

# All India Cell Biology conference at BITS Pilani from Dec 21-23

BY A CORRESPONDENT

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**Vasco:** BITS Pilani, K K Birla Goa campus will host the XLII (42nd) All India Cell Biology Conference (ISCB) on the theme of 'Trends in Cell and Molecular Biology' from December 21 to 23. This prestigious conference, which is being held for the first time in Goa, is organised by the Department of Biological Sciences of BITS Pilani Goa campus under the convenorship of Dr Angshuman Sarkar, associate professor in the same department and under able patronage of Prof Raghurama G, director of BITS Pilani Goa campus.

Padma Bhushan Prof Padmanabhan Balaram, an Indian biochemist and former Director of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, will inaugurate the three-day conference. Renowned scientists from across the country including Prof S C Lakhota (BHU, Varanasi), Dr Samit Chattopadhyay (Director, IICB, Kolkata), Dr Kishore Paknikar (Director, ARI, Pune), Dr Debashis Mitra (Director, CDFD, Hyderabad), Dr Gopal Kundu (Director, NCCS, Pune), Dr Saumitra Das (Director, National Institute of Biomedical Genomics, Kalyani, WB), Dr J K Pal (Director, D Y Patil Biotechnology and Bioinformatics Institute, Pune) will attend and deliver lec-

tures in the conference.

The conference would be attended by around 300 scientists and researchers from across the country. Around 50 lectures will be delivered by prominent scientists of different biological sciences field and almost 200 posters based on latest research will be presented across the three days.

This conference aims to provide opportunities and bring together acclaimed Cell Biologists, Biochemists, Molecular Biologists and Computational Biologists to a common platform to present their exciting and new findings; also to establish research and to find global partners for future collaboration. The goal of this conference is to push the frontiers of cellular response to various stresses, cytotoxicity, molecular revolution in cancer management and approach to

computational system biology. Cutting-edge technical developments and new paradigms in eukaryotic cells will be discussed with a view to fostering interactions between graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and established investigators across the world.

'Cancer' is still one of the most challenging diseases across the world and in this conference a special session is contributed to understand the upcoming development in this field, nationally and internationally. 'Nanotechnology' has also gained much importance in today's treatment of some important diseases. In this conference the discussion will not only be related to how this technology is beneficial but also understand its drawbacks. 'Toxicity', which is one of the major health concerns, is whether due to an environmental stresses or due

to unknowingly exposure to some toxic substances needs to be re-looked in depth.

The conference will provide an opportunity for researchers across the globe to understand and showcase their data related to 'Toxicity'. Immunology and Computational and systems biology are other major areas which are evolving and need to be integrated with modern cell biology as a whole to understand and predict the things much better.