

Conference Report

Report of 10th Nabanita-Satish Chandra Biswas Memorial Lecture 2023 and 7th Dr. Murali Mohan Biswas Memorial Lecture 2023 held on 15th July 2023

The Institute of Science, Education and Culture (ISEC), Kolkata organised “10th Nabanita-Satish Chandra Biswas Memorial Lecture 2023 and 7th Dr. Murali Mohan Biswas Memorial Lecture 2023” on 15th July, 2023 (Saturday) at Birla industrial & Technological Museum (BITM), 19A, Gurusaday Road, Kolkata 700019. The registration of the delegates started from 10.00 AM. Prof. Santanu Das, The Secretary of ISEC Kolkata, welcomed all the dignitaries and the audience present there. He said that ISEC, Kolkata had been trying to promote awareness towards science and culture for the human being. He invited all dignitaries to the Dias and then requested Dr. Swapna Mukherjee to deliver welcome address. In her speech, Dr. Mukherjee said that this 42-year old organization had been running with remarkably wealth among the academically enriched persons. The organization is regularly arranging seminars and also is successfully publishing six issues of the journal, named Indian Science Cruiser, throughout the year. Prof. Anil Kumar Ghosh, the President of ISEC, was then requested to deliver the inaugural speech. Prof. Ghosh welcomed all the speakers of memorial lectures, all awardees of Essay Competition, Executive Council Members and all the supportive staff of the programme. With deepest respect towards the departed soul, Prof. Dr. Murali Mohan Biswas, the Founder Secretary & Father of ISEC as well, Prof. Ghosh started his inaugural speech. He acknowledged before all that Prof. M. M. Biswas and his parents, Late

Satish Chandra Biswas & Mrs. Nabanita Biswas, were devoted to the Holy Mother, Maa Sarada, Sri Ramakrishna and Swami Vivekananda. Prof. Ghosh expressed his obeisance to Prof. Biswas and to his deeply devout parents. Furthermore, Prof. Ghosh informed that Prof. Biswas had donated his entire property for the growth and benefit of the ISEC, Kolkata. Prof. Ghosh delivered the gist of two memorial lectures to give an overview of these two lectures. He inaugurated the programme by encouraging and wishing all a happy and healthy life, and he also wished success of the programme of that very day.

After the inaugural session, Prof. Dr. Santanu Das, the Secretary of ISEC Kolkata introduced the first eminent speaker, Dr. Biswajit Maiti, Associate Professor of Physics, Maulana Azad College, Kolkata of the memorial lecture, 10th Nabanita-Satish Chandra Biswas Memorial Lecture 2023. Topic of the lecture was, “Our Expanding Universe: Humanity’s changing vision of the cosmos”. From curriculum vitae of Dr. Maiti, Prof. Santanu Das said that Prof. Maiti did his BSc and MSc in Physics from Calcutta University and Burdwan University respectively. He was awarded PhD from Jadavpur University in 1996. After the introduction, Prof. B Maiti started his lecture. He delivered the lecture so lucidly that students who attended that programme enjoyed a lot. At the very beginning of his lecture, Dr. Maiti paid his homage

Prof. Dr. Murali Mohan Biswas. In his lecture, Dr. Maiti discussed how the concept of cosmology changed over ages and also how different models of universe were formed in many cultures by considering the shape of stars. The three astronomical scientific revolutions in cosmology were developed over the time. Those are:

1. 2nd Century - Physics of Aristotle i.e. Earth centred cosmology,
2. 16th Century - Physics of Newton i.e. Sun centred cosmology and
3. 20th Century - Physics of Einstein i.e. Big Bang Cosmology.

He enlightened all the audience on the above three theories of cosmology in a very simple way. At last, he said that the presentation file was prepared by Einstein Educational Forum of NASA. Then there was a very interesting conversation held among the audience and Dr. Maiti on the topic. Then Prof. Anil Kumar Ghosh presented a memento to Dr. Biswajit Maiti as a token of appreciation.

Then Prof. Santanu Das invited Dr. Pritha Bhattacharjee, Assistant Professor and Former HoD of Environmental Science, University of Calcutta, the eminent speaker of 7th Dr. Murali Mohan Biswas Memorial Lecture 2023. Topic of the lecture was “Happiness & Health: Sustainable Pillars of Built Environment”. She started her lecture with a statement that with a healthy body and a healthy mind there is a healthy human being. She said that wellness belongs to physical health, mental health and also global environment. If everything goes well, the happiness comes automatically. It is very unfortunate to know that global happiness index in India is very low. From her research experiences and case study, she explained how

growing age is linked with mental-wellness, happiness and also health. If anyone is happy with his or her mental inner peace he or she can live life happily. She also said recalling of good memory can give mental peace which results in happy life. She also showed and discussed on her research about this topic. After the lecture there was a interactive session between audience and Dr. Bhattacharjee. Dr. Swapna Mukherjee the vice president of ISEC Kolkata handed over a memento to Dr. Pritha Bhattacharjee as a token of appreciation.

After the two memorial lectures, Prof. Anuradha De, the convener of the “Nripendra-Jaya Memorial Essay Competition 2023”, declared the name of all winners who participated in different categories. Then Prize and certificates were distributed among successful students. Prof. Santanu Das, The Secretary, ISEC Kolkata delivered Vote of Thanks to the founder secretary, Late Prof. M M Biswas, ISEC Kolkata. He thanked Prof. A. K. Ghosh, the President, Dr. Swapna Mukherjee, the Vice President, all the Executive Committee members, the eminent speakers of the memorial lectures, prize winners of essay competition and all the audience. He personally thanked Mr. Rajat Kanti Pratihar for arranging everything of the programme. In his vote of thanks Dr. Das requested the speakers to submit their articles related to the memorial lecture topic for the journal, Indian Science Cruiser published by ISEC, Kolkata. He also invited all to submit the research articles, conference reports, etc. for the journal.

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