



UNESCO – INTERNATIONAL DAY OF LIGHT 2025 (IDL2025) CELEBRATION

Workshop on “Familiarization with Quantum Science and Technology” (Part-1 & Part-2)

Organized by
Zaheer Science Foundation, (ZSF), New Delhi

Part 1: In collaboration with
India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi
26 June 2025

Part 2: In collaboration with
Faculty of Sciences, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
16 October 2025

Workshop Report authored/ compiled by:

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January 5, 2026

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About the UNESCO-IDL 2025 Workshop

The United Nations' declaration of 2025 as “*International Year of Quantum Science and Technology*” (IYQ), is a pivotal step in promoting global awareness of quantum advancements. This landmark initiative, announced by the U.N. General Assembly on June 7, 2024, commemorates the centennial of quantum mechanics, which began in 1925. It enjoys the support of numerous scientific societies and international organizations, emphasizing the global importance of quantum science. Professors John Dudley (Université de Franche-Comté, France) and Joseph Niemela (Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics, Italy) spearheaded the process that culminated in the U.N. proclamation.

The U.N. invites individuals, organizations, schools, and governments to leverage IYQ 2025 to promote quantum science and technology, particularly among audiences unfamiliar with the subject. Quantum science is anticipated to play a key role in addressing critical global challenges highlighted in the U.N.'s “*2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*”, including climate change, energy security, food sustainability, and access to clean water. Inspiring the next generation of quantum pioneers is essential for driving innovation and creating a positive societal impact.

Taking a lead to achieve this significant milestone, the Science and Technology Innovation Advisory Council of India, under the headship of Honorable Prime Minister, has announced Quantum Technology as one of the Nine Missions of National importance on 19th April 2023, to leverage cutting edge scientific research for India Sustainable Development. It aims to seed, nurture and scale up Scientific and Industrial R&D and fostering a vibrant and innovative ecosystem in Quantum Technology.

With this backdrop, the Zaheer Science Foundation, a Delhi based non-profit Think Tank devoted for Science Popularization and Science Communication is organized this Workshop on "Familiarization with Quantum Science & Technology," in collaboration with India International Centre, New Delhi. The main objective of this workshop is to familiarize the society with significance of this novel area of research and to delve upon the potential applications of Quantum Science and Technology, reshaping industries and improving lives globally.

The Zaheer Science Foundation welcomed all the participants and thanked to take part in this inspiring initiative aimed at bridging the gap between science and society, fostering curiosity, and driving the global quantum movement forward.

A Brief Note on the International Day of Light

The International Day of Light (IDL) is a global initiative that provides an annual focal point for the continued appreciation of light and the role it plays in science, culture and art, education, and sustainable development, and in fields as diverse as medicine, communications, energy, equity and peace. As we all know that Light technology has revolutionized the society through its applications in above mentioned fields and Industries based on light have been the major economic drivers in last few decades. Needless to state that without light-based technologies, there would neither be solar panels, LED lighting, computer monitors, telephone screens, cameras or projectors, MRI, x-ray machines, nor the Internet. New products and processes are coming on the market all the time, giving us better access to information, more reliable healthcare, and better ways of saving energy, innovative modes of learning and new forms of entertainment. There is a tremendous opportunity to raise global awareness of the ways in which light-based technologies promote sustainable development and offer solutions to global challenges in the fields of energy, education, agriculture and healthcare.

With this backdrop, the United Nations proclaimed 2015 as the International Year of Light and Light-based Technologies (IYL 2015) in which 13,168 events were organized in 147 countries and attended by millions of people from throughout the world. With such great success, the UNESCO's General Assembly decided to regularly celebrate the International Day of Light (IDL) on May 16, every year, *starting from 2018*. It is the anniversary of the first laser developed by the American physicist and engineer, Theodore H. Maiman on May 16, 1960. It is to mention that during the last sixty years the laser has completely transformed our lives due to its great contributions to healthcare, education and connecting the world through Internet.

Due to Covid-19 pandemic, during the last two years many face-to-face events had to be replaced with online activities, or these were held in the hybrid mode. Since the inauguration of IDL 2018, the total audience in the International Day of Light events in these four years is estimated to exceed 2 million, including face-to-face activities, social media posts, video messages and other campaigns carried out nationally and worldwide. The social media like Facebook and Twitter were also widely used to share the information about the events organized. It shows how the people around the world have shown their enthusiasm in celebrating light.

The year 2025 is the 8th year of the International Day of Light. Hundreds of events are being organized worldwide by educational and research organizations in different parts of the world through Lectures, Seminars, Webinars, Workshops, Conferences, Science Fairs, Light Shows, Quiz Contests, Demonstration of Optical Instruments etc. in the online/ offline/ hybrid mode. Zaheer Science Foundation has been regularly organizing IDL events since 2022 and so far, six events have been organized by ZSF including the current one.

The International Day of Light is administered from the International Basic Science Programme (IBSP) of UNESCO by a Steering Committee that includes representatives from a broad range of international partners. Currently Prof. John Dudley and Prof. Joseph Niemela are the IDL 2022 Steering Committee Chairs and Ms. Geethu Paulose is the IDL Communications Coordinator. Also, the UNESCO has about 100 IDL National Nodes that are organizing local campaigns, activities and events.

IDL2025 Workshop
on
**“Familiarization with Quantum Science and
Technology” (Part-1)**

Organized by
Zaheer Science Foundation, (ZSF), New Delhi
In collaboration with
India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi

26 June 2025; 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (IST)
Venue: India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi



Lighting the lamp
(Image credit: Zaheer Science Foundation)



A Poster of the IDL2025 Workshop on Familiarization with QST



Prof. John M. Dudley during the Interactive Q&A Session of the Workshop



A view of the Participants in the IDL2025 Workshop (Part-1) at IIC, New Delhi

(Images credit: Zaheer Science Foundation)

Programme Schedule for the Workshop (Part-1)

Timings: 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Venue: India International Centre, New Delhi

5:30-5:35PM	Welcome of Dignitaries and Lighting of Lamp
5:35-5:40PM	Welcome Address: Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director IIC, New Delhi
5:40-5:45PM	About ZSF: Dr. Tabassum Jamal, Chairperson, ZSF Former Chief Scientist & Head BDG, CSIR-NIScPR, New Delhi
5:45-5:50PM	Opening Remarks: Dr. Shailaja Donempudi, Vice Chairperson, ZSF Distinguished Scientist, Head BDG, CSIR HQ, New Delhi
5:50-6:00PM	About the Workshop: Dr. Zahid H. Khan, Advisor, ZSF UNESCO-National Node for India for IDL2025. Former Professor of Physics, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
6:00-6:45PM	Keynote Address: “Quantum Light: celebrating the International Day of Light and the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology” Prof. John M. Dudley, International Day of Light 2025 Steering Committee Chair; Professor at the University of Franche-Comté, France
6:45-7:00PM	Interactive Q & A Session
7:00-7:20PM	Quantum for India: Building the Next Tech Superpower: Mr. C.V. Sridhar, Member National Quantum Mission, Head, Academic Co-Innovation Network & India Strategic Initiatives, TCS, Hyderabad & Mr. Siddharth Golecha, Quantum Software Support Engineer, IBM Research Lab, Gurugram
7:20-7:35PM	Alternative Healing in the Quantum Era: Mr. Venkatesh Sharma, Co-founder HealThyRam.com & Virtual Studio
7:35-7:50PM	Concluding Remarks: Dr. Ram Boojh, Advisor, ZSF Advisor, Mobius Foundation, New Delhi
7:50-8:00PM	Vote of Thanks: Dr. M. Rais, Secretary, ZSF Former Chief Scientist & Head BDG CSIR-NIScPR, New Delhi

Overview of the Workshop (Part-1) Presentations

The Zaheer Science Foundation, New Delhi, organized a workshop on “Familiarization with Quantum Science and Technology” in collaboration with the India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi on June 26, 2025 as part of the IDL 2025 celebrations.

