



CSIR-Structural Engineering Research Centre

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3 September 2026

Press Release

Jigyasa ATL Workshop – Student–Scientist Connect

Chennai, 3 September 2026: CSIR-Structural Engineering Research Centre (CSIR-SERC), Chennai, a constituent laboratory of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), in association with CSIR Chennai Campus (CMC), organised a Jigyasa ATL Workshop (Student–Scientist Connect) as part of the Atal Tinkering Lab (ATL) Adoption and Mentoring Programme on 2 and 3 September 2026 at schools in Ariyalur District, Tamil Nadu.

The programme was conducted at four schools: Government Higher Secondary School, Melanikuzhi; Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Sendurai; Government Higher Secondary School, Kodalikaruppur; and Government High School, Kollapuram, Ariyalur District. Around 300 students and 30 teachers participated in the workshop.

The Jigyasa programme is a national initiative of CSIR aimed at promoting scientific awareness among school students through direct interaction with scientists and research institutions. The workshop featured scientific talks, demonstrations and hands-on activities designed to help students understand scientific principles through practical experimentation.

During the hands-on sessions, students learned to make a simple battery using everyday materials to light an LED bulb and constructed a working DC motor using a portable battery, copper wire and safety pins. The scientists explained the principles behind the experiments and encouraged the students to observe, question, experiment and explore innovative solutions to real-life challenges.

The sessions were conducted by Dr. S. Maheswaran, Scientist-G and Head, SHRDD, CSIR-SERC; Dr. G. S. Ayyappan, Scientist-F and SIC, CSIR-CSIO (Chennai Centre); Dr. A. Abraham, Scientist-F, CSIR-SERC; Dr. D. Kalpana, Scientist-F, CSIR-CECRI (Chennai Centre); Dr. G. Saravanan, Scientist-E, CSIR-NEERI (Chennai Centre); Dr. S. Sundar Kumar, Scientist-E, CSIR-SERC; and Shri R. D. Sathish Kumar, Principal Technical Officer, CSIR-SERC.

The enthusiastic participation of the students was evident through their active involvement in the demonstrations and hands-on activities. The interaction with CSIR scientists provided the students with an opportunity to relate classroom concepts to practical applications and encouraged them to develop scientific curiosity, creativity, problem-solving skills and innovative thinking.

The Jigyasa ATL Workshop was well received by the participating students and teachers and contributed to strengthening the Student–Scientist Connect and fostering a culture of scientific curiosity and innovation among young learners.









