

N.3: Fourth Orientation Course, OCAL-2018

The fourth Orientation Course on Accelerators, Lasers and related Science and Technologies (OCAL-2018) was conducted from 21st May to 13th July 2018. In all, 40 post-graduate students were selected from 15 states all over India. The course was inaugurated by Shri K. N. Vyas, Director, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai and Member, Atomic Energy Commission on 21st May. Shri Vyas delivered a talk on “Nuclear Fuel Design Complexities and Solutions”, interacted with students and released the course book and hands-on experiment booklet.



OCAL students performing experiments.

The students were provided with a study kit, free lodging and boarding, stipend of ₹ 1500 per month and to-and-fro II class (sleeper) train fare. The students were also given opportunity to participate in the cultural evening which was a bouquet of performances including dance, songs and skits on advantages of nuclear energy and accelerators.



Shri K. N. Vyas releasing OCAL-2018 Course Book during the Inaugural Function.

The course comprised of class room lectures by RRCAT experts covering basics, technologies and applications of accelerators and lasers, ten invited talks from senior scientists and technocrats, 20 hands-on experiments, visits to various laboratories in RRCAT, seminar by each student based on the topics of self-study, discipline-wise lab interactions and a one-day industrial visit. The lectures were structured to introduce the fundamental aspects of various subjects and applications to the existing programs of accelerators and lasers, with emphasis on the experimental aspects. This enabled the students to know about available technical expertise, research opportunities and advanced scientific facilities in the country, so that they are motivated to take up their career in science and technology. Some of these students will also carry out project work at RRCAT for fulfilment of post-graduate degree from their colleges.



Students taking part in cultural and plantation events.

All participants completed the course successfully. Dr. U. Kamachi Mudali, Chairman and Chief Executive, Heavy Water Board awarded Certificates to the students on July 13, 2018 during the Concluding Function. Dr. Mudali also delivered a talk on "Activities of Heavy Water Board towards Indian Nuclear Power Programme".

*Reported by:
Purushottam Shrivastava (purushri@rrcat.gov.in)*



OCAL-2018 students with Dr. U. Kamachi Mudali and other dignitaries during the Concluding Function.