



**85th CSIR
Foundation Day 2026
Special**

**Advancing Science, Innovation
& Nation Building**

CSIR NEWS

Newsletter of the Council of
Scientific & Industrial Research

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Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

85th CSIR Foundation Day 2026



The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) celebrated its milestone 85th Foundation Day on 25 September 2026 in New Delhi, in the gracious presence of the Chief Guest, Dr Jitendra Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Science and Technology and Vice-President, CSIR. The celebration was also graced by Dr N Kalaiselvi, Director General, CSIR and Secretary, DSIR, along with a few other Secretaries to the Government of India, Directors of CSIR labs, Heads of CSIR HQ, distinguished and eminent scientists of CSIR and other institutions, senior officials and other dignitaries.

The occasion was further enriched by the presence of Ambassadors, Heads of Missions and distinguished diplomats from nearly 33 countries, associated with CSIR's engagements with the African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO). Their participation reflected CSIR's growing international engagement and its efforts to strengthen Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) partnerships with countries of the Global South.

The celebrations commenced with the Welcome Address by Dr N Kalaiselvi, wherein she highlighted CSIR's enduring commitment to scientific research, technological development

and innovation in addressing national priorities and contributing to the country's scientific and technological progress. Dr Kalaiselvi also highlighted the historical, scientific and strategic significance of CSIR's 85th Foundation Day. She acknowledged the contributions of CSIR's 37 laboratories and more than 10,000 personnel, including scientists, researchers, technical staff and other employees, in advancing the organisation's scientific and technological mission. She also recognised the important role of industry, MSMEs, startups and other partners in strengthening CSIR's research and innovation ecosystem. Her message underscored the importance of collaborative research, indigenous technology development and sustained efforts to address national priorities and contribute to India's progress.

In his special address, Chief Guest, Dr Jitendra Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology and Vice President, CSIR, emphasised that technological sovereignty is integral to national sovereignty. He highlighted the need for CSIR to reduce India's dependence on imported technologies in critical sectors by identifying technological gaps and developing indigenous, globally competitive solutions.



He called upon CSIR to move beyond import substitution and emerge as a technology provider, while strengthening collaboration with industry from the initial stage of problem identification to

technology development and commercialisation. He stressed that industry should be a “co-creator, not only a partner”, and highlighted the importance of sustained engagement with large industries, MSMEs and startups to accelerate technology translation and market adoption.

Dr Singh also underscored the role of CSIR in advancing emerging areas such as nuclear technology, clean energy, quantum technologies, artificial intelligence and genomics, in alignment with national missions. Emphasising the need for continuous renewal of research priorities, he cited areas such as electric tractors, indigenous pharmaceuticals, food technologies, advanced road technologies, solar energy and mechanised sewer cleaning. He further called for greater public engagement and visibility of CSIR's achievements, stressing that scientific research should translate into tangible benefits for citizens and contribute to the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.



CSIR-Industry Connect Exhibition and CSIR Sci-Art Gallery

The 85th CSIR Foundation Day had a special focus on CSIR's industry collaborations. Based on the theme, the CSIR-Industry Connect Exhibition was organised as part of the 85th CSIR Foundation Day celebrations, in the NASC Complex, Pusa, New Delhi, to showcase CSIR's technological capabilities and strengthen engagement between research institutions and industry. The Exhibition was

inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister S&T, Dr Jitendra Singh. The exhibition provided a platform to highlight indigenous technologies, research outcomes and opportunities for technology transfer and industrial collaboration. It also underscored the importance of closer partnerships among CSIR laboratories, industries, MSMEs and startups in translating scientific research into market-ready solutions and addressing

CSIR@85 Special Releases

The milestone 85th CSIR Foundation Day celebrations featured a series of special releases by the Hon'ble Minister of Science & Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh, showcasing CSIR's scientific achievements, technological innovations and growing engagement with industry.

The releases included:

- **Customised CSIR@85 My Stamp** — commemorating the milestone occasion and CSIR's 85-year journey.
- **CSIR Technology Compendium 2014-2026** — showcasing the technological capabilities, innovations and achievements of CSIR laboratories in the last twelve years including list of CSIR technologies with TRL 6-9.
- **CSIR TechConnect Special Issue** — featuring 37 article focused on technologies, innovations and research contributions from the 37 CSIR laboratories.
- **CSIR-Industry Connect Video** — highlighting CSIR's engagement with industry and its efforts to translate scientific research and technologies into practical applications.
- **Unveiling of CIRA** — CSIR Innovation and Research Ambassador (CIRA) is the CSIR mascot for science communication and outreach. CIRA represents CSIR's commitment to taking science and innovation closer to society and strengthening public engagement with science and technology.

It was informed to the audience that the design for the *CSIR@85 My Stamp* was selected through an open call for design entries from across the CSIR fraternity. The finalised design was created by Shri Mayank Gardia, DST-INSPIRE Senior Research Fellow (SRF) at CSIR-IICB, Kolkata. In recognition of his creative contribution, Shri Mayank Gardia was felicitated by the Hon'ble Minister of Science & Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh, during the 85th CSIR Foundation Day function.



national technological priorities. The exhibition displayed more than 26 technologies from various CSIR labs, including participation of more than 20 industrial partners.

The Exhibition also included a display of outdoor technology exhibits, showcasing select large-scale/industrial technologies of CSIR. The exhibits included CSIR's MSS+ Van, E-tractor, Drain Cleaning Machine, Jal Yaan Van, Mobile Millet Processing Unit, MiltiPLE ATMoS and a real-time powered-up demonstration of a High Altitude Platform, providing visitors, dignitaries and international delegates with an opportunity to learn about CSIR's technological developments and their potential applications. The exhibition highlighted CSIR's efforts to develop home-grown technologies and translate scientific research into practical solutions.

One of the special attractions of the 85th CSIR Foundation Day celebrations was the CSIR Sci-Art Gallery, set up for the first time by CSIR. The unique initiative brought together science and artistic expression, showcasing scientific ideas, discoveries and innovations through creative visual interpretations and highlighting the fascinating intersection of science, creativity and art. The special exhibition featured paintings created by eminent researchers of CSIR, illustrating various scientific phenomena through creative visual representations. The gallery provided a distinctive platform for scientists to express scientific concepts through art, offering visitors an opportunity to experience the creative dimension of scientific research. The initiative also highlighted the potential of art as a medium for science communication, presenting scientific ideas in an engaging visual



format and encouraging interaction between the scientific community and the wider public.

A special announcement regarding the CSIR Science and Innovation Quiz (CSIR SciQuiz), being hosted on the MY Bharat portal in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, was also made during the occasion to create awareness and encourage participation. A special award was announced for the winning participants, offering them an opportunity to visit a CSIR laboratory of their choice. It was further announced that, following the inaugural edition held online from 20–26 September 2026, the CSIR SciQuiz would be conducted again in the coming months, providing continued opportunities for wider public engagement with CSIR's science, technology and innovations.

CSIR Foundation Day Lecture

The Foundation Day Lecture was delivered by Prof. Ashok Jhunjhunwala on the theme "Making India a Product Nation". In his lecture, he highlighted India's capabilities in science, technology and innovation, with particular emphasis on indigenous product development and the translation of research outcomes into scalable, industry-oriented solutions. He also underscored the importance of strengthening linkages between research institutions and industry to accelerate innovation, support domestic manufacturing and enhance India's technological capabilities.



Transfer of Technologies

A special Technology Transfer session was organised at the CSIR-Industry Connect Exhibition Pavilion in the presence of the Hon'ble Minister of Science & Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh. The session showcased CSIR's efforts to translate research and innovation into industrial applications through strategic partnerships.

The session featured the following Technology Transfer exchanges and releases:

- **CSIR-NIIST:** transfer of technology for the establishment of the Centre of Excellence for Food Fortification Innovation, Research and Training (CEFIRT) to the Tata Group (Tata Consumer Products).
- **CSIR-NIO**
 - ♦ Transfer of technology for Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (JAYA) to Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL), Gandhigram, and Krishna Defence and Allied Industries Ltd, Mumbai.
 - ♦ Transfer of technology for Deep Seabed Trawl to industry partner Paras Enterprises.
- **CSIR-IITR:** transfer of technology for Multi PLE-ATMOS, a mobile system that reduces some of the most dangerous urban pollutants and makes India's fight against air pollution smarter and more effective, to M/s Airshed Planning Professionals Pvt. Ltd, Kanpur.
- **CSIR-CEERI:** transfer of technology for the 4K Laparoscopy Tower for Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS), developed by CSIR-CEERI under the CSIR Mission Mode Project on Indigenous Development and Manufacturing of Machines, Devices and Assembly Lines, to M/s Healthium Meditech, Bengaluru.
- **CSIR-NCL:** signing of a Letter of Intent for the transfer of technology for manufacturing *Para-aminophenol (PAP)*, a key intermediate for paracetamol production, with Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL).
- **CSIR-NIScPR Magazine Release:** release of five new popular science magazines published by CSIR-NIScPR in Assamese, Bengali, Marathi, Tamil and Telugu. The magazines

Bigyan Lahar, Bigyan Brittanto, Vidnyan Kshitij, Ariviyal Arikkaiyalar and Vigyan Velugu, respectively, expand CSIR-NIScPR's popular science publishing portfolio and its longstanding efforts to take scientific knowledge to wider audiences.



