

Second Newsletter of 2024

September - December 2024

Smt. Indrani Balan Science Activity Centre

IISER Pune



Dr. Sukanta Majumdar, the Honourable Union Minister of State for Education and for Development of the North Eastern Region, visited SAC on Dec 26, 2024.

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Our STEM Initiative at a Glance

In this last edition of 2024, you'll find our PAN India STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) initiatives of our major outreach events, engaging teachers' workshops, school visits to our campus, and glimpses of our STEM tinkering lab initiatives. You'll also get an insight on our outreach initiatives at Kalpakghar—Community Tinkering Centre at Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park, online engagement through YouTube live sessions, and the latest STEM activities and resources from Science Activity Centre (SAC).

Expanding Horizons in Shillong (September 29th, 2024)



Our one-day STEM workshop in Shillong, organized in collaboration with NECTAR (North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach), brought together 100 teachers from the region.

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The workshop focused on innovative teaching methodologies, highlighting the importance of STEM in solving real-world challenges. Participants were enthusiastic about incorporating these ideas into their classrooms, bringing a fresh wave of STEM education to the North-East.



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STEM Ready Workshop at Nashik District (September 26th-28th, 2024)



The three-day STEM Ready workshop in Nashik (September 26th-28th, 2024) catered to 66 teachers, providing a platform to explore creative ways of teaching core STEM concepts. The sessions emphasized the use of simple tools and everyday materials to conduct experiments that resonate with students, sparking their curiosity and interest in science and technology.

[Read More on X](#)

Hands-on STEM Education in Schools

The *Hands-on STEM Education in Schools* project involved 13 visits to 8 different schools between September and November 2024. Through these visits, over 1,000 students had the opportunity to learn science and mathematics through hands-on experiments.

[Watch Here](#)



On the occasion of National Teacher's Day, a one-day workshop for teachers was organized under this project on 6th September 2024 at our campus. A total of 72 teachers from various schools participated in the workshop, where they received guidance on teaching mathematics and science through interactive activities.

On November 28, the project was presented at the Zilla Parishad School in Pusane as part of the CSR implementation partner orientation program. During this event, model labs that will be set up under the project in the future were showcased.

In December, the team started assessments of school students to compare the effectiveness of Hands-on method over traditional teaching methods.

[Know More](#)

STEM For Teachers



From November 28-30, a three-day teacher training workshop was organised at CMCS College, Nashik. A total of 60 teachers participated in a collaboration with the MVP association in Nashik.

The tribal commissioner of Maharashtra, Ms. Nayana Gunde, visited to discuss the thoughts on the improvement of educational resources in the tribal residential schools.



[Watch Here](#)

STEM Ready Lab Set-Up in Pune District School



As part of our broader initiative, we have successfully set up 20 STEM Ready labs across schools in Pune. These labs provide students with the tools and resources to engage in experiential learning, sparking creativity and critical thinking. Our vision is to create an ecosystem where young minds can explore, experiment, and thrive in the ever-evolving world of STEM.

STEM Engagement at Kalpakghar - Community Tinkering Centre Pimpri Chichwad Science Park



Hands-on demonstrations for the science park visitors are among the key activities at the kalpakghar. From September - December, we have engaged around 41,000 visitors from Pune and PCMC regions.

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On Sep 03, Teachers Day was celebrated at Kalpakghar engaging 90 teachers from PCMC schools. During the event, Mr. Pravin Tupe, Founder Director of Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park, inaugurated and distributed membership cards for 'Kalpakghar' to the attending teachers.



In News, Read [here](#)

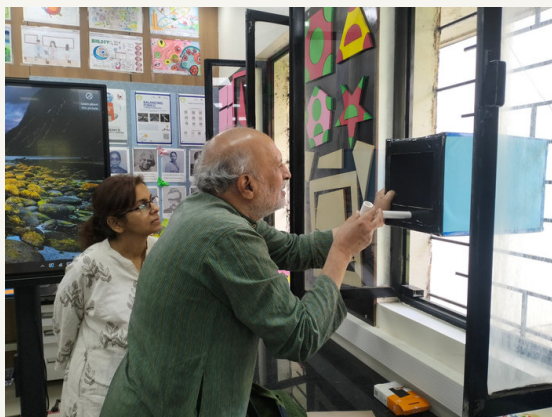
[Read More](#)



From September to December, a total of 517 teachers participated in one-day hands-on training workshops at Kalpakghar. Also, a total of 53 schools visited Kalpakghar, engaging around 2500 students in science and mathematics hands-on activities.

Teachers Workshop with Government Tribal Ashram Schools, Watch [here](#)

[Book Workshop](#)



Renowned Science Communicator and Padma Shri awardee, Shri [Arvind Gupta](#) visited Kalpakghar to celebrate Children's Day with PCMC school students.

In News, read [here](#)

Key Message

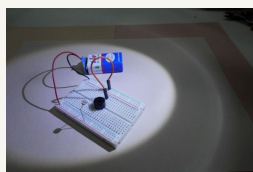
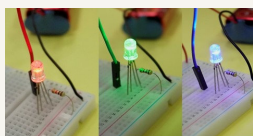


Joining him in-person at the Science Park was Dr. Vidula Mhaiskar from Garware Balbhavan, Pune, who demonstrated a variety of hands-on science activities and eco-friendly toys made from sustainable materials.