Mr. K.N. Shrivastava, IAS (Retd.), Director of IIC New Delhi, delivered the welcome address online, highlighting the workshop’s importance in introducing quantum science to non-specialists. He emphasised its theoretical foundations and practical applications in computing, energy, and manufacturing. He noted the UN’s declaration of 2025 as the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology, recognising quantum physics’ pivotal role in modern innovation, from secure communications to medical diagnostics and materials engineering. Mr. Shrivastava commended India’s Quantum National Mission and appreciated Zaheer Science Foundation for organising this timely workshop to raise public awareness and promote ethical use of quantum technologies for societal benefit.

Dr. Tabassum Jamal, Chairperson of Zaheer Science Foundation, thanked Mr. Shrivastava for his warm welcome and for facilitating this workshop in collaboration with India International Centre (IIC). She welcomed participants on behalf of the Foundation, emphasising its mission to bridge science and society. Dr. Jamal highlighted the Foundation’s contributions through its eminent scientists, innovators, and policy experts dedicated to nation-building. She presented a short video showcasing its scientific journey and achievements. Concluding, she urged all attendees to engage with this initiative, understand quantum science’s significance, and explore its transformative applications to improve lives globally.

Dr. Shailaja Donempudi briefed about the importance of quantum-enabled R & D that can help accelerate in arriving at solutions such as drug discovery. She also explained the advantages of AI augmented QC in design of materials for niche applications that helps the scientific fraternity in reducing the number of experimental iterations and there by optimise the resources and catalyse translational research.

Mr. C.V. Sridha from TCS described about the steps taken by DST under the National Quantum Mission, encouraging funding to projects with participation of multidisciplinary institutions including industry engagement to build capabilities in quantum algorithms that can be applied to solve various complex problems in areas like industrial chemistry, healthcare, finance, security & communication etc. Mr. Sidharth, Quantum Support Software Engineer from IBM explained the concept of quantum computing, the need and the advantages it offers against classical computing, citing example of its use, cases, and how India can leverage the opportunity with quantum education.

Prof. Zahid H. Khan traced the evolution from the International Year of Light (2015), initiated by Prof. John Dudley to celebrate the pivotal role of light in science and society, to the establishment of the International Day of Light, and observed annually since 2018. He underscored UNESCO’s recent proclamation of 2025 as the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology (IYQ2025), co-sponsored by 57 countries, marking a global recognition of quantum science’s transformative potential. Prof. Khan expressed heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Dudley and Prof. Joseph Niemela for their steadfast

support, and to Prof. Ajay Sood, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India, for swiftly ensuring India's inclusion as a co-sponsor. The workshop sought to raise public awareness of quantum science as a driver of technological innovation and societal progress aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Mr. Venkatesh Sharma, Co-founder of HealThyRam.com and Virtual Studio (vsworld.com), delivered a thought-provoking talk on "Alternative Healing in the Quantum Era." Drawing from three decades of experience in digital media and wellness communication, he explored how quantum principles like coherence, entanglement, and vibrational fields parallel traditional healing systems. He emphasized breathwork, intention, and energy alignment as keys to holistic wellbeing and introduced HealThyRam.com as a platform that bridges ancient wisdom with modern wellness tools for an integrative approach to health.

Prof. John Dudley delivered the keynote address on "Quantum Light: Celebrating the International Year of Light and the International Year of Quantum Science & Technology". His talk had two parts: science outreach with UNESCO and lessons from the history of quantum mechanics. He highlighted the success of the International Year of Light 2015, with 147 countries organizing over 13,000 events, leading UNESCO to declare May 16 as the annual International Day of Light, marking Ted Maiman's first laser demonstration in 1960. Prof. Dudley emphasized how photonic sciences contribute to all Sustainable Development Goals. He described the UN General Assembly's proclamation of 2025 as the International Year of Quantum Science & Technology, recognizing its transformative potential. Reviewing optics history, he discussed Young's and Fraunhofer's experiments proving light's wave nature, the significance of structural colours, and Kirchhoff and Bunsen's line spectra observations. Johann Balmer's formula in 1885 predicted hydrogen lines, but blackbody radiation posed a crisis until Planck's 1900 quantization hypothesis resolved it, introducing $E = hv$. Einstein's explanation of the photoelectric effect introduced light quanta, while Bohr's 1913 atomic model combined classical and quantum ideas. Prof. Dudley noted the long durations between key discoveries, stressing that science demands patience and long-term support. He recounted Einstein's 1916 laser theory, De Broglie's wave-particle duality, Compton scattering proving photon nature, and Bose's 1924 letter to Einstein, leading to quantum statistics. Dirac and others further advanced the theory. Quantum Mechanics emerged in Göttingen in 1925 through Born, Heisenberg, and Jordan, while Schrödinger developed wave mechanics in 1926. Prof. Dudley concluded that quantum mechanics underpins modern technology, emphasizing the value of teaching light history, inspiring youth, supporting fundamental research, and recognizing science as an international endeavour. His stimulating lecture ended with an engaging Q&A session.

Dr. Ram Boojh, in his concluding remarks appreciated the efforts of the ZSF specifically Dr Tabassum Jamal, Shailaja and Prof. Zahid for putting together such a wonderful program with participation of experts along with the youth in large numbers. He wrapped up the 3-hour session by elaborating his own experience of being associated with UNESCO for over two decades specifically his close association with the international year of the light 2015, the precursor to many related activities and programs. He further stated that the UN has declared the years 2024-2033 as the "*International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development*" providing a unique opportunity for humanity to fully harness the power of science in advancing sustainable development. On the other hand, we are very close to the end of the 15 years of UN sustainable development goals (SDGs) with little progress on many of the goals. Therefore, the observance of the International Year of Quantum Science & Technology (IYQ) in 2025 is very significant in creating awareness about the pivotal role of quantum science and technology in solving many global sustainability challenges of the day such as climate change, health,

energy and economic development.

Dr Boojh further elucidated about the global quantum agenda which aims to democratize this whole science with focus on building capacity in the global south. He also talked about the new global race of mysterious and cutting-edge world of quantum science and technology to harness the illusive Q bit because it will accelerate computing to the tune of almost 150 million times compared to what we see now. While the new world of AI and what we call as Industry-4 or fourth Industrial Revolution is very new, the quantum science is hundred-year-old phenomena. It has tremendous potential but raises several questions that need to be answered, like is the multiverse real? Do we have Avatars? or is there really the Maya, the illusion, all those mystic things? I think the quantum science technology can have the answers to all these issues. The other thing is the enormous application of quantum science and technology in solving the triple planetary crisis. In fact, we are, we hardly realize that this whole universe, is in real crisis, in the state of emergency, the climate change, biodiversity loss, the pollution. The quantum science through its new innovations may offer unique solutions to these crises. In the area of health and wellbeing, the quantum photonics and chemistry can help in diagnosis and development of new drugs and vaccines. Further the future economic and financial infrastructure will be secured by quantum information thus helping propel future economic growth. This is going to be a game changer and will be helpful in harnessing clean energy and Climate action. Another important area in quantum science and technology is the creation of multiple small quantum ecosystems, across the globe, particularly in the global south which can make affordable and portable quantum computers.

