

Special Service and Features



CSIR-SERC Chennai Hosts Curtain Raiser for India International Science Festival (IISF) 2025

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The Curtain Raiser of the India International Science Festival (IISF) 2025, was held at CSIR–Structural Engineering Research Centre (CSIR–SERC), Chennai on 20th November 2025, marking the formal launch of nationwide celebrations leading up to the main festival. The Curtain Raiser highlighted the theme of “Vigyan Se Samruddhi: For Aatmanirbhar Bharat, emphasizing India’s leadership in science, technology, innovation, and societal applications. Scientists, Researchers from CSIR-SERC and students from PM Shri Kendriya Vidyalaya, Meenambakam, Chennai actively participated in the event.

The programme commenced with the welcome address by Dr. N. Anandavalli, Director, CSIR–SERC and Coordinating Director, CSIR Madras Complex, Chennai. In her address, she stressed on the necessity of science and the prevalence of science in day-to-day life. She also reiterated that learning science should be an enjoyable experience.

Dr. S. Gomathinayagam, Former Director General, National Institute of Wind Energy, Chennai, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. He mentioned that Science is about thinking and that the role of Scientists is to provide answers to all questions. He also mentioned that the present day inventions focus on building a sustainable environment. He further emphasised on the need for basic research in Science and urged the students to take advantage of the plenitude of information access, to enhance their knowledge in science.

Two technical lectures were organized as part of the event. Dr. C. Bharathi Priya, Principal Scientist, CSIR–SERC delivered the lecture on “Shakes & Shapes: Earthquake and Structures and Dr. M. Keerthana, Principal Scientist, CSIR–SERC delivered a lecture titled “Wind Effects on Structures”.

An overview of the objectives and planned activities of IISF 2025 were presented by Dr. S. Maheswaran, Senior Principal Scientist, CSIR–SERC, who emphasized the festival’s role in promoting scientific temperament, innovation, and youth participation across the country. A promotional video on IISF was also played during the event. Dr. S. Sundar Kumar, Principal Scientist, CSIR–SERC proposed the vote of thanks.

Following the formal session, students visited the Advanced Seismic Testing Research Laboratory and the Wind Engineering Laboratories of CSIR–SERC, where they were briefed on the state-of-the-art experimental facilities.

The Curtain Raiser event at CSIR–SERC marked an important step towards generating nationwide awareness and enthusiasm for IISF 2025, reaffirming the commitment to fostering scientific spirit and public outreach.



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