Prof. Dr. Santanu Das presented an Invited Lecture on January 21 2023 in the pre-lunch session, Technical Session 5D on "Arc Welding Processes III" on "Use of activating flux for improving productivity of TIG welding of thick stainless steel plate" authored by Prof. Dr. Santanu Das, Dr. Suman Saha, Bashab Chandra Paul and Samarendra Acharya.

Nearly 30 Welding, Fabrication and Automation Industries displayed their products in the Weld India Exhibition. In total 250 Delegates attended the three days programme. Valedictory Function was held at the end of the 3-day NES-2022 on January 21 2023 in the afternoon. These two National Events were organized in a grand manner.

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## Report of "International Mother Language Day" Organised by ISEC, Kolkata on 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2023

ISEC, Kolkata has successfully observed International Mother Language Day on 21.02.2023 in on-line mode at 7.00.p.m through google meet. The programme started with the inaugural speech of Prof. Santanu Das, the Secretary, Institute of Science, Education and Culture (ISEC).

Prof. Santanu Das explained the significance of **International Mother Language Day** briefly in his inaugural speech. 21<sup>st</sup> February was declared to be International Mother Language Day by UNESCO on 17th November, 1999. It has been observed throughout the world since 21 February 2000. The declaration came up as a tribute to the Language Movement done by the Bengalees of Bangladesh (the then East Pakistan).

When Pakistan was created in 1947, it had two geographically separate parts: East Pakistan (currently known as Bangladesh) and West Pakistan (currently known as Pakistan). The two parts were very different from each other in the sense of culture and language. The two parts were also separated by India in between.

In 1948, the Government of Pakistan declared Urdu to be the sole national language of Pakistan, even though Bengali or Bangla was spoken by the majority of people combining East Pakistan and West Pakistan. The East Pakistan people protested since the majority of the population was from East Pakistan and their mother language was Bangla. They demanded Bangla to be at least one of the national languages, in addition to Urdu. To demolish the protest, the government of Pakistan outlawed public meeting and rallies. The students of the University of Dhaka, with the support of the general public, arranged massive rallies and meetings. On 21st February 1952, police opened fire on rallies. Abdus Salam, Abul Barkat, Rafiq Uddin Ahmed, Abdul Jabbar and Shafiur Rahman died, with hundreds of others injured. This was a rare incident in history, where people sacrificed their lives for their mother tongue. Since then, Bangladesh celebrates the Mother Language Day as one of their tragic days.

The inaugural speech was followed by a cordial welcome address by Dr. Swapna Mukherjee,

Vice-President of ISEC who welcomed all the participants who were present virtually and invited Dr. Lily Biswas to co-ordinate the programme.

There were two distinguished speakers who delivered their talks on "Contribution of Bengali language in literary translation" First speaker was Prof. Mou Dasgupta, Department of Sanskrit, University of Calcutta and second speaker was Prof. Sabitri Nanda, Department of Bengali, University of Kalynai. Prof. Mou Dasgupta discussed the history of literary translation from Sanskrit to Bengali from Gupta age till nineteenth century. The literary works of Kalidasa, Bhavabhuti, Shudraka and different epics like Ramayana, Mahabharata and Gita were translated by competent Bengali translators who eliminated the unintelligibility of Sanskrit language so that common readers can understand and appreciate them.

The next speaker was Prof. Sabitri Nanda who discussed the novels, books and poetry written in regional languages viz. translated by Bengali authors and made available to the readers. Similarly, how the classic small stories of Bengali authors viz. Rabindranath Tagore, Bankim Chandra Chattapadhyay, Tarashankar Bandyapadhyay, Sarat Chandra Chattapadhyay, Bibhutibhushan Bandyopadhyay are translated and appreciated by national and international readers was also discussed by Prof. Nanda.

There was a cultural programme of recitation and songs after these two thought provoking lectures where several members of ISEC spontaneously participated.

The programme ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. Lily Biswas.

Lily Biswas<sup>†</sup> Executive Council Member, ISEC

## Report on National Science Day 2023 Celebrated at Jhargram Raj College (Girls' Wing), Jhargram, West Bengal

National Science Day commemorates the discovery of the "Raman Effect" by Sir C.V. Raman FRS, the world-renowned Indian physicist who was awarded the Nobel Prize for the year 1930 for his discovery. A National Science Day Seminar was organized on 28 February 2023 by the Department of Bioscience, Jhargram Raj College (Girls' Wing), Government of West Bengal. The theme for National Science Day this year was "Global Science for Global Wellbeing". The program began with an inaugural dance by Ms. Anindita Dandapat, a student of the Department of Bioscience. This was followed by garlanding of the photo of Sir C.V. Raman by the Chief Guest, Dr. Kaushik Bharati. Other guests included Dr. Susil Kumar Barman, Principal, Jhargram Raj College (Girls' Wing) and Dr. Debnarayan Roy, Principal, Jhargram Raj College. The guests on the dais were felicitated by the organizers. Then Dr. Barman delivered the Welcome Address, followed by a speech by Dr. Roy.

After the inaugural session, the scientific deliberations began. There were two speakers – Dr. Kaushik Bharati and Dr. Uma Bhaumik. Dr. Bharati- PhD, MIPHA, FRSPH (London), is currently Team Lead, COVID-19 Research Trackers at UNESCO and is based in New Delhi. With regard to the Institute of Science,

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