

Press Release: 56th Foundation Day Celebration at IITM



Pic 1. Dignitaries on dias (L-R): **Dr C. Gnanaseelan**, Chairman of Foundation day Committee; Prof. Ravi S. Nanjundiah, Director, IITM; **Prof. Nitin Karmalkar**, VC, SPPU, **Prof. S.K. Satheesh**, Chairman, COAS, IISc, Bangalore; **Dr Pandithurai**, Co- Chairman of Foundation day Committee



Pic 2. Inaugural address by **Prof. Nitin Karmalkar**, VC, SPPU



Pic 3. Inauguration of booklet **on Lightning: Causes, damages & Precautions** in Marathi language was released by the hands of **Prof. Nitin Karmalkar**, VC, SPPU

IITM, Pune; 17 Nov 2017: The Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune today celebrated its 56th foundation day in a befitting manner.

On this occasion, **Prof. Nitin Karmalkar**, Vice Chancellor, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune was the Chief Guest, and **Prof. S.K. Satheesh**, IISc, Bangalore, was the Guest of Honour.

Prof. Ravi S. Nanjundiah, Director, IITM welcomed all the dignitaries and Invitees. During his welcome address, he mentioned that the fastest supercomputer in the country will be installed in the Institute by January 2018. The computer will be five to six times faster than the current fastest supercomputer, which is installed at the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru. The combined processing speed of the computer will be nearly 6.8 petaflops, making it the fastest in the country. The supercomputer will also help increase the speed and accuracy of monsoon forecasts, said Prof. Ravi Nanjundiah. He also mentioned about the progress of the Institute and appreciated the respective IITM scientific groups for their remarkable contributions.

Foundation day inaugural speech was delivered by the Chief Guest, Prof. Nitin Karmalkar, Vice Chancellor, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune.

The foundation day lecture at the ceremony was delivered by Guest of Honor, Prof. S K Satheesh, Chairman, CAOS, IISc Bengaluru on the topic entitled, “ Short lived Climate Forcers: Science and Policy”. He spoke about short-lived climate forces, particularly aerosols and black carbon, and the global policy issues pertaining to them.

A booklet on **Lightning: Causes, damages & Precautions** – detailing the causes of lightning and the precautions that need to be taken during lightning was released in **Marathi language today at the hands of Prof. Nitin Karmalkar, VC, SPPU**. The same booklet was released earlier in English, Hindi & Oriya languages.

On this occasion various awards were presented to the scientists, students, scientific, technical, Administrative support and other staff of the Institute. Dr. Ananthkrishnan Award for the Best Ph.D. thesis for the year 2016 was felicitated to **Dr. S.D. Sanap** for his thesis entitled “Study on aerosol-monsoon interactions over Indian subcontinent and CMIP-5 simulations”.

The Annual Silver Jubilee Award for the best research paper published in peer reviewed journal for the year 2016 was presented to **Roxy M.K., Modi A., Valsala V., Panickal S.** for their research paper entitled "Reduction in marine primary productivity driven by rapid warming over the tropical Indian Ocean" published in *Geophysical Research Letters*, Vol. 43, January 2016, DOI:10.1002/2015GL066979, 1-8.

The Best Student Research Paper Award for 2016 was presented to **Ms Rohini P. and Dr Abhik S.** for their papers entitled “On the variability and increasing trends of heat waves over India” published in *Scientific Reports*, 6:26153, May 2016, DOI:10.1038/srep26153, 1-9 by Rohini P. et.al. and “Diagnosis of boreal summer intraseasonal oscillation in high resolution NCEP Climate Forecast System” published in *Climate Dynamics*, vol. 46, May 2016, DOI:10.1007/s00382-015-2769-9, 3287-3303 by Abhik S. et.al, respectively.

Shri D.W. Ganer, Smt. Sangita Otari, and Shri D.D. Takawale received the Excellent Performance Award for the year 2016 for the Scientific, Administrative, Support and Multi-Tasking Staff, respectively at the hands of Prof Ravi Nanjundiah, Director, IITM.

An Award comprising a citation and a reward of scientific relevant books worth Rs. 7500/- for research fellows for their performance in the pre-PhD course work for the year 2016-17 was given to research fellows **Ms. Sreyashi Debnath, Mr. Abirlal Metya and Ms. Lois Thomas**.

This year, '**Swachhta Hi Sewa (SHS)**' campaign was observed from 15th September 2017 to Gandhi Jayanti. Swachhta System was monitored in all laboratories/ Units/ Divisions/ Sections of IITM. Prizes were distributed to the cleanest ones under various categories by the Director. **ENVIS-PTRMS-Ozone Lab** and **Dendroclimatology Lab** won the prizes under Scientific Laboratories category; **General Administration Section** received the cleanest office premises of units/ Division of IITM; **Record Room** and **IITM Workshop** received the prizes for under Rapid transformation towards cleanliness category; **Library Premises** won the prize under the category of Different Premises of IITM.

The function also included special lectures by the award winners.

In favor of promotion of Devnagari Script, as a mandate of Rajbhasha Parliamentary Committee, more than 10 scientific different regional linguistic posters in devnagari script were displayed on this occasion.

A colourful cultural programme was also arranged in the evening by IITM employees. Several ex-employees and special invitees, in addition to the existing employees and their families, attended the function.
