

## Reports from Conferences, Theme Meetings, Seminars, and Outreach



Senior women scientific officers, Dr. Shashwati Sen (centre) and Dr. Suparna Sodaye (to her right), briefing visitors to special DAE Pavilion in the exhibition showcasing atomic energy achievements.

# Women in 'STEM' empowering Viksit Bharat goal

## Senior Women Scientists of BARC drive national outreach on Nuclear Energy Achievements

By Dr. Shashwati Sen and SIRD Newsletter Editorial Team

**S**enior scientific officers of BARC from the ranks of women represented Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) at the one-day exhibition-cum-public outreach themed Empower Women, Empower India: Viksit Bharat with Nari Shakti at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi on July 31, 2025.

Alongside DAE, the event saw participation of major government departments, including Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Central Council for Research in SIDDHA, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and NCERT.

Shri Lumbaram Chaudhary, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha from Jalore, Rajasthan



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took lead in organizing the program. Smt. Nimuben Jayantibhai Bambhaniya (Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Govt. of Rajasthan) had been the Chief Guest. The event was also attended by several Members of Parliament, including Smt. Bijuli Kalita Medi and Smt. Kamlesh Jangde from Assam and Jharkhand, respectively. Students from various schools, an advocate from the apex court and various NGOs working for the upliftment of women too participated in the event.



Students and professionals visited the exhibition in great numbers. Centre: Senior Scientific Officer, Madhuri Shetty, guiding students understand the activities of full spectrum of Fuel Reprocessing activities in BARC.

### Topics Covered

At the event, DAE showcased its strengths in nuclear technologies, radio pharmaceuticals and indigenous technologies with societal applications. Dr. Suparna Sodaye from Radio Chemistry & Isotope Group, Smt. Madhuri Shetty from Nuclear Recycle Group and Dr. Shashwati Sen from Physics Group of BARC represented the DAE delegation.

- Dr. Sodaye gave presentation on Nuclear Fuels and Radiochemistry Program covering India's three-stage nuclear power program, presenting an overview of nuclear fuel fabrication and its quality control and future plans to achieve the Amrit Kaal target for Net Zero and green energy deployment.
- Smt. Shetty spoke on Radioisotopes in healthcare sector, giving an overview of DAE's contribution in

nuclear pharmaceuticals and their application in modern diagnosis and cancer therapy.

- Dr. Sen gave an overview on the Single Crystal Activities at BARC for Research, Healthcare, Homeland Security & Energy Harvesting (Opportunities, Challenges and the Way Forward). The various developments for societal application based on single crystal for radiation detection were elaborated.

All the speakers focused on the various roles women scientists are playing in the different activities of DAE and contribution of women scientists in the department for the success of various technologies. Further, a special DAE pavilion was put in place to exhibit the diverse activities of BARC and various constituent units of the department with special thrust on societal applications. The event was well received by all and DAE's role was widely appreciated.