

Workshop on Foldscope at PRSU today

Date- September 29, 2019

Institute of Renewable Energy Technology & Management (IRETM) along with school of Studies (SoS) in Electronics and Photonics of Pt Ravishankar Shukla University (PRSU), Raipur are organizing oneday Workshop on Foldscope, an educational and research tool on September 30.

The hands on workshop will cover different modules such as visualization of unicellular and multi-cellular cells like bacteria, fungus, protozoans, plant cells, animal cells, animal cells, arthropods and exopolymeric substances.

Frugality, crafting inexpensive knock-offs and making do with little may be the ethos of India's pharmaceutical industry, its manufacturing sector and the spirit with which our scientists conduct their research, but an Indian - origin bio-engineer at Stanford University has won one of America's grandest prizes- the MacArthur 'Genius' grant worth Rs 4 crore for designing a \$1 microscope.

Workshop on Foldscope at PRSU today

■ Aim of this low cost instrumentation workshop is to apply a frugal technology to make students love science, enjoy science

■ **Staff Reporter**
RAIPUR, Sept 29

INSTITUTE of Renewable Energy Technology & Management (IRETM) along with School of Studies (SoS) in Electronics and Photonics of Pt Ravishankar Shukla University (PRSU), Raipur are organising oneday Workshop on Foldscope, an educational and research tool' on September 30.

Resource Person for the workshop is Dr Anupama Harshal (Indo-US Foldscope Grant

Awardee), KC College, University Of Mumbai. The Co-ordinator of workshop Professor Sanjay Tiwari said that the aim of this low cost instrumentation workshop is to apply a frugal technology to make students love science, enjoy science and ultimately cultivate a scientific temper. The students will learn fabrication of foldscope that's affordable and, more importantly, easy to carry between home and school. He said that the Foldscope is an origami based optical microscope that can be assembled from a sheet of paper in less than 10 minutes. It can provide over 2,000x magnification with submicron resolution, weighs less than two nickels (8.8 g), is small enough to fit in a pocket (70x20x2 mm), requires no external power and

can survive being dropped from a 3-storey building or stepped on by a person.

The workshop will provide awareness and hands-on training on Foldscope and its potential applications in biodiversity, ecology, agriculture and micro-organisms in human health. The microscope can be used both as an education and research tool.

Teachers trained at the workshop will take Foldscopes to their colleges and schools and make students use them to learn science and also create health awareness around their homes. Children are encouraged to make their own slides to be viewed through Foldscope.

The Deputy Co-ordinator of workshop Dr Alka Panda said that microscope will make children learn science better

by directly looking at things they normally see in textbooks for better understanding of science.

The hands-on workshop will cover different modules such as visualisation of unicellular and multi-cellular cells like bacteria, fungus, protozoans, plant cells, animal cells, arthropods and exopolymeric substances.

Frugality, crafting inexpensive knock-offs and making do with little may be the ethos of India's pharmaceutical industry, its manufacturing sector and the spirit with which our scientists conduct their research, but an Indian-origin bio-engineer at Stanford University has won one of America's grandest prizes - the MacArthur 'Genius' grant - worth Rs 4 crore for designing a \$1 microscope.