Dr Boojh concluded that there are lots of possibilities on the revolutionary subject of Quantum Science and technology which needs to be further discussed and requested ZSF to organize more such interactions in future. He stressed this event is just a beginning not the end.

Dr. M. Rais extended his appreciation to Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director of IIC, and the whole IIC Team, for his support and for joining the workshop online. Shri Venkatesh Sharma successfully managed all logistics of Online sessions conducted from abroad and within the country. His contribution has been very valuable. Industry experts, Mr. C.V. Sridhar from TCS, and Mr. Siddharth Golecha from IBM, provided the real-life practical connection with Quantum Science and Technology. We sincerely thank them. He also acknowledged the efforts of Ms. Suman and Ms. Kamaljeet from the Zaheer Science Foundation, who worked tirelessly day and night, as well as Mr. Saurav K. Mitra and his team for managing all the background support work that ensured the workshop's success. Finally, with more than 90 participants, Workshop has been a Successful event. More such events are planned in the future.



IDL2025 Workshop

on

“Familiarization with Quantum Science and Technology” (Part -2)

Organized by

Zaheer Science Foundation, (ZSF), New Delhi

In collaboration with

Faculty of Sciences, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

16 October 2025; 9:15 AM - 4:30 PM (IST)

Venue: FTK CIT Conference Hall, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi



UNESCO | International Day of Light | INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF Quantum Science and Technology

Organized by

Zaheer Science Foundation

Jamia Millia Islamia

Day-long Workshop on Familiarization with Quantum Science & Technology

FTK CIT Conference Hall, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
October 16th, 2025 Thursday 9.45 am onwards

Chief Guest
Prof Vibhakar Shrimali
Director, 88 Pant DSEU Campus
Delhi Skill & Entrepreneurship University

Guest of Honour
Prof Tanu Jindal
Group Additional Pro-VC, Amity University, Noida

Topics:

- International Day of Light
- International Year of Quantum Science & Technology
- Quantum Computing & its Applications
- Quantum Mechanics
- Quantum Healthcare
- Quantum Communication
- and much more...

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KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Prof. John M. Dudley
Chair, International Day of Light 2025 Steering Committee
Professor at the University of Franche-Comté, France

Speakers:
Prof Bhaskar Kanseri | Dr M Shoeb
Dr Saeed Uddin | Prof Zahid H Khan
Dr Tabassum Jamal | Dr B Athiyaman
Dr D Shalaja | Mr Venkatesh Sharma
Dr Nakul Parashar

(Image credit: Shanti Foundation)



Speakers in the Workshop together with some distinguished faculty

(L-R): Dr. Balakrishnan Athiyaman, Dr. Azhar Majid Siddiqui, Prof. Zahid H. Khan, Prof. Ayub Khan, Prof. Irfan Qureshi, Dr. Tabassum Jamal, Prof. Tanu Jindal, Prof. Vibhakar Shrimali, Prof. Saeed Uddin, Mr. Asad Ullah Khan, Dr. Shailaja Donempudi, Mr. Venkatesh Sharma, Dr. Nakul Parashar, Dr. Mohammad Shoeb



A view of the audience attending the IDL2025 Workshop (Part-2) at FTK CIT Conference Hall, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

(Images credit: Zaheer Science Foundation)



Group Photographs of Participants in IDL2025 Workshop (Part-2)

(Images credit: Zaheer Science Foundation)

Programme Schedule for the Workshop (Part-2)

Timings: 9:15 am – 4:30 pm

Venue: FTK CIT Conference Hall, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

9:15 AM -9:45 AM	Registration
9:45 AM - 11:00 AM	Inaugural Session
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening of the Workshop • Welcome and Introductory Remarks by Dr. Saeed Uddin, <i>Professor of Physics and Dean, Faculty of Sciences, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About ZSF: Dr. Tabassum Jamal, <i>Chairperson, Zaheer Science Foundation and Former Chief Scientist & Head BDG, CSIR-NIScPR, New Delhi</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About IDL & IYQST: Dr. Zahid H. Khan, <i>Advisor, Zaheer Science Foundation and UNESCO-National Node for India for the International Day of Light 2025</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address by Prof. Tanu Jindal (Guest of Honour), <i>Group Additional Pro Vice-Chancellor, Amity University, UP</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address by Prof. Vibhakar Shrimali (Chief Guest), <i>Director, G.B. Pant DSEU Campus, New Delhi</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vote of Thanks: Dr. Nakul Parashar, <i>CEO and Trustee, Shanti Foundation, New Delhi</i>
11:00 AM -11:30 AM	Group Photography
	- Tea/Coffee Break -
Technical Session – 1 (11:30 AM -12:30 PM) Chair: Dr. Shailaja Donempudi, <i>Vice Chairperson, ZSF Distinguished Scientist, Head BDG, CSIR HQ, New Delhi</i>	
11:30 AM -12:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Balakrishnan Athiyaman, <i>Former Head, High performance Computer-Infra, NCMRWF, Ministry of Earth Sciences, New Delhi</i> Topic: “Quantum Computing and Its Applications”
12:00 PM –12:30 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Venkatesh Sharma, <i>CEO, vsworld.com and HealThyRam; NOIDA, U.P.</i> Topic: “Quantum Healthcare” • Video: “From atoms to emotions - Quantum revolution in healthcare”; Aarya Nair <i>TEDxElproIntlSchool; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CtpbzUzuv7U</i>
Special Session (12:30 PM-1:30 PM)	
12:30 PM - 1:15 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. John M. Dudley (Keynote Speaker), <i>International Day of Light 2025 Steering Committee Chair and Professor at the University of Franche-Comté, France</i>
1:15 PM – 1:30 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live Q & A Session
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	- Lunch Break-

Technical Session – 2 (2:30 PM - 4:30 PM)	
Chair: Ambassador A. R. Ghanashyam	
2:30 PM –3:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Mohammad Shoeb, <i>Former Professor, Department of Physics, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh</i> Topic: “An Overview of the Development of Quantum Mechanics”
3:00 PM -3:30 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Bhaskar Kanseri, <i>IHFC Chair Professor, IIT Delhi</i> Topic: “Quantum Communication”
3:30 pm – 4:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Ram Boojh, <i>Advisor, Zaheer Science Foundation, New Delhi, Advisor, Mobius Foundation, New Delhi; Ex-Programme Specialist, UNESCO, New Delhi Office.</i> Topic: "Lighting the way: Quantum breakthroughs for a greener tomorrow"
4:00 PM – 4:15 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion
4:15 PM – 4:30 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Venkatesh Sharma: Concluding Remarks and Vote of Thanks
4:30 PM	- Tea/Coffee -

Supported by



Overview of the Workshop (Part-2) Presentations

Prof. Saeed Uddin, Dean, Faculty of Sciences, JMI, delivered the Welcome Address. He noted that the workshop coincided with the 105th Foundation Year of Jamia. He gave a brief history of the University and the Faculty of Sciences and highlighted the Faculty's active role in advancing science education through its UG, PG, and PhD programmes.

