



National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli - 620015

Inaugural function on International Conference on Advances and Challenges for Sustainable Eco System (ICACSE 2018) jointly Organised by Technical Education Quality Improvement Program (TEQIP III) and Department of Science and Technology (DST) SERB, New Delhi

All human activities have a negative impact on the Earth. We consume more resources than the planet can offer. To meet the increasing demand of raw materials, we damage the ecosystems with intensive and polluting practices, which are heavily influenced by the daily choices of every single person.

We, as humans, have a moral responsibility towards our ecosystem and all men and women have to commit themselves to protect the world's natural heritage. In order to resolve the challenges and address the environmental crisis many research activities have been initiated by the government, private sectors and academia. We, chemical engineers at NIT-Trichy are conscious in bringing about the essential technologies, and innovations towards a sustainable environment.

International Conference on Advances and Challenges for Sustainable Ecosystem (ICACSE-2018), 6th-8th December, organized by Department of Chemical Engineering, NIT-Trichy is such a platform to discuss various trends and challenges to advance the technological aspects of 'design and operation of chemical plants, development of advanced/novel functional materials & processes, analysing substances and measuring the physical properties of substances & testing theories' along with a thematic focus on interdisciplinary areas.

As part of the 'Golden Jubilee' celebrations of Chemical Engineering Department of NIT-T, the event ICACSE'18 will bring an immense opportunity for interaction among young scholars and scientific delegates to utilize the expertise and technical knowledge that may bring a new era for innovations in the field of Chemical engineering, Energy and Environmental engineering for sustainable ecosystem. This conference will have eminent chemical engineering scientists from India and abroad including Padma shri Prof. G.D. Yadav, Prof. Srinivasan Rajagopalan, Prof. Navid mostoufi from Iran, Prof. Agamuthu from (UM) Malaysia and Prof. Praveen LINGA from (NUS) Singapore to share their research expertise.

The conference was graced by the august presence of more than 300 participants from all over the country and Director of NIT-T, has delivered the presidential address. Dr. Mini Shaji Thomas, director NIT-T, insisted the importance of international conferences to induce mutual collaborations between industries and academicians to bring about the unnoticed research potential to light. The strategic plan of NIT-T has a motto exclusively on sustainability with the interdisciplinary research centres to be inducted at the institute in the near future. The conference logo attracted the Director's attention with the 'green arrow' symbolizing the march towards the 'sustainable future' and benefit the society at large.

The Chief guest of the conference ICACSE'18, Padma Shri Prof. G.D. Yadav shared his academic views and presented an overview of ICT, which has gifted more than 15 'Padma' awardees to the nation and fondly remembered about his lectures to one of ICT's alumni, Billionaire Mukesh Ambani. About the sustainability challenges of the country, Prof. Yadav has insisted the importance of academic fraternity and industrialists to collaborate and motivate the multi-disciplined research outcome which may largely benefit the basic needs of people of the country. "Wasting just a 10 g of food, may leave million others in hunger", "The challenges for India largely lies in developing basic sanitation, food, infrastructure, providing clean and accessible water source and attaining satisfactory energy generation through renewable resources", he quoted.

He addressed the research community to concentrate more on reducing waste while generating beneficial products. "Transform waste to wealth with the help of systems engineering and sustainable routes", he insisted. He has also briefly elaborated the importance of utilizing 'Green chemistry' principles to minimise waste and reduce unwanted by-products. He has shared a quick research view on the importance of CO2 sequestration, improving bio-methanol production, features of H2 energy and solar based transport in the upcoming decade.

In concluding remarks, Prof. Yadav elaborated MHRD's 'SPARC' project, which may enhance the collaborative research network of Indian institutions with the top 500 international universities to come up with exceptional outcomes in terms of journals and patents. "Patent, Publish and Prosper", he admonished and "Sustainability is not one process but a combined responsibility", he concluded.

With the vote of thanks from Prof. Meera S Begum, the conference's inaugural function has come to the end and with the national anthem, ICACSE-18's formal sessions have been initiated.

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Prof. Mini Shaji Thomas, Director NIT-T address the gathering on Left to right sitting Prof. Meera S Begum, Head, Dept of Chemical Engg, Prof. G.D. Yadav, Vice Chancellor, ICT Mumbai, Dr.P.Sivashanmugam, Overall Convenor.



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Left to Right Release of International Conference Proceeding by Prof. Meera S Begum, Head, Dept of Chemical Engg,Prof. Mini Shaji Thomas, Director NIT-T,Prof. G.D.Yadav,Vice Chancellor,ICT Mumbai Dr.P.Sivashanmugam, Overall Convenor.



Prof. Mini Shaji Thomas, Director NIT-T handing over institute memento to Prof. G.D. Yadav, Vice Chancellor, ICT Mumbai.