

Report on the 97th Foundation Day Celebration of the Indian Ceramic Society organized by Indian Ceramic Society, Kolkata Chapter

The Indian Ceramic Society, Kolkata Chapter, in association with CSIR-Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute (CSIR-CGCRI), celebrated the 97th Foundation Day of the Society with great enthusiasm and reverence on June 2, 2025. The event was held at the Meghnad Saha Auditorium, CSIR-CGCRI, Kolkata and conducted in hybrid mode, allowing participation from across the country via MS Teams.



Dignitaries on the dais during the Inaugural Session

The program commenced with registration from 14:45 to 15:00 hrs, with participants from academia, industry and research organizations. The formal proceedings began at 15:00 hrs with a brief welcome followed by the presentation



Lighting of the ceremonial lamp



Homage to Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya

of flower bouquets and uttoriyo to the dignitaries on the dais. A ceremonial lighting of the lamp and homage to Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya, the visionary founder of the Indian Ceramic Society, marked the auspicious beginning of the celebration.

Dr Sitendu Mandal, Honorary Secretary of InCerS and Chairman of the Kolkata Chapter, delivered the welcome address. He reflected on the Society's distinguished legacy and its pivotal role in fostering ceramic science and technology in India over the decades.



Dr Sitendu Mandal, Honorary Secretary of InCerS and Chairman of the Kolkata Chapter, delivering his welcome address

The event was graced by two distinguished Guests of Honour:

• Prof. Bikramjit Basu, Director, CSIR-CGCRI, Kolkata, who emphasized the evolving role of ceramics in advanced



Guest of Honour Prof. Bikramjit Basu, Director, CSIR-CGCRI, delivering his address

technologies and highlighted the importance of interdisciplinary research.

· Mr Shanmugam Arasu, Director and CEO-India, IFGL Refractories Ltd, Kolkata, who shared valuable insights from the industrial perspective. He stressed the importance of innovation and deepened academia-industry collaboration in strengthening India's ceramic sector.



Guest of Honour Mr Shanmugam Arasu, Director and CEO-India, IFGL Refractories Ltd, delivering his address

Following this, Dr Sitendu Mandal introduced the Chief Guest and Foundation Day Lecturer, Dr Dilip Kumar Maiti, Vice-Chancellor, Biswa Bangla Biswabidyalay, Bolpur and Professor, Department of Chemistry, University of Calcutta.

Dr Maiti delivered an enlightening Foundation Day Lecture on the topic: *"Design, Synthesis and Fabrication of Smart Organic Nanomaterials for Sensor, Food Protection, Device*



A section of audience during the event



Chief Guest Dr Dilip Kumar Maiti, Vice-Chancellor, Biswa Bangla Biswabidyalay, Bolpur and Professor, Department of Chemistry, University of Calcutta, delivering Foundation Day Lecture

and Other Innovative Applications". His talk was highly engaging, touching upon cutting-edge research in organic nanomaterials and their applications in diverse fields such as sensors, packaging, and electronic devices. His presentation reflected a perfect blend of fundamental science and practical application, leaving a strong impression on the audience.



Audience interaction with the speaker after the lecture



Dr Sitendu Mandal, Honorary Secretary of InCerS and Chairman of the Kolkata Chapter (left) felicitating Dr Dilip Kumar Maiti, Vice-Chancellor, Biswa Bangla Biswabidyalay, Bolpur and Professor, Department of Chemistry, University of Calcutta (right)



Dr Sitendu Mandal, Honorary Secretary of InCerS and Chairman of the Kolkata Chapter (left) felicitating Mr Shanmugam Arasu, Director and CEO-India, IFGL Refractories Ltd (right)

Following the lecture, as a token of appreciation, the dignitaries on the dais were felicitated with mementoes and the book entitled *"Ikigai: The Japanese Secret to a Long and Happy Life"* by Héctor García and Francesc Miralles – a thoughtful gesture symbolizing the pursuit of purposeful and balanced living.

The program concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr H. S. Tripathi, Secretary of InCerS Kolkata Chapter.



Dr H. S. Tripathi, Chief Scientist & Head, Refractory & Traditional Ceramics Division and Secretary, InCerS Kolkata Chapter, proposing vote of thanks via online

He expressed gratitude to all speakers, guests, participants, and organizing team members for their contributions to the success of the celebration. The event ended with the National Anthem, invoking a sense of unity and pride.

The 97th Foundation Day celebration was a befitting tribute to the Indian Ceramic Society's legacy and its pivotal role in advancing ceramic and materials science in India.