

PRESS RELEASE

Salters' Chemistry Camp India
at
IIT, Mandi, Himachal Pradesh
4th – 6th July 2017

The Royal Society of Chemistry India and Salters Institute, UK are conducting a three-day residential Chemistry Camp programme for 9th standard students at the Indian Institute of Technology from 4th - 6th July 2017. The aim of the Salters Chemistry Camps is to promote appreciation for chemistry by providing school students from diverse backgrounds, an opportunity to explore practical chemistry and inspire them to pursue chemistry at university and further.

Sixty-six 9th standard school students from various parts of Mandi will participate in a three-day residential Chemistry Camp programme that infuses fun in learning chemistry and motivate students to develop both – an awareness of and a long-term interest in chemical sciences.

The Salters' Chemistry Camps India, part of the "Inspirational Chemistry Programme" project in India, has been supported by Dr. Yusuf Hamied (Non-executive Chairman- Cipla Limited) a leading Indian philanthropist and pioneer in the pharmaceutical industry. Dr. Hamied has provided significant financial support and assistance for this five-year programme which includes training school teachers as well.

This is the first Chemistry camp conducted at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Mandi. In total, fourteen Chemistry camps training over 800 students have been completed, since the launch of this programme in 2015.

Professor Sir John Holman, chairman, Salters' Institute and president of the Royal Society of Chemistry said: *"The Salters' Chemistry Camps have been very successful in the UK as a way of sparking interest and enthusiasm among young people for the future study of chemistry. The Royal Society of Chemistry and the Salters' Institute are pleased to have this opportunity to extend the Salters Camps' concept to India. We are most grateful to Dr Yusuf Hamied for his generosity in making this programme possible"*.

Dr Timothy A Gonsalves, Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Mandi expressed happiness over IIT's association with the Royal Society of Chemistry and Salters' Institute UK.

"Salters Chemistry Camp is an excellent idea to motivate underprivileged budding minds, and to aspire them to become successful chemist in future. This is a great opportunity for local students to experience for three days the excitement of working in world-class chemistry lab. The students will also get a taste of the vibrant life in the residential campus of IIT Mandi. We full-heartedly believe and support in such outreach programs to enlighten our young minds by the fruitful interaction with resource people and learning the safety measures in chemical labs at scientific platform," he said

Salters Chemistry Camps will provide an action-packed programme including hands-on practical activities in University labs, exciting chemical demonstrations, the chance to meet like-minded students, and a taste of hostel life in the University.

Dr. Yusuf Hamied said: *"We need to encourage and motivate the best students to achieve the knowledge and skills they need to go on to study chemistry at university and, eventually to make a strong contribution to India's success."*

About Royal Society of Chemistry

The Royal Society of Chemistry is the world's leading chemistry community, advancing excellence in the chemical sciences. With over 50,000 members and a knowledge business that spans the globe, we are the UK's professional body for chemical scientists; a not-for-profit organisation with 175 years of history and an international vision for the future. We promote, support and celebrate chemistry. We work to shape the future of the chemical sciences – for the benefit of science and humanity

About Yusuf Hamied Inspirational Chemistry Programme.

Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) Yusuf Hamied Inspirational Chemistry Programme - initiated in 2014 with the generous support of Dr Yusuf Hamied (Chairman – Cipla Limited) is a five year programme wherein RSC will apply its expertise in education along with the experience and capabilities of leading Indian institutional partners to enhance the skills and knowledge of science teachers in India and to inspire students to study science at university.

For further information please visit www.chemistrycamps.co.in or contact:

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