

Science for Humanity

Science for Society

Science in Thinking

BREAKTHROUGH SCIENCE SOCIETY

(A Voluntary Organisation Committed to the Cause of Science, Culture and Scientific Outlook)

Vol:2, No:2, June 2025

NEWSLETTER



● Organisational News ● World Environment Day

KERALA:

A programme titled 'Women in Focus - A Journey of Science, Empowerment and Dialogue' was organised on the occasion of 'International Women's Day' on 08-03-2025 at the Seminar hall, Priyadarsini Planetarium, Thiruvananthapuram. The programme was jointly organised by 'Gender in Physics Working Group - Indian Physics Association', Breakthrough Science Society Thiruvananthapuram chapter, IIST, IISER Thiruvananthapuram and Kerala State Science and Technology Museum.



Special situations in space science": Talk by Dr. S. Seetha (former Director, Space Science Programme, ISRO and Emeritus Professor RRI Bangalore).



"Why you shouldn't stand on a topological insulator while changing a light bulb"- Talk by Dr. Sumathi Rao (Professor, ICTS Bangalore)



"Cosmic speed limits: How special relativity shapes what we see"- Talk by Dr. Resmi. L (Associate Professor, IIST, Trivandrum)



"Luttinger liquids: How order got destroyed in low dimensions"- Talk by Dr. Deepshikha Jaiswal-Nagar (Associate Professor, IISER Trivandrum)



ALIVE, Tales of Water and Women, an immersive performance where dance and poetry intertwine by Claire Le Michel (French Actress, Dancer, Director, and Author) and Meera Nair (Poet, Dancer, and Actress)



"Towards achieving gender equity: Activities of the gender in physics working groups of IPA (GIPWG-IPA)"– Talk by Dr. Shikha Varma (Professor, Institute of Physics Bhubaneswar)*



"Understanding Gender: Perspectives from Contemporary Socio-cultural Milieu" - Talk by Dr. Ankush Banerjee (Writer and Gender Researcher)

Kottayam Chapter:

The Kottayam Chapter of the Breakthrough Science Society organized a Sky Watch Program, Telescope Making Workshop, and Astronomy Class at Pallam Bukanian Teacher Training Institute on April 8, 2025.

The Astronomy Class and Telescope Making Workshop were conducted by MJ Vinayachandran and P G Sasikumar, while the Sky Watch session was led by Saji Varghese.



The program was inaugurated by the Principal." Smt Annie P M. Teachers Siji Mary

Jacob,.Mariamma Philip and Annie Ninan coordinated the program.

Science camp in Kottayam:

A two day Science camp was organised by the Kottayam chapter of BSS on April 13-14, 2025. Sessions on AI, Electric Vehicles, Evolution of earth, Nanoscience, Mathematics puzzles, Space Science, and a Magic show were part of the camp. Dr. K Pravas of Maharajas college inaugurated the camp. Shri Jayadev Anand, Registrar, CDIT Thiruvananthapuram gave the valedictory message.



Dr. K Pravas, Dept of Mathematics, Maharajas college Ernakulam inaugurating the Science Camp

Trivandrum Chapter:

Science Camp for School Students – Igniting Curiosity and Scientific Thinking -

The Breakthrough Science Society, Trivandrum Chapter, successfully organized a 3-day Science Camp for school students from April 26 to 28, 2025 at the Breakthrough Science Centre, Kuravankonam, Trivandrum. The camp brought together 58 enthusiastic students from Classes 8 to 12, who actively engaged in a series of thought-provoking sessions and hands-on learning experiences.

The camp was inaugurated with an inspiring interactive session by Prof. C.P. Aravindakshan, President of the BSS Kerala Chapter. Over the three days, students were introduced to key scientific ideas and values through the following sessions.

- Charles Darwin & Theory of Evolution – Suja Raveendran
- Earth SOS: What We're Not Told About the Climate Crisis – Gopakumar P.S.
- Story of Gravity – Nripen P. Sudheer
- Invention of the Aircraft – Prof. K. Kurien Issac
- Machines That Think: A Blessing or a Curse? – Manoj C.M. (ICT Academy, Techno Park)
- Evolution of Scientific Method – Dr. Rajeevan P.P.
- Brain Voyage: Inspire to Rewire – Dr. Ammu Lukose
- The Atom Unleashed: Science, War, and Oppenheimer – Dr. Adarsh N.



The session on Artificial Intelligence encouraged students to think critically about technology's role in society. Several students submitted innovative AI project proposals aimed at solving social problems. Three students were selected and awarded science books by Mr. Manoj C.M. in recognition of their ideas.



A dedicated session titled "Learning Science Through Experiments", conducted by the Breakthrough team, allowed students to explore

scientific principles hands-on. The camp concluded with group presentations, demonstrations, and reflections led by the students themselves.

Suja Raveendran provided continuous guidance and leadership throughout the camp. The organizing team—including Adarsh, Vignesh, Jaya Krishnan, Nripen, Sharon, Priya, Jyothis Babu, Shaji Albert, Ajith Mathew, Sreebala, Sanjay, and Shalini—worked tirelessly to ensure a smooth and enriching experience. The closing session, attended by both Prof. C.P. Aravindakshan and Prof. K. Kurien Issac, was marked by enthusiastic student feedback and heartfelt appreciation from parents.

Idukki District:

A Science stall was organized at the 'Moovattupuzha Karshikolsav' (Farm exhibition) by BSS Idukki in association with Kottayam and Ernakulam chapters. Dr. Joe Jacob, K L Eappachen, Advt Sajeev T Prabhakar, L S Sasikala, Saji Varghese, P G Sasikumar and P N Thankachan explained the models to viewers. The exhibition was from 3 to 12 May, 2025.



Prof Joe Jacob in the Exhibition hall

Ernakulam District:

BSS, Ernakulam Chapter, Kerala, organized a three-day science camp on May 9, 10, 11, 2025 at the Georgian Academy School, Thiruvankulam. Mrs. Rakhi Prince, Principal of Tripunithura S N Vidyapeetham Public School inaugurated the camp. Mrs. Sheeba Kuriakose, Georgian Academy HM offered felicitations. The camp was attended by 75 children. The camp consisted of the following session:

Learning science through Experiments, Personality development, Good food habits, Electricity conservation, The world of stories, Artificial Intelligence, Environmental studies, Math games, Children's Drama Workshop, Telescope making and Stargazing.

The happiness and enthusiasm of the children who participated in the camp are worth mentioning. All the children requested that the camp be extended for two more days. A meeting of the parents was held in connection with the camp. Everyone expressed interest in continuing the camp activities and meeting at least once a month.



Telescope making session

Thrissur District:

Breakthrough Science Society Thrissur Chapter in association with the Ramavarmapuram Vigyan Sagar, a district panchayat science centre organized a two-day science camp for children on May 16th and 17th. 56 children participated in the camp. Dr. T. V. Sajeev, Chief Scientist, Peechi Forest Research Center, inaugurated the event. In the program "Let's Ask the Scientist", Dr. T. V. Sajeev had a long and interesting conversation with the children. After that, the instructors of the centre conducted various experiments and activities with the children in the labs. In the afternoon, the children enjoyed the "Story telling" session by Mr. V.S. Gireesan Master. Next, a video was shown to create awareness among the children about the importance of biodiversity. Dr. E.R. Muraleedharan and Dr. Sheenaja, Head of Zoology Department, Thrissur Kerala Varma College, led a question and answer session on this subject and provided answers and explanations to the children's questions. In the evening a sky watch program was planned, but due to bad weather it

could not be conducted. Adv. Sajeev Prabhakar, BSS State Executive Committee Member conducted a session on astronomy.

On the 17th morning, the BSS Kerala Chapter Secretary Prof. P. N. Thankachan conducted a discussion on the History of Science and interacted with the children. Then the children visited the Physics, Maths, Chemistry, Biology and Space labs and conducted simple experiments. In the afternoon sunspot viewing through a telescope was arranged. Children also presented a short play "Galileo" under the guidance of the renowned drama director and teacher Dr. M Pradeepan. The camp ended with a feedback session presided over by the BSS Kerala Chapter Vice President Dr. P S Babu. Special Officer in Charge of Vigyan Sagar Science Centre Mr. C T Ajithkumar addressed the gathering. Children and parents who participated in the camp shared their experiences. Certificates were also presented to the children.



Views from the Thrissur science camp

Narlikar Memorial Meeting:

A memorial meeting in honour of Prof Jayanth V Narlikar was organized by Breakthrough Science Society, Kottayam Chapter on the 12th June 2025 at the Galileo Science Centre, Kottayam.

The meeting was inaugurated by Dr Joe Jacob, retired professor of Newman College, Thodupuzha. Dr Moncy V John, Visiting Professor at M.G. University, delivered the keynote address on the Steady State Model in Cosmology and Narlikar's approach to Science. Prof P N Thankachan, State Secretary of Breakthrough Science Society, delivered the introductory talk.

Mr Vinayachandran M J, Vice President of BSS Kottayam Chapter, presided over the function. P G Sasi Kumar, Secretary of BSS Kottayam

Chapter, welcomed the gathering. Teachers and students from BCM College, Kottayam, Baselius College, Kottayam, K.G. College, Pampady, and St. Mary's College, Manarcaud participated in the event.



