‘Jigyasa’ provides on-line platform to students for creative learning

■ Staff Reporter

CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI) organised ‘jigyasa: Student-Scientist Connect Programme’ recently to promote scientific temper among students through activity-based learning.

Prof Manish Jain, Head, Center for Creative Learning, IIT-Gandhinagar, was the resource person. Dr Rakesh Kumar, Director, CSIR-NEERI, also guided the students and teachers.

‘Jigyasa’ programme broadcast live on CSIR-NEERI Facebook and YouTube, focused on basic conceptual understanding and critical thinking of Mathematics and Science. CSIR-NEERI provided an online platform to teachers as well as students and their parents, to make learning more engaging by breaking subject boundaries to create a sense of wonder from everyday life.

Prof Jain elaborated on various scientific concepts to bring out the joy and inherent beauty in the curriculum. He helped students discover Maths inside the calendar; combinatorics with playing cards; geometry with matchsticks, laws of reflection, Buffon’s needle, icosahedron, etc. He fascinated students through a traditional ‘charkha’ that spins electric energy and flutes made of straws. He informed that IIT-Gandhinagar conducted similar workshops to reinforce the knowledge of Science and Mathematics among students. He explained the basic principles of science through toys.

Dr Rakesh Kumar cited some interesting examples where Science could be applied for betterment of the people and environment. Students can do better if they are innovative, creative, and think out of the box, he added.

Students and teachers from across the country including Jammu and Kashmir, enthusiastically participated in this programme that received about 5,500 live views. The students from Kendriya Vidyalaya (KV)-Vayusena Nagar, KV-Kamptee, and Municipal High School, Kalmeshwar interacted with Prof Manish Jain. The girl students from Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Navegaon Khairi, Nagpur also participated as part of the ‘Vigyan Jyoti’ scheme recently launched by Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

Prakash Kumbhare, Senior Principal Scientist, CSIR-NEERI, co-ordinated this event and Asheesh Sharma, Senior Scientist, CSIR-NEERI provided support for seamless transmission of the event, stated a press release.