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# 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*

## India ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in fulfilling its SBT targets

India has ranked 5th among the countries surveyed for corporate commitments to science-based targets (SBT). According to the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) 98% of 59 firms surveyed between 2018 and 2019 have board-level oversight of climate-related issues. Top corporate managements in India have integrated climate concerns in performance evaluation of key personal, with nearly 90 per cent providing incentives to senior staffers to help meet targets.

## Mitra's makers get seed funding

Invento Makerspaces, the makers of Mitra robot that greeted the honorable Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi and Ms. Ivanka Trump at the Global Entrepreneurship Summit 2017 in Hyderabad, have received seed funding from Pune-based Windrose Capital, a venture capital firm and Mumbai-based ITI Growth Fund. A seed fund of Rs. 2 crore will be used for further research to build and innovate new robot variants and expand into new industries.

## Devi shrine board to fabricate incense sticks from floral waste

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVSB) is set to make incense sticks from discarded temple flowers. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in this regard was signed between Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) - Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), Lucknow and the shrine board at Katra.

## Scientists develop new variety of flower

In order to halt drop in flower crops during winter, scientists at National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI) have developed a flower that can withstand extreme temperature. The new variety of Chrysanthemum, named 'Shekhar' was released during the Annual Rose show organised by CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute in Lucknow.

## New Graphene supercapacitor will boost energy in defence applications

Scientists at the Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI) in Durgapur are developing a cost-effective Graphene-based supercapacitor that can be used to provide energy to various applications, including state-of-the-art defence applications, mobile devices and smart vehicles. Techniques are being developed to produce graphene-oxide in order to replace the activated carbon used to produce ultra-capacitors, as graphene oxide weighs and costs ten-times less than activated carbon. The production cost of one kilogram of graphene oxide comes to around INR ten thousand, while the cost to produce the same amount of activated carbon is INR 1 lakh per kg.

## Vigyan Samagam Exhibition in New Delhi

The Union Minister of State (I/C) Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated India's first global Mega Science Exhibition "Vigyan Samagam" at National Science Centre, New Delhi at 21 January 2020. It will be held from 21 January to 20 March 2020 in New Delhi. The exhibition is jointly organized Department of Science and Technology (DST), Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India (GoI) and the National Council of Science Museums (NCSM) under the aegis of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE). The exhibition aims to highlight the value and impact of fundamental research to a broad cross-section of the audience including students, academician, and industry.

## Special Update: Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER)

JIPMER can trace its origins to the 'Ecole de Medicine de Pondicherry' established by the French Government in 1823. In 1956 foundation for new medical college was laid and in 1964, hospital was inaugurated. JIPMER became an institution of national importance under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India in the year 2008. It is an institution established for teaching, research and patient care in the area of health.

JIPMER spreads over 192 acres. The institution houses one administrative block, one academic centre, one nursing college, seven hospital blocks, seven accessory services buildings and four residential complexes. 12 broad types of medical, nursing and allied health science courses covering all disciplines in healthcare from basic to super speciality training are conducted.

JIPMER is one among the very few institutions in the country which is providing teaching from undergraduate to superspeciality & sub-specialties, conducting path breaking research and providing specialty care of high order. The model of providing free specialty health care while maintaining quality and safety makes JIPMER a unique model in the country. JIPMER's success in providing best treatment even to the least affordable in the society makes it a model of speciality care delivery of the future. JIPMER continues to rank among the top best five medical schools in the country.

Further details can be found at:

<https://jipmer.edu.in/>