

Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit participated as Chief Guest at the inauguration of 12th International Conference on "Exploring the innate inclusive potentials of High Energy Materials" - HEMCE 2019, organised by Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Satish Dhawan Space Research Centre, ISRO & HEMSI SHAR at Indian Institute of Technology - Madras, Chennai today (16.12.2019) and addressed the gathering.

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Hon'ble Governor said, "I am happy to be here today at the inauguration of 12th International Conference - High Energy Materials Conference and Exhibit – 2019 (HEMCE 2019) on the theme "Exploring the innate inclusive potentials of High Energy Materials" being organised jointly by the Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Satish Dhawan Space Research Centre, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) & High Energy Materials Society of India (HEMSI) SHAR – Chennai Chapter.

It gives me great pleasure to be here among the pioneers of High Energy Material Society of India at this green and beautiful campus that has nurtured great scientific minds. This is an important gathering of our scientific fraternity playing a prominent role both in promoting research and fostering innovations. India, with its sensitive neighbourhood and an astonishing record in space science and technology, has to rely greatly on High Energy Materials for its ground-based and space-based Defence systems.

Propellants, explosives and ammunitions drive our country to be secure and rise to greater scientific heights. In order to achieve our goals in this regard, we should be able to bring all our available resources and work force to work in unison.

The space centre, which was popularly known as SHAR (Sriharikota Range) and later renamed as Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR on September 5, 2002, in

fond memory of Prof. Satish Dhawan, the doyen of the global scientific community then and (former) Chairman of ISRO.

Satish Dhawan was one of the greatest ever personalities to be associated with scientific research works and space research in the country. He said, and I quote, **“If you do not have a mission, no problem will occur, but if you do have a mission or task, definitely problems of varying magnitudes will crop up. But problems should not become the masters of the individuals, individuals should become the masters of the problem, defeat it and succeed.”** I request all of you to have a mission and work for its successful completion.

The genesis of SDSC SHAR can be traced back to 1960s when the great visionary **Dr. Vikram A. Sarabhai** embarked upon space research activities in the country and envisioned that **“we must be second to none in the application of advanced technologies to the real problems of man and society”**.

Conferences enable to pool the scientific minds from all across the globe and constructively work towards greater developments in the field of High Energy Materials. These conferences ensure that we are keeping up-to-date with the global developments. I understand that HEMSI recognizes outstanding contributions by Scientists, Technologists and various Industrialists and confer them with honorary fellowships. Awards are also instituted to encourage the scientific community.

IIT Madras has been in the forefront of High Energy Materials research for more than three decades. The experimental test facilities and sophisticated instruments set up in the campus have made IIT-M a prominent name in this field. We are proud of IIT – Madras.

One of the most outstanding features of HEMCE – 2019 is the HEMSI Students’ Symposium or HS2. It is conducted with the motto **“Ignite, Propel and Reach the Unreached”**, which is self-explanatory. This will provide a great opportunity for young minds to interact with legends in this field.

In addition to the plenary and invited talks, the exhibition held as part of the conference is an opportunity for the Industrial partners to showcase their products to the community. This exhibit will contain various rocket engines of ISRO, launch vehicle models, ammunitions that were developed by DRDO and so on. The exhibit is the result of all the studies and researches that have been undertaken and completed, and those are being carried out by the scientific community.

Homi Jehangir Bhabha is the father of Indian nuclear power, once he said, and I quote, **“A scientific institution, be it a laboratory or an academy, has to be grown with great care like a tree. Its growth in terms of quality and achievement can only be accelerated to a very limited extent”**. I am sure all institutions like IIT-Madras, Satish Dhawan Space Research Centre follow that creed.

Research papers received from more than 60 experts are from various fields of High Energy Material applications. These include synthesis, characterization, testing, and development and so on. The HEMCE Students Symposium which is aimed at igniting young minds for broader and sharper scientific approaches is one of the highlights of this conference. The motivated students have a great opportunity to meet eminent personalities and nurture their scientific thoughts into a presentable form for further developments. They also get a chance to visit the space port of India, Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.

Satish Dhawan Space Centre is the Space port of the nation and has seen many prestigious and ambitious missions such as Chandrayaan and Mangalyaan. It is the contributions from ISRO and SDSC SHAR that have made India a prominent global name in space technology.

This visit to Satish Dhawan Space Centre will be one that every young scientist craves for as this would give a glimpse at the works of Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam, one of the most respected names in the scientific community. I am sure, you are all excited to visit that place.

The deliberations in this conference should be carefully documented and further action pursued so as to lead to logical conclusions. I am sure that in the years to come the bonds of friendship among the scientists from different nations will grow stronger and that their partnership will benefit the field of High Energy Materials.

I cannot conclude without speaking about the great Dr. Abdul Kalam. I was in Rameswaram some months back where I visited the house of Dr. Kalam. I am sure that all of you know about Dr. Kalam, who though born in an ordinary family in Rameswaram, went on to become the most popular Presidents of India. His life was one of achieving excellence through diligence. He excelled as a scientist, as a patriot and as a leader among men. His love for children and students was unmatched. Every time he found an opportunity, he would communicate with the students in schools and colleges. Once when he was asked about the secret of his perennial

enthusiasm and energy, he said, **‘every moment I keep thinking about what I can give to others’**. He is a great role model for all of us. He has given “Wings of Fire” to modern India and all youngsters must follow him.

I take this opportunity to invite brilliant Indian students to take Science & Research in India to next zenith. I should appreciate the efforts of the organizers for their special efforts taken in putting together this International Conference on “Exploring the Innate Inclusive Potentials of High Energy Materials” so as to spur our society towards greater growth and prosperity.

I extend my best wishes and greetings to them. May success smile on them in all their endeavours.”

On this occasion, Prof. Bhaskar Ramamurthi, Director, IIT-Madras, Thiru. A. Rajarajan, Director, SDSC SHAR, Thiru. M.S.R. Prasad, Director General, MSS, Thiru. V. Ranganathan, Chairman, HEMCE – 2019, Thiru. K.P.S.Murthy, Director, HEMRL, Prof. P.A. Ramakrishna, Convener, HEMCE-2019 and other dignitaries participated.

Raj Bhavan, Chennai – 22

Sd/-

Date : 16.12.2019

Addl. Director (PR)