सत्यमेव जयते

IITM Foundation Day Awards 2026



65th IITM Foundation Day, 17th November 2026

सत्यमेव जयते

BEST PERFORMANCE AWARD (SENIOR SCIENTIST) (OBSERVATIONAL RESEARCH)



Dr. Bhupendra Bahadur Singh

Scientist-E

For

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION (SENIOR SCIENTIST) IN OBSERVATIONAL RESEARCH

"FOR ADVANCING THE SOIL-HYDROLOGY RESEARCH AT IITM THROUGH LEADERSHIP IN FIELD-BASED OBSERVATIONS, INTEGRATED LAND-ATMOSPHERE-GROUNDWATER STUDIES, AND INNOVATIVE INVESTIGATIONS OF SOIL-MOISTURE DYNAMICS AND HYDROLOGICAL PROCESSES. HE LEAD THE IITM-COSMOS FACILITY AND DRIVE EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL-SCALE SOIL-HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONAL NETWORK. HIS CONTRIBUTIONS INCLUDE CONCEPTUALIZING COMPONENTS OF THE BHARAT CLIMATE NETWORK AND EXPLORING THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDIGENOUS RESEARCH-GRADE SOIL-HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL SENSORS, STRENGTHENING INDIA'S OBSERVATIONAL CAPABILITIES AND SUPPORTING IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING OF LAND-WATER-CLIMATE INTERACTIONS"

65th IITM Foundation Day, 17th November 2026

सत्यमेव जयते

BEST PERFORMANCE AWARD (SENIOR SCIