

N.6: Second Orientation Course on Accelerators, Lasers and related Science and Technologies (OCAL) - 2016 at RRCAT

Raja Ramanna Centre for Advanced Technology (RRCAT), conducts a certificate course titled "Orientation Course on Accelerators, Lasers and related Science and Technologies (OCAL)". The second orientation course, OCAL-2016, was organized from May 23 to July 15, 2016.

The course is intended to introduce the students the fundamental aspects of the subject, its relevance to the existing programs of accelerators and lasers with more emphasis on the experimental aspects. It is intended to motivate the students to take up their career in science and technology in general and accelerators and lasers in particular. This is expected to make the participants aware of high quality research opportunities in the country in order to extend the benefit of the scientific expertise and advanced facilities. In all, 39 post-graduate students from 16 states all over India, who had completed the penultimate year of M. Sc. (physics) and M. Tech. / M. E. in various disciplines, participated in OCAL 2016.

OCAL-2016 was inaugurated by Dr. D. K. Shrivastava, Director, Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre, Kolkata on May 25, 2016. Dr. Shrivastava delivered a talk on "Why should you study Nuclear Science?". The stimulating lecture was very informative explaining the phenomenon that led to the origin of matter.

The course consisted of nearly 80 hours of theory by RRCAT scientists and engineers, 6 invited talks from senior scientists and technocrats, 20 hands-on experiments including the experiments on Indus-2 beamlines and a transport line of the machine itself, visits to 18 laboratories in RRCAT, 39 student's seminars based on the topics of self-study and a one-day industrial visit to Indo-German Tool Room, Indore. Intense and curiosity-driven interaction of students with faculty members, hands-on-experiment coordinators and guest lecturers took the course to greater heights. Many of these students will also carry out their project towards partial fulfilment of their post graduate degree in various disciplines.

A Cultural Evening was also organised. The students were also provided with a study kit including the course material on the first day of registration.

The Concluding Function of OCAL-2016 was held at RRCAT, Indore on July 15, 2016. Shri K. N. Vyas, Director, BARC, Mumbai and Member, AEC was the Chief Guest and awarded the Certificates to the participating students of this course. Shri Vyas also delivered a talk on "Nuclear Reactor Engineering: System Description, Relevance & Challenges". The talk was very informative and emphasized the challenges involved in the nuclear reactor engineering and highlighting the relevance and importance in the Indian context. He also had a long interaction with the students.



Dr. D. K. Shrivastava addressing the audience during the inauguration function of OCAL 2016.



Shri K. N. Vyas distributing certificates to the participating students during the concluding function.

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Participating students of OCAL 2016 with the dignitaries and members of the Public Outreach Committee.