Read more [here](#)

Watch Here

STEM - Classroom Resource for Schools



- [Variable resistance with buzzer](#)
- [Simple circuit with Buzzer and LED](#)
- [Using a Trim Pot to Control the Sound of a Buzzer on a Breadboard](#)
- [Building a Light-Activated Buzzer Circuit using LDR](#)
- [Recycling Paper](#)
- [Ocean Acidification](#)
- [Melting of Sea ice versus Land ice](#)
- [Estimating Plant Age](#)
- [Building a Smart Dustbin](#)
- [The Science Behind the Experiment: How Light Affects Plants](#)
- [A Call to Action: Explore the Plant Growth Experiment at Kalpakghar](#)
- [Exploring Plant Growth with LED Lights](#)
- [Build Your Own Tinkering Corner](#)
- [Inventory for Your STEM Tinkering Lab](#)
- [Unique Lander Simulator for Celebrating National Space Day](#)
- [Push Pin Art: Creating STEM art with Colorful Pins](#)

Friday STEM Series



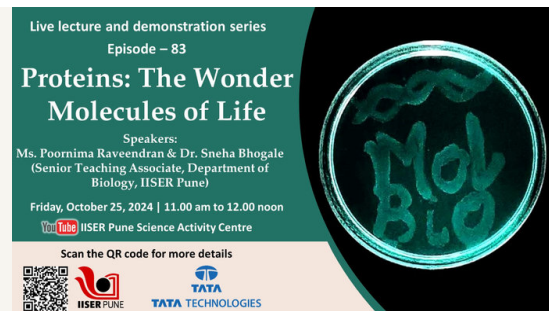
Teachers' Day 2024 Celebration Talk:
Education for the Poor - Some
Experiments By Arvind Gupta
(Renowned Science Communicator
and Padma Shri Awardee)

[View Here](#)



Science Toys from Sustainable
Materials (Children's Day Special Talk)
by Dr. Vidula Mhaikar
(Science Educator, Toy Inventor,
Garware Balbhavan, Pune)

[View Here](#)



Proteins: The Wonder Molecules of
Life by Ms. Poornima Raveendran &
Dr. Sneha Bhogale
(Senior Teaching Associate,
Department of Biology, IISER Pune)

[View Here](#)



STEM for ALL: Exploring Distorted
Images! by Science Activity Centre,
Team

[View Here](#)

School visits to Our campus



From Sep - Dec 2024, a total 8 schools visited our campus. More than 300 school students, around 26 school teachers from various schools and colleges in Maharashtra, and visited the SAC and STEM Ready tinkering lab.

[Know our schedule](#) to participate in school visits to our campus

View more on our [Social pages](#)

Visit IISER Pune

Regional Vigyan Jyoti Conclave 2024 for 110 JNV girls from Pune RO region joined us for hands-on science activities.

Read the event success [here](#)

New and Noteworthy at SAC

On Dec 17, Visit by Tejaswini Sawant, an Indian shooter and Olympian, to SAC. The team had the privilege of showcasing hands-on activities and the various outreach initiatives led by IISER Pune.





On Dec 12, Dr. Lyuanchen Xu, Director at Wiley visited SAC. During the visit, our team demonstrated hands-on activities and our STEM resources used for schools.

On Dec 10, Our Director, Prof. Sunil Bhagwat along with his students to SAC. We introduced innovative work of SAC & showcased interactive, hands-on activities designed to make education more engaging, inclusive, and experiential.



On Dec 5, Smt. Nayana Gunde (IAS), Commissioner of Tribal Development, along with her team, visited our campus to discuss innovative educational approaches for Ashram schools across Maharashtra. We are excited to take this mission forward for tribal schools.

On Nov 12, participants from the water journalist roundtable visited SAC. Team showcased hands-on activities as a learning tool to communicate science with school students.





On Sep 14, SAC hands-on activity kit, "Curiosity Box" was unveiled during the Industry Conclave 2024. This will help many remote schools to take hands-on learning into their classrooms.

Upcoming Events at SAC

- Jan - March: School Visits to Campus
- Jan 7-9: National level Capacity Building workshops for PM Shri Schools, Raipur
- Next Friday STEM Series is scheduled in 3rd week of January
- Jan - March: School visits to Kalpakghar
- Feb 28: Celebration of National Science Day
- March 08: Celebrating Women in STEM
- March 14: Celebration of International Math Day

[Follow Us](#)

Already a member of the SAC community? Share these resources with teachers or STEM activists who may be interested in exploring it. Attend the regular Live session on our Youtube channel or join our Telegram group if you have questions about new features and to get one-on-one support on how you can interact with the SAC Outreach community

[Join Us](#)

Reach us at:

<http://www.iiserpune.ac.in/outreach/science-activity-centre>

If you have any questions please contact our outreach team.

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