

2nd QUARTERLY REPORT ON AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV (AKAM) PROGRAM

(December 2021 – February 2022)

As per the directive of the Department of Atomic Energy, Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar is celebrating India's 75th year of Independence as 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'. Following activities have been carried out under this program.

PART A

December 2021

(1) Kalinga TV program on Samanta Chandrasekhara

Kalinga TV presented a half hour program on Dec 12 on Samanta Chandrasekhara, the legendary 19th century Indian astronomer, which included interviews of Prof. L. Satpathy (retd. Professor, IOP) and Prof. A.M. Srivastava (Professor, IOP). Prof. Satpathy and Prof. Srivastava discussed great works of Samanta Chandrasekhar, the naked eye astronomer, his extremely precise measurements, and his exceptional experimental skills in making various instruments for astronomical measurements with everyday materials such as wooden sticks and bamboo. They emphasized the importance of bringing his works to limelight, and recognizing him as a role model as an exceptional experimental physicist.

(5) Popular Science talk at the State Level Science Seminar on "Exploring the Universe" held at Nimapara College, Odisha

A popular science talk on "Universe and elementary particles" was given by Prof. A.M. Srivastava on 20th Dec. at the State level Science seminar on "Exploring the Universe". The seminar was arranged at the Nimapara College, Nimapara, Odisha.



(News in a local paper and participant in the meeting)

January 2022

(6) Scientists-School Students online interaction program: Fifth Session of Physics Open Discussion (POD) at IOP Bhubaneswar

The Fifth Session of the Monthly Physics Open Discussion (POD) online program at IOP Bhubaneswar was held on 15th Jan. 2022 during 5:30 pm – 7 pm. The program was attended by about 80 school students from all over Odisha from class VI to class XII on Zoom online platform. Questions ranging from basic physics concepts (Astronomical measurements by early astronomers, magnetic force, seeing the light, sound generation, nature of gravitational force,...), to frontier areas of physics (quantum entanglement, metric tensor and curvature, shape of planets, lightening, ..from internet exposure of students) were discussed. Students asked questions in English, Hindi, and Odiya.