presidents and municipal chairpersons from various states, including 14 persons from Kerala participated in the Nalanda congress to present the local development experiences of their local governments.

In 2014-15, AIPSN designed the Million Dialogue Programme (MDP). A dozen booklets were prepared, soft copies were distributed, national and state level trainings were organised and the dialogues were launched. But the MDP could not make a sufficient impact due to the limitations in state level preparations.



Recently, in 2016-17, AIPSN chalked out a wider programme called 'Sub ka Desh, Hamara Desh' (SDHD). As part of this, 10 booklets in English were prepared, some of which were translated to Hindi and a few vernaculars. The cultural front was more important in SDHD, compared to earlier dialogue campaigns. This is still going on. Jan Utsav, the national cultural assembly, organised at Bhopal, is the latest intervention by AIPSN which could arouse a lot of interest and confidence to fight against the ongoing dark ages in India.

During the last three decades, AIPSN has developed extensively, structurally as well as in programmes. Desk level activities have enhanced. Regional network has been strengthened. The number of member organisations has increased from 26 to 40. Communication has improved using electronic media. During 1998-2000, AIPSN had published a newsletter which could not be sustained financially.

In the 30th year of AIPSN on 12th February (formation conference also was on 12th February), the challenges are many. The nation which incorporated in its Constitution propagating scientific temper as a responsibility of every citizen, is seen to become instrumental in propagating many unscientific beliefs. Secularism is in danger in our country. Education is becoming more and more communal. There is no short cut solution. Scientific temper should become society's temper. Here, AIPSN has to go a long way ahead.



SELF-RELIANCE SYMPOSIUM

A Symposium was organized by Delhi Science Forum, in partnership with AIPSN, on Self-Reliance in Science & Technology in Delhi on 12-13 November 2022.

Self Reliance in Science and Technology (S&T) is a core area of focus of the AIPSN along with the promotion of scientific temper and science popularization. Self-Reliance is also an integral part of the Idea of India, as has been emphasized in all the AIPSN material for the 75th Anniversary of Indian Independence.

The Symposium brought together the leading experts from different technical and techno-economic areas. The Symposium discussed the contrast between the present government's 'Atmanirbharta', which is actually rooted in neo-liberalism and crony capitalism, and true S&T Self-Reliance which means autonomous, indigenous S&T capability and a break from dependence on other countries or external agencies.

There were eight sessions in total covering different topics like understanding Self-reliance/Atma-Nirbharta: contemporary and future challenges; S&T Education, Research and Self-Reliance along with sectoral perspectives on Issues and Challenges in Self-Reliance in key sectors; Agriculture, Fertilizers and Rural Industrialisation; Role of International Agencies, Trade regulation and Domestic Development Finance Industrial Policy, Technology and Innovation Policy, PSUs and Self-Reliance. A Declaration was adopted with inputs from trade unions, mass organisations, and civil society.



NATIONAL LEVEL CULTURAL WORKSHOP

A national level four day cultural workshop was held on November 4-7, 2022 in Bhopal where cultural activists across the states took part. As many as 25 participants from eight states took part. The participants discussed ideological, Scientific and Cultural Challenges and Opportunities of today and also explored new grounds and new paths of resistance during the first day. On the Day 2 cultural work experience and lessons from states were shared. On day 3 challenges arising with the explosion of the Internet were discussed. On the final day, an action plan for sustainable and continuous cultural interventions of People's Science Movement were chalked out.

Renowned poet and writer Shubha, Prof. Sabyasachi Chatterjee, SR Azad, Asha Mishra, Naresh Prerna, Kavita were the resource persons.



BHOPAL

HEALTH RIGHTS WORKSHOP WITH PEOPLE'S RELIEF COMMITTEE

As part of the Celebration of 80 years of People's Relief Committee, a three day Workshop on Health Rights was organized jointly by PRC, Paschim Banga Vigyan Mancha (PBVM) and AIPSN Health Desk at Kolkata between 25-27 November, 2022 at Iran Society office. The workshop saw an overwhelming response with 82 participants coming from seven states including representatives of 28 organisations and more than 25 resource persons from various parts of the country. The workshop was inaugurated by Asha Misra, General Secretary AIPSN, Dr. Dulal Dolui, President- People's Relief Committee, WB; Dr. Pradyot Sur, Joint Secretary, People's Relief Committee, WB and Prof. Satyajit Chakraborty, Working President, Paschim Banga Vigyan Mancha.

