

# The third quarter at a glance

October - December 2023

Smt. Indrani Balan Science Activity Centre  
IISER Pune




We welcome you to read our third quarterly newsletter, a window into the exciting events and initiatives that have shaped the Science Activity Centre's journey over the past quarter. In this edition, we have significant events that unfolded, relive the memories of remarkable visits, and the outstanding outreach initiatives that have unfolded at SAC. As we reflect on the past quarter, we extend our gratitude to each one of you for being an integral part of this incredible journey.

## **Tinkering workshops under the STEM Ready project**

This quarter total three batches were completed with participation of total 154 teachers from Pune region. All teachers completed the enriching 5-day tinkering workshop, acquiring valuable tinkering skills. They explored connections and the fascinating concept of STEM in schools with exciting hands-on learning. Teachers also had a wonderful opportunity to interact with Prof. Deepak Dhar, Padma Bhushan awardee during the interaction session



## **School engagements under STEM Ready project**

Teachers in our STEM Ready project have been actively taking their training to their students. Some glimpses of teachers working hard to foster a culture of innovation in their classrooms. 

Follow for more updates, success stories, and inspiring moments from the STEM Ready project on our social page as well.

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

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Do you have questions about the Science Activity Centre (SAC) or need assistance signing up? [Join the SAC Team](#) on telegram for its monthly outreach events designed for educators and STEM activists who are not yet members of the community. Get your questions answered, learn more about the Outreach community of practice.

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## School visits to our campus



From October - December 2023, 10 schools visited our campus. We had a great time with students, teachers, and educators by exploring science and math through hands-on activities. A total of 519 students, 80 school teachers and 58 UG teachers from various government colleges in Maharashtra visited the SAC and STEM Ready tinkering lab.

We concluded the session by sharing the [SAC Digital Repository](#) for hands-on activities.

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### STEM for Teachers

IISER Pune in collaboration with Winjit Technologies, has completed a project titled “STEM for Teachers ” for schools around Nashik District. This project engaged around 40 school teachers towards improving the quality of STEM education and enhancing creative and effective ways of teaching STEM subjects. During the three-day workshop held during Nov 23-25, 2023 the teachers were provided the raw material to design and develop STEM activities under the guidance of Ashok Rupner and his team.



At the end of the workshop, had their own kit of STEM activities for conducting demonstrations in their classrooms!

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### Science Activity Centre at Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park

IISER Pune in collaboration with Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park and Tata Technologies Ltd. have jointly launched this project to train Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation school teachers towards enhancing the quality of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education in schools.



On Dec 1, the first students’ workshop was conducted with the formal soft launch of this project. Mr. Pravin Tupe, Founder Director, Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park, Dr. Aparna Deshpande, PI and Faculty In-Charge , SAC, Mr. Siddharth Yawalkar from Tata Technologies LTD. Prof. S.S Bhagwat , Director, IISER Pune, Col.G. Raja Sekhar (Retd.), Registrar and SAC outreach team were present during Inaugural session at Science park.

A total of ~200 teachers and ~400 students from PCMC region will be engaged under this project.

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## **Yashkalyani National Vidnyan Prasara Puraskar 2023 to Shri Ashok Rupner**

On October 22, Shri Ashok Rupner, Senior Technical Officer at the Science Activity Centre of IISER Pune has been awarded the Yashkalyani National Vidnyan Prasara Puraskar 2023 from the Yashkalyani Sanstha (NGO). This award recognises Shri Rupner's stellar contribution in science outreach and service to society.



Read the complete article [here](#)

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## **SAC team at 10th National Level Exhibition & Project Competition**

In October 2023, SAC participated in the 10th National Level Exhibition of Inspire Manak (NLEPC), at New Delhi. SAC Team engaged around ~450 project students along with ~4000 visitors and showcased new STEM ideas. Our team proudly represented IISER Pune outreach efforts & activities during the event.



## **STEM Content release from SAC**



Mathematical shapes and festivals

Square Trapezohedron | Marathi Version [Watch here](#)

Pentagonal Dipyramid | Marathi Version [Watch here](#)

Rhombic Dodecahedron | Marathi Version [Watch here](#)

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## **Sunday Science Demonstrations Series**



Mountain, Rivers and CO2 [Watch here](#)

Children's Day 2023 Celebration: Toy Stories [Watch here](#)



Insects: Unexplored Gems of Biodiversity [Watch here](#)

आदित्य L1 मोहिम (Aditya L1 Mission) [Watch here](#)

Feel free to share this link with friends, family, and anyone who loves a good educational adventure.

To watch all our previous episodes: [Click here](#)

**Next episode is scheduled for January 28, 2024. Do join!**

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### **New and Noteworthy at SAC**



Dr. Anil Patil, Chairman of Rayat Sikshan Sanstha Satara, and Dr. Shridhar Shukla, Chairman of K-Point visited SAC on Dec 10, 2023. Our team had the pleasure of showcasing hands-on math and science activities, sparking insightful discussions on innovative educational practices.



We had the honor of hosting Padma Shri awardee and Emeritus Prof H. C. Verma at SAC on Dec 4, 2023. The visit was accompanied by our Director Prof. S.S Bhagwat and Dr. Arvind Natu, Chair of the BoG IISER Kolkata, along with other distinguished delegates.



On Nov 23, 2023, SAC team conducted hands-on session for the participants of MS-DEED programme at IISER Pune.



In Oct, 2023, it was great pleasure and honour to reconnect with our visionary mentor Prof. L.S. Shashidhara, the Centre Director NCBS, Bangalore. His interaction with our teachers was inspiring as always!



In Oct 2023, STEM Ready team along with Pune Knowledge Cluster conducted an online workshop for tinkering lab teachers where they explored electric circuits, Ohm's Law, and curriculum-

based tinkering experiments using simulations.

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## Upcoming Events at SAC

Sunday Science Session on January 28, 2024

National Science Day Celebration on February 28, 2024

[Click here](#) to subscribe to SAC for getting notification to all our upcoming events.

Visit [SAC Event Calendar](#) to know about our upcoming events.

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## New members at SAC

We announce the arrival of new project staff members to our outreach family and we are delighted to have them on board.



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## Students selected under SAC Volunteer Programme

For our student community on campus we have initiated the Semester SAC Volunteer Program. This program ranges from STEM exploration, Sci talks, code development, animation, content translation and science events celebrations to behind the scenes support and more! For January 2024 semester the following students have been selected.



Science Activity Centre - Volunteer Programme (SAC-VP) ranges from STEM exploration, Sci talks, code development, animation, content translation and science events celebrations to behind the scenes support and more!

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Already a member of the SAC community? Share these resources with teachers or STEM activists who may be interested in exploring it. Attend the regular Live session on our [Youtube channel](#) or join our [Telegram group](#) if you have questions about new features and to get one-on-one support on how you can interact with the SAC Outreach community.

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Reach us at:

<http://www.iiserpune.ac.in/outreach/science-activity-centre>

If you have any questions please contact our outreach team.

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To Get a quick reminder for all our coming events, [Subscribe to us](#)

Initiative by Smt. Indrani Balan Science Activity Centre IISER Pune

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