

## CSIR-NIScPR Organised Skill Training Course on “Science Communication and Emerging Trends”

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The CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR), New Delhi, successfully organised a two-day Skill Training Course on "Science Communication and Emerging Trends" during 4–5 August 2026 under the CSIR Integrated Skill Initiative (Phase III). Organised by the Institute's Training Division, the programme witnessed the enthusiastic participation of 30 participants from universities, research institutions, academic organisations, media, and industry across the country. Designed with a strong emphasis on experiential learning, the training combined expert lectures, interactive discussions, and hands-on practical sessions to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of modern science communication practices and emerging technologies.

The inaugural session was graced by Dr. Geetha Vani Rayasam, Director, CSIR-NIScPR, who encouraged participants to actively engage throughout the programme and highlighted the Institute's long-standing commitment to promoting scientific temper and strengthening science communication in the country. She emphasised the growing importance of responsible science communication, digital technologies, and AI in making scientific knowledge more credible, and impactful.

Mr. Mukesh A. Pund, Head, Training Division, CSIR-NIScPR, delivered the welcome address and underscored the increasing significance of science communication in bridging the gap between scientific research and society. Ms. Meetali Bharti, Nodal Principal Investigator (PI), introduced the objectives of the programme, and coordinated the proceedings throughout the two-day event. Dr. Paramananda Barman, Course Coordinator, presented an overview of the programme structure and subsequently conducted the academic sessions.

The training covered a wide spectrum of contemporary topics, including the fundamentals and various formats of science communication, audience-centric communication strategies, behavioural insights in science communication, social media management, podcasting, development of infographics and short videos, AI apps in science communication, ethics, professional responsibilities, and emerging career opportunities. The programme featured expert lectures by Dr. Hemansi and Ms. Priyanka (Ashoka University), Dr. Paramananda Barman, Dr. V. V. Binoy (National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru), Dr. H. S. Sudhira (Director, Gubbi Labs), Dr. Meher Wan (Co-coordinator of the Training program), and faculty members of CSIR-NIScPR. To assess the effectiveness of the programme, pre- and post-training surveys were conducted to evaluate participants' expectations, learning outcomes, and perspectives.

The valedictory session was addressed by Mr. Mukesh A. Pund, and Ms. Meetali Bharti, who congratulated the participants on successfully completing the training and encouraged them to apply the acquired knowledge and skills in their respective institutions to promote evidence-based and responsible science communication. Mr. Salim Ansari, Co-PI, CSIR Integrated Skill initiative coordinated the training program. Certificates were distributed to all successful participants in recognition of their active participation and successful completion of the programme.





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