The workshop discussed issues of Health Rights, Social Determinants of Health, Political Economy of Health, Barriers to Access to Medicines and Pharma Trade, Privatisation of Healthcare, Health Financing Challenges, Health Policy Challenges in Bengal and role of media in Health. It also brought together voices of resistance and action from various parts of the country. All the participating organisations came together to unanimously resolve that all organisations based in West Bengal would work together to strengthen Peoples Science Movement (PSM) and Jan Swasthya Abhiyan (JSA) work in the state and raise issues related to health rights.



The workshop culminated with the Amit Sengupta Memorial Lecture delivered by Prof Mohan Rao. The lecture was co-chaired by Amit Sengupta's son Arijit.

SCIENCE FOR A NEW KERALA PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

P.RAMESH KUMAR (MANAGER, PADAYATRA)

Kerala Shastra Sahitya Parishad (KSSP) organized a mass campaign on **Science for the betterment of people, and Science for a new, better Kerala** between October 2022 to February 28, 2023. The campaign addressed the present scenario and the merits of Kerala's social living, the threats due to the national and world wide political and economical changes, and how we can face these issues and resolve them for a better Kerala using the of Science. The threats towards the quality of social living includes the rate of increase in suicide cases and the role of family disputes in it, molestation of women, increase in accidents, increased use of drugs and liquors, threats to environment, high morbidity rates, state's financial crisis, continuing backwardness of the marginalized sectors of the society.

KSSP organized 18 statewide seminars on various subjects like Education, Health, IT, Tourism, Environment, Scientific temper, Decentralization, Agriculture etc. initiated 80 localized scientific studies on different developmental issues, among which, 30 studies are already completed and the rest are ongoing. The main focus was a State wide Padayathra for 34 days.



Kerala Padayathra:

The Padayathra started from Kasaragode, the northern dist of Kerala on the Republic Day of 2023 and culminated at Thiruvananthapuram, on the National Science day touching 12 districts of Kerala. Justice K. Chandru inaugurated the Padayathra and eminent Media person P. Sainath was the Chief guest in the closing ceremony. At all the 133 centres of the Padayathra, local organising committees were formed and these committees undertook the propagation of books and leaflets in advance. Food and other facilities also were arranged by the local organizing committees. Kala Jathas were an integral part of the Padayathra.

People received the padayathra in 131 pre- planned centres and the Kalajatha team presented One Drama (She Archive) and Vilkalamela (Coat) in these centres; these programmes were set on the gender issues and scientific temper.

The number of members of the Padayathra varied from 200 to 450 in different days. Thousands of people took part in this programme by saluting the jatha, distributing drinking water, fruits and snacks for the members. Jatha members stayed in more than 1000 houses during night time and communicated the theme of the campaign with them.



One of the main specialities of the jatha was, it had no permanent captain, but the leaders of Kerala political, social, cultural, Scientific society led the Padayathra in all the days (Separate captain each day) The State President of KSSP, Mr. B Ramesh was the vice captain. Dr. T.M Thomas Isac(Ex minister), Kadannapalli Ramachandran MLA, Prof C Raveendranath(Ex minister), N.K Premachandran(MP), M.Swaraj and K.K.Shylaja were the political figures among captains. Seethal Syam (Transgender Activist), Dr. Neenaprasad(Eminent dancer), Dr. Sunil P Ilayidam (Writer and orator), Dr. Manoj Samuel (scientist), Kureepuzha Sreekumar(poet) also are among the eminent persons who led the Padayatra. Ministers of Kerala, Parliament members, other political leaders, socio-cultural personalities took part in the jatha in different centres. The visual and print media of the state provided very good coverage for the campaign with great importance.

