

NEWS

This facility provides services to various stakeholders from 1 September 2018. The calibration services have already been provided to some biomedical testing and calibration laboratories across the country.

The efforts of CSIR-NPL in setting up apex-level calibration and testing facilities of various other biomedical devices are in progress. This will pave the way

for fulfilment of the ‘The Medical Device Rule 2017’ to have ‘Centres of Excellence for Calibration and Testing’ in the field of biomedical metrology at par with international standards.

No. D. L. 33004/99, notified on 31 January 2017.

1. *The Gazette of India*, Extraordinary, Part II, section 3, sub-section (i), Registration

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MEETING REPORT

Understanding the universe through mega science projects*

India's first global, mega science exhibition ‘Vigyan Samagam’ began on 8 May 2019 in Mumbai and will continue until 7 July 2019. Then, it will travel to Bengaluru, Kolkata and New Delhi. It is an 11-month journey for the exhibition – pushing the frontiers of science.

The exhibition showcases the role of India in the world’s major international science projects – CERN (European Organization for Nuclear Research), FAIR (Facility for Antiproton and Ion Research), INO (India-based Neutrino Observatory), ITER (International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor), LIGO (Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory), SKA (Square Kilometer Array) and India TMT (Thirty Meter Telescope).

‘Vigyan Samagam’ exhibits the workings of the universe. From the discovery of the Higgs boson particle to that of the gravitational waves from the merger of

neutron stars and black holes, it throws light on crucial questions related to the origin of the universe and its evolution in various stages. It highlights India’s contribution towards the world’s science and technology innovations and research, especially in the fields of space science and nuclear technology.

V. K. Saraswat (member of NITI Aayog), K. VijayRaghavan (Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India), Kamlesh N. Vyas (Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy and Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission), Ashutosh Sharma (Secretary, DST), A. D. Choudhury (Director General NCSM), Frederick Borday (Director of Accelerators and Technology representing CERN) and Andreas Baun (Ambassador of Switzerland to India) graced the event. Other eminent scientists like P. Chidambaram, Anil Kakodkar, S. Banerjee, R. K. Sinha and S. Basu were also present at the occasion.

Saraswat inaugurated the first edition of ‘Vigyan Samagam’. He expressed hope that the exhibition will bring society and the scientific fraternity together to discuss the exciting world of science in a lucid way. Also, it will act as a new

science gateway that will satisfy the curiosity of millions of visitors, including researchers, students, science aspirants and families.

In his keynote address, VijayRaghavan strongly encouraged the participation of industries with all mega science projects. According to him, the exhibition would create awareness and enthuse scientific temper amongst students, and industrial participation would assist in the development of technological capacity in India.

The exhibition will travel to the Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum, Bengaluru (29 July 2019 to 28 September 2019). It will then move to Science City, Kolkata (East Topsia) (4 November 2019 to 31 December 2019) and will reach the National Science Centre, New Delhi (21 January to 20 March 2020). The exhibition will permanently be in New Delhi thereafter and will be maintained by NCSM.

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*A report on the exhibition ‘Vigyan Samagam’ organized by Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Science and Technology and National Council of Science Museums on 8 May 2019, at Nehru Science Centre, Mumbai.