Dr Moncy V John delivering the keynote address

JHARKHAND:



Submitting memorandum on the issue of fire catchup in the forest.



Sky watching program at Chaibasa

A sky watching program and slide show

was organised on 26 May 2025 by BSS Chaibasa chapter in Lumjuri. In the beginning of the program, tributes were paid to Prof. Jayant Vishnu Narlikar.

On 25 May, a one-day science camp was organized by BSS in Peepla village of East Singhbhum. Children were shown various science experiments. Anti-superstition show was also conducted and discussions were held on science and scientific outlook. Dr. Tarun Kumar Mahato, HoD of Mathematics Department of Srinath University, Dr. Kanhai Barik and Prof. Partho Banerjee of English Department of Srinath University addressed the camp.



Science experiments demonstration at Peepla village

Galileo club, Dampara, Ghatshila organised a one-day Science Camp on 28th may,



Science camp at Dampara

2025. In the first session Dr. Tarun Mahato, Head of Mathematics Department of Srinath University and Varun Vishesh, State Committee Member, demonstrated experiments and anti-superstition programs. In the second session tributes were paid to Prof. Jayant Narlikar. In the next session, State Committee Member Babli Shil conducted a

discussion on climate change. Dr. Kanhai Barik conducted a discussion on science and scientific approach. At the end of the program, a meeting was held with the club members to discuss about the World Environment Day programs. About 130 children and parents participated in the program.

The Breakthrough Science Society, Hazaribagh Chapter, organized a seven-day Summer Camp cum Activities Week from June 1, 2025. The camp consisted of the following activities.

Day 1: The camp began with an introduction to BSS and the participants. Participants were divided into groups, and each group gave presentations on various topics.

Day 2: A presentation titled “Snakes: Myths and Reality” was delivered by environmentalist and snake rescuer Murari Singh.

Day 3: A geological tour was conducted to Sitagarha Hill, guided by VBU researcher Md. Fazal.



Day 4: A “Magic and Miracle Exposure Show” was performed by Rajesh Kumar.

Day 5: A botanical tour to Chadwa Forest was conducted under the guidance of senior botany teacher Debashis Mahato.

Day 6: A handicraft-making training session was conducted by Nisha Muskan.

Day 7: After cultural performances, a lecture on Science and Ethics was delivered by the Dr. Kanhai Barik. Some participants also shared their camp experiences. The summer camp concluded with the distribution of participation certificates. The program was coordinated by Sanya, Soumya, Akash, Kaushal, Ayush, Aryan and others.

A one-day summer camp was organized by the Galileo Science Club Chauka, Chandil, in Chauka on 1st June, 2025. Experiments demonstration and anti-superstition programs were conducted by state committee members Sandeep Patra, Raju Mahato and Anadi Kumar. BSS state secretary Dr.Kanhai Barik discussed about climate change. BSS Jharkhand secretariat member Anant Kumar Mahato spoke to the students on the need to build a science movement in the state. About 110 students participated in the workshop.



The Stephen Hawking Club (Breakthrough Science Society) at Galudih, Ghatshila organized a one-day Science camp on June 2. The camp had the following activities. 1. Quiz program on Environment conducted by the club's president, Riya Dutta 2. Experiments demonstration by Sandeep Patra 3. Discussion on climate change by Anant Mahto, Research scholar at Ranchi University 4. Presentations on the biographies of great scientists by Isika Agarwal, Putul Koirato, and Baby Rani. The camp was attended by around 60 children, along with some teachers from Shishu Mandir School and Galudih.

CHHATTISGARH:

Science Learning Centre was inaugurated on April 9, 2025, at the Government Girls' Secondary School, Charcha, Korea district. The event was organized by the entire school staff in association with the Breakthrough Science Society, Korea chapter. The state in-charge of BSS, Ms. Pooja Sharma, was the main speaker.

The event was graced by the esteemed presence of the District Education Officer, Mr. Jitendra Gupta, along with respected Mr. Bhatt, Mr. Bajpai, and Mr. Tiwari from the district office.



Principals from both clusters of Charcha, school staff and students were present. The curriculum for the year-long activities of the Science Learning Center was unveiled during the program.

two enriching talk sessions on two very important topics.

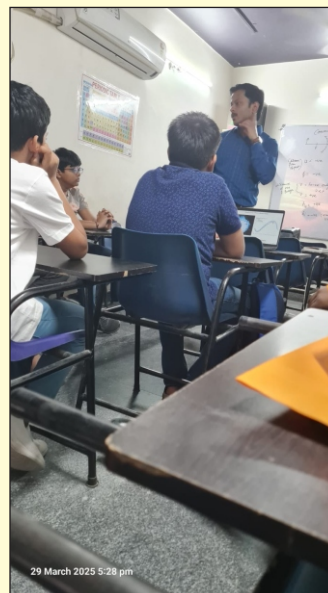


Lipi, executive member, BSS Delhi Chapter, had conducted a soulful and interactive session on the topic "Women in Science- The Challenges and the achievements".



Mega Sky Watching Program

Breakthrough science society (Korea, Chhattisgarh) organised a Mega Sky Watching Program with the help of district administration at Ramanujan mini stadium Baikunthpur Korea. In this program Patit Pawan Kuila (Executive member of All India BSS) and Vijay Kumar (All India council member) were main speakers. 500 Students participated from different schools and colleges. District Education officer and District collector also present in this program.



Another discussion on the topic "Climate Change and the Looming Crisis before Us" was conducted by Dr. Ritabrata Thakur, assistant professor, IIT Delhi, on 29 March, the concluding day.



Science Documentary Show

DELHI:

Science Week Observed:

Breakthrough Science Society Delhi State Chapter had organised a Science Week from 24th March to 29th March, 2015 in Mahaveer Enclave, Delhi. The week-long science activities included interactive sessions mainly with school students, science documentary shows and discussions and

In the beginning of the week, on the first day, we had given a task to the students - teams of two were made, and each were asked to make a paper airplane and ensure maximum flight. We had

asked them to note down the materials that they had used, the corresponding results, even the failures and their understanding about the causes of the failures. Students had beautifully accepted this challenge, and performed wonderfully. They had tried to jot down even the tiniest details of the process. So, in this way, the one week long science program came to a conclusion.



All the sessions and the activities were managed and conducted by Ms. Rakshita, vice-president, BSS Delhi Chapter.

Interactive Science Session:

On 10 May, 2025, BSS Delhi Chapter organised an Interactive Science Session with the students of Navya Bal Vikas Vidyalaya, Najafgarh, Delhi.



On this occasion Mr. Dinesh Mohanta, BSS All India Secretariat Member and Partha Chowdhury, BSS Delhi State Executive Committee Member delivered some lectures on fundamental science and also showed a couple of hands-on experiments. Moreover an initiative for summer camp has also been taken. Students, teachers and guardians participated enthusiastically.

Science Experiment Show:



The BSS Delhi Chapter successfully organized a "Hands-on Science Experiment Show" on May 18, 2025, in a local park of the Dashrathpuri area. The event aimed to foster a scientific bent of mind among students and the local community. The hands-on experiments were demonstrated by Partha Chowdhury, executive member, BSS Delhi Chapters, and Saharsh Sanu, office secretary, BSS Mumbai Chapter, who showcased a couple of engaging scientific experiments. Further enriching the program, Miss Rakshita Chawda, Vice President of the BSS, Delhi Chapter, delivered a lecture designed to cultivate scientific thinking among the attendees. The event garnered significant interest, with over 50 students, accompanied by local enthusiasts and their guardians, actively participating in and attending the program. The enthusiastic turnout underscored the community's keen interest in science education.

Science Museum Visit:



First Visit: A science museum visit was organised by the Delhi Chapter of BSS on May 25, 2025. The group comprised around 25 school and college students. The tour was interspersed with in-

between discussions regarding the various things displayed and portrayed in the museum. It concluded with a brief discussion on the purpose of the tour and the importance of fostering scientific temperament by integrating our knowledge of science with our day-to-day life. The visit turned out to be an enriching experience, both for the school students, who learnt things outside their textbooks, as well for the college students who played a crucial role in simplifying the concepts of science to their younger friends.

Second Visit: On 22 June BSS Delhi Chapter again organised an Educational Visit in the National Science Museum, Delhi. Vice President of BSS Delhi Chapter Mrs Rakshita was leading the event. Rahul, Office Secretary, BSS Delhi State Committee, Partha Chowdhury and Lipi, BSS Delhi State Secretariat Member were also present. 22 students participated the event. At the end students were asked about their feedback and some tasks have been assigned.



Narlikar Memorial Meeting:

Breakthrough Science Society Delhi Chapter organised a memorial meeting to pay tribute to the eminent scientist Prof Jayant V. Narlikar, on May 28, 2025 at Palam. Ms. Rakshita Chawda, vice-president, BSS Delhi Chapter, addressed the school students who had gathered. She spoke about Prof Narlikar's contributions in popularising science and spreading scientific temperament. A one-minute silence was then observed in his memory.