Dr. Tabassum Jamal, Chairperson, ZSF, gave introduced about Zaheer Science Foundation, which was established in 1970 as a scientific think tank, named after the eminent scientist, Dr. Husain Zaheer. She briefly discussed about the mission of ZSF and emphasized ZSF's commitment to connecting science with society and presented a short video showcasing its major recent activities.

Prof. Zahid H. Khan addressed the Workshop on "Familiarization with Quantum Science and Technology – Part 2," part of the International Day of Light (IDL) 2025 celebrations. He discussed the transformative impact of light technology across fields such as medicine, communications, and energy, resulting in innovations like solar panels and advanced medical imaging tools. These light-based technologies have become significant drivers of economic growth and societal progress.

Prof. Khan highlighted the success of the UN's proclaimed International Year of Light (IYL) in 2015, which celebrated light's role in the society. The IYL saw over 13,000 events held in 147 countries, drawing millions of participants to discussions about the importance of light technologies. Following this success, UNESCO decided to celebrate on May 16 as the annual International Day of Light, commemorating the first laser demonstration in 1960 by Theodore H. Maiman, which has influenced numerous sectors, including healthcare and education.

Since 2022, Zaheer Science Foundation in New Delhi has actively organized six IDL events, including the current one, promoting scientific awareness through initiatives like lectures, exhibitions, and workshops. Prof. Khan emphasized the importance of these efforts in advancing public understanding of science.

He introduced the audience about the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology (IYQ 2025), proclaimed by the UN General Assembly on June 7, 2024. This has been possible with the initiatives taken by Prof. John M. Dudley, University Bourgogne Franche-Comté (France) and Prof. Joseph Niemela of ICTP, Trieste (Italy) for getting it approved by UNESCO and the UN. This initiative seeks to increase global awareness of quantum science and quantum technology's societal impacts and its potential to address pressing issues related to the UN's 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. The UN encourages worldwide stakeholders to organize events to familiarise the public about quantum science and technology which are poised to transform the world very soon.

The workshop included lectures by distinguished scientists and technologists on the themes of quantum mechanics, quantum computing, quantum communication, and quantum healthcare. Prof. Khan expressed gratitude to key contributors, including the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India, for enabling India's co-sponsorship of IYQ 2025, and to Professor John M. Dudley for

delivering a stimulating keynote address and his ongoing support. He concluded by thanking attendees for engaging in vital discussions on quantum technologies.

Prof. Vibhakar Shrimali (Director & Professor, Delhi Skill & Entrepreneurship University), the Chief Guest of the event, underscored the importance of strengthening India's institutional and national capacity in quantum technologies. He also emphasised the need to strengthen the collaborative activities on the subject between the research Institutes and Universities.

Prof (Dr.) Tanu Jindal, discussed about the rapid evolution of quantum science is reshaping humanity's understanding of reality, revealing a world that is interconnected, dynamic, and influenced by consciousness. Interestingly, these discoveries echo ideas that have existed in India's Vedic knowledge systems for millennia. Quantum principles such as superposition, entanglement, and the observer effect parallel Vedic concepts like Sarvam Khalvidam Brahma (all existence is one), spanda (cosmic vibration), and Yatha drishti, tatha srishti (as is perception, so is creation). Both traditions emphasize that the universe is a unified field of energy and consciousness.

India's indigenous technological wisdom further demonstrates this harmony between science and spirituality. Temple architecture based on acoustic resonance, Ayurveda's sophisticated understanding of bioenergetics, water harvesting systems, and traditional ecological knowledge all reflected scientific principles deeply aligned with nature. These were technologies rooted in sustainability, balance, and a profound respect for life.

In the modern era, this legacy continues through India's scientific visionaries — Swami Vivekananda, who predicted the meeting point of science and spirituality; Jagadish Chandra Bose, whose work on plant sensitivity mirrored Upanishadic insights; and Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, who championed technology guided by ethics and national service.

Today, quantum technologies offer transformative possibilities for society — from pollution detection and environmental monitoring to advanced materials and sustainable solutions. At Amity University, research on quantum-enabled sensors, microplastic removal technologies, and climate modeling reflects a future where ancient wisdom and modern innovation converge to serve humanity.

The integration of quantum science with Vedic and indigenous knowledge is not a romantic return to the past, but a powerful blueprint for the future — a framework where technology is conscious, ethical, and life-affirming. By uniting these two knowledge streams, India can lead the world toward a more sustainable, compassionate, and enlightened technological era.

Prof. John M. Dudley

Chair of the International Day of Light (IDL) 2025 Steering Committee, delivered an illuminating keynote that traced the scientific and historical roots of modern photonics and quantum science. He opened by recalling the global impact of the International Year of Light 2015, which featured over 13,000 outreach events in 147 countries and inspired UNESCO to proclaim May 16 as the annual International Day of Light. He emphasized that light-based technologies underpin all Sustainable Development Goals and continue to evolve through a strong interplay between basic and applied research.

Prof. Dudley connected this legacy to the UN's declaration of 2025 as the International Year of Quantum Science & Technology, stressing the transformative promise of quantum innovations. He reviewed key milestones in the history of optics and quantum theory, from classical wave experiments by Young, Wollaston, and Fraunhofer to the rise of spectroscopy with Kirchhoff, Bunsen, and Balmer. He then outlined the foundations of quantum mechanics, highlighting contributions from Planck, Einstein, Bohr, De Broglie, Compton, Bose, Heisenberg, Schrödinger, and Dirac, along with the 2025 Nobel Prize on macroscopic quantum tunnelling.

He concluded by underscoring the enduring relevance of light science, the value of teaching its history, the global character of scientific progress, and the need for sustained investment in fundamental research.

Prof. Dudley concluded by emphasizing the enduring relevance of light science, the importance of teaching its history, the international nature of scientific progress, and the need for sustained support for fundamental research.

Dr. Balakrishnan Athiyaman delivered a lecture on Quantum Computing and its applications and spoke about the advanced and rapidly evolving technology that leverages the principles of quantum mechanics—superposition, entanglement, and interference—to perform computations far beyond the reach of classical and even the most powerful supercomputers. Unlike classical computers that process information using bits confined to 0 or 1, quantum computers use qubits, which can exist in multiple states simultaneously, enabling massive parallelism and extraordinary computational speed. This fundamental difference allows quantum systems to excel in modelling physical systems, solving complex optimization problems, simulating molecules, and recognizing patterns in large datasets.

Quantum computing holds significant promise across several key domains. In cybersecurity, quantum machines can potentially break today's encryption methods but also introduce quantum-safe solutions such as Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) and Post-Quantum Cryptography (PQC). In pharmaceutical research, quantum computers can simulate molecular interactions with high precision, accelerating drug discovery, enabling personalized medicine, and improving our understanding of protein folding and disease pathways. Quantum computing also transforms logistics by optimizing routes, inventory, supply chain networks, and real-time decision-making, resulting in faster and more cost-effective operations. In weather forecasting, quantum simulations enhance climate modelling and improve the accuracy of severe weather predictions. In machine learning, quantum algorithms process high-dimensional data more efficiently, enabling enhanced model training and improved AI performance. Despite these advantages, quantum computing faces challenges such as qubit fragility, error rates, cooling requirements, and high infrastructure costs, requiring extremely low temperatures and sophisticated shielding. Major global players like IBM, Google, Microsoft, Amazon, Rigetti, and IonQ are driving advancements through powerful roadmaps, including multi-chip quantum processors and scalable architectures. Ultimately, quantum computers will not replace classical systems; instead, they will work alongside High Performance Computing (HPC) to solve complex problems, shaping the future of science, technology, and human innovation.

