

Intel® Educate Future Scientist Workshop Sri Lanka Foundation, Colombo, Sri Lanka July 4th & 5th, 2016

The spirit of inquiry is an essential element in creating the next generation of innovators. Promoting and nurturing that spirit of inquiry among the students is the primary goal of Intel® Educate Future Scientist program. The program is aimed at enabling the next generation of innovators to have an outstanding grounding in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) through curricula, competitions and online educational resources.

Intel Educate Future Scientist program curricula is designed to help teachers learn how to spark curiosity and foster the spirit of research & innovation among students, even as they understand the inquiry based learning approach to science, explore the scientific method and learn how to guide students to prepare for – and successfully participate in – national and international science fairs.

A two days workshop was organized for science teachers from schools across Sri Lanka. 67 science teachers from different colleges participated in the workshop. Mr. J Meegoda (IESL), Mr. Indika (Intel), representative from NSF were present in the inauguration of the workshop.

Mr. J Meegoda, President, IESL Sri Lanka in his address to the participants shared the objective of the workshop and motivated the teachers to facilitate & guide the students in promoting Inquiry Based Learning so as the projects ideas of students' will have scientific method approach. He also shared the guidelines for JIY 2016. Mr. Indika from Intel shared about Incubation Centers and how these centers can be supportive and helpful for teachers and students.



The workshop was aimed on encouraging the teachers to foster a spirit of enthusiasm among their students towards Inquiry Based Learning (IBL), incorporate scientific approach in teaching science in their classroom. Encouraging students to explore the knowledge beyond confined walls of classroom. To enhance the knowledge level and also inculcate 21st century skills and at the same prepare themselves for showcasing their scientific talent through innovative projects by participating in national and international science fairs.

First day of the workshop was completely devoted of Inquiry –based learning in classroom and Using Scientific Method in teaching science as subject. Both the sessions were enjoyed by the participants. The sessions were demo-interactive and discussion based. Teachers were engaged in healthy discussions through prompts. The learning form the sessions enriched learning of teachers and exposed to the approach which can really make their science classes a happening place.



'This is very important workshop for me as a science teacher. I learnt how to promote my students in the classroom. Build upon the knowledge of scientific method and how it should be followed in class.'

I P S W Elapatha, MR/ Warakapitiya, M.V

'Inquiry based learning which was introduced in the workshop is very important and valuable for creating an inventor in a student. We can develop the rationality of student brain by the use of Inquiry based and Scientific Method.'

K C Abeyrathna, Kadawath Central College

'It is very useful program for all teachers. We got more knowledge on Inquiry based learning and teaching processes.'

E H A G Bandara, Mayukapada College Mawanella



Second day of the workshop was focused on 'Preparing Students for Science Fairs' with theme as 'From classroom to Science Fairs'. To compliment the theme ISEF participats 2015 & 2016 from Sri Lanka were invited and were f2f with teachers. Abhishek Gomes, Chamindu Jayasinka & P M Lochana priud winners in ISEF 2016 and Ms. Sanju winner in ISEF 2015 had a wonderful interaction with teachers. They shared and talked about their journey from Regional fair to National fair and then ISEF. They shared how going to ISEF has completely changed their personality and outlook towards life. Listening from winners enthralled teachers and motivated them a lot.



Post interaction with students, session on how teachers can help and support students in making the mark in National & International Fairs with special focus on ISEF. Teachers enjoyed the session and enquired any possible confusion they had on anything. Mr J. Meegoda, also came in between the session and shared in the detail the instruction and guidelines for 2016 JIY competition.

'This workshop was a very successful one which will help me to train my students for this year JIY competition and hopefully for ISEF.'

K G P Buddhiya Wijerathna, A/Manankattiya Sri Sarananda Vidyalaya

'My students have participate din Sri Lanka SEF in 2013 but now after participating in this workshop we have got more scientific and systemic knowledge about how we can prepare our students for such kind of fairs. How can we motivate students to become an inventor or scientist.'

Inoka Piyasinghe, ST/ Thomas College(Natinal School) Matale

Workshop ended with valediction ceremony. Teachers received their participation certificates and a pen drive which had IEFS curriculum and ISEF 2016 video.



***Group Photograph - IEFS workshop
2016, Colombo***