This campaign tried to create an atmosphere of dialogue among the present Kerala's controversial scenario. It conveyed the importance of scientific temper in our daily life to deal with the emerging challenges. KSSP made an appeal to the society to unite together for the rebuilding of a Scientific, better Kerala.

The expenses of the campaign were totally met by selling of books and booklets worth 1.7 crores. A set of 15 booklets were prepared for the purpose and local socio-political leaders welcomed the Padayathra by accepting a set of booklets from the captain. Thus, it became one of the biggest components for further academic discussions. Now KSSP is consolidating the whole experiences of this massive campaign to design the future action plans.



THIRTY YEARS OF SAMATA

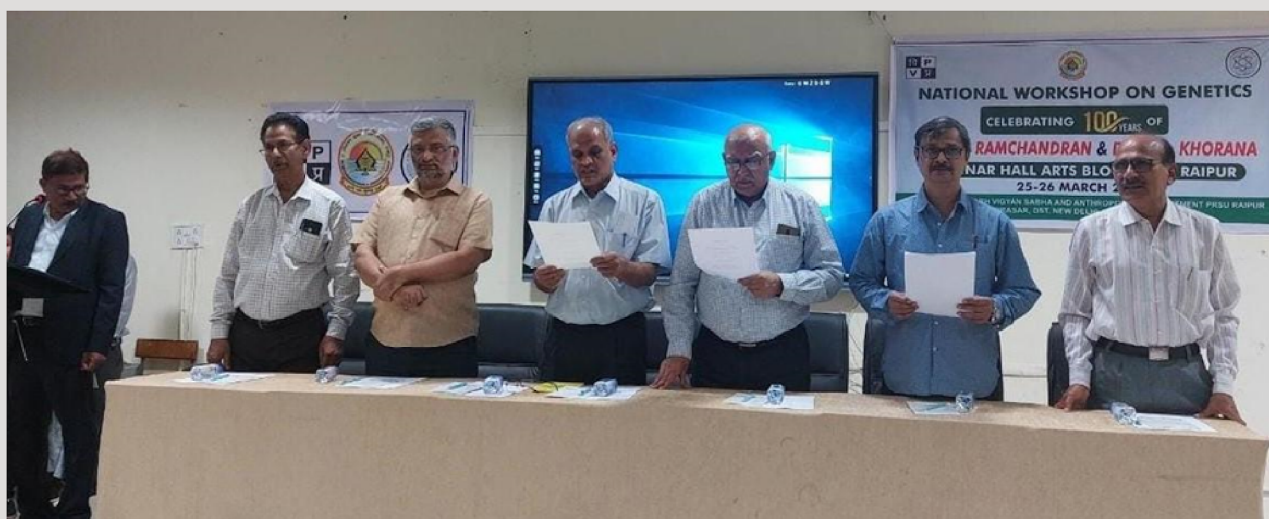
SAMATA completed 30 years on 8th March 2023. AIPSN decided to celebrate this glorious journey all over India. EC constituted a committee to plan the programme and execute it across the country. The committee convened meetings with the states. Programs like poetry recitation, cultural evenings, seminars, dialogues were held on different issues like domestic violence, women's empowerment etc. International Women's Day on March 8 was celebrated in states as part of the initiative.



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Name		Designation		Category	
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Type of Policy					
Period covered				Term	
Period of validity					
Mode of payment	Monthly <input type="checkbox"/>	Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/>	Half annual <input type="checkbox"/>	Annual <input type="checkbox"/>	
Method of payment	Banker's Order <input type="checkbox"/>	Cash <input type="checkbox"/>	Salary Order <input type="checkbox"/>	Direct Debit <input type="checkbox"/>	Advance <input type="checkbox"/>
Signature					

WORKSHOP ON 'GENETICS FOR PEOPLE'

In order to generate awareness on genetics among PSM activists, a workshop on 'Genetics for people workshop' was organised at Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur, Chhattisgarh on 25-26 March, 2023. Representatives from 15 states, 19 national level AIPSN member organisations, 5 Universities, and 77 participants joined from various states other than Chhattisgarh. The workshop was jointly organised by Chhattisgarh Vigyan Sabha, a member organisation of AIPSN, and Pt. Ravishankar S University, Chhattisgarh. It was supported by Vigyan Prasar, DST, New Delhi. The workshop was arranged as a part of the 100 year celebration of H G Khurana and G N Ramachandran and on 200 years of G J Mendel.



