

Embassy of India, Berne

INDIA SCIENCE AND INNOVATION WEEKLY

22 January 2024

Ask the right questions, and nature will open the door to her secrets - Dr. C.V. Raman, The Nobel Prize in Physics 1930

IIT Kanpur Joint-Study on Cost-Effective Alloy for Energy Storage

A research paper and study by the Researchers at the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur, on the use of a special alloy that could make it easier and affordable to convert and store energy from renewable sources has been highlighted by Nature, the world's leading multidisciplinary science journal, as one of the 'high-impact research papers from India that are shaping science. IIT Kanpur with fellow researchers from IIT Mandi, IIT Kharagpur and IISc Bangalore, conducted research on a special kind of material called a high entropy alloy (HEA), comprising a mix of five elements; Cobalt, Iron, Gallium, Nickel, and Zinc, for its use in splitting of water into oxygen and hydrogen. The study has wide ramifications in green hydrogen economy in which energy-rich hydrogen is extracted from water through electrochemical water-splitting.

DPIIT Organised Startup India Innovation Week - $10^{\rm th}$ - $18^{\rm th}$ January 2024

Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce organised Startup India Innovation Week from 10th-18th January 2024 to celebrate the Eight years of 'Startup India' initiative. The 'Startup India Innovation Week 2024' commenced on 10.01.2024 with Ask Me Anything (AMA) session with ecosystem enablers. The session provided valuable guidance on the different stages of the startup journey to enter in market.

IIT Kanpur's Landmark Research Offers New Insights in Cancer and Brain Disorders

Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur achieved a breakthrough in biomedical research, with their study of G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs) and chemokine receptor D6, shedding new light on the potential treatment of cancer and brain disorders such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease and schizophrenia. The information from this major advance opens up the possibility of designing new drug-like molecules to modulate these receptors under disease conditions. The researchers used a high-tech method called cryogenic-electron microscopy (cryo-EM) to create detailed three-dimensional images of the receptors. This allowed them to study the 3D images of the receptors at the molecular level in great detail, helping to identify and design new drug-like molecules to correct problems with these receptors that cause disease conditions.

IIT Delhi Launched an In-House-Developed Mobile App

Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi' under its National Service Scheme's (NSS) developed and launched an in-house mobile app named 'NSS IIT Delhi'. The mobile app is designed to revolutionize youth engagement and social impact. With the help of the App, IIT Delhi students who like to be NSS volunteers could now register, find projects near them, track their volunteer hours, and connect with fellow volunteers – all on a user-friendly platform. The App's launch sent ripples across the NSS network at the Institute. Within days, thousands of registrations flooded in, with a 4.9-star rating in Google Play and 5-star in the App store. It has a map of the campus with live tracking and the numbers of all the important contacts, like the Institute's Security Control Room, Hospital, Ambulance and more.

Special Update: MeitY Launched "Centre of Excellence in Intelligent Internet of Things Sensors

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Govt. of India, launched two flagship programs – "Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Intelligent Internet of Things (IIoT) Sensors" and India's first Graphene Centre "India Innovation Centre for Graphene (IICG)" at Maker Village, Kochi, Kerala. The CoE in IIoT Sensors is a unique facility established at Makers Village Kochi by MeitY, GoI and Govt. of Kerala to catalyze the development of sensors within the realm of Intelligent IoT systems covering a broad spectrum of applications of intelligent sensors in networks, devices and sensor systems. The India's first Graphene Centre IICG also aimed to foster R&D, product innovation and capacity building in the area of Graphene and 2D material systems.