ASTRONOMY CLUB ACTIVITIES AT A.S. COLLEGE KHANNA

A sky watching star gazing event was organised by the Astronomy Club of A.S. College Khanna in the college stadium as public outreach activity on 11th April 2024. Students and common people saw the planet Jupiter and its satellites, Orion Nebula, Star Clusters M41 and M42 through 8 inch telescope. An activity on identification of constellations like Orion, Canis Major, Gemini, Taurus, Ursa Major was organised. Viewers also learnt how to locate North Star{Pole Star) in the sky. This activity was organised under the guidance of Prof. Ravinder Jeet Singh convener of the Astronomy Club. He explained Sirius is the brightest star in the sky and light takes around eight and a half years to reach earth from Sirius. Also, a star cluster M41 is a part of the Canis Major constellation and is located 2300 light years from earth. It means light will take 2300 years to reach earth from M41 cluster. The players at the stadium were delighted to see a telescope in the stadium. Principal Dr. K.K Sharma also participated in this star gazing exercise and interacted with the former and present students of the college during the event.

BSc 3rd year students Mr. Shivam Saddi, Simranjot Singh and Nitish Kumar prepared a sun dial from plywood under the guidance of Prof. Ravinder Jeet Singh and explained it’s working. Officiating principal Dr. K.K. Sharma emphasised the importance of such activities and said that it will be the endeavour of the college to organise these public outreach programmes for popularisation of science and astronomy. Dr. Sanjay Tawlani, Dr. Manpreet Kaur, Dr. Monika Thakur, Dr. Manish Garg, Dr. Yadwinder Singh Deol, Prof. Pulkit Khullar, Prof. Astha from Faculty of Science were present on the occasion.

**DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY**

**QUIZ COMPETITION**

A Quiz Competition was organized on 22nd February 2024 by the Chemical Society, Department of Chemistry, A.S. College Khanna. The competition this year is dedicated to the former faculty member of Chemistry Department, Prof. N.D Sardhana. This Competition was organized as a part of the different programmes being organized to celebrate the National Science Day.

Team Avogadro comprising of Akanksha, Jiya and Loveleen of BSc First year won the first prize, Team Rutherford comprising of Simranjit, Neha and Harleen of M.Sc Second (Chemistry) won second position, Team Fischer comprising of Taranjeet, Gurleen and Tamanna of B.Sc Second Year won the third position in the quiz competition. Agam, Puneet, Ramandeep, Simranjot, Harshpreet and Shivam Saddi had also qualified for the final round of the quiz. Dr. Manpreet Kaur anchored the programme. Dr.Yadwinder Singh Deol, Prof.Pulkit Khullar, Prof. Jasman and Prof. Astha were the quiz masters for 25 rounds of the quiz. Dr. Manish Garg Head of Physics Department asked questions related to Physics.

Winners of the quiz were felicitated by the principal Dr. K.K Sharma, Prof Ravinder Jeet Singh, Head of Chemistry Department and other members of the faculty. Principal Dr.K.K. Sharma congratulated the winners and expressed happiness over the zeal and enthusiasm of the participants. Dr. Monika Thakur passed a vote of thanks at the end of the programme.

**WORKSHOP ON DETERMINATION OF MOLECULAR STUCUTRE OF INSULIN AND APPLICATION OF CHEMDRAW**

A workshop was organised April 18-20, 2024 for advance learners. 16 Students participated in the workshop. Dr. Yadwinder Singh Deol conducted a workshop on Chemdraw software a very versatile tool used by chemists to draw structures of molecules, determine IUPAC names, 3D Molecular Structures. Prof Ravinder Jeet Singh organised a workshop on arranging 51 amino acids in two polypeptide chains of Insulin. The technique was developed by F. Sanger, the Nobel laureate. Students also made a paper model of structure of Insulin. Anshika Moudgil, Palvi Kaushal, Prabhjot Kaur, Ramanpreet Kaur, Avneet Kaur, Arshdeep Kaur, Parmanjot Kaur, Niharika, Harshpreet Kaur, Lakshmi Kumari, Taranjot Kaur, Rupinder Kaur, Harmanpreet Kaur, Shivam Saddi, Simranjot Singh and Nitish Kumar successfully completed the workshop and were issued certificates.

**TOURS AND EXCURSIONS**

Department of Chemistry oragnised a tour on 24th February 2024. 42 students of 41under the guidance of Prof. Ravinder Jeet Singh, Dr. Yadwinder Singh Deol, Prof. Astha and Prof Jasmanpreet participated in the tour. The students visited Nadha Sahib a historical Gurudwara, Barog and Pinjore Garden. Barog Railway station is one of the Heritage sites on Kalak Shimla Railway Track and is named after British Engineer Barog.

Another tour was organised under the leadership of Dr. Yadwinder Singh Deol on 17th March 2024. 42 Students of M.Sc. Chemistry and B.Sc. I participated in the tour. The students visited Sukhna Lake, Rock Garden, Fun City and Nadda Sahib.

**Students of M.Sc Chemistry Excel in Academics**

Jaskaran Singh Student of M.Sc. Chemistry of Batch 2021-23 got overall 3rd position in M.Sc. Chemistry examination of Panjab University, Chandigarh. He was invited to the Convocation of the university held on 7th Match 2024 at the university campus.

Divya Dange of MSc Chemistry 2022 Batch qualified GATE and UGC JRF (Rank 31) and was selected for PhD by IIT Ropar in March 2024. She also received offer letters from IIT Mumbai and IISC Bangalore.

Pulkit Khullar and Komalpreet also qualified the GATE 2024. Simranjit Kaur, the Faculty member of the Chemistry Department for the session 2023-24 qualified JRF examination and got admission to PhD in Chemistry at NCL Pune. She was students of BSc (2016-19) of A.S. College Khanna.

Seema a student of M.Sc Chemistry (2021-23) has been selected for PhD at University of Kentucky Lexington (US).