Celebrating The Year of the PERIODIC TABLE – With Pride!

Forty students of class IX and XI eagerly gathered at the IIT Madras campus at 3 in the evening on the 9th of February to attend an hour long special lecture on the periodic table by renowned Indian chemist and Bharat Ratna awardee professor C. N. R. Rao. The Principal Mrs. Vasanthi. S. and two science teachers Mrs. Mini P. and Mrs. Latha T. G. also attended the program.

The celebrations for the international year of the periodic table began with a welcome speech by Professor Mukesh. This was followed by a video message from Professor C.N.Rao who could not come personally. He urged people to "fall in love with science" and appreciate the work of great scientists.

This is the 150th year of the periodic table –"the biggest and probably the most useful man-made table in the world, perhaps even the universe", he said while talking about the periodic table.

Professor Dr.Govindarajan from IIT Madras beside Prof. Tapas Kumar Maaji and Dr. Ranjani Viswanatha of JNCSR, Bangalore gave presentations on the Periodic table, Mendeleev, properties of elements and nanomaterials. This was very interesting as the Professors had models and videos to support their lecture. Prof. Sathyamurthy, the president of the Chemical Research Society of India then gave a presentation on Mendeleev's life history.

The celebrations came to an end with a passionate speech and vote of thanks from IIT Madras, Chemistry HOD Dr.Mangal Sundar. He urged the students to appreciate the subject. "Every part of our life is interlinked with this wonderful subject-chemistry and we should recognise and appreciate the wonders it presents", he said.

The evening was well spent and proved to be an illuminating experience for all!

Reporter,
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