Messages of Former DGs of CSIR

The Foundation Day celebrations featured messages from five former Directors General of CSIR, reflecting on the organisation's scientific legacy and outlining priorities for its future.

- **Dr RA Mashelkar** highlighted CSIR's role in achieving Viksit Bharat 2047, urging a transition from Make in India to Invent in India and Owned by India. Recalling the 1998 Bangalore Declaration, he called for CSIR to strengthen its national and global impact and encouraged scientists to "pole-vault" into the future.
- **Dr V Prakash** recalled CSIR's establishment in 1942 under Sir Arcot Ramaswamy Mudaliar and its historic contribution to India's scientific and industrial self-reliance. He outlined five pillars for the next 5,000 days: technology convergence, biosecurity and climate resilience, faster translation of research, advanced materials, and wider access to science in rural areas.
- **Dr T Ramasami** reflected on CSIR's founding on 26 September 1942 and its evolution from promoting industrial self-reliance to addressing emerging technological challenges. He called for CSIR to develop into a global strategic consortium focused on "Science for Humanity", particularly in the context of resource constraints and critical-mineral dependencies.
- **Prof. Samir K Brahmachari** highlighted initiatives such as CSIR-800 and AcSIR, and stressed the need for ambitious scientific goals, bold leadership and support for high-risk research. He also called for greater recognition of collective achievements and opportunities for school students to gain research exposure in CSIR laboratories and engage with emerging areas such as AI and Science 4.0.
- **Dr MO Garg** emphasised CSIR's multidisciplinary research and technology translation capabilities, citing commercial deployments such as the Numaligarh wax plant, Jamnagar benzene recovery unit and refinery sweetening catalysts. He encouraged young researchers to use CSIR's research ecosystem to advance technological self-reliance.

CSIR – Industry Leadership Dialogue



The CSIR–Industry Leadership Dialogue was organised as part of the 85th CSIR Foundation Day celebrations, bringing together leaders from research institutions and industry to discuss ways to strengthen R&D and industry partnerships, accelerate technology translation and promote the wider adoption of indigenous innovations.

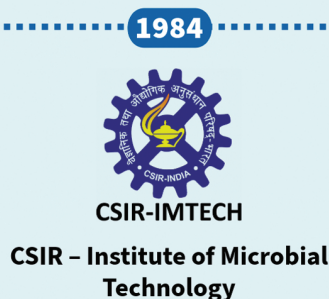
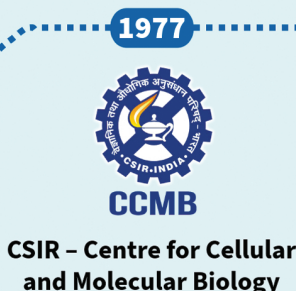
The dialogue featured Dr Jitendra Sharma, Managing Director and Founder CEO, AMTZ; Shri S Bharathan, Director–Refineries, HPCL; and Dr Santosh Kumar Balivada, CEO, Centre for Advanced Materials, AMTZ. The session highlighted the importance of closer collaboration

between scientific institutions and industry in translating research outcomes into scalable technologies, addressing industrial needs and contributing to technology-led economic growth.

The milestone 85th CSIR Foundation Day celebrations concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by the Chairperson, CSIR Foundation Day Committee and the Coordinator of the programme, Dr G Mahesh, Head, Science Communication and Dissemination Directorate, CSIR Headquarters.

Contributed by: Science Communication and Dissemination Directorate (SCDD), CSIR Headquarters, New Delhi

CSIR Through the Decades



*For some of the laboratories, the years reflect institutional mergers, reorganization, or renaming and not necessarily the year of establishment.

1948



CSIR – Central Leather
Research Institute

1948



CSIR – Central Electrochemical
Research Institute

1950



CSIR – National Chemical
Laboratory

1950



CSIR – Central Glass and
Ceramic Research Institute

1952



CSIR – Central Road
Research Institute

1951



CSIR – Central Drug
Research Institute

1950



CSIR – National
Metallurgical Laboratory

1950



CSIR – Central Food
Technological Research Institute

1959



CSIR – National Aerospace
Laboratories

1959



CSIR – Central Scientific
Instruments Organisation

1960



CSIR – Indian Institute of
Petroleum

1961



CSIR – North East Institute
of Science and Technology

1965



CSIR – Indian Institute of
Toxicology Research

1965



CSIR – Structural Engineering
Research Centre

1964



CSIR – Institute of Minerals
and Materials Technology

1961



CSIR – National Geophysical
Research Institute

2021



CSIR – National Institute of
Science Communication
and Policy Research

2026



CSIR- National Institute of
Data Science and AI

ONE COUNCIL
37 INSTITUTES
Countless Innovations

CSIR-NIIST and Tata Consumer Products Ltd to Establish Centre of Excellence for Food Fortification at Thiruvananthapuram

