



# Conference Report

## Nabanita-Satish Chandra Biswas Memorial Lecture 2017

Institute of Science, Education and Culture (ISEC) organized two Memorial Lectures, namely 4<sup>th</sup> Nabanita- Satish Chandra Biswas Memorial Lecture-2017 on “The Solar Power: Enlightenment of Our Energy Future” and 1<sup>st</sup> Dr. Murali Mohan Biswas Memorial Lecture-2017 on “To Fathom the Unfathomable: An Unending Quest to Know the Creator” on July 08 2017 at the Seminar Hall (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor) of Birla Industrial and Technological Museum, 19A, Gurusaday Dutta Road, Kolkata 700019 before the Annual General Meeting of ISEC.

The Inaugural Address was delivered by Prof. Anil Kumar Ghosh, President, ISEC. He briefly stated the perspective of organising the Nabanita- Satish Chandra Biswas Memorial Lecture instituted after the parents of late Dr. Murali Mohan Biswas, and the newly introduced Dr. Murali Mohan Biswas Memorial Lecture since this year 2017. He mentioned that Dr. Murali Mohan Biswas had been the Founder Secretary of the ISEC and Dr. Biswas had donated the ISEC House to the ISEC Trust so that its activities would continue unperturbed.

The topic of 4<sup>th</sup> Nabanita- Satish Chandra Biswas Memorial Lecture-2017 was “**The Solar Power: Enlightenment of our Energy Future**”. This was delivered by Prof. Tapas Kumar Mallick, Chair Professor in Clean Technologies (Renewables), The Environment and Sustainability Institute, University of Exeter, United Kingdom. He first reviewed the history of electricity and energy scenario all over the world and in India and West Bengal, in particular. The possible impact of burning carbon on climatic change was outlined. He mentioned a survey that showed 6 hours of

sunlight in deserts could provide power for an hour to the whole world. Use of sunlight as source of solar power and solar thermal system was highlighted by him. Different major solar systems existing all over the world were shown during the deliberation. Lack of installation of such solar systems in India and West Bengal was also stated. He showed a meaningful quotation of Thomas Edison at the end:

*“I’d put my money on the sun and solar energy. What a source of power! I hope we don’t have to wait until oil and coal run out before we tackle that.”*

The First Dr. Murali Mohan Biswas Memorial Lecture-2017 was on “To Fathom the Unfathomable: An Unending Quest to Know the Creator”. As Prof. Gouri Pada Dutta, Ex-Member, West Bengal Planning Board, was indisposed and could not come to deliver the lecture, Dr. Sanchita Bhowmick, Assistant Secretary, ISEC read out the write up sent by Prof. Dutta. He mentioned three fundamental queries thought of by man regarding their existence as:

- *Ko-Aham* – who am I
- *Kuto-Aham*- where from I have come and
- *Kenaham*- what is the ultimate goal of my existence

He further wrote that the ancient wisdom proclaimed philosophic answer to these questions as:

- *So-Aham*- i.e. I am the creator
- *Ayam Atma Brahmabha*- i.e. my soul itself is the creator and
- *Tat-Tamoshi*- i.e. you finally become the same, meaning the creator.

Finally he concluded after ancient wisdom that suggested: “*Whom you are trying to locate, He*

*resides in your mind! You will feel Him there and find Him in His various manifestations in the earth and universe.”*

At the end, a vote of thanks was given by Prof. Santanu Das, Secretary, ISEC.

(A few photograph are in the back inside cover)

**Santanu Das**  
Secretary, ISEC

## Workshop on ‘Advances in Physics: From Concepts to Applications’

Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology Patna organized a workshop on ‘Advances in Physics: From Concepts to Applications’ on July 20-21, 2017.

So far, Department of Physics, IITP has organized a number of workshops for school students and KV teachers, as part of the outreach activities of the department. We have got overwhelming response from students’ feedback for these workshops.

The current workshop, aiming B.Sc and M.Sc. students, is the first of its kind at IIT Patna. We strongly believe that this novel step to nurture research motivation for this student community will add a great value to our society in longer run.

Total 40 selected students from different IITs, IISERs, Universities from all over the country have registered for the workshop. The venue of the workshop is R-102 of Block 09 (Tutorial Block) of IIT Patna, Bihar.

Inaugural function of the workshop began at 9.30 AM on 20th July 2017 in R-102 of Tutorial block, IIT Patna with lighting of the lamp followed by institute song. Prof. P. K. Mukherjee, Professor, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda University and ex-senior Professor, Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Kolkata has graced the function as distinguished chief guest of the inaugural function.

Dr. Jobin Jose, Faculty Advisor of Physics Society introduced the workshop to the

participants. Dr. Utpal Roy, Head, Department of Physics addressed the gathering with his encouraging words and introduced the department to the audience. Dr. Sanjoy Kumar Parida Acting Director, IIT Patna shared his words about the institute.

The Chief guest, Prof. P K Mukherjee, addressed the audience and gave an inspiring lecture on “Advancement in atomic and molecular structure: A chronological development”. His insightful oration took the audience through the evolution of atomic and molecular structural data evaluation and interpretation. The workshop will have lectures by faculty members of Department of Physics, IIT Patna on several fundamental and advanced level topics.

There was also a session of research lab visit by the participants in the Department of Physics. Faculty members along with the research scholars coordinated the session, which gave them an insight about current research activities.

The two-day workshop ended with its valedictory function on 21st July 2017 and Prof. Dolly Sinha, Pro-VC of Patna University, was the chief guest for the event.

(A few photograph are in the back inside cover)

**Swapna Mukherjee**  
Secretary, ISEC

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