The workshop was inaugurated by IFS Dr. K Subramanaiya, Member, Chhattisgarh "State Planning board, Chhattisgarh". Honourable Vice Chancellor, Pandit Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur, Prof. Kishorilal Burma, presided over the session. Prof M L Naik, Dr. T V Venkateswaran, and Dr. Arunabha Misra, were present as honoured guests. Dr Asole Pradhan presented the vote of thanks. Resource persons from Calcutta University, Madurai Kamaraj University, Vigyan Prasar, Vidyasagar College, Indira Gandhi Krishi Viswavidyalaya, and Pt. Ravishankar University enriched this workshop in seven sessions with their deliberations.



DARWIN DAY

Observed: On 12 February, responding to the call of the AIPSN, Darwin rally and meetings were held in different states. A National level webinar was held on 10th February to provide talking points and resources relevant to Darwin day. AIPSN president Prof. Satyajit Rath, and vice president Prof.S. Krishnaswamy were the key speakers. The topic remained "Evolutionary science today and its importance". Satyajit Rath spoke in Hindi and S.Krishnaswamy spoke in english. Vivek Monteiro acted as moderator.

Astronomy Day was duly observed in the country on 17th February, 2023. AIPSN member organizations observed Astronomy Day on 17th February (Giordano Bruno Martyrdom Day) with various activities. A few states observed astronomy week from 15th to 19th as the former was the birthday of Galileo and the latter one was that of Copernicus. On 15th February a national webinar was held on "Astronomy and its importance in human civilization". Aniket Sule and Janhavi Bagel placed the issue. Ravinder Baneyal acted as moderator. The webinar experienced a lively question-answer session. Pune Collective organized a seminar associating both Darwin day and Astronomy day. National Science day was observed with due importance on 28th February everywhere. From flyers and newspapers, science day observation reports from WB, Haryana, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra are noted.

AGRICULTURE WORKSHOP

On 6th and 7th January 2023, an Extended Agricultural Desk meeting was organised in Dhanbad, Jharkhand. The meeting was organised to discuss the programmes and activities being conducted in various states and at the national level. Representatives from states reported the major challenges in agriculture such as lack of water/irrigation, quality of seed and fertilizer, open grazing, rice monocropping and loss of agri-biodiversity, crop raiding, declining soil fertility, non-existent government support, recurrent floods, monsoonal shift, migration of rural labour among others. They also shared the agricultural interventions being undertaken by PSM organizations in their respective states.

The two-day meeting also discussed the importance of agroecological practices in the present times with the main theme of making agriculture sustainable in the light of the climate change crisis and also ensuring adequate remuneration to the farmers, especially the small and marginal farmers. During the meet, the idea of Kisan Commissions was also discussed and the ways in which PSM organizations can engage with the activities of the commission. The meeting chalk out a collective action plan for interventions from the Agriculture Desk in different states and nationally.

The meeting was hosted by BGVS, Jharkhand. The meeting was attended by participants from 15 states representing 15 PSM organizations. Apart from the desk members the extended meeting was attended by convenors of the agricultural desk or representatives nominated by respective states. The brief inaugural session on the 6th January was addressed by Asha Mishra, AIPSN General Secretary, Satyajit Chakrabarty, Eastern Regional Convenor of the AIPSN, Kashinath Chatterjee, General Secretary, BGVS, Parthib Basu, Convenor, Agricultural Desk and Dinesh Abrol, Agricultural Desk.

Three themes of intervention emerged from the group discussions – first regionally and then on different themes as identified by the groups. The emergent themes that the participants felt require intervention are a) Water/irrigation, b) Seed and c) Diversification and farm level resource integration.



It was resolved that the state representatives will discuss within their desk/organization the possibilities of intervention along the three major intervention themes agreed upon. Subsequently the states will submit their respective intervention plans to the Agri Desk.

It was also decided that a pilot multi-stakeholder public hearing on the state of agriculture and food system will be attempted in each state. States are to create a state level working group to develop an understanding of the policies for the issues other than MSP and Debt Waiver. Survey is to be conducted on the issues arising out of tenancy, commons, land degradation, water use, availability of biological inputs, agricultural labour, demands of women farmers, barriers to integration of livestock into crop based farming system, availability of biological inputs, etc.



AIPSN FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATIONS

AIPSN observed the foundation day from 11th February to 28th February. National level inaugural webinar was held on February 11. Different member organizations subsequently organized similar programs in their states.



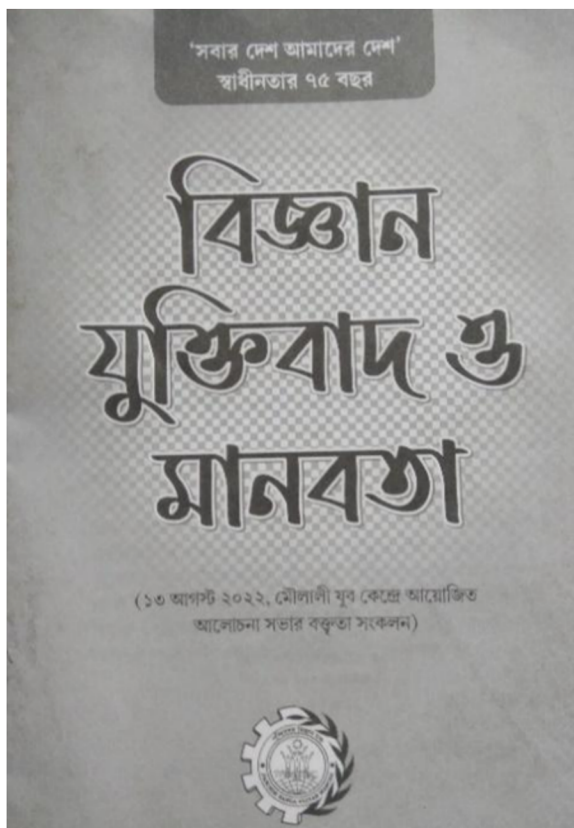
VIGYAN AVIJAN IN WEST BENGAL – 2023

(A CAMPAIGN ON SCIENTIFIC TEMPER & SCIENCE EDUCATION)

In the name of **Sab Ka Desh Hamara Desh** – 75 years of Independence, Paschim Banga Vigyan Mancha (MBVM) organized massive campaign program **‘Vigyan-Juktibad-Manabata’** (Science Rationality & Humanism) **Vigyan Avijan -2023** during January & February 2023 throughout the state focusing on the Issues – Scientific Temper, Self-Reliance, Science education & NEP. It was a decentralized program on the basis of District level planning – the target was to reach every Block. We published a booklet, prepared a folder and produced new dramas, songs & choreographies for this purpose.

Vigyan Avijan – 2023 had two components – 1) Campaign which includes cultural program, rally/cycle-rally, meeting/seminar, science and poster exhibitions, anti-superstition show, film show etc. in which more than 650 spots in 22 districts were covered. 2) Three tier (Block-District-State level) Cultural Competition on ten events throughout the state.

In West Bengal, in addition to the PSM organizations, the stakeholder organizations such as students, primary and secondary teachers, college and University teachers and non-teaching employees have also been organizing programmes against NEP. A common platform, Right to Education Forum was also formed including all the stakeholder organizations and others. Programmes are also being organized under the banner of Right to Education Forum.