C SIR-National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (CSIR-NIIST), Thiruvananthapuram, and Tata Consumer Products Limited (TCPL) have joined hands to establish the Centre of Excellence for Food Fortification Innovation, Research and Training (CEFIRT) at the CSIR-NIIST Innovation, Technology and Entrepreneurship (ITE) Hub at the Bio 360 Life Sciences Park, Thonnakkal, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. The collaboration was formalised through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which was exchanged during the 85th CSIR Foundation Day celebrations held at the National Capital on 25 September 2026, in the presence of the Hon'ble Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Science and Technology and

Ministry of Earth Sciences, Dr Jitendra Singh, and Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) and Director General, CSIR, Dr (Mrs) N Kalaiselvi. Mr Partha Biswas, President, RTD Business, TCPL, was also present during the occasion.

The establishment of CEFIRT marks an important step towards strengthening India's capabilities in food fortification research, innovation, technology development and translation. The Centre will bring together the scientific and technological expertise of CSIR-NIIST with TCPL's industry experience in food products, nutrition and product innovation.

The initiative comes at a significant juncture in the development of the CSIR-NIIST ITE Hub



From L to R: Mr Partha Biswas, President, RTD Business, TCPL; Dr Jitendra Singh, Hon'ble S&T Minister; Dr N Kalaiselvi, DG, CSIR; and Dr C Anandharamakrishnan, Director, CSIR-NIIST

at Thonnakkal, which was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 23 February 2026. The ITE Hub is envisioned as a platform for translating scientific research into technologies, fostering entrepreneurship and strengthening partnerships among research institutions, industry and other stakeholders. The establishment of CEFIRT further strengthens this ecosystem by creating a dedicated platform for research, innovation, technology development, transfer and entrepreneurship in the area of food fortification.

CEFIRT is envisioned as a national platform for food fortification innovation, research and training. The Centre will focus on developing innovative fortification technologies for staple foods such as grains, salt, milk and edible oils, along with protein-enriched, functional and specialised nutrition products. It will provide advanced facilities and expertise for characterisation, quality assurance, nutrient stability and bio accessibility assessment, addressing key challenges associated with nutrient incorporation, processing and storage.

Strengthening Industry-Academia Collaboration, CEFIRT will facilitate collaborative R&D between scientific institutions and industry, supporting technology development, analytical testing, validation, scale-up, technology transfer

and commercialisation. The Centre will also offer specialised training and technical programmes for researchers, students and industry professionals, thereby strengthening knowledge and capacity in food fortification and nutrition science.

Supporting India's Nutrition Security, CEFIRT will contribute to nutrition security by developing scientifically validated and practical solutions for fortified and nutrition-enhanced foods, with emphasis on nutrient stability, safety, quality, bio accessibility and consumer acceptability.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr C Anandharamakrishnan, Director, CSIR-NIIST, highlighted the importance of bringing together scientific expertise and industrial capabilities to develop innovative, scalable and impactful solutions in food and nutrition. Mr Vikas Gupta, Global Chief R&D Officer, Tata Consumer Products Limited, emphasised the importance of industry-led innovation and collaborative research in developing effective food fortification solutions with wider societal impact.

Through the CSIR-NIIST-TCPL partnership, CEFIRT is expected to provide a sustained platform for innovation, research, training and technology translation in food fortification, contributing to national efforts towards improved nutrition, food quality and food security.

CSIR-IMTECH Celebrates 85th CSIR Foundation Day

CSThe 85th Foundation Day of the CSIR was celebrated with great enthusiasm on 28 September 2026, at the CSIR-Institute of Microbial Technology (CSIR-IMTECH), Chandigarh, commemorating over eight decades of excellence in scientific research, innovation and nation-building. Prof. Gobardhan Das, Member, NITI Aayog and an alumnus of CSIR-IMTECH, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, while Prof. Javed Iqbal, Former Director, CSIR-NIIST and Chairman, Incor Renovis Laboratories, was the Guest of Honour. Among other dignitaries,



Dr Alka Rao, Director, CSIR-IMTECH, honouring the Chief Guest on the 85th CSIR Foundation Day

Dr Srinivas Lanka, Mentor, Elix Global & Member, Research Council, CSIR-IMTECH and Dr Moez Sanaa, CEO & Founder of International Food Risk Analysis Consortium (IFoRAC), were also present on this occasion.