On June 1, 2025, Breakthrough Science Society Delhi Chapter organised a condolence program in memory of Prof Jayant V. Narlikar at a gathering of students of the Mahaveer Enclave. The meeting began with a brief introduction of Prof



Narlikar's life and his contributions in popularising science amongst the young minds and his fight against anti-superstition. Two students read out the condolence messages. Floral tributes were paid by the members and a minute's silence was observed. Ms Rakshita Chawda and Ms Dharika discussed about the need for anti-superstition movement in our country. The meeting concluded with a decision to form a science club in the area. Adrika, secretary, Breakthrough Science Society, Delhi Chapter conducted the program.

MAHARASHTRA: First Mumbai Science Conference:

The first Mumbai Science Conference was successfully organized by the Breakthrough Science Society (BSS) Mumbai Chapter on April 6, 2025, at Savitribai Phule Hall in Dharavi.

The conference began with a science exhibition by students of the Science Learning Centres (SLCs), run by BSS. The students showcased a variety of experiments they had learned and explored during the SLC sessions, demonstrating their curiosity, creativity, and growing scientific understanding.



Audience of the conference

The conference was inaugurated by Prof. B.M. Arora, eminent semiconductor physicist, former professor TIFR Mumbai, and was presided over by Mr. Ravindra Bhandare, President of BSS Mumbai organising committee. Prof. S.G. Dani, former professor TIFR, former chair NBHM, currently in UM-DAE Centre for Excellence in Basic Sciences (CEBS) graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

In his engaging inaugural address, Prof. B.M. Arora traced the evolution of the light bulb, using live demonstrations to illustrate his points, and emphasized the crucial role of science and scientific thinking in everyday life.

Prof. S.G. Dani also addressed the audience, urging everyone to adopt a scientific outlook in their approach to life and society.



Prof. S.G. Dani Addressing the gathering

Mr. Chandan Santra, All India secretariat member of BSS, presented the history, aims, and objectives of Breakthrough Science Society, while Prof. Manabendra Nath Bera, also all India secretariat member of BSS spoke passionately about the need to build a new science movement in the country, specially in Mumbai and the pivotal role BSS can play in it.

During the event, the new committee of the BSS Mumbai Chapter was formally announced. Prof. S.G. Dani was named President, and Mr. Ravindra Bhandare was appointed Working President of the chapter. Saharsh Shanu and Rishabh Nath, both from CEBS appointed as secretary and treasurer respectively. A 16 member executive committee and 32 members council was formed. A 12 member Board of Advisors consisting of eminent professors, doctors, professionals in Mumbai was also formed.

The program concluded with a prize distribution ceremony for students from Ambedkar

School and Royal City School who had participated in the Science Learning Centre final exam.

The conference saw enthusiastic participation from around 130 attendees, including students, parents, teachers, and professors. Representatives from Satara and Kolhapur also attended the conference.

Prog of Science Learning Centre at Mumbai:



After completing two years of our Science Learning Centre, we conducted the final exam on 02.03.24 at both SLCs (Ambedkar school and Royal City school) in Dharavi, Mumbai. A total of 48 students appeared for the exam.

The exam focused on testing students' observation and questioning skills rather than rote learning. During the test, they watched videos and observed experiments, then listed their observations and questions. They were also encouraged to explain the experiments using concepts discussed in SLC sessions and to suggest new experiments to find answers to their questions. All the students participated with great enthusiasm.

Kolhapur District:

Science discussions were conducted in Nej village, Ichalkaranji town, Narande village and Rajarampuri in Kolhapur district (Maharashtra). Ramesh Ghatge, Madhukar Mane, Gautam Kamble, Chandrakant Sanghvi and Nandatai Ghatge conducted the discussions.

GUJARAT:

Workshop on Genetics:

A unique workshop on Genetics was organized by Universe Science Forum at Pankaj Vidhyalaya on



9 th March, 2025. The workshop had four sessions and covered topics like An overview of Genetics, From chromosomes to DNA and Various patterns of inheritance, mendelian inheritance, polygenic inheritance etc, consanguineous marriages, pedigree analysis etc. and some hands-on activities like pedigree analysis and differentiating traits based on whether they are completely genetic or not.

Sh. Gopika Vadgama, Sh. Kshiti and Dr. Durgesh Modi conducted the whole workshop. 15 students and teachers participated in workshop. At the end of workshop, the question-answer session was very interesting.

Narlikar Memorial Meeting:



On May 20, 2025, a memorial meeting in honour of Prof. Jayant Narlikar was organized by the Universe Science Forum in Ahmedabad. The meeting began with the reading of the tribute message from the Breakthrough Science Society. Prof. Mitul Makwana, Mr.Prashantbhai Joshi, Mr.K.R. Chaudhary, Mr.Niranjambhai Shah, Mr.Binitbhai Modi, Mr.Manishbhai Sonara, Mr.Ashwinbhai Prajapati, Mr.Kishan Malviya,

Mr.Vaibhav Trivedi, Mr.Abhay Patel, Mr.Dilip Satashiya, and several students paid heartfelt tributes to Prof.Narlikar.

Mr.Prashantbhai Joshi, an advisor to the Universe Science Forum, highlighted Prof. Narlikar's commitment to the scientific approach, his significant role in proving through experiments that astrology is not a science and his popular book "Brahmand Series".

Mr.Dinesh Mohanta, a secretariat member of the Breakthrough Science Society, spoke about Prof. Narlikar's emphasis on learning science through simple experiments and his efforts to cultivate a scientific mindset. Everyone expressed their resolve to draw inspiration from Prof. Narlikar's life and ideas and to incorporate them into their own lives.

CHANDIGARH:



On May 4, 2025, the Chandigarh-Mohali (Punjab) Chapter of BSS conducted a "Learning Science Through Experiments" session at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Mohali, Punjab. The event was thoughtfully organized for the children of contractual, domestic help, and non-contractual workers in the institute.

The session focused on demonstrating key scientific principles through hands-on activities, interactive models, and games, with a special emphasis on Charles Darwin's Theory of Evolution. Children explored fundamental concepts such as Natural Selection and the idea of "Survival of the Fittest" through simple yet powerful experiments and visual demonstrations designed to spark curiosity and understanding.

Nearly 50 children enthusiastically participated in the event, participating in the games, asking questions, engaging with the demonstrations, and expressing their excitement about discovering how science explains the world around them. This initiative reflects BSS's ongoing commitment to promoting science education and scientific temper in society.

MADHYA PRADESH:

A science discussion and experiment demonstration program was organised in Guna on June 1, 2025. Prof. Rajesh Goutam (Dr Hari Singh Gour University, Sagar) made a presentation on science and scientific outlook. Experiment demonstration session was conducted by Mrs. Suman Kirar.



Experiments demonstration session in Guna

WEST BENGAL:

3rd Science Conference of Kolkata district:

The 3rd Science Conference of Kolkata district organised by Breakthrough Science Society in collaboration with IQAC and the Department of Electronics, Vidyasagar College for Women, was held on March 30, 2025.

Dr. Nirmal Duari, Joint Secretary of the District Committee welcomed the gathering and gave an introduction about the objectives of the conference. Prof. Deb Shankar Roy, former IACS Director inaugurated the conference. Special guests included IISER Kolkata Scientist and Former Professor Narayan Banerjee, Scientist Prof. Amitabh Dutta, Principal of Vidyasagar College for Women Dr. Sutapa Roy, IQAC

Coordinator Dr. Tapan Roy, and State Secretary of BSS WB State Committee, Dr. Tapan Kumar Si.



A portion of gathering of the conference

The conference consisted of 3 sessions. The first session was a seminar titled "Climate Change and Environmental Problems of Kolkata". ISI Kolkata scientist Prof. Prabal Chowdhury and Sister Nivedita University professor Rupali Gangopadhyay highlighted the harmful effects of climate change. The speakers discussed Kolkata's environmental challenges and the necessary actions by both the administration and the public to address them. This seminar was moderated by Dr. Nilesh Ranjan Maiti, Principal of Shishuram Das College and Executive President BSS WB State Committee.

In the second session, a seminar titled "Nature – The Greatest Discoverer" was held. Dr. Kanchan Kumar Chowdhury, a retired Science Communicator from the National Council for Science Museums, presented an insightful discussion using slides. This session was conducted by Dr. Tapan Kumar Si. Dr. Chowdhury's presentation generated significant interest among the student delegates.



Prof Amitava Datta addressing

In the concluding session, Bhatnagar Awardee scientist and distinguished professor at IISER Kolkata and the General Secretary of the All India Committee, BSS Prof. Soumitra Banerjee addressed the delegates on the importance of promoting scientific thinking. He discussed the necessary steps to foster scientific awareness and its applications in daily life. He urged everyone to develop a strong science movement to counter the current attacks on education and science. His valuable speech will serve as a guiding path for the future of the science movement.

All India vice president Subrata Gouri, was present in this session and Prof. Debabrata Bera, president of BSS Kolkata presided over the session.



