

Need for collaborations & combined work required by international universities to achieve progress, growth and innovations in S&T: Experts

The 104th Indian Science Congress was inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 3rd January 2017 at Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati. There was a plenary session on "S&T in the Neighbourhood, Extended Neighbourhood and African Countries". The main objective of the talk was to make international collaborations among different countries for betterment of science and technology to help mankind.

Prof. Manjula Vithanapathirana, President of Sri Lankan Association for Advancement of Science said, "We are willing to collaborate with any international institution to fight against chronic kidney diseases". Many programs and schemes like COSTI, NASTEC, and NSF were designed to promote collaboration among different countries.

In the session, Prof. Yuji Nishikawa who represented 'Japan Science and Technology (JST)' pointed out that exchange of young generation is very important for forming communication between India and Japan. He talked about projects and programs for India and explained about Sakura Science Plan (SSP). It was designed to enhance exchanges between youth of Asia and Japan in the fields of science and technology.

Mr. Alexander Usoltsev, who represented 'Russian Foundation for Basic Research' said, "Our key mission is the implementation of powerful intellectual potential of Russia inside the country and worldwide". He added that BRICS was organised with the participation of Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR) to promote multilateral international programs.

The longstanding, warm and friendly relations between Bulgaria and India were highlighted by Prof. Dimiter Ivanov of Bulgaria. The launch of 'iSOSu' in terms of "Make in India" policy for betterment of science and technology was also addressed.

Prof. BVR Chowdary of Singapore Academy of Sciences briefed about the universities of Singapore and the need for research for the betterment of the country. He said that Singapore government has allocated a budget of about 3% of GDP for education. He explained about Singapore education system and how it provides multiple pathways to cater to the different needs of people.

"Government should provide funds to S & T through FNI", was stated by Mrs. Iolanda Ernesto Uamusse, who represented Fundo Nacional de Investigo (FNI), Mozambique. "Universities should play an advisory role to Govt in implementation of country's development plans," she added.

Vladimir Marecek, Vice President of 'The Czech Academy of sciences' explained in detail about the universities and on the agreement off scientific co-operation in relation to 'Indian

National Science Academy' and 'Council of Scientific and Industrial Research' for better combined output of science and technology.

In the concluding session, BVR Chowdary discussed about the need for collaborations and combined work required by international universities to achieve progress, growth and innovations in science and technology.