

Kanta Marwah Lecture Series 2012

Dr. Kanta Marwah Lecture Series, one of annual events of the Shastri Indo- Canadian Institute (SICI), was organized at Bose Auditorium of IIT Roorkee by the Department of Physics and SICI on 24th September 2012.

The inaugural function was started with the Kul Geet. The persons present on the dais were Prof Anuradda Ganesh - Guest Speaker, Dr. Pradipta Banerjee -Director IIT Roorkee, Prof Ashok Jain - Convener, Dr Prachi Kaul and Ms Sanghamitra Jana Chatterjee - Representatives from SICI. Dr. Banerjee, in his welcome address, brought out the importance of this type of lecture initiative and also introduced the guest speaker. This was followed by opening remarks and an introduction to Dr Kanta Marwah and SICI by Ms Chatterjee.

The inaugural function was followed by the special invited lecture on Bio – Energy for Uttarakhand and learning from Canadian experiences. Dr Ganesh who is a Professor from Department of Energy Sciences and Engineering of IIT Bombay, talked about Uttarakhand which is rich in Himalayan vegetation and known for the availability of large amounts of biomass, e.g. pine needles which is slowly being discovered as a potential fuel source for the number of small and medium scale industries around. She highlighted that the so called unorganized sector is being exploited by a few entrepreneurs. She emphasised on the need to design a utilization pattern so that the biomass is used effectively and developed for use in the organized sector. Since Canada has vast experience in using the forest based biomass and has developed many technologies for the effective use, there is a lot to learn from them. Few examples were highlighted and potential areas for Indo-Canadian collaboration were suggested. The lecture got an overwhelming response and was attended by almost 100 students and faculties from different disciplines.