Mr. Venkatesh Sharma, a media technology entrepreneur and Co-founder of HealThyRam.com, delivered a thought-provoking talk titled "*Quantum Healthcare and the Future of Healing*" at the *Workshop on Familiarization with Quantum Science and Technology*. Drawing inspiration from the 2025 Nobel Prize in Physics - awarded to John Clarke, Michel Devoret, and John Martinis for

demonstrating macroscopic quantum tunnelling and energy quantisation - Venkatesh highlighted how these breakthroughs extend quantum theory from particles to practical systems. He envisioned a similar leap for human health, where quantum phenomena could redefine medicine and consciousness itself.

He outlined three key pillars driving this evolution:

- ‘Quantum Computing’ for accelerated drug discovery and molecular modelling, exemplified by Cleveland Clinic’s collaboration with IBM;
- ‘Quantum Sensing’ for ultra-early, non-invasive diagnostics at the cellular level; and
- ‘Quantum AI’ to decode genomic complexity and create personalized wellness blueprints.

Positioning ‘HealThyRam.com’ as a bridge between ancient Indian healing systems and modern quantum science, Venkatesh proposed reframing energy-based healing through the language of physics - terms such as *resonance*, *coherence*, and *biofield intelligence* - to move holistic medicine “from mystic to measurable.” His long-term vision: developing ‘Quantum Wellness Intelligence’ toward a “*Niramaya Bharat*” - a world free from disease.

He concluded with a simple but profound message: *healing is not only about chemistry, but about coherence - where biology, energy, and intention align*. Yet, he cautioned, the quantum revolution in healthcare must remain ethical, empathetic, and deeply human - augmenting compassion, never replacing it.

Dr. Bhaskar Kanseri delivered a lecture on Quantum Communication. He mentioned that the quantum era is approaching and it will be governed by, Quantum physics which offers a framework to test fundamental aspects of quantum mechanics such as coherence, entanglement, and non-classical properties of light-matter. More recently, it has led to the development of quantum technologies which aim to harness quantum principles for promising applications in computing, communication and precision metrology. This area has evolved significantly in recent years, and this year Physics Nobel prize has also been awarded for groundbreaking experiments in these domains. Quantum key distribution (QKD) is a method of quantum cryptography, which has become a new generation security solution and does not rely on the computation assumptions of problems presumed difficult. This talk started with an introduction to quantum technologies familiarizing several key aspects and network elements of fiber and free space/satellite quantum secure communication. After discussing the need of QKD, I further highlighted efforts being made by our group at IIT Delhi for both research and development in these areas. Some implementations of QKD in lab scale and in field were also be discussed including the entanglement based QKD in 100km fiber channel and 1km free-space channel. The prospects of photonic quantum technologies were also highlighted emphasizing on field deployable devices for QKD, attacks on QKD systems and the development of hybrid quantum networks for future quantum internet.

Dr Ram Boojh noted that the UN General Assembly has declared 2025 as the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology (IYQST), marking 100 years of quantum mechanics. The year-long global observance includes numerous events aimed at raising awareness, fostering international collaboration, and promoting responsible and equitable progress in quantum technologies. It also underscores the importance of *quantum light*—both as a symbol and a driver of transformative scientific advancement—promising to illuminate a new era of discovery. Quantum science is advancing at an unprecedented pace, heralding a quantum revolution comparable to the digital revolution. Its transformative potential spans computing, encryption, and resource optimization, with far-reaching

applications in healthcare, environmental sustainability, climate modelling, and renewable energy. As a cross-cutting scientific discipline, quantum science is poised to address key societal challenges outlined in the UN's 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, including the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.

Looking ahead, quantum technologies—combined with artificial intelligence—will play a pivotal role in Industry 6.0, enabling autonomous and sustainable industrial operations. Equally important is the democratization of quantum science through the development of small, distributed quantum ecosystems, particularly in the Global South. These efforts highlight the need for a sustainable global quantum agenda to prepare for a new and inclusive quantum age.

Prof. Mohammad Shoeb discussed two landmark experiments of late nineteenth-century physics—blackbody radiation and the photoelectric effect. Their explanations by Planck and Einstein established that light is emitted and absorbed in discrete energy packets, laying the foundation of quantum theory and, subsequently, quantum mechanics based on well-defined postulates. The time-independent Schrödinger equation (TISE), when applied to simple systems such as a particle scattering from a one-dimensional potential barrier, predicts quantum tunnelling, while a particle confined in a one-dimensional square well exhibits discrete energy levels.

The remarkable advances in modern technology are largely driven by quantum mechanics and its applications in atomic, nuclear, and condensed matter physics. Quantum-based technologies are now indispensable in medicine and industry, contributing significantly to societal welfare through devices such as X-ray machines, positron emission tomography scanners, semiconductor components, lasers, nuclear medicine and reactors, smart devices, and solar panels. Beyond laboratory-scale systems, quantum mechanics also helps explain the properties of large-scale natural phenomena, including neutron stars and liquid helium.

The 2025 Nobel Prize in Physics recognised work reported nearly four decades ago, notably the pioneering studies published in *Physical Review Letters* (1984–85) by John Clarke, Michel H. Devoret, and John M. Martinis. Their experiments demonstrated quantum tunnelling and energy quantisation in superconducting electrical circuits—macroscopic, man-made systems—challenging the long-held belief that such phenomena are confined only to the microscopic domain.

Core quantum concepts such as superposition, quantum beats, and entanglement are now driving the next phase of technological innovation. Their applications in quantum computing, cryptography, and communication hold transformative potential, though these technologies are still at an early stage of development, as highlighted during the present one-day meeting.

In keeping with the theme of the meet, there is a pressing need to promote quantum science education in state universities and affiliated colleges, where foundational courses in quantum mechanics are often not given adequate emphasis. Motivated individuals and educators should be encouraged to offer honorary training to faculty members, enabling a deeper understanding of quantum mechanics and preparing institutions for the next wave of quantum technological advancement.

Brief Profiles of the Speakers



DR BALAKRISHNAN ATHIYAMAN

Dr. Balakrishnan Athiyaman, born in Seelaipillaiarputhur, Tiruchirappalli District, Tamil Nadu, is the son of Mr. Balakrishnan, a primary school teacher. He has been serving the National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF), Ministry of Earth Sciences for over three decades. Joining in 1990 as Senior Scientific Officer in the Computer and Network Division, he is recently superannuated as a Scientist-F and Head, High Performance Computing (HPC) Infrastructure Division, managing the Centre's state-of-the-art supercomputing facility.

He played a pivotal role in acquiring supercomputers in the early 1990s and has led major IT-enabled system designs and HPC infrastructure upgrades. His research interests include High Performance Computing, Artificial Intelligence, and Machine Learning. Dr. Athiyaman has received several awards, including the UNDP Scientific Award (1995), Bharat Jyothi Award, and Rajiv Gandhi Excellence Award.

A life member of CSI, IEEE, IMS, and member of national-level technical and recruitment committees, he has presented numerous research papers and organized international conferences. Academically, he holds a Computer Science Degree B.Sc. from Nehru Memorial College, M.Sc. from Alagappa University, and a Ph.D. from IIIT Gwalior.



