

Women Science Congress inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Chandrababu Naidu to encourage Women in Science

The 6th Women Science Congress was inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu on 4th January 2017 in Srinivasa Auditorium at SV University, Tirupati.

It is one of the main events in 104th Indian Science Congress, which was inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi on December 3, 2017.

This programme is intended to showcase the contribution of women in Science and Technology. Renowned women scientists participated and delivered lectures in this session with aim to empower the women and to inculcate scientific interest and temper among them.

Prof. Neeta Singh, Professor, Department of Biochemistry, NDMC Medical College & Hindu Rao Hospital, started the session and spoke about her cancer research. She explained about Human Papilloma virus and cervical cancer to the audience in layman's language. Her speech included the treatment and diagnosis of cervical cancer. The treatment of cervical cancer includes LEEP, Laser, Cryotherapy, cone biopsy and she explained in brief about these. She also spoke about the importance of education in girls. One of the most important topics covered by her included 'KIRAN'.

'KIRAN', Knowledge Involvement in Research Advancement through Nurturing, a scheme sponsored by Department of Science & Technology is addressing various issues related with women scientists and aimed to improve life of grassroots level women through S&T interventions. The topic has immense relevance for women in science as it will show the way of successful career to large number of women scientists. In addition, the scheme also provides international exposure to Indian women in S&T domain and enhances international collaborations in the area of expertise.

In her lecture she describes various initiatives of Government of India started for women scientists. This was an eye opener for many participating women scientists who were introduced to various opportunities in S&T sector for them.

On the sideline of the session, Prof. Neeta Singh also informed that girls have many struggles in life but they must be confident to face it. "They can choose their mainstream as science, because it is something that can give them a spirit of curiosity and can help them move forward", she added.

Prof. H.S Savithri, Department of Biochemistry, IISC, Bangalore, advised the young students for the development of women in the society.

In her talk she said that men should learn how to respect women, should give them the space they require in order to progress and enable them to pursue their interest. She also conveyed a message to the participating young girls and women: "You should understand

that you would not get help always to show you the correct path, it is up to you. Help yourself to come up, and if you have any struggle or problem, there are mentors across the globe to help reaching your goal.” The speech was really very inspiring and eye opening to the young women across India.

Other eminent women scientists like Dr. B Vengamma, Director, Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences (SVIMS) & Prof. D Usha Rani were also encouraged the young women and advised to step out of their home and achieve something.