Prof Soumitro Banerjee addressing

The conference was attended by approximately 160 students, researchers, and faculty representatives from various schools, colleges, and universities across Kolkata. A 70-member Kolkata District Committee was elected, with Dr. Rupali Gangopadhyay, a renowned science writer and Professor of Chemistry at Sister Nivedita University (SNU), as President. Baidyanath Mahato, Researcher, Jadavpur University and Gautam Maity, an engineer from a reputed firm were elected as Joint Secretaries. Snigdha Dutta was elected as Treasurer and Bibek Singha as Office Secretary.

The conference concluded with a felicitation ceremony for Prof. Mihir Dam and Dr. Shubhra Prakash Kajli, former Joint Secretary of the District Committee and convener of the conference organizing committee. Their contributions were acknowledged as instrumental in the successful execution of the event.

The conference ended with great enthusiasm.

Bike rally and protest against the establishment of a missile launch centre at Junput, East Mednipur:



On 13 April, 2025, a bike rally was held from Contai to Junput to protest against the establishment of a missile launch centre at Junput in East Medinipur district of West Bengal. Several organizations and protest platforms including the Contai Science Centre affiliated with the Breakthrough Science Society organised the program. A good number of local people participated enthusiastically in this protest rally.

The meeting at the end of the rally was addressed by eminent scientist and All India President of the Breakthrough Science Society, Prof Dhrubajyoti Mukherjee, eminent scientist of IISER Kolkata Dr. Ayan Banerjee, President of the State chapter of the Breakthrough Science Society, Prof Nilesh Maiti, State Secretary Prof Tapan Si and other eminent people. They spoke to the fishermen and the common people of Junput area in support of their movement.



Prof D hrubajyoti Mukherjee and Dr. Ayan Banerjee, addressing the gathering at Junput

Science Workshop in Different Places:

Durgapur: A workshop on fun with Biology phase-I was successfully organised by the APC Ray Science Society Durgapur affiliated to BSS on 19th April, 2025 at the learning science centre in DAV Model School, Durgapur. 45 students from 9 different schools participated in the biology workshop.



Biology workshop - Durgapur



Prof K.C. Ghanta, NIT, Durgapur, inaugurating the workshop

The workshop was inaugurated by Prof. K.C. Ghanta, NIT, Durgapur. The program was graced by the esteemed presence of Prof. Debasis Das, Dept of chemistry, Burdwan University and Dr. Subhasish Chakraborty, Child specialist, Durgapur.

The workshop was guided by Dr. Tapan Kumar Pal, Department of Zoology, TDB college, Mr. Arghya Mallick of GTBPS, Mrs. Piyali Chatterjee of GPGHS and the teachers of the biology department of DAV Model School and the escort teachers of participating schools. The workshop program was initiated by Dr. Subhamoy Bannerjee, Mr. Subhabrata Bannerjee and Mr.

Apurba Bera of DAV Model School. The program concluded with a certificate distribution for the students who participated in the learning science centre.

Ghatal: A science camp was held at the Ghatal Yoga Satsang Vidyavidhath at the initiative of the BSS Ghatal subdivision chapter on 27 April. There were models, posters and quiz competitions. Students from schools and colleges from different parts of the subdivision participated. Mr. Shiladitya Bagh, professor of Ghatal Polytechnic College, discussed on artificial intelligence.

Purulia: Residents of the Karang village and adjacent areas had been protesting for several months against the horrific pollution of the sponge iron factory set up adjacent to Karang village in Purulia district. The factory was closed for more than a month as a result of the movement. Recently, the people of the area were outraged as the factory was reopened from April 25 without any discussion with the people of the area. Then the people of the area held a meeting in the presence of members of the Purulia District chapter of the Breakthrough Science Society to build up the movement. A people's committee was formed to conduct this movement. On May 18, a citizen convention was organized at the Bhao Mela grounds of Karang village. More than 500 people from different villages came and some of them highlighted the horrors of pollution affecting their lives. They demanded that only a complete pollution free factory has to be operated. The Breakthrough Science Society extended direct support to the movement. Prof Debabrata Bera of Jadavpur University and a member of the advisory board of the State Committee of Breakthrough Science Society spoke in the convention. He discussed the effect of pollution from the factory. BSS Purulia district chapter President and former Head Teacher Mr. Prahlad Mahato and Vice President Mr. Swadesh Priya Mahato were also present in the convention.

Darjeeling: A science workshop was organised by the BSS, Darjeeling District Chapter at Khairbari Gramin Library, Darjeeling on 31 May, 2025. The workshop was attended by students of Class XII from Khairbari High School. Single-cell organism amoeba, onion cells, protozoa, and mammalian cells were shown under a microscope. Some basic hands-on experiments in physics - such as light dispersion, magnetism, and optics were

demonstrated. The students actively participated, trying out some experiments on their own. Several questions raised by the students led to vibrant discussions. The BSS district secretary Pranoy Chandra Mondal, Vice-president Bishnu Pal, Executive Members Anwesha Pal and Mithun Sarkar conducted the workshop. At the conclusion of the workshop, the district secretary highlighted the key environmental issues in the context of the upcoming World Environment Day and called for a strong environmental movement.



Workshop in Darjeeling

TRIPURA: **Study program on the book 'Why we need a new science movement':**



Dr. Tapan Kumar Si concluded the study class

On 3rd May 2025, Breakthrough Science Society Tripura Chapter Organised an interactive study class on the book 'Why we need a new science movement' at A D Nagar High School, Agartala. Tilak Chakrabarti and Raju Acharjee conducted this study class. 40 members and activists participated in the study class. Questions

on science, scientific outlook, objective and subjective thought process, industrialisation and development of science etc were discussed. 10 members placed their views on these questions. Finally, Dr. Alope Satpathy (President, BSS Tripura Chapter) and Dr. Tapan Kumar Si (Office secretary, BSS All India Committee) concluded the study class and announced that such classes will be organised later where the remaining questions would be discussed.

At the end of the program, a few anti-superstition shows were demonstrated by the students. Positive feedback was received from the participants.



Anti-superstition demonstration

KARNATAKA: **Dharwad District:**



A "Miracle Busting and Sky Gazing" program was held in Kallapura Village, Dharwad District, Karnataka on 10th April 2025. There was enthusiastic participation from the local people who were mostly farmers. Tribute was paid to Mahatma Jyoti Rao Phule on his birth anniversary. The program effectively demystified perceived miracles

through scientific reasoning, fostering a strong connection with the local people. The opportunity to observe the moon through a telescope provided a memorable experience for the people.

Bangalore Chapter:

On the occasion of Earth Day, BSS Bangalore chapter held a talk on the transportation systems and quality of life to understand the impacts of modern city infrastructure and its impacts on earth and people, at Raman Research Institute auditorium on 26th April.



Dr Ashish Verma addressing

The main speaker: Dr. Ashish Verma, Professor, transportation systems engineering; convenor, IISc, Sustainable Transportation lab (IST lab); Department of Civil Engineering, IISc, presented a talk on how sustainability of transportation system in a city like Bangalore can transform the outlook of the city to a more public approach, with enough breathing space for the city to thrive on and be a modern ecosystem rather than a modern concrete jungle with double decker flyovers and tunnels.



Prof Sudarshan Pandurang interacting with the participants

Guest Speaker Prof Sudarshan Pandurang, Associate Professor, Nitte Meenakshi

school of Architecture, Planning and Design, held an interactive session for the students to understand what actually is meant by design and planning of a city, and spoke about a brief history of the evolution of society through planning of cities. Mr. Anandraj, state working president, Breakthrough Science Society, concluded the session by reiterating the importance of science and scientific thinking in society and how it goes a long way in helping society. He also spoke about how BSS is trying to play a role in this.

Memorial meeting of Prof. S.Balachandra Rao:



A memorial meeting was organized on 25th May by BSS & AISEC Karnataka in honour of Prof. S. Balachandra Rao, former principal, National College and an eminent populariser of science, who passed away on May 14. Mr. Anand Raj (President, BSS Karnataka) lauded his unwavering commitment to scientific integrity and his sharp critique against pseudoscience. Mr. V. N. Rajashekar (AISEC) highlighted his crucial role in fighting textbook distortions (2001, 2012, 2014) and preventing astrology as a science subject. Prof. Rao's son, Mr. Karthik Shiraly spoke of his father's profound impact on his scientific temper. Prof. V.S.S Shastri (Science Populariser), Prof. Jayant Murthy (Retired Scientist, Indian Institute of Astrophysics), Mr. Mauryan (Retired Scientist, DRDO) and Mr. Nagesh Aralaguppe (AKVS, Karnataka) paid homage to Prof. Rao. Video messages from Prof. S G Dani (Retired Scientist, TIFR Mumbai), Prof. Soumitro Banerjee (General Secretary, BSS), Mr. Narendra Nayak (President, FIRA), Dr Vidyanand Nanjundaiah (Former Professor, IISc Bengaluru) and Mr. Kedar Shiraly (other son of Prof. Balachandra Rao) were screened during the meeting.

TAMILNADU:

The Breakthrough Science Society Tamil Nadu State Committee organized a two-day science camp at the Regional Science Centre (RSC), Coimbatore on June 7 and 8, 2025. The camp was for the activists and volunteers of BSS to orient them on the problems of science education and training them in science demonstrations. Around 45 members participated in the camp.

