

# Inaugural Ceremony of 3rd InCerS Students' Chapter at NIT, Rourkela: A Report

'Mrittika 2019' was a two day fest, organized during April 6-7, 2019 at National Institute of Technology (NIT), Rourkela, which marked the inauguration of the Indian Ceramic Society NIT Rourkela chapter (Students' Chapter). The event was dedicated towards providing the right platform for discussing and promoting advancements in the ceramic realm. With the topic for this year being "Industrial Advancements in Ceramics", the fest saw a footfall of over 60 delegates from several prestigious organizations such as CSIR-CGCRI, Tata Steel, Imerys, TRL Krosaki, Kerneos, Sino Global, Mahakoshal Refractories, Aditya Birla Insulators, Elkem, NALCO, etc. The event received support from the sponsors like Imerys, Sino-global, TRL Krosaki, Mahakoshal, ICON Analytical, and InCerS Jamshedpur chapter.

'Mrittika' was inaugurated in the Ceramic Engineering Department seminar hall by Prof. Parag Bhargava, Professor, Department of Metallurgical Engineering, IIT Bombay on April 6, 2019 in presence of the dignitaries like Prof. S. K. Pratihari (Professor, NIT, Rourkela and Convenor), Prof. Sumit Kumar Pal (Professor, NIT, Rourkela and Co-convenor), Prof. S. Panigrahi (Dean SW, NIT, Rourkela), Prof. Ritwik Sarkar (Head, Dept of Ceramic Engg, NIT, Rourkela), Mr Segi Idicula (MD, Imerys Aluminates, Kolkata) and Dr Sukumar Adak (COO, Mahakoshal Refractories, Katni, MP). After lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries, a video message from Dr K Muraleedharan (Director, CSIR-CGCRI, Kolkata and President, InCerS) was presented.

The confluence then progressed towards the lecture series by various eminent scientists and industrialists on different topics of ceramics. Nine lectures were delivered on the first day. The first day ended with an interactive session by Prof. Parag Bhargava on 'Discovering Endless Motivation in Life'. The session lasted for about 2 hours and gave a new perception to look at the problems around us and the economic instability across a developing nation like India.

On the second day (April 7, 2019) nine more lectures were delivered by eminent scientists and industrialists. During the two days of the event, total eighteen numbers of lectures were delivered by Prof. Parag Bhargava (IIT, Bombay), Mr Segi Idicula (Imerys Aluminates, Kolkata), Mr Birendra Prasad (OCL, Sundergarh, Orissa), Dr Atanu Ranjan Pal (Tata Steel, Jamshedpur), Mr Saptarshi Sengupta (Elkem, Kolkata), Mr Goutam Bhattacharya (Imerys Aluminates, Kolkata), Dr Himansu Shekhar Tripathi (CSIR-CGCRI, Kolkata), Mr Sitendu Mandal (CSIR-CGCRI, Kolkata), Dr Ranabrata Mazumder (NIT, Rourkela), Mr Manish Kumar Singh (SinoGlobal Sourcing & Supply Ltd, Kolkata), Dr Sukumar Adak (Mahakoshal Refractories, Katni, MP), Prof. Ritwik Sarkar (NIT, Rourkela), Mr Sampad Mishra (RSP, SAIL, Rourkela),

Mr Piyush Pandey (Hindalco, Mumbai), Dr Shantanu Kumar Behera (NIT, Rourkela), Mr Dhiman Banerjee (Tata Steel, Jamshedpur), Mr Atanu Suvrajit Bal (TRL Krosaki, Jamshedpur), Mr Subal Mandal (TRL Krosaki, Kolkata).

Alongside this, FESEM workshop was held in the Department of Ceramic Engineering wherein students were expected to form a group of 6 and attend the 15 minute workshop which threw light upon the basics and the schematics of SEM (scanning electron microscope). Mr Rahul Sarkar, Service Engineer from the ICON Group, came to teach students on how to use the microscope, how to capture images and other technicalities about the microscope. In addition, a fun event named Teka-Tiki was organized, where participants were expected to arrange jumbled up tiles to form a complete picture. Exciting prizes were awarded to the participants who had completed the puzzle within the stipulated time.

An E-Exhibition was also organized during the occasion which had four exhibits, viz. Future of Superconductors; White Graphene; Running Out of Fossil Fuels and the Solutions; Heat barriers in Space Shuttle. These topics were chosen so as to display the advancements happening in ceramics in the particular fields or where ceramics holds better prospects in future.

At the end of the final day of the fest, an engaging panel discussion took place on 'Job Perspectives in Ceramics'. The moderator of the panel was Dr Santanu Bhattacharyya (NIT, Rourkela) and the members were Mr Piyush Pandey (Hindalco), Mr Amitabh Ray (Aditya Birla Insulators), Dr Sukumar Adak (Mahakoshal Refractories), Mr Dhiman Banerjee, (Tata Steel) and Mr Atanu Suvrajit Bal (TRL Krosaki). The discussion was power packed with questions flowing in from all the eight directions and intuitive replies from expert panelists. This marked the end of the inaugural function of Indian Ceramic Society, NIT Rourkela Students' Chapter.



Participants of 'Mrittika 2019'