

N.3: Third Orientation Course: OCAL- 2017

Raja Ramanna Centre for Advanced Technology (RRCAT), conducts a certificate course titled “Orientation Course on Accelerators, Lasers and related Science and Technologies (OCAL)”. The third orientation course, OCAL-2017, was organized from May 22 to July 14, 2017.

The course is intended to introduce the students to the fundamental aspects of the subject, its relevance to the existing programs of accelerators and lasers with more emphasis on the experimental aspects. It is intended to motivate the students to take up their career in science and technology in general and accelerators and lasers in particular. This is expected to make the participants aware of high quality research opportunities in the country in order to extend the benefits of the scientific expertise and advanced facilities. In all, 38 post-graduate students from 16 states all over India, who had completed the penultimate year of M. Sc. (Physics) and M. Tech. / M. E. in various disciplines, participated in OCAL-2017 and completed the course.

The OCAL-2017 was inaugurated by Shri G. Kalyanakrishnan, Chief Executive, Nuclear Fuel Complex, Hyderabad, on Monday, May 22, 2017. Shri Kalyanakrishnan delivered a stimulating and informative talk on "An Overview of Fuel Fabrication Facilities of NFC".

The course consisted of theory classes by RRCAT scientists and engineers, seven invited talks from eminent senior scientists, 20 hands-on experiments including the experiments on Indus-2 beamlines and a transport line of the machine itself, visits to various laboratories in RRCAT, 38 student's seminars based on the topics of self-study and a one-day industrial visit to MSME Tool Room, Indore. Intense and curiosity-driven interaction of students with faculty members, hands-on-experiment coordinators and guest lecturers took the course to greater heights. Many of these students will also carry out their project towards partial fulfilment of their post graduate degree various disciplines. The students were also provided with a study kit including the course material on the first day of registration. The students were provided with free lodging and boarding at RRCAT Guest House & Hostels Complex and were given an

additional stipend of Rs. 1500 per month. To and fro II class (sleeper) train fare by the shortest route, from the place of their present institute of study or residence, to Indore, was reimbursed. A Cultural Evening was also organised.

The Concluding Function of OCAL-2017 was held at RRCAT, Indore on July 13, 2017. Shri S. K. Sharma, Chairman & Managing Director, Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited was the Chief Guest and awarded the Certificates to the participating students of this course. Shri Sharma also delivered a talk on "An overview of Nuclear Programme of India". The talk was very informative and highlighted its relevance and importance in the Indian context. He also had a long interaction with the students.



Shri G. Kalyanakrishnan addressing the audience during the inauguration function of OCAL-2017



A participating student receiving certificate from Shri S. K. Sharma during the concluding function

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Participating students of OCAL-2017 with the dignitaries and members of the Public Outreach Committee