The camp was inaugurated by Dr Lenin Bharathi, the Officer In-Charge of RSC. This was followed by a lecture on “Crisis on Education and science learning” by Prof Yogarajan, Secretary, BSS Tamilnadu. Mr.Obili Chandran, CEO of Mango Education spoke about the activities of science demonstration-based teaching in schools and institutions in Coimbatore. In the evening a group discussion on Science Learning was organized and individuals contributed by sharing their teaching experiences. Prof Thiyagarajan, CIIT, Coimbatore, Prof Selvarani and Prof Gayathri from Madurai, Prof Sathish, SRMCAS Coimbatore and Dr Lenin Bharathi, RSC took part in the discussion. The discussion was moderated by Prof Yogarajan.



Dr R Venkatesan addressing

On the second day, in the morning session, Science demonstrations were shown by Mr R Sivakumar, joint Secretary, BSS, Madurai unit. Understanding mensuration, geometry, Pressure etc through simple experiments were shown by him in which children actively took part. Mr D B Parthasarathy demonstrated a simple vernier calliper, law of gravity and force, sound travel etc by hands on experiments. Mr M Sivakumar, State Committee member of BSS TN made a presentation on the science during renaissance in order to point out the scientific spirit that existed at the time of Indian independence struggle and the

role played by Acharya Profulla Ray, J C Bose, S N Bose, Ramanujan, Sir C V Raman and Dr Mahendra Lal Sarkar who founded the IACS Kolkata as the then Science Learning Centre.

A memorial Lecture on Professor Jayant V Narlikar to pay tribute to him was given by Dr Venkatesan. Dr Lenin Bharathi gave an introduction of Prof Narlikar.

A stage play “Starry Messenger” on Galileo's contribution was performed as a science drama where Galileo is brought back to earth by his daughter to show whether his discoveries and findings were accepted by the society. The interactive play created cheer among the audience and they also became a part of the play by interacting with Galileo.



A scene from the drama on Galileo

The concluding session was addressed online by Prof Dhrubajyoti Mukhopadhyay, All India President, BSS, through video conferencing. He specifically projected the two important tasks BSS is engaged in, namely developing movement on Climate Change mitigation and setting up of science learning centres throughout the country. The camp ended with each member promising that they would take up science popularization activities in their respective districts and the Coimbatore members promised that they would initiate the works in the city soon.

ANDHRA PRADESH:

Breakthrough Science Society, Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh organized a one-day children's science camp on May 31. The sessions consisted of the following. 1.Introduction about scientific thinking 2. Discussion on the life of Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar 3. Games 4. Experiments demonstration and Miracle busting 5.Short film

(Dari) show. The camp ended with a feedback session. 26 students participated in the science camp.



Mr. Chanchal Ghosh, All India Secretariat member of BSS, and Mr. Ashutosh Kumar, In-charge of BSS Muzaffarpur chapter conducted the discussions.



Mr Chanchal Ghosh addressing the session at Saraiya M. K. Academy

ASSAM:



The Breakthrough Science Society, Silchar Chapter, organized a free medical camp for flood-affected people on 15th June 2025 at the premises of 419 Athalikandi L.P. School. Doctors, nurses, and health workers from the District Health Department and Silchar Urban PHC actively participated in providing medical assistance. BSS members Shabir Ahmed Mazharbhuiyan, Baharul Islam Mazharbhuiyan and Islamul Haque coordinated the program. Approximately 130 patients were treated in the camp and essential medicines were provided.

BIHAR:

The Breakthrough Science Society Muzaffarpur Chapter organised two programmes on 29th May, 2025 at D. N. High School in the city and at Saraiya. The topic of Discussion at D. N. School was "Science and Superstition". At Saraiya M. K. Academy, the topic was 'Climate Change'.



Discussion on "Science and Superstition" at D N High School

UTTAR PRADESH:

Online Condolence cum Memorial Meeting of Prof. J V Narlikar:

An online Condolence cum Memorial Meeting on the departed Renowned Scientist Prof. Jayant Vishnu Narlikar was organised by the UP State Chapter of Breakthrough Science Society on June 3, 2025. The meeting was anchored by Dr. C M Nautiyal (Retd. Scientist, BSIP Lucknow & President, BSS UP). Prof. Ashok Sahni (Prof. Emeritus, Punjab University & Advisor-in-Chief, BSS UP), Prof. M M Verma (Physics Deptt., Lucknow University) and Prof. Soumitro Banerjee (IISER Kolkata & General Secretary, BSS) spoke on the occasion. All the four speakers had fond memories through working with the departed

renowned scientist on good numbers of occasions and they shared it with the audience with deep heartfelt emotions.

Workshop on the 'Learning Science through Experiments':

BSS UP Chapter organised a Workshop on the 'Learning Science through Experiments' at Lucknow on June 29, 2025. The programme began with a display of fish & dinosaur-egg fossils by Prof. Ashok Sahni (Former VC, Panjab University, Chandigarh) and followed by Dr. C M Nautiyal (Former Scientist-in-Charge of C-14 Lab of BSIP Lucknow and State President, UP BSS), Dr. Aniruddha Sane & Dr. Vidhu A Sane (both Chief Scientists at NBRI Lucknow), Dr. Santosh Shah & Dr. Nivedita Mehrotra Shah (both Scientists at BSIP) and Ms. Anuradha.



Prof. Ashok Sahni demonstrating a dinosaur's dung (fossils) and explaining its food habits.

Prof. Ashok Sahni and Drs Aniruddha Sane and Vidhu Sane mesmerized the children with their fabulous presentations. Prof. Sahni demonstrated through a dinosaur egg shell, its cross sections and the coprolite containing what a hungry dinosaur enjoyed more than a hundred million years ago when the world was probably one.

Dr. Santosh Shah and Dr. Nivedita Mehrotra introduced tree ring dating & stone layer dating through specimens and explained the approach to Palaeo-Climate studies.

Dr. CM Nautiyal and Ms. Anuradha presented some interesting Physics- experiments, which several children may try later at home. Dr. Aniruddha and Dr. Vidhu demonstrated some Biological and Physical Experiments. It felt good to see the kids enjoying the demonstrations of specimens and the explanations of experiments.



Dr. C M Nautiyal explaining an experiment.

The whole Workshop was graced by the presence of Dr. P V Sane (a Bhatnagar-Awardee Scientist and Ex-Director of NBRI Lucknow) and Prof. Neera Sahni (Formerly professor at Physics Dept. Punjab University). Prof. Bharati Trivedi (Former HoD, Electronics, Institute of Engineering & Technology (IET), Lucknow also graced the event. The students up to 9th standard enjoyed the demos and interacted enthusiastically. Some children were accompanied by their guardians.



Dr. Vidhu A Sane demonstrating starch-iodine test.



Santosh Kumar Shah explaining the tree-ring dating pattern

World Environment Day

2025 Programs

TELENGANA:

5 June: The Breakthrough Science Society, Telangana chapter organized a public program at the People's Plaza, Hyderabad on June 5 to observe the World Environment Day. The event was presided over by the State Secretary, Mr. L. Sharath.

Dr. Nageshwar Rao Amanchi, Professor at Osmania University, was the chief guest and Dr. R. Gangadhar, President of the Telangana State Chapter of Breakthrough Science Society, addressed the gathering.



Dr. R. Gangadhar, addressing the gathering

DELHI:

3 June: On June 3, 2025, Breakthrough Science Society, Delhi Chapter had organised a activity session with school students of Najafgarh.



World Environment Day observed at Najafgarh

Students participated in the poster-making competition, that is being organised on the occasion of World Environment Day. After that, a science experiments session was conducted by Rahul, office -secretary, BSS Delhi Chapter. This session included two parts: a basic science experiment show and an anti-superstition experiment demonstration. Students were involved in performing the experiments and the focus was on logically evolving the reasons from their minds, rather than simply feeding it to them mechanically. The session concluded with a brief discussion on the importance of science and scientific temperament in our society. Around 25 students had participated.

4 June: On the occasion of world environment day Delhi Chapter of the Breakthrough Science Society held an Interactive Science Session with students of Burari and Mukundpur as part of a summer camp. Rahul, Office Secretary of BSS Delhi Chapter, led the session by showcasing anti-superstition demonstrations and engaging students in basic science activities. Through interactive discussions, students were encouraged to explore the reasoning behind each experiment, emphasizing the value of scientific thinking. The students showed great enthusiasm in their participation.



Summer camp at Burari

5 June: On the occasion of World Environment Day on June 5, 2025, Breakthrough Science Society Delhi Chapter organised a program at Vikas Puri where kids and neighbouring community people came together and had the following activities.

1. Planting trees
2. Students participated in poster-making competition and prepared posters on environmental issues,

3. Cultural programs by kids

Dr.Jyotsna Dixit, vice-president, BSS Delhi Chapter and Mrs. Sharda Dixit, retired principal, conducted the program.



World Environment Day observed at Vikas Puri

5 June: As part of observance of World Environment Day, BSS Delhi Chapter organised a webinar on "Environmental Crisis: A scientific and policy-level overview". Dr. Mainak Mondal, BSS All India Council member and post-doctoral associate in Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, New York, and Dr. Manabendra Nath Bera, assistant professor, IISER Mohali and National Secretariat Member were the main speakers. The webinar was conducted by Lipi, executive committee member, BSS Delhi Chapter.