DR. RAM BOOJH

Dr. Ram Boojh is a seasoned environment and sustainability expert with over 40 years of experience spanning government, academia, civil society, and international organizations. He currently serves as Advisor to the Mobius Foundation, a Delhi-based sustainability think tank, where he leads efforts to promote environmental education and sustainable development.

Dr. Boojh previously held leadership roles with UNESCO, where he headed the Natural Sciences (Ecology) division for South Asia and coordinated the South & Central Asia MAB Network (SACAM). He has also worked with UNEP on a transboundary landscape conservation initiative involving Bhutan, India, and Nepal, and served as Regional Director of the Centre for Environment Education and Assistant Director in the Environment Ministry, Government of Uttar Pradesh, India. He has been associated with leading global institutions including the Universities of Manchester and Bradford (UK), MIT, University of Michigan, Environmental Law Institute (USA), and several Indian universities. He co-founded the World Ocean Network (France) and serves on the Executive Board of the Conservation for Oceans Foundation (USA).

Dr. Boojh has authored over 100 research papers and 15 books, earning numerous national and international awards, including the Science Academy Medal for Young Scientists presented by former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Since 2019, he has organized the annual International Conference on Sustainability Education (ICSE) in collaboration with UNEP, UNESCO, WWF, TERI, and other global organizations, fostering dialogue and action on sustainability education.



MR. SRIDHAR CV

Mr. Sridhar CV heads the COIN-Academia & India Strategic Initiatives with TCS Research under the CTO Office. In this role Sridhar leads the collaborative research with Global Universities, Indian Academia and work on National Strategic Mission programs. Sridhar is responsible for driving Research/Innovation themes by collaborating with institutes through strategic programs, sponsoring research themes and engaging thought leaders. Sridhar is also responsible for participating in India strategic Mission programs and organises necessary expertise from TCS to the missions.

Prior to this role, Sridhar was heading the Quantum Technologies Incubation where TCS successfully created the capacities, 6 qubit quantum computer in partnership with TIFR & DRDO, quantum ecosystem and foundational solutions. Prior to this Sridhar was heading the alliances and ecosystem partnerships for TCS Incubation Group. His efforts focused on developing emerging technology themes such as AI, Cybersecurity, IoT, and drones/UAVs through collaboration with ecosystem partners, startups, industry forums, and research organizations. This work is aimed to accelerate innovation, build thought leadership, and provide strategic advantages for TCS.

Prior to this Sridhar led the technology transformation teams in Automotive, Telecom, Railways, BFS, and Public Sector engagements. With over 24+ years of experience, Sridhar brings a blend of technology, management skills and interpersonal skills to bring ecosystems together and drive the emerging technology themes.

Sridhar current holds the position of

- Vice chair, TSDSI, Study Group for software & Solutions (SGSS WG1- Security)
- Expert member –Post Quantum Security Taskforce
- Expert committee member, National Quantum Mission
- Expert committee member, USOF, Telecom Tech development fund
- Expert member at AICTE in emerging technology themes
- India Member, QUAD Quantum Computing Task force

Sridhar is an active speaker at several forums & Universities, and works closely with BIS, ITU SG13 for Future networks and cybersecurity.



DR. SHAILAJA DONEMPUDI

Dr. Shailaja Donempudi is a Distinguished Scientist and Head, Business Development Group at Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) Headquarters, New Delhi, a new vertical initiated by CSIR. She works closely with DG, CSIR to catalyze new business opportunities by speed networking with industries, establish collaborations with line ministries and co-create platforms for tapping businesses, besides conceiving CSR projects, mentoring the BD groups at 37 CSIR labs and working on specific R & D related assignments.

She has a vast experience of more than 3 decades of hybrid work experience as a Polymers & Functional materials scientist for 26 years and as an S & T strategist for 8 years, heading the Business Development & Research Management (BDRM) as Chief Scientist at CSIR- Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (CSIR-IICT), Hyderabad. She started her career as Scientist-B at Polymers & Functional Materials Department of CSIR-IICT in the year 1993 after completing Ph.D. (1993) in Polymer chemistry from Osmania University, M.Sc. (1986) and M.Phil. (1987) in Chemistry from University of Hyderabad.

She has worked on several projects of National relevance, sponsored by Government and Private Industries and supervised 4 Ph.D students, 25 Masters students and has 35 publications in reputed international journals. She was awarded with CSIR-DAAD Fellowship in the year 1996 and was deputed to University of Kiel, Germany for a period of 1 year to pursue advanced research studies. Dr. Shailaja's pioneering contributions to polymer chemistry fetched her three Technology Team Awards for successful transfer of technologies to private industries. She received accolades for by deploying novel strategies and best practices in business development that helped enhance technology transfers and out licensing of patents at CSIR-IICT. She has been a resource person giving invited lectures and as lead panellist in the area of Technology commercialisation, science diplomacy, science technology and innovation policy advocacy, S & T Business Development at several National & international fora that include Chemexpo, SIBM, BITS, Hyd, Pretoria, South Africa, OPCW, The Hague, The Netherlands and KISTEP, Seoul, South Korea.



PROFESSOR JOHN M. DUDLEY

Professor John M. Dudley is a leading physicist known for his research in the field of ultrafast and nonlinear optics, particularly his contributions to supercontinuum generation and the study of rogue waves. He is currently a Professor of Physics at the University Bourgogne Franche-Comté, affiliated with the FEMTO-ST research institute in Besançon, France.

John M. Dudley received his B.Sc. and Ph.D. from the University of Auckland. His career includes postdoctoral research at the University of St Andrews and a lectureship at the University of Auckland, before becoming a Professor at the University of Franche-Comté in 2000. He became a member of the Institut Universitaire de France in 2005.

Dudley's research interests include ultrafast optics, supercontinuum generation, and rogue waves, with a focus on areas like ultrafast optical pulse metrology and nonlinear fiber optics. He has authored over 500 contributions and given more than 120 invited talks. His research is highly cited. He served as President of the European Physical Society from 2013 to 2015 and has chaired the International Day of Light since 2018. Dudley has received numerous awards, including the CNRS Médaille d'Argent, SPIE President's Award, and the Optica-OSA R. W. Wood Prize. He is a Fellow of organizations such as Optica, SPIE, and IEEE, and holds four honorary degrees.



MR. A.R. GHANASHYAM

Ambassador A.R. Ghanashyam graduated with an MSc degree in Solid State Physics from Bangalore and an MBA from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad. After his education he worked in the oil and shipping industries in India for five years. Thereafter he spent three and a half decades in the Indian diplomatic corps. He was worked as an Indian diplomat in Syria, Nepal, Belgium, Pakistan, United States, Angola and Nigeria. He was Indian envoy to Angola, Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Sao Tome & Principe, Equatorial Guinea,

Nigeria and the Economic Community of West African States.

Post retirement, he has published many articles in newspapers and magazines in India and abroad on international relations and Technology. He writes forewords, chapters and reviews for books on geopolitics, environment and technology. He speaks regularly on technology, environment and geopolitics in Indian universities, think tanks and apex business organizations and business houses in India and abroad.



MR. SIDDHARTH GOLECHA

Mr. Siddharth Golecha is working as Quantum Software Support Engineer at IBM Research Lab, Gurugram where he assists IBM Clients and Researchers with their research. He received his Bachelor of Engineering in Information Technology from

M.B.M. Engineering College, Jai Narain Vyas University, Jodhpur. He is also one of the 400 Qiskit Advocate and an IBM Certified Quantum Developer. At IBM, Siddharth is also part of the AI for Quantum team, developing cutting-edge AI solutions for quantum computing like Qiskit Code Assistant and other related projects. His research interests include Quantum Computing and Algorithms, Quantum Machine Learning, Generative AI, Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG), Machine Learning, etc.



