



INDIA SCIENCE AND INNOVATION WEEKLY

Ask the right questions, and nature will open the door to her secrets.

- Dr. C.V. Raman, The Nobel Prize in Physics 1930

Neuroscience Startup raises funding

NeuroLeap, a brain enhancement and mental health startup based in Mumbai, has raised funding. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Palakkad has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NeuroLeap for promoting research in Brain Computer Interface (BCI) technology for neuroenhancement and neurorehabilitation.

New Vaccine against Typhoid

Bharat Biotech of Hyderabad has introduced vaccine against Typhoid called Typbar TCV, short for typhoid conjugate vaccine. The vaccine, approved by World Health Organisation (WHO) has been deemed safe enough for use in infants starting at 6 months of age.

Turbostart program to ease discovery of early-stage startups

Bengaluru-based InnovationQore announces the launch of Turbostart, a national-level startup programme, to fuel the growth of around 100 startups over the next five years. Every six months, the top ten innovative startups will be identified and nurtured by a team of entrepreneurs, business leaders and a seasoned management team who are working full-time to assist the startups.

1st Indian space traveler confident of Gaganyaan mission

Wing Commander Mr. Rakesh Sharma, the first Indian to travel to space, expressed confidence about Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) launching the manned spacecraft by 2022 in the Gaganyaan mission. The aim of the mission is also to bring the astronaut back safely to Earth.

National Space Contest

The Department of Aerospace Engineering at Chandigarh University hosted the national space competition, 'Space-Philia 2019'. The competition focused on aerospace engineering.

India strives for faster vaccine-approval time

India wants to halve the time taken to get the process of vaccine approval for use from 15 years to improve public health. The Health Ministry is working with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) on it. India is working on a framework that will allow scientists and clinicians to observe the progress of infection in healthy volunteers and the efficacy of a vaccine-induced immune response. Researchers from different countries along with regulators including the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), DCGI, European Medicines Agency (EMA), Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) and experts from the World Health Organisation (WHO) are gathering in India in November to work on broad guidelines on CHIM studies. This could ease vaccine accessibility and, if results are positive, they could be developed in a shorter span of time.

Pradhan Mantri Innovative Learning Programme - DHRUV

Union Human Resource Development Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' launched on 10 October a unique initiative, the Pradhan Mantri Innovative Learning Programme - DHRUV, which will act as a turning point in the lives of extra ordinarily talented students, from the premises of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Headquarters at Bengaluru. The new Programme DHRUV will act as a platform to explore the talent of outstanding and meritorious students, and help them achieve excellence in their specific areas of interest may it be science, performing arts, creative writing, etc. 60 outstandingly talented students have been selected in the first batch of DHRUV programme.

Microsoft and IIT team up to bring technical solutions for disabled

Microsoft India, in partnership with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi will host the second edition of Empower from October 14 to October 17 at I-TEC, IIT Delhi, Sonapat. The conference will bring together technologists, researchers, and policy makers to discuss measures to make assistive technologies available for everyone and the roadblocks that might come along the way. Stakeholders from entire ecosystem, Disabled Persons' Organizations (DPOs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) will also participate in the conference.

Special Update: Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) is the nodal Ministry of the Government of India for all matters relating to new and renewable energy. The aim of the Ministry is to develop and deploy new and renewable energy for supplementing the energy requirements of the country. The role of new and renewable energy has been assuming increasing significance in recent times with the growing concern for the country's energy security. The vision of the Department is to develop new and renewable energy technologies, processes, materials, components, sub-systems, products & services at par with international specifications, standards and performance parameters in order to make the country a net foreign exchange earner in the sector and deploy such indigenously developed products and services to ensure energy security.

Further details can be found at:
<https://mnre.gov.in/>