

## BSS West Bengal Chapter Programmes

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

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. 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.



Bike rally from Contai to Junput against the proposed missile launch centre



Prof Dhrubajyoti Mukherjee addressing the gathering at Junput



Dr. Ayan Banerjee, Professor, IISER Kolkata, addressing





A view of the gathering at Junput

### **Science Workshop in 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.

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.



Biology workshop - Durgapur



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



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.

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. Prahlaad Mahato and Vice President Mr. Swadesh Priya Mahato were also present in the convention.





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.



Science workshop in Darjeeling