DR. MANISH MOHAN GORE

Dr. Manish Mohan Gore is a Scientist with CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (NIScPR), New Delhi. This is a constituent lab of CSIR engaged in evidence-based policy research and science communication. Dr. Gore is heading the Studies in Science Communication Division at CSIR-NIScPR.

He is also the editor of 'Bharatiya Vaigyanik evam Audyogik Anusandhan Patrika' (the Hindi research journal of the Institute) and the popular science magazine 'VigyanPragati'. He is the Assistant Professor at CSIR-NIScPR for the Academy of Scientific & Innovative Research (AcSIR) which is an Academic Institution of National Importance by an Act of Parliament in 2010. The area of research Dr. Gore is Botany with a specialization in Plant Pathology. His research publications have been published in noted national and international journals.

Dr. Gore has contributed a lot to the field of science communication. He has authored a number of popular science books on biodiversity, animal behaviour, Darwin's biography, science fiction, and

science communication. He delivers science talks on All India Radio. He has coordinated the production of four documentary films focused on the R&D works of CSIR labs. He has received a number of prestigious awards for science popularization from the Higher Education Department, Ministry of Human Resource Development; Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, and National Human Rights Commission of India.



DR. TABASSUM JAMAL

Dr. Tabassum Jamal has served CSIR-NIScPR (erstwhile CSIR-NISTAD), a premier Science Policy Research Institute under Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, Government of India, for over 30 years. Focusing her research interest in Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, she has undertaken various sponsored research projects and provided inputs in design and development of state S&T Plans, public provisioning of skill development and Entrepreneurship, capacity building in the SME sector. Based on her management & leadership skills she was given additional responsibility to head Business Development Group of the institution. With the given role, she has been instrumental in developing business verticals and knowledge alliance with industrial partnership for capacity building in the area of human resource development and SMEs sector. She has also been a faculty with Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research of CSIR. She has published widely in reputed journals, beside books/ reports and policy bulletins.

Currently, Dr. Jamal is Chairperson of Zaheer Science Foundation (ZSF) New Delhi, a Think Tank established as a non-profit, promoting scientific temperament for nation building. The Foundation has been actively involved in the promotion of scientific research, S&T policy analysis and south-south cooperation through organizing seminars and conferences at national and international level in the past many years. Science Diplomacy to propagate S&T collaborations with developing nations for inclusive development is one focus research area of the foundation.



PROF. TANU JINDAL

Prof. Tanu Jindal is the Group additional Pro Vice chancellor, Director & Prof, Amity Institute of Environmental Toxicology Safety and Mango, India. She is a distinguished expert in Science and Technology with a deep focus environmental research and education. Her work spans environmental pollution, toxicology, ecosystem impacts, and public health, emphasizing sustainability and circular economy principles. Tanu Jindal holds significant technical and administrative expertise, influencing policy formulation and fostering strategic priorities in dynamic environments. She is recognized for her leadership in higher education, strategic project delivery, and her unwavering commitment to excellence in service.



PROF. ZAHID HUSAIN KHAN

Prof. Zahid Husain Khan earned his B.Sc., M.Sc., M.Phil., and Ph.D. in Physics from Aligarh Muslim University between 1967 and 1975. He joined Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, in 1976, rising to Professor of Physics in 1994, and served the university for 39 years. His research spans Optics & Spectroscopy, Laser Physics, Materials Characterization, Environmental Science, and ICT in education, with over 60 published papers and 15 Ph.D. scholars supervised.

Prof. Khan held key administrative roles, including Head of Physics, Dean of Students' Welfare, Registrar, and Director of the FTK Centre for Technology, where he led ICT initiatives. He also served as a Standing Committee Member of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India's National Mission on Education through ICT. He was a DAAD Fellow at Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich and Free University Berlin, Germany. Later, the President of DAAD, Bonn, awarded him the title of 'Honorary DAAD Advisor' (2006 - 2009) for his outstanding commitment and leadership in Indo-German Relations in Education.

He served as UNESCO's National Node for India for the International Year of Light (IYL2015) and the International Day of Light since 2018. During IYL2015, Prof. Khan was as a member of the Steering Committee of Ibn al-Haitham International Working Group and in 2016 he was elected as a Vice-President of the Ibn Al-Haytham LHiSA International Society, Paris. Currently, he is an Advisor to the Zaheer Science Foundation, New Delhi and a science communicator. Widely travelled, he continues to contribute to higher education, science policy, and popularization initiatives in India and globally.



DR BHASKAR KANSERI

Professional background

Current employment:

Associate Professor at Department of Physics, IIT Delhi, New Delhi: 09/2021 onwards.

Joint Faculty in Optics and Photonics Centre (OPC): Since 2023;

IHFC Chair Professor: Since 2024.

Past Employment/Research experience:

- Assistant Professor at Department of Physics, IIT Delhi, New Delhi: 09/2015 - 08/2021
- IOGS Postdoc at Laboratoire Charles Fabry, Institut d'Optique, Palaiseau France: 01/2014 - 09/2015
- CNRS Postdoc at Laboratoire Charles Fabry, Institut d'Optique, Palaiseau France: 11/2012 - 12/2013
- Max Planck Postdoc at Max Planck Institute for the Science of Light, Erlangen Germany: 07/2011 - 10/2012

- Research Associate (RA-CSIR) at National Physical Laboratory (NPL), New Delhi India: 04/2011 - 06/2011
- CSIR Fellowship (JRF/SRF) at National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi India: 08/2006 - 03/2011

Past teaching experience:

- Lab course on *Electronics for the Treatment of Information* at Institut d'Optique, Palaiseau France : 01/2015 - 06/2015.
- Lecturer at Physics department of Kumaun University, SSJ Campus Almora: For academic year 2005-2006.

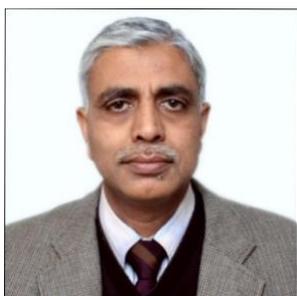
Academic background:

- PhD from Department of Physics, University of Delhi (jointly with NPL, New Delhi): Feb-2011.
- PhD Thesis Topic: *Experimental study of coherence and polarization properties of optical fields.*
- M.Sc. in Physics from Kumaun University, SSJ Campus Almora: year 2005.
- B.Sc. in Physics, Maths, Computer Science from Kumaun University, SSJ Campus Almora: year 2003.
- Intermediate (12th) from Government Intermediate College Garur, Bageshwar: year 2000.
- Highschool (10th) from Government Intermediate College Wajula, Bageshwar: year 1998.



DR. NAKUL PARASHAR

Dr. Nakul Parashar, Former Director of Vigyan Prasar, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India. He has worked in Academia, Information Science, KPO and Legal Information sectors. With a Master's in Computer Science & Physics and Doctorate in Applied Physics, he has set up three start-ups in IT and services successfully which includes JV Info Solutions. He also worked in various publishing jobs. He was Associate Editor of DST book projects, Living Media India Limited and Chief Scientific Editor of Thompson Press India Limited. Besides serving as Scientist with CSIR, he has also led global companies like Exela Technologies as Senior Vice President and Macmillan Publishing Solutions as Vice President and Head.