7 June: World Environment Day was observed at Pitampura, Delhi, under the auspices of BSS Delhi Chapter on June 7 with the following activities.

1. 'Nature walk' with school students at the district park in Pitampura.



Nature Walk in the District Park at Pitampura

2. Group discussion on children's observations during the nature walk, moderated by Rahul and Anubha, executive committee members, BSS

Delhi Chapter

3. Question answer session conducted by Ms Shubha Dixit and Ms Kirti Umapati, Vice-presidents, BSS Delhi Chapter

4. PPT on life cycle of butterfly

5. Activity - Children made butterfly using origami paper.

The program was coordinated by Narendra Rawat, vice president, BSS Delhi Chapter.

MUMBAI:

5 June: On the occasion of World Environment Day, Breakthrough Science Society (Mumbai unit) organized a drawing competition for students in the Primary classes. The topics were: 1. My Dream Earth 2. Save tree, save life 3. Clean and green city 4. Water is precious - use wisely 5. Let's grow more trees.

The children participated enthusiastically and enjoyed the program.



World Environment Day observed at Vikas Puri

TAMILNADU:



Nature walk in the campus of the Forest College, Coimbatore

5 June: On June 8, a nature walk was organized in the campus of the Forest College, Coimbatore. Mr. Jagannathan, a Nature Activist from Soozhal Arivom, a voluntary organization fighting for preserving nature and environment, lead the walk and explained the biodiversity of flora and fauna in the forest.

TRIPURA:

5 June: On June 5, BSS Tripura Chapter took the initiative to distribute tree saplings among students and common people of Camperbajar, Agartala as a part of the month long Environment Day observation program. Students and common people willingly came to our office and took the saplings. State Secretary Tilak Chakraborty announced the Awareness Rally going to be held on June 14. BSS volunteers distributed leaflets in front of Agartala City Centre and a street corner meeting was held there where State Vice President Shri Raju Acharjee highlighted the causes of climate change and the role of citizens.



Distribute tree saplings among students

14 June: On June 14 BSS Tripura Chapter organised a rally and street corner meeting. The rally began from the pedestal of Shahid Kshudiram statue in front of Tripura State Museum and ended at Paradise Chowmuhani. Prof Purnendu Kanti Das, Prof Priyasankar Choudhury and Dr Swapan Kumar Das, Advisory Board Members of BSS Tripura Chapter were present in the rally. At the end of the rally, BSS Tripura Chapter Secretary Shri Tilak Chakraborty addressed the gathering. Prof Purnendu Kanti Das and Prof Priyasankar Choudhury spoke on climate change and consequent environmental problems and urged to build up a mighty Environment Movement. Dr Swapan Kumar Das presided. The program ended

with the distribution of plant saplings among the students and the public who attended the program from various institutions.



Rally at Agartala

WEST BENGAL:

This year BSS West Bengal chapter observed 'Save The Environment Week' from 5-12 June 2025 demanding appropriate Government action to tackle the climate crisis and protect the environment through the following programs- Seminars and Discussions on The Effects of Global Warming, Role of Fossil Fuels, Environmental Degradation, Search for Eco-Friendly Energy, mass deputation and convention on regional environmental issues, tree planting drives and processions with demand posters. District chapters and affiliated science clubs of 14 districts (Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, Murshidabad, North 24 PGS, South 24 PGS, Kolkata, Howrah, Hooghly, Paschim Bardhaman, Purulia, Bankura, Paschim Medinipur, Purba Medinipur) have organized several programs on the occasion of World Environment Day during this period.

Hooghly District:

3 June: A seminar was organized at Khalisani Vidyamandir School, Chandannagar, by the Science Learning Centre. Topic: "Endangered Earth: Sustainable Development for Environmental Protection". Speaker: Dr. Kanchan Kumar Choudhury (Retired Science Communicator, National Council of Science Museums).

5 June: Tree sapling planting was carried out at Khalisani Vidyamandir School in Chandannagar. On this day, students of the school also recited a pledge to protect the environment.

The event was attended by the Headmaster, Mr. Shubhayan Mitra (President, BSS Hooghly District Committee), along with other teachers of the school.

6 June: A drawing competition was organized at Tinna, Pandua by the Tinna Science and Cultural Forum. Many students from the area participated in the competition. Later, a seminar was held on the topic 'Our Duties in Preventing Environmental Pollution'. Mr Dipankar Mondal (a secretariat member of BSS state chapter) was the speaker.



Dr. Kanchan Kumar Choudhury address the gathering

8 June: A drawing competition and seminar were organized at Nalikul Deshbandhu Bani Mandir School by the Nalikul Satyendra Nath Bose Science Society.

8 June: At Guptipara Girls' High School, an environmental documentary show was presented by the Guptipara Science and Cultural Mission.

8 June: In Baichi, on the occasion of World Environment Day and in support of the upcoming rally in Kolkata on 12th June, a public meeting was held at Baichi Chowmatha.

Bankura District:



World Environment Day Programme at Bankura

3 June: A deputation was submitted to the Vice Chairperson of the Municipality in Bankura town regarding water wastage and water-related issues, along with some proposals.

5 June: A cycle rally was organized in Bankura town by the Breakthrough Science Society, Bankura Chapter. After the rally, saplings were planted. Mr Kedar Babu and Mr Manojit Mahadani were present in this rally.

Paschim Medinipur District:

4 June: At a coaching center in Paikbari, Dantan-1 Block, a discussion and poster exhibition was held on the harmful effects of Parthenium (a noxious weed). Mr Subrata Jana and Mr Biswajit Pradhan conducted the program.

5 June: A rally and street meeting were held in Belda town. Prof Basudev Dhara, Mr Pratap Panda, Biswajit Pradhan and Mr Pankaj Patra were the speakers at the rally.

6 June: A discussion meeting titled "Environmental Awareness and Us" was held at Sharshanka, Dantan-1 Block. Science activists Mr Subrata Jana and Mr Biswajit Pradhan were present.

7 June: At Udyasai village, on the occasion of World Environment Day, a "Science Quiz and Discussion" was organized with the active participation of students from Chandrakona Road Manikbandh High School. Mr Souvik Bhattacharyya (Jt Secretary of BSS District Chapter), Mr Biswanath Hembram (Teacher) and Bikash Karak (Librarian) were the speakers.

7 June: At a coaching center in Dantan, an awareness discussion and a poster-making competition were held with students to mark World Environment Day. Science activists Mr Biswajit Pradhan and Ananda Pramanik were present.



Rally in Belda Town

8 June: A Parthenium eradication drive was carried out in the Chakmukunda area of Narayangarh. Mr Ashoke Paloi (Teacher), Mr Subrata Jana and Ananda Pramanik (Science activists) were present.

8 June: A seminar titled “Environmental Problems and Our Duties” was organized at Tilantapara in Pingla. Mr Souvik Bhattacharyya (Jt Secretary of BSS District Chapter) was the speaker.

8 June: A rally was organized in Dantan town to spread environmental awareness.

Paschim Bardhaman District:

5 June: At Hirapur Manikchand Higher Secondary School, a weed control and tree care program was conducted by the SN Bose Science Club. Teachers, students, and science workers enthusiastically participated. Priyanka Chatterjee (State council member) and Sankha Karmakar (State Secretariat Member) conducted this program.

At Niyamatpur (Kulti), a discussion was held on environment and climate change, organized by the Newton Science Club.

In Durgapur, a street meeting was held in front of the station by Acharya P. C. Ray Science Society to raise awareness about environmental and local ecological issues.

At Siharsol Raj High School in Raniganj, a seminar was organized on climate change.

8 June: As part of a week-long “Save the Environment Week” initiative by APC Ray Science Society, Durgapur, a poster and essay competition was held. A total of 108 students from 10 schools participated across two centers—Bidhan Nagar Government Sponsored Boys' High School and Durgapur T. N. High School.

9 June: At Manimala Girls' High School in Asansol, students held a discussion to mark World Environment Day under the initiative of SN Bose Science Club. The event was attended by Headmistress Mrs. Ranjana Ray Choudhury and BSS organizer, Mr Shankha Karmakar.

Purba Medinipur District:

5 June: At Contai, a public meeting was organized at the Post Office crossing by Contai Science Centre and the Public Resistance Platform against the Missile Launch Centre at Junput and the Nuclear Power Plant at Haripur. The demand was to cancel both projects. DRDO has

already built a launching pad at Junput. Since then, these two organizations, along with local fishing communities and residents, have been protesting for the cancellation of these projects.



Public meeting at Contai

6 June: In Tamluk, a rally was held from Hospital More to Maniktala with the demand for environmental protection. Students, teachers, and environmentalists participated. The rally began with speeches by teachers Mr Guruprasad Jana (working President of BSS district chapter), Mr Subrata Giri (President of Tamluk Science Society), and Siddhartha Shankar Roy Asst Secretary of BSS district Chapter) at Hospital More.

6 June: At Hatishala R.M. Vidyabhavan School, World Environment Day was celebrated under the initiative of Panskura Science Centre. Events included drawing competitions in three categories, a discussion session, sapling distribution to students, and some tree plantation activities. Over a hundred people including teachers, professors, guardians, and students were present. Mr Sumanta Si (Secretary of BSS District chapter) and Mr Tanmoy Maity (an executive member of BSS state chapter) were the speakers.

7 June: At Gar Moyna Primary School, a discussion on the environment and climate change and a tree plantation program were organized by the P.C. Ray Science Society, Moyna branch. Mr Suvendu Pramanik was the speaker.

9 June: At Mahishadal Goyeshwari Girls' High School, a science seminar was held under the initiative of Mahishadal Science Centre. Prof. Manas Kumar Maity (District President, Breakthrough Science Society, Purba Medinipur); Prof. Manabendra Maity, teacher Sanjay Giri and Ranjit Kumar Jana (State Committee Member,

Breakthrough Science Society) were present.

9 June: At Ramkrishna Shikshayatan, Chaitanyapur (Haldia), a science competition and seminar were organized by the Haldia Science Society. Sumanta Shi (District Secretary, Breakthrough Science Society, Purba Medinipur) and Dr. Pulkesh Aich (Haldia Institute of Health Science) were present.

11 June: A science exhibition and seminar were organized by Mecheda Science Society.

Speaker: Sumanta Shi (District Secretary, Breakthrough Science Society, Purba Medinipur).

17 June: At Kakgachia Satyanarayan High School, a seminar on climate crisis was held, organized by the Nimtouri Science Society.

Speakers: Dr. Pritiranjana Pahari (Professor, Tamralipta Mahavidyalaya), Sumanta Shi (District Secretary, Breakthrough Science Society, Purba Medinipur), Ranjit Jana (State Committee Member). Chairperson: Partha Chakraborty (Headmaster). The program began with student participation in science model and poster exhibitions. Additionally, 17 top-ranking secondary and higher secondary students from 9 schools were honored.

Kolkata District:

5 June: A public awareness meeting and environmental documentary screening were organized at Jatin Das Park Metro station (Hazra More) by the Breakthrough Science Society, Kolkata District Committee. Speakers were Prof. Debabrata Bera (Jadavpur University), Dr. Nilesh Ranjan Maity (Principal, Shishuram Das College and Acting President, Breakthrough Science Society, West Bengal) and Dr. Shubhprakash Kajali (Treasurer, State Committee)

6 June: The Young Scientists' Forum of



Public Meeting at Jatin Das Park Metro Station

Central Kolkata conducted a public awareness drive on drinking water wastage by inspecting water taps in the Srimani Bazar area and attaching awareness tags to them. Speakers were Ms Priyanka Sinha (Teacher, Arya Kanya Mahavidyalaya), Gautam Maity (Joint Secretary, Breakthrough Science Society, Kolkata District).

9 June: In New Town, with the help of the Breakthrough Science Society, a superstition awareness program and environmental awareness initiative were organized involving school students under the banner of Alor Poth (The Path of Light).

15 June: Under the initiative of Paikpara Paribesh Bhavna of Tala, a tree sapling planting drive was held. The event was attended by local clubs, morning walker associations, and prominent residents of the area.

Jhargram District:

5 June: A tree sapling planting program was conducted with students at the New Integrated Government School in Bhulageria, Lalgargh. Mr Santu Niyogi (teacher and Member of BSS), Dr. Gurupada Maity (Teacher in-charge) and Mr Kartik chandra Mondal (teacher) of the school were present.



World Environment Day Programme at Lalgargh

11 June: A short discussion on "Environmental Pollution, Global Warming, and Our Responsibilities" was held at a primary school in Kharika Block, along with a related video screening. The discussion was conducted by Kartik Mondal, a member of the state committee.

Cooch Behar District:

5 June: On behalf of the Breakthrough Science Society, Cooch Behar Chapter, a memorandum was submitted to the Sub-Divisional Officer of Cooch Behar regarding the poor drainage

system of the town, the spread of mosquito-borne diseases, scarcity of drinking water, and massive wastage of potable water, requesting effective remedial action. Mr Anup Barman and Mriganka Sarkar (members of BSS District chapter) were present.

Murshidabad District:

5 June: A tree sapling planting was carried out in Sujanipara under the initiative of the Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray Science Society, Suti. A street meeting and distribution of saplings were also organized at the BSNL Office crossing in Berhampore town.

Purulia District:

1 June: A citizens' convention against pollution was held at Sampriti Sadan in Sarbori More, Purulia district, at the initiative of civil society and with the support of Breakthrough Science Society. The convention was attended by a wide cross-section of people including workers, daily wage earners, teachers, professors, and doctors from the area. Over 200 people participated in the event. The convention began with an inaugural song. Following that, local citizens raised various pollution-related concerns, particularly those caused by sponge iron and cement factories.



Citizens' Convention in Purulia

Eminent speakers at the convention addressed the severity of pollution and its harmful effects on human health. These included Dr. Bubai Mondal, a renowned physician; Dr. Tapan Kumar Shi, Professor at Asansol BC College and State Secretary of Breakthrough Science Society; and Mr. Prahlad Mahato, President of the Purulia District Branch of Breakthrough Science Society.

With the aim of building a strong anti-pollution movement in the area, a 18-member core committee was formed. The event was conducted

by Swadesh Priya Mahato, Joint Secretary of the State Committee of Breakthrough Science Society.

Other attendees included Pranab Kumar Hazra, former librarian of SKB University; Shankha Karmakar, member of the Breakthrough State Executive Committee; and prominent local teachers such as Jitendranath Mondal, Anshuman Dey, and Pashupati Roy.

5 June: At Raghunathpur College, a tree sapling planting and a brief discussion were held.

6 June: In a joint initiative of the Breakthrough Science Society and Cheliama Rural Hospital, tree sapling planting and an awareness campaign against plastic pollution were conducted on the hospital premises.

6 June: Following a recent mass fish death incident at the iconic Saheb Bandh (lake) in central Purulia town, a team from Breakthrough Science Society visited the area to inspect and assess the causes of pollution. They submitted a written appeal urging the municipality and district administration to take appropriate steps to stop the pollution. Participants included Papul Pratihari (District Secretary & Teacher), Swadeshpriya Mahato (Vice President), and members Atin Karmakar, Jitendranath Mahato, and Sabyasachi Das Mahapatra.

9 June: In collaboration with Santaldi High School, a rally for environmental awareness and a discussion on "Environmental Pollution and Our Duties" were organized by the Breakthrough Science Society. Headmaster Mr. Debabrata Mukhopadhyay and BSS representatives: Swadeshpriya Mahato (Vice President), Jitendranath Mahato, Sekh Nadim, and Krishnapada Mahato were present.

Darjeeling District:



Cycle Rally at North Bengal University

5 June: The forests across North Bengal are being destroyed due to unplanned sand mining from rivers, haphazard construction in the hills, and dam construction. This has put the biodiversity of the hills and North Bengal at risk. To raise awareness about the protection of biodiversity and the environment in North Bengal, a cycle rally was organized. The rally began from the statue of Raja Rammohan Roy on the North Bengal University campus and passed through Shiv Mandir Bazaar, Phansidewa More, Medical More, ending in front of the statue of Netaji at Leninpur.

South 24 Parganas District:

8 June: An online discussion was held on “The Global Environmental Crisis and Our Responsibilities”. Speakers were Dr. Mainak Mondal (Environmental Scientist) and Dr. Debabrata Bera (Professor of Jadavpur University). More than 150 participants including students, teachers, science workers, and science enthusiasts attended.

17 June: A deputation was submitted at the Joynagar-1 BDO office, jointly by the South Barashat Science Unit and the Joynagar Science and Cultural Forum, demanding proper waste collection and management in panchayat areas, as well as the restoration of water bodies clogged due to continuous dumping of waste.



BDO Deputation Programme

North 24 Parganas District:

5 June: A new science club (Acharya Prafulla Chandra Roy Bijnan Sanstha) was inaugurated in Barasat. Tree saplings were planted in Barasat Kishalaya Home campus.

5 June: An online discussion was organized by the Habra Progress Science and Cultural Forum. Topic: “Endangered Nature: Which

Path to Remedy?” Speakers were Mr Dibyashankar Das, (a Doctoral Fellow at Tata Institute of Fundamental Research and member of the All India Committee of Breakthrough Science Society), Mr Sushanta Chakraborty (Secretary of Progress Science and Cultural Forum and State Committee Member of BSS) and Mr Partha Sikdar (President of PSCF and member of BSS State Council).



Tree Plantation Programme in Barasat

5–7 June: A campaign was launched to promote environmental awareness by writing posters and sharing photos on social media. Students, guardians, teachers, and educators actively participated in the program.

5 June: On the occasion of World Environment Day, the Uttaran Science and Cultural Forum of Barasat organized an Environment Week at three locations. The significance of the day was discussed, and the program included a poster exhibition.

18 June: A hands-on science learning session was organized by the Shyamnagar Vector Science Club.

25 June: At Shyamnagar Girls' School, a discussion on Environment Day and a hands-on science exhibition were held.

Howrah District:

15 June: A Science Seminar and Drawing Competition was organized by the Kulgachia Einstein Science Research Centre at Vivekananda KG School, Kulgachia.

15 June: At Kolepara, Andul, a discussion was organized by the Duillya Vidyasagar Science and Cultural Forum on the topic: “Current Scenario of Climate Crisis and Environmental Degradation and the Required Measures.” Speakers were Dr.

Tapan Shi (Secretary, Breakthrough Science Society, West Bengal), Dr. Shafiq Ul Alam, and Teacher Abhijit Mondal.



World Environment Day Programme in Howrah

State Level Mass Rally on the occasion of World Environment Day:



Mass Rally in Kolkata to Save the Environment

As a culmination of the "Save the Environment Week" programme, a state level mass rally was organized at Kolkata on 12 June 2025 in which about 5 hundred people including scientists, professors, teachers, scholars, students and science loving people joined to raise their voice to protect the environment. The march demanded urgent government action to combat the climate crisis and protect the environment. The science rally was started from College Square and ended at Dharmatala.

The procession was attended by Prof. Dhruba Mukhopadhyay, Prof. Amitava Datta, Prof. K C Ghanta, Shri Subrata Gouri, Shri Subhayan Mitra, Dr. Nilesch Maiti, Dr. Tapan Kr. Si, Dr. Sarifa Khatun and others.

At the beginning, a meeting was held at College Square, where various prominent figures

spoke and raised concerns about the government's environmentally destructive policies favoring corporate interests. The speakers emphasized that this struggle is fundamentally about people's right to live healthily and the survival of civilization. They called for greater public awareness and participation in the movement.

The meeting adopted a resolution condemning Israel's barbaric human rights violations in the Gaza Strip and the kidnapping of Swedish environmental activist Greta Thunberg while she was delivering aid to war-torn Gazans.



Prof. Dhruba Mukhopadhyay addressing the rally



Prof. Amitava Datta addressing the gathering

KERALA:

12 June: World Environment Day was observed in St. Joseph HSS, Karimannur, Idukky district on June 12. Anagha Sasi, Research Scholar, Thunchezhuthachan Malayalam University, Tirur delivered the keynote address on plastic pollution and environmental protection. Dr. Joe Jacob, president, Idukky Chapter of Breakthrough Science Society inaugurated the program.



World Environment Day observed in St. Joseph HSS

Kottayam Chapter:

12 June: The BSS Kottayam Chapter, BCM College Zoology Department and Bhumi Mitra Sena Club jointly observed World Environment Day on June 12, 2025. The event was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. KV Thomas, Principal of BCM College, who highlighted the importance of environmental conservation. Dr. T V Sajeew (Chief scientist KFRI) delivered the keynote address on "Impact of Climate Change and Biodiversity," emphasizing the urgent need for sustainable practices.

Prof. Anil Steefen, In-charge of Bhumi Mitra Sena Club, stressed the role of individual actions in mitigating climate change. Dr. Priya Thomas, Head of the Zoology Department, discussed the impact of climate change on ecosystems and bio-diversity. AG Sumeshkumar, State Executive Member of Breakthrough Science Society, emphasized the need for collective action to protect the environment.



World Environment Day observed in Kottayam

24-25 June: As part of the World Environment Day celebrations, several insightful sessions were organized across Kottayam district by Breakthrough Science Society, Kottayam

Chapter to spread awareness on environmental conservation. On 25th June 2025, Shri Sumesh Kumar addressed students at Government Model School, Kottayam, emphasizing the urgent need to adopt sustainable living practices. On 24th June 2025, Dr. Sruthy S. from Mahatma Gandhi University delivered a thought-provoking talk on Plastic Pollution at St. Thomas GHS, Puthenangady, highlighting the environmental and health hazards of plastic waste.

Trivandrum:

The Breakthrough Science Society, Trivandrum chapter as part of observing the Environment Month 2025, organised a program under the banner 'Green Voices' in which school and college students were asked to make presentations on local environmental issues that needed urgent attention. A district level competition was conducted for the selected participants on June 26 at elected participants at the College of Engineering Trivandrum,



Environment Month 2025 Celebration - Trivandrum

The district-level celebration turned out to be a truly uplifting and inspiring experience. The program brought together the energy, insights, and voices of students from across the district, united in their concern for the environment and their desire to act meaningfully.

The day began with the Environmental Quiz Competition, conducted across three categories – Upper Primary, High School, and Higher Secondary. Over 30 schools enthusiastically participated, reflecting the growing curiosity among students about environmental issues.

Following the quiz, the heart of the day unfolded through 'Green Voices', the student presentation platform designed to bring attention to

local environmental issues. In the school-level presentations students from Class 5 to Plus Two stood up with quiet confidence and bold clarity, presenting topics that ranged from marine pollution caused by cargo ship accidents, flash flooding and plastic waste in Ulloor, and coastal erosion, to studies on the pollution in Killiyar River, carbon footprint awareness, sustainable ward models, stray dog overpopulation, loss of biodiversity, and more. Each presentation reflected serious thought, real-world observation, and in many cases, hands-on data collection and field study. The judging panel - Anoop S (Environmental Science Dept, Karyavattom), T.M. Vishnu Maya (NCESS), and Shaji Albert (Secretary, BSS Trivandrum Chapter) - noted that the dedication these students showed in topic selection and in preparation, was remarkable.



A part of the audience of the programme

In the college-level presentations the topics touched on a wide range of pressing concerns including microplastic pollution, waste management in educational institutions, ecological degradation of water bodies like Aakulam Lake, space constraints for waste disposal in Vizhinjam flats, innovative solutions like biodegradable plastics and SmartBins, and community-level marine conservation efforts. The judging panel - Prof. Kurien Issac K (President, BSS Trivandrum Chapter), Dr. Anoop Krishnan (Scientist, NCESS), Adarsh S (Environmental Science Scholar), and Ajith (Wildlife Trust of India) - appreciated not only the scientific grounding of the presentations but also the sincerity with which the students approached their subjects.

As the sun dipped toward the horizon, the valedictory session brought everyone together in a spirit of shared celebration. Prizes, including book coupons and a copy of "The Shattered Glass and Other Stories from My Life" by our close associate

Jasper Lal Jith, were distributed to the winners. But beyond the prizes, it was the sense of purpose, connection, and possibility that truly filled the hall. For many students, this was their first experience presenting in a public forum; for others, it was a platform to voice concerns that affect their own communities. And for all of us, it was a reaffirmation that young people, when given the opportunity and encouragement, rise to the occasion - not just with facts, but with imagination and a sense of responsibility.

Kollam:

Fatima College, Kollam in association with Breakthrough Science Society, Kollam Chapter, observed World Environment Day. Dr. Cynthia Michael, Principal, inaugurated the programme. Dr. Sayi D S, Professor and Head of Dept. of Microbiology at Malabar Dental College, Malappuram delivered the talk on Environmental Impacts of Offshore Mining. Dr. Serlin, HoD, Dept of Zoology presided over the session. Mr. N.Tennison (Dist. President, BSS), Manav Jyothi (Dist. Secretary, BSS), Dr. Vijayasree (Faculty in charge, Science club) spoke at the session.



Dr.Cynthia Michael, Principal, Fatima College speaking

JHARKHAND:

Environmental Awareness Talk Held at Ghatshila College. On the occasion of World Environment Day, the BSS activists of Ghatshila College, in collaboration with the Department of Physics, organized a talk on the theme "Environmental Crisis" on 5th June. The event aimed to raise awareness about the growing environmental challenges and to inspire proactive steps towards sustainability.

The keynote address was delivered by Mr. S.R. Dutta, President of the Einstein Club, who

spoke passionately about the urgent need for environmental responsibility and community engagement. Professor Indal Paswan also shared his insights, emphasizing the scientific and social aspects of ecological preservation. The program was presided over by the Principal of Ghatshila College, Dr. P.K. Gupta, who lauded the initiative and encouraged students to take an active role in environmental conservation. As a symbolic gesture to promote greenery, nearly 100 saplings were distributed among the participants at the end of the program.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Mr. Kanay Barik, acknowledging the contributions of all the speakers, organizers, and attendees who made the program a success.



A part of the gathering

BSS ABROAD CHAPTER:



On the occasion of World Environment Day 2025, the Breakthrough Science Society – Abroad Chapter organized a webinar on June 7 to promote awareness, dialogue, and meaningful action on the deepening environmental crisis. The topic of the Webinar was: "Environment at the Crossroads:

Science, Policy and Action."

The speakers were Dr. Mainak Mandal, Dr. Manabendranath Bera, Dr. Chandana Hrishikesh and Pinaki Chandra.

SCIENTISTS VISIT BSS CENTRAL OFFICE:

On 28th June, 2025 Prof. S G Dani, renowned mathematician, Former Professor TIFR, former chair NBHM, currently in UM-DAE Centre for Excellence in Basic Sciences (CEBS) and Prof. S M Srivastava, Former Professor of ISI, presently with IACS, were present in the central office of Breakthrough Science Society. Along with them, Professor Dhrubajyoti Mukherjee, All India President, Prof. Soumitra Banerjee, General Secretary, Mr. Debashish Roy, Vice President and several other members were also present. There was an exchange of views on various recent issues.



Prof. Dani and Prof. Srivastava at BSS Central Office

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