Vigyan Avijan – 2023 Booklet & Folder

VIGYAN AVIJAN – 2023: PROGRAMMES IN DIFFERENT DISTRICTS



INTERACTION WITH NEWLY ELECTED PRI MEMBERS IN MP

An orientation programme was held for the newly elected members of Panchayati Raj Institutions in Bhopal on March 2, 2023. These newly elected PRI members are mostly PSM volunteers who were involved in activism in their localities. AIPSN Secretary Asha Mishra enlightened the PRI leaders on school education regarding the possibilities and challenges. They were also oriented on their responsibilities regarding school education. Resource Persons were also sensitised about the need to strengthen the government schools and prevent school closures. Discussion also took place on health issues in the rural areas.



MEETING AND SEMINAR ON RIGHT TO HEALTH CARE IN MP

On 31st December 2022, several leading activists from Bhopal came together to have a meeting to discuss the health challenges in Madhya Pradesh. The group resolved to launch a Health Rights Campaign in the state. The meeting was also attended by AIPSN Health Desk convenor and Dr Richa Chintan from Delhi. Later in the evening a special seminar was organised in Gandhi Bhawan Bhopal. The seminar was chaired by Prof Shyam Bhore and coordinated by Shilpa. The seminar was addressed by Dr Richa Chintan and Indranil. Challenges on health rights was discussed in the seminar.



SAVE EDUCATION - SAVE THE NATION

Kalajatha in Delhi :: 28 - 29 April 2023



:: 28th April 2023 ::

9:30 AM Punjabi Bagh
SSMI School
Ashok Rao

12 PM Delhi University
Dinesh Abrol

06 PM JNU Campus
D. Raghunandan
Prof. Anita Rampal

:: 29th April 2023 ::

05 PM Dakshinpuri
Opposite Virat Cinema
Kavita Sharma

06 PM Quami Ekta Bhavan
Near Gokulpuri metro
Rajeev Kunwar/Aman Saini

CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE, NEW DELHI

For Further Information, Please Contact

Richa Chintan - 09910887838 Kamla Menon - 9810010751

CURRENT AIPSN-EC

Satyajit Rath	President
S.Krishnaswamy	Vice-President
Komal Shrivatav	Vice-President
Prajval Shastri	Vice-President
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Rahul Sharma	Joint Secretary
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Vijay Bhatt	EC Member
Ashok L.Gaidhani	EC Member
Parthasarathy	EC Member

Vivek Monteiro	Special Invitee
Joginder walia	Special Invitee
Raman V R	Special Invitee
Parthib Basu	Special Invitee
S.Mohana	Special Invitee
T. Sundararaman	Special Invitee
Manoj Nigam	Special Invitee
Kavita Kabeer	Special Invitee
Anita Ramphal	Special Invitee
Ashok Rao	Special Invitee
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T.Gangadharan	Ex- Officio
R.S.Dahiya	Ex- Officio
S.Chatterjee	Ex- Officio
P. Rajamanickam	Ex- Officio
C.Ramakrishnan	Ex- Officio
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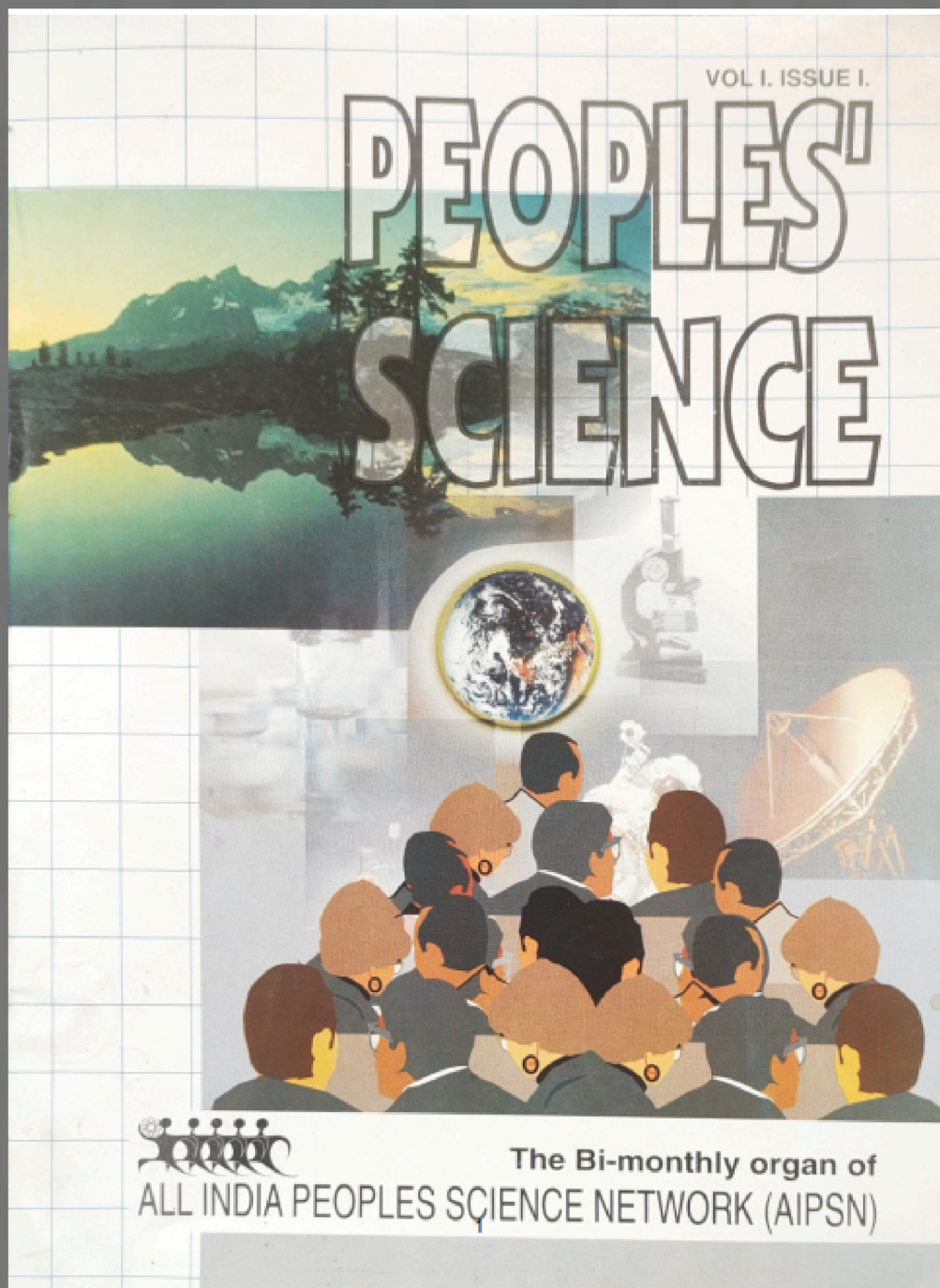
MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Assam Science Society, Assam
Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti (BGVS), Bihar
Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Himachal Pradesh
Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samuday, Maharashtra
Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Haryana
Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti (BGVS), Karnataka
Jan Vigyan Vedika (JVV), Andhra Pradesh
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Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti (BGVS), Tripura
Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti (BGVS), Uttar Pradesh
Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti (BGVS), Uttarakhand
Centre for Technology and Development (CTD), Delhi
Delhi Science Forum (DSF), Delhi
Eklavya, Madhya Pradesh
Federation of Medical Representatives Associations of India (FMRAI)
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Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Assam
Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti (BGVS), Jharkhand
Navnirmitti, Maharashtra
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Kerala Shashtra Sahitya Parishad (KSSP), Kerala
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Madhya Pradesh Vigyan Sabha (MPVS), Madhya Pradesh
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Pondicherry Science Forum (PSF), Pondicherry
Science for Society, Jharkhand
Society for Technology and Development (STD), Himachal Pradesh
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Bangiya Saksharata Prasar Samity, Bengal
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National Confederation of Officers Associations of Central Public Sector Undertakings (NCOACPSU)
Jan Samwad Samiti Uttarakhand
Bijnan Mancha, Tripura

Contact Us:

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