DR. MOHD. RAIS

Dr. Rais obtained his Ph.D. from I.I.T. Kanpur in 1991 and started his career from I.I.M. Ahmadabad and subsequently joined CSIR-NISTADS in Feb. 1992. As an expert in the area Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Policy, Rural Development, and Poverty Alleviation, he has published more than 50 research papers; books; Policy Bulletins. He has more than 30 Years of Research; R&D Management and Academic Experience. His research interests include knowledge management in interdisciplinary domain, Science, Technology and Society (STS) for inclusive and sustainable development; generation of employment and skill development in food processing; value chains; non-farm activities; developing

the domain specific technology strategy; stimulating rural innovations by networking of academic institutions, line departments, grass-root local rural institutions, other industry and stakeholder etc.

He has worked in several parts of India and abroad. He has been invited by United Nations University (UNU/IIST), Macau; International Board for Soil Research and Management (IBSRAM) /International Water Management Institute (IWMI/CGIAR), Bangkok; International Development Research Centre (IDRC); Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) Canada; World Bank; and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), etc. He was Chief Scientist & Head, Business Development Group and Industry Group (BDG&I) in CSIR-NIScPR; and Professor at Academy of Scientific & Innovative Research and superannuated in Dec.2022. He is Secretary, Zaheer Science Foundation (ZSF), Delhi since January 2023.



MR. VENKATESH SHARMA

Mr. Venkatesh Sharma is the Co-founder of HealThyRam.com and Virtual Studio (vsworld.com), ventures he co-leads with his partner, Sangeeta Sharma. With over three decades of experience in media, broadcasting, and wellness communication, Venkatesh brings a unique combination of technical expertise and holistic wisdom to the table.

A Reiki Master and passionate wellness evangelist, he is dedicated to bridging ancient Indian healing traditions with modern science and digital storytelling. Through HealThyRam.com, Venkatesh is committed to making alternative healing accessible, engaging, and meaningful in the quantum age—offering experiential content, expert consultations, and immersive wellness programs across both physical and digital platforms.

At Virtual Studio, Venkatesh heads technology and marketing, leveraging his extensive background in broadcast and internet technologies. His expertise spans advertising and marketing, film and television production, live streaming, web conferencing, eLearning, interactive VR, rich media solutions, media workflows, and audio-video encoding. Over the years, he has led teams that delivered some of the world's most prestigious and high-profile events, including:

- The Pope's visit to India (1999)
- Former U.S. President Bill Clinton's state visit
- The ICC Cricket World Cups (2003 & 2007), Twenty20 World Cup 2007, and Indian Premier League (IPL)
- Vladimir Putin's visit to India
- Multiple visits of Indian Presidents and Prime Ministers
- Red carpet Bollywood premieres
- Global product launches across automotive, mobile, and fashion industries
- International conferences and brand events

A seasoned communicator, Venkatesh has also hosted numerous shows and conferences, including live match analysis and audio commentary for ICC cricket tournaments. His work reflects a rare synergy of technology, creativity, and wellness—a visionary approach tailored for the interconnected, digital-first world.



PROF. MOHAMMAD SHOEB

Prof. Mohammad Shoeb is a distinguished Indian physicist and academician, known for his extensive contributions to nuclear and theoretical physics. He served as a Professor in the Department of Physics at Aligarh Muslim University, where he taught and mentored students at undergraduate and postgraduate levels for several years. Dr. Shoeb completed his Ph.D. in Physics from AMU, specializing in topics related to hypernuclear physics and Monte Carlo simulations of few-body systems, and went on to build a strong research portfolio in the field.

Throughout his academic career, he authored numerous research publications focused on the properties and energy spectra of hypernuclei, variational Monte Carlo analyses, and effective nucleon-nucleus interactions—work that has been widely cited by peers in nuclear physics research. Dr. Shoeb also gained international teaching experience, having served on the faculty at institutions such as Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia) and Jamia Millia Islamia’s Centre for Theoretical Physics in New Delhi, reflecting his global engagement in physics education and research. His scholarly work and academic leadership have contributed to the strong research tradition of the AMU Physics Department, which has been a historic centre for physics teaching and nuclear research since the early 20th century.



PROF. VIBHAKAR SHRIMALI

Prof. Vibhakar Shrimali is a senior academic and engineering professional associated with the Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU), serving as the Campus Director of the G.B. Pant DSEU (Okhla-I) Campus in New Delhi, a notable constituent campus of DSEU focused on engineering and technical education. He is a Professor in Electronics & Communication Engineering with advanced academic qualifications including MTech and Ph.D., and has a strong background in teaching,

research, and academic leadership.

Prof. Shrimali has been actively involved in both administrative and academic roles, including heading the Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering at Govind Ballabh Pant Government Engineering College prior to DSEU’s reorganization. In his academic career, he has contributed to areas such as signal and image processing, communication engineering, and related research, publishing scholarly work and supervising advanced studies.

As Campus Director, he provides strategic leadership to the G.B. Pant DSEU Campus, overseeing academic programs, faculty coordination, and industry-linked initiatives to enhance skill-based higher education. His role includes guiding students and faculty toward excellence in technical education and fostering collaborations that align with DSEU’s mission of delivering practical and employability-oriented learning.



MR. K.N. SHRIVASTAVA

Mr. K.N. Shrivastava, a retired IAS officer, was appointed Director of the India International Centre (IIC) by its Board of Trustees and assumed office on January 1, 2019. Born on January 1, 1954, in Ghazipur District, Uttar Pradesh, he holds an M.Sc. in Physics from Allahabad University (1973). He began his civil service career in the Indian Forest Service (1976), later joining the Indian Revenue Service, and in 1978, the Indian Administrative Service (Karnataka cadre).

During his distinguished career, he served as District Magistrate in four Karnataka districts—Tumkur, Bangalore, Belgaum, and Uttara Kannada—where he played a key role in maintaining law and order during communal unrest. He held leadership roles in major public sector undertakings, including Chairman & MD of Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Ltd., MD of Krishna Bhagya Jala Nigam Ltd., and the first MD of Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd., where he initiated the metro project. He also led Hutti Gold Mines Co. and Bangalore Dairy.

At the national level, Mr. Shrivastava held significant roles in the Ministries of Culture, Civil Aviation, External Affairs, and as Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India. As Secretary, Civil Aviation (2012–2013), he oversaw major airport infrastructure projects across India. Post-retirement, he served as Member of the National Disaster Management Authority and later as Administrative Member, Central Administrative Tribunal (2015–2018).



PROFESSOR SAEED UDDIN

Prof. Saeed Uddin is a distinguished academician and administrator, currently serving as Professor of Physics and Dean, Faculty of Sciences, at Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), New Delhi. With decades of experience in teaching, research, and academic leadership, he has made significant contributions to physics education and institutional development. His areas of interest span core and applied aspects of physics, and he has

guided numerous postgraduate and doctoral students, fostering a strong research culture within the department.

As Dean, Dr. Uddin has played a pivotal role in strengthening academic programs, promoting interdisciplinary collaboration, and enhancing research infrastructure across the Faculty of Sciences. He is actively involved in curriculum development, faculty mentoring, and quality assurance initiatives. Known for his commitment to academic excellence and student-centric approach, Dr. Saeed Uddin continues to contribute meaningfully to higher education and scientific advancement at Jamia Millia Islamia.

List of Participants in the Workshop (Part -1)

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