This Foundation Day address was delivered by Prof. Gobardhan Das on *"The Journey of Indian Civilisation"* and expressed confidence in India's emergence as a leading global power by 2047 and encouraged young researchers to contribute actively to the nation's progress. Prof. Das described CSIR-IMTECH as a Centre for Global Talent that nurtures researchers capable of contributing to science and society at the global level. He encouraged young scholars to pursue a clear vision, believe in their abilities and face challenges with determination. He highlighted India's growing economic stature and its role as a global pharmaceutical and vaccine manufacturing hub, citing vaccine production and international supply during COVID-19 as examples of its capabilities. The lecture captivated the auditorium with its brilliant and inspiring delivery, leaving the entire audience deeply engaged from start to end.

Prof. Javed Iqbal delivered a Technical Foundation Day Lecture on Furan Macrocycles, stem-cell-to-neuron conversion and transcriptomic validation. His talk demonstrated a simple, gene-free chemical approach that can turn stem cells into functional brain cells using specially designed ring-shaped molecules. Validated through genetic sequencing, this breakthrough opens new possibilities for studying and treating complex brain disorders such as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease.

On this momentous occasion, the "SUVIDHA" web portal was launched, which is an indigenous CSIR-IMTECH in-house digital job-card platform for all service-related requests. CSIR-IMTECH Laboratory Safety Manual was also released by the dignitaries. The purpose of the manual is to create and spread awareness regarding safety and emergency procedures, prevent injury, occupational illness, environmental release, damage to equipment and interruption of operations at CSIR-IMTECH. As part of the celebrations, CSIR-IMTECH



Dignitaries in a group photo with Alumni of CSIR-IMTECH on 85th CSIR Foundation Day

also felicitated its retirees and employees who have completed 25 years of service. The institute also recognised the efforts of wards of CSIR-IMTECH staff for their outstanding performances in various academic, essay, quiz, drawing and sporting events held at the state and national level. As part of Foundation Day, the institute's alumni also joined the celebrations along with Open Day for the general public and students to get a glimpse of the facilities, infrastructure and showcase the scientific prowess of CSIR-IMTECH. More than 750 school and college students across different states got a chance to interact with scientists and researchers, fostering a scientific temperament among budding students.

Dr Alka Rao, Director, CSIR-IMTECH, while welcoming the guests and faculty to CSIR's Foundation Day, apprised the audience of the contributions and commitments of CSIR for the vision of making India a developed nation in 2047. Speaking at the occasion, she said, "To every researcher, student, industry partner, and regulator looking for an honest, capable scientific partner — our doors are open." Dr Rao reaffirmed CSIR-IMTECH's commitment to serving as a dedicated implementation partner in advancing the vision of NITI Aayog and the Government of India, translating scientific knowledge into meaningful benefits for society.

CSIR's Foundation Day @ IITR: Science with Purpose, Technology for Society

Science finds its true meaning when it moves beyond the laboratory and becomes part of everyday life. This spirit came alive during the celebration of the 85th Foundation Day of the CSIR, held on 28 September 2026, at the CSIR-Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (CSIR-IITR), Lucknow.

This celebration at IITR, Lucknow brought together scientists, young minds, scholars, employees and technology innovators who highlighted the message that scientific excellence acquires greater significance when it creates value for society.

The programme was graced by Dr SP Vasireddi, Executive Chairman, Vimta Labs, Hyderabad, as the Chief Guest and was presided over by Dr Bhaskar Narayan, Director, CSIR-IITR.

In his address, Dr Vasireddi, an internationally renowned industrialist and innovator who had set up Vimta Labs more than four decades ago, offered a thought-provoking perspective on the changing landscape of science and innovation. He emphasised that successful science should generate not only business value but also societal value, placing people and their needs at the centre of innovation. In a world where scientific discoveries are advancing at remarkable speed, the measure of success, he suggested, cannot remain confined to research publications alone. Ideas must be nurtured through collaborations, taken towards technology scale-up, supported by adequate manufacturing capabilities and eventually translated into solutions that can reach people on a meaningful scale.

Dr Vasireddi underlined the importance of stronger partnerships among startups, industry and research institutions in making this transition possible. Such partnerships can provide the ecosystem, expertise, resources and market understanding needed to transform promising scientific ideas into practical applications. The Chief Guest also drew attention to a number of emerging



areas that are poised to influence the coming decade. Artificial intelligence, synthetic biology and advanced computing, along with developments in personalised healthcare, telemedicine, low-cost diagnostics and next-generation risk assessment, are opening new possibilities for addressing complex scientific and societal challenges. Dr Vasireddi's message to the CSIR family was crisp and clear: the future of science will depend not only on discovering what is possible, but also on building the capacity and partnerships needed to make those possibilities accessible and useful.

Dr Bhaskar Narayan, Director, CSIR-IITR, emphasised that scientists must continue to remain passionate, creative and scientifically enriching if they are to remain relevant to society. His observation that "Science will teach us perseverance" captured an essential quality of scientific endeavour: progress often emerges through persistence, curiosity and the willingness to continue exploring even when answers are not immediate.

Another significant feature of the celebration was the exchange of MoAs with four startups and technology incubatees. The initiative reflected

the continuing efforts of IITR's Technology Development and Innovation Centre in creating pathways through which research and innovation can move towards practical applications. Under the Jigyasa scientific-social responsibility initiative, the institute had put up an open-day science exhibition which was visited by a large number of young minds from various schools and colleges of the city. Their vibrant and energetic presence added an important dimension to the occasion, demonstrating how curiosity and scientific engagement can begin early and grow through meaningful exposure to research and innovation.

Prizes were distributed to winners of the essay competition conducted for the wards of CSIR-IITR employees, staff and scholars. Employees completing 25 years of service in CSIR were honoured, as were retiring employees whose contributions and association with the organisation form an important part of its institutional journey. The event received wide coverage in the local media, extending its message beyond the Institute

and bringing the celebration of CSIR's 85-year scientific journey to a broader public audience.

As CSIR enters another chapter of its journey, the Foundation Day celebration at CSIR-IITR offered a timely reminder that science with purpose and technology, in the service of society, is essential for societal progress.



85th Foundation Day with Open Day at CSIR-SERC

As part of the Foundation Day celebrations, an Open Day was organised on 28 September 2026 at the CSIR Campus, Taramani, Chennai, by CSIR-Structural Engineering Research Centre (CSIR-SERC) and CSIR Madras Complex (CMC).

As part of the Open Day, the facilities of CSIR-SERC and the regional units of CSIR-CECRI, CSIR-CEERI, CSIR-CSIO, CSIR-NEERI and CSIR-NML located at the CSIR Campus, Taramani, Chennai, were opened to the public. The Tower Testing and Research Station (TTRS) of CSIR-SERC at Tirusulam also participated in the programme.

The laboratories and facilities were open to visitors, and special arrangements were made to welcome the visitors and provide them with an opportunity to witness the state-of-the-art research facilities, scientific demonstrations,



technologies and products developed by CSIR laboratories.

The Open Day attracted more than 10500 visitors, including school and college students, teachers, researchers, professional engineers,

industry representatives, entrepreneurs, media personnel and members of the general public. Students participating in the Jigyasa Student-Scientist Connect Programme also visited the laboratories and interacted with the scientific and technical staff.

The visitors were given a first-hand exposure to the wide-ranging and multidisciplinary research and development activities being carried out at the CSIR laboratories. They showed keen interest in the exhibits, demonstrations and technologies, and enthusiastically interacted with scientists and technical staff to learn about the applications

and societal relevance of the research being undertaken.

The Open Day provided an opportunity for the CSIR laboratories to connect with students, teachers, industry and the general public, which created greater awareness about the scientific and technological capabilities and contributions of CSIR towards national development.

The enthusiastic participation of visitors and their interaction with the scientists and technical staff made the Open Day a vibrant platform for connecting science, technology and society.



CSIR Foundation Day Celebrations at CSIR-NEIST

CSIR-North East Institute of Science and Technology (CSIR-NEIST), Jorhat, celebrated the 85th CSIR Foundation Day with much zeal and enthusiasm on 29 September 2026 with a day-long programme.

The Foundation Day programme was graced by Padma Shri Dr Ashok Kumar Singh, Secretary, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS), Government of India, as the Guest of Honour, while Prof. Gobardhan Das, Member, NITI Aayog, Government of India, joined the programme virtually as the Chief Guest.

Dr VM Tiwari, Director, CSIR-NEIST, delivered the welcome address and highlighted the remarkable legacy of CSIR and its contributions to the nation. Dr Tiwari noted that CSIR is among the few scientific organisations with a history that predates India's independence and recalled that several of its founders were associated with the freedom movement. He emphasised the foundational role played by CSIR in building India's scientific and technological capabilities and its continued contribution alongside other major national institutions such as the Defence Research



and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Department of Atomic Energy. He also emphasised the contributions of CSIR towards societal engagement, educational outreach and nurturing young minds to become future innovators and responsible citizens.

Delivering his talk on “Genomics for Rice Improvement: Progress and Prospects”, Dr Ashok Kumar Singh made a detailed presentation wherein he discussed the evolution of rice improvement programmes in India and highlighted the importance of genomics and modern breeding approaches in developing improved rice varieties. Dr Singh referred to traditional Basmati rice varieties and discussed the significant contributions of agricultural scientists, particularly Prof. MS Swaminathan, towards strengthening Indian agriculture and advancing the development and adoption of high-yielding crop varieties. He elaborated on the challenges posed by various biotic stresses affecting rice cultivation and discussed his contributions in developing Pusa rice varieties with enhanced resistance to major diseases and pests. He particularly discussed the development of bacterial blight- and blast-resistant Basmati varieties, including Pusa Basmati 1637, which offers resistance to blast and can help

reduce the need for chemical interventions. He also highlighted research on resistance to rice root knot nematodes, the development of herbicide tolerant Basmati varieties, and the integration of genomic approaches to accelerate crop improvement.

Dr Singh further emphasised that there is a vast scope for developing such improved varieties for the local rice varieties of the North East such as Joha rice and the Manipuri black rice.

Delivering his address virtually, Prof. Gobardhan Das highlighted India’s significant progress in both the technological and economic spheres and spoke about several developments that reflect the country’s growing technological capabilities. He also referred to India’s humanitarian assistance to countries affected by conflicts, including the export of rice to support populations impacted by the Russia–Ukraine conflict.

Prof. Das highlighted India’s recent economic growth and noted that the country’s GDP growth rate had crossed 7% in the latest quarter, placing India among the faster-growing major economies. He also emphasised the transformative role of technology in India’s digital ecosystem, citing the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) as a notable example of how digital innovation has facilitated

rapid and widespread adoption of cashless payments across the country.

Encouraging the younger generation, Prof. Das called upon them to imbibe the spirit of *Viksit Bharat* and contribute through innovation, scientific advancement and technology-driven development towards building a developed India.

The Foundation Day programme also featured the release of CSIR-NEIST publications and the signing & exchange of MoU between CSIR-NEIST and NECTAR, Shillong to promote collaborative efforts in research, technology development and technology deployment for societal upliftment of NE region.

The occasion also featured the felicitation of retired employees and employees completing 25 years of service, recognising their dedicated contributions to the institute. Students who

received studentship awards were also felicitated during the programme.

As part of the celebration, the Institute also observed Open Day, during which a Students Activity & Exhibition by R&D Groups (scientific experiments and Exhibition cum demonstration); Face-to-Face interaction with scientists; Visits round the lab were organised for the students. The event provided school and college students, teachers and other visitors an opportunity to learn about the Institute's research and technological activities and to visit its laboratories and facilities. More than 1000 students from different schools, colleges and universities of Jorhat and nearby districts visited the institute during the Open Day programme. The celebration concluded with a Vote of Thanks delivered by Dr Kalyani Medhi, Head, RPBD Division.



CSIR-CSMCRI Celebrates 85th Foundation Day of CSIR

CSIR-Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Institute (CSIR-CSMCRI), Bhavnagar, celebrated the 85th Foundation Day of the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) on 1 October 2026, with enthusiasm and scientific spirit. The event brought together scientists, staff members, students, and distinguished guests to commemorate the significant milestone in the history of India's premier scientific research organisation.

The programme commenced with the National Song and the CSIR Song, followed by a welcome address by Dr JR Chunawala, Chief Coordinator of the Foundation Day Celebration

Committee. Delivering the distinguished lecture, Mr Amit Raj Sinha, Managing Director and CEO of Sigachi Industries, Hyderabad, shared insights on industry-driven innovation and the role of research institutions in fostering technological advancement. The Foundation Day Lecture was delivered by Chief Guest Mr Digvijaysinh D Jadeja, IAS, Mission Director, Gujarat State Biotechnology Mission, Gandhinagar, who emphasised the importance of science, biotechnology, and innovation in achieving sustainable growth.

A highlight of the programme was the felicitation ceremony and the release of the *CSIR-CSMCRI Annual Report 2025-26*. Addressing the

gathering, Dr Arup Ghosh, Director, CSIR-CSMCRI, reflected on the institute's scientific achievements and ongoing contributions in the areas of salt science, marine chemicals, advanced materials, biotechnology, and sustainable technologies. He highlighted the importance of CSIR's contributions to national development and the challenges ahead.

Dr Kanti Bhooshan Pandey, a principal scientist at CSIR-CSMCRI, informed that the celebrations also included an Open Day programme, providing visitors and school students

under the CSIR-Jigyasa programme, coordinated by Dr DR Chaudhary with an opportunity to learn about the institute's research activities, facilities, and technologies developed for societal and industrial benefit. The event concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Mr Biranchi Sarang, Controller of Administration, with the remark that the celebrations underscored CSIR's unwavering commitment to scientific excellence, societal outreach, and visionary leadership. Dr Shilpi Kushwaha anchored the event.



Celebration of the 85th Foundation Day of CSIR at CSIR-CECRI

CSIR-Central Electrochemical Research Institute (CSIR-CECRI), Karaikudi celebrated the 85th Foundation Day of the CSIR in a magnificent manner. In the celebration event held at the Abdul Kalam Auditorium, CSIR-CECRI, Karaikudi

on 5 October 2026, Prof. Sunil Kumar Singh, Director, CSIR-NIO, Goa, embellished the occasion as the Chief Guest and delivered the CSIR Foundation Day Lecture. Prof. Arumugam Manthiram, University of the Texas, Austin, USA, graced the occasion and

Dr K Ramesha, Director, CSIR-CECRI, presided over the function.

In his welcome address, Dr J Mathiyarasu, Scientist-G, CSIR-CECRI, welcomed the dignitaries on the dais and the august gathering at the auditorium comprising of the past, present and future generations of CSIR-CECRI — Dr V Yegnaraman, former Director, CSIR-CECRI, the retirees, the former scientists and staff of CSIR-CECRI, present staff members of the CSIR-CECRI family, AcSIR Scholars, Research Scholars, Project Staff, Contractual Staff and BTech students. Foundation Day is an occasion to reminisce the role of CSIR towards Nation building and rededicate ourselves to the National needs, he remarked.

Dr K Ramesha, Director, CSIR-CECRI in his Presidential Address, took the audience through the path travelled by CSIR since its inception and also recalled the monumental efforts of eminent visionaries including Shri. Madan Mohan Malaviya, Shri. Jamsetji Tata, Dr Sir JC Ghosh, Dr Sir CV Raman, Dewan Bahadur Sir Arcot Ramasamy Mudaliar and Dr Sir Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar in establishing Board of Scientific and Industrial Research (BSIR) leading to the constitution of the CSIR. Dr Ramesha cited a few examples of the invaluable contributions of CSIR to the world including Amulspray — India's first indigenous infant food, Indelible Ink used during General Elections, Supercomputers and the recent Covaxin — India's first indigenous COVID-19 vaccine.

He also highlighted CSIR-CECRI's vital contributions in the area of Corrosion prevention, Electroplating, Electrometallurgy, Energy Generation and Storage and Extraction and Reuse of critical mineral from waste. Dr Ramesha appealed to the researchers of CSIR-CECRI to focus on strengthening the IP portfolio and the technologies database as these are instrumental in realizing the National dream of Viksit Bharat and Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

Dr Sunil Kumar Singh delivered an illuminating and insightful lecture on *Blue Economy: An Ocean of Opportunity and A Sea of Challenges* which turned out to be an eye-opener for the audience as they were enthralled to know from Dr Singh that



more than 30 million people are involved in Blue Economy — economic activities associated with the oceans, seas, rivers, lakes & their coasts — and it contributes to 5 to 6% of our GDP. True to the much acclaimed hypothesis that life originates from the Ocean, he insisted upon the fact that Oceans act as the true elixir of life by covering over 70% of the Earth's surface and generating more than half of the oxygen we breathe. Dr Singh shed light on various Key initiatives undertaken by the Government of India in strengthening the Blue Economy by developing technologies for exploring and sustainably utilizing the deep ocean's living and non-living wealth [Deep Ocean Mission]. He also delineated in detail on the Sagarmala and the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) programmes. Sequestration of Carbon dioxide is of utmost significance in order to reduce the global warming menace, he opined. Dr Singh emphasised on more research and focus in Blue Economy as only 5% of the Deep Ocean has been explored. Recent findings on the extraction of Polymetallic nodules and Gas hydrates in the oceans are showing encouraging results, he remarked. Dr Singh solicited the support of CSIR-CECRI in storing the huge energy harvested from Ocean Surfaces through floating Windmills & Solar Panels for future use.

During the Event, Prof. Singh released the CSIR-CECRI's Annual Report 2025-2026.

Employees who had completed 25 years of service and those employees who retired in the preceding year were honoured during the function. Prizes were also distributed to winners of various competitions conducted by the CSIR-CECRI Club in commemoration of the 85th Foundation Day of CSIR. The event concluded with the Vote of Thanks by Shri M Arun Manikanda Bharathi, Administrative Officer, CSIR-CECRI, followed by the National Anthem.

In the Press Meet that ensued, Prof. Singh highlighted on the key initiatives of the Government of India in tapping all the resources in the Blue Economy leading to the sustainable growth of the Nation towards Viksit Bharat and Aatmanirbhar Bharat. He lauded the enormous efforts of

CSIR-CECRI in energy generation & storage and in extraction of utilisation of critical minerals & rare earths.

Prof. Arumugam Manthiram stressed that Patience and Perseverance as the Golden Mantras for success in R&D activities and advised the budding researchers not to get bogged down by failures as they are the stepping stones towards glory. He cited his own example: starting his education from a small town near Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu to working in a team which was awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 2019 for the development of Lithium-ion Batteries. He also recalled with reverence of delivering the Nobel Prize Talk on behalf of the recipient, Prof. John B Goodenough (who was 97 years old then).



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