Govt. of West Bengal Department of Science and Technology and Biotechnology

Organisation of the 8th Regional Science & Technology Congress

1. <u>Background</u>

The West Bengal State Science & Technology Congress commenced in 1994, aims to nurture scientific curiosity among young individuals and provide a forum for researchers and scientists to exchange their insights and innovative ideas in diverse fields of science and technology.

From the modest beginning, the Congress has evolved into a strong fraternity of scientists, researchers and academicians to generate and promote the cause of science in the State and stimulate scientific research works towards achieving sustainable development goals.

The two-day event of the West Bengal State Science and Technology Congress typically includes technical sessions where young researchers present their research papers in different scientific disciplines; in addition, there will be memorial lectures and invited talks addressing critical issues and their scientific resolutions.

Moreover, the Congress acknowledges budding scientists and research scholars for their outstanding papers and presents several State Awards to individuals from different sectors in recognition of their noteworthy contributions to promoting science in the State.

2. Regional Congress

In the year 2016-17, the Department introduced the Regional Congress as a prelude to the State Congress. This year, the 8th round of the Regional Science & Technology Congress will be held in four regions in collaboration with esteemed colleges and universities of the respective Regions.

The Regional Congress, mirroring the format of the West Bengal State Science & Technology Congress, will also be a two-day event featuring similar activities. Authors selected at the Regional level will be invited to present their papers at the State level.

List of the Host Institutes

Sl No.	Region	Comprising Districts	Name of the Host Institute
1.	Region 1	Alipurduar, Coochbehar, Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Kalimpong, Dakshin Dinajpur, Uttar Dinajpur, Malda	North Bengal University, Siliguri
2.	Region 2	Murshidabad, Birbhum, Paschim Barddhaman and Purba Barddhaman,	Kazi Nazrul University, Asansol
3.	Region 3	Purba Medinipur, Paschim Medinipur, Jhargram, Bankura and Puruliya	Debra Thana Sahid Kshudiram Smriti Mahavidyalaya, Balichak
4.	Region 4	Howrah, Hooghly, Nadia, North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas and Kolkata	Kalyani University, Kalyani

3. Technical Sessions and Subject Areas

The 33rd West Bengal State Science & Technology Congress invites young researchers, scientists, and academicians to present scientific research papers in various subject areas, like:

- i. Physical Sciences
- ii. Chemical Sciences
- iii. Mathematical Sciences including Statistics
- iv. Engineering Science and Technology
- v. Earth Sciences including Geoinformatics and Hydrogeology
- vi. Botany
- vii. Zoology
- viii. Biotechnology
 - ix. Physiology and Medical Sciences, including Forensic Sciences
 - x. Environmental Sciences including Climate Change
 - xi. Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Fisheries and Veterinary Sciences
- xii. Information and Communication Science and Technology (including Computer Sciences

A panel of Experts will select the best Papers for each subject area and sub-topics.

4. Memorial Lectures

There will be three memorial lectures in honour of eminent scientists and S&T visionaries, namely, i. Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose, ii. Prof. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis and iii. Sir C.V. Raman. The Lectures will cover popular scientific topics.

5. Invited Lectures

Each Technical Session will begin with an invited lecture, wherein an eminent scientist will deliver a lecture on a current and challenging topic and interact with the participants.

6. Call for Abstracts

- i. Online Abstracts of original and unpublished research papers are invited from potential Research Scholars / Scientists/ Academicians in any of the twelve scientific disciplines.
- ii. Authors are required to register online for submission of Abstracts (https://dstbt.bangla.gov.in/vigvanchetana/).
- iii. Abstracts should be written in English and should not exceed 250 words to facilitate peer review.
- iv. An author can submit only one paper in any of the above disciplines including the thematic topic.
- v. An Author will be allowed to submit the Abstract in any of the two Regions:
- The region where the institution with which he/she is affiliated is located

or

- where he/she permanently resides

7. Presentation of the Papers (Audio-Visual)

- i. The Abstracts submitted at the Regional level will be shortlisted based on the content, methodology, results, critical analysis and interpretation of scientific findings.
- ii. After qualitative checking of the Abstracts, checking for plagiarism will also be done with the help of the software to be provided by this Department. In checking for plagiarism, this Department will adhere to the UGC regulations.

- iii. Authors of the shortlisted Abstracts will be invited to present their papers in an audiovisual format at the Regional level.
- iv. Each presenting author will have 12 minutes for his/her presentation (8 minutes for audiovisual presentation and 4 minutes for discussion).
- v. The best three papers in each discipline will be awarded at the Regional level and recommended for participation in the 33rd West Bengal State Science & Technology Congress.

9. <u>e-Publication of the Abstracts</u>

The abstracts of the accepted papers will be published electronically to ensure wider accessibility of the intended researchers, scientists, academicians and others to the Abstract s.

10. Outstanding Paper Award

To encourage the budding scientists, there will be an Outstanding Paper Award at both the Regional and State levels.

- At the Regional level: The Authors of the best three Scientific Papers in each discipline will be awarded a Certificate of Merit, a Memento and a Cash Prize of Rs. 10,000/.
- The presenting authors of the first five scientific papers in each discipline will be invited to participate in the State Science and Technology Congress.
- At the State level: The best three Scientific Papers in each discipline will be recognised with a Certificate of Merit, Memento and Cash Prize of Rs. 15,000/.

11. Research Fellowship Grant Award & Research Grant Award

The State-level award-winning papers will undergo additional review by the inter-sectoral Expert Committee to determine the recipients of the Research Fellowship and Research Grant Awards. These Awards will be given to the Principal Author of the selected scientific paper.

Under the Research Fellowship Award, the top five researchers of Outstanding papers will be awarded the fellowship for carrying out research work relevant to the State and pursuing a Ph.D degree simultaneously.

The following research fellowships, named after the eminent scientists will be awarded to them:

- Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Research Fellowship Award
- Acharya Prafulla Chandra Roy Research Fellowship Award

- Prof. Meghnath Saha Research Fellowship Award
- Prof. Satyendranath Bose Research Fellowship Award
- Dr. Upendranath Brahmachari Research Fellowship Award

Additionally, the top two academicians or professors with exceptional papers will be recognised with the Research Grant Award. This grant will support R&D projects addressing social issues for a maximum period of three years. These awards are named after great social reformers of Bengal:

- Rabindranath Tagore Research Grant Award
- Swami Vivekananda Research Grant Award

12. Financial Support for Filing a Patent

After assessing the patentability, the Authors participating at the State Level will be encouraged to file a utility patent for which technical guidance and financial support will be provided by the Department.

13. Participants

The participants for the Science Congress will include Research Scholars, Scientists, PG students, Academicians, Faculties of Colleges/ Universities, Technologists, Industrialists and Policy Makers.

14. Publicity of the Program

- i. Invitations are to be sent to all Universities, Institutes, Colleges etc., lying within the comprising districts of the concerned Region for wide publicity and larger participation of the potential candidates.
- ii. The Host Institutes are to use their contacts for intensive publicity of the Programme.
- iii. District Information & Cultural Officer (DICO) of all comprising districts may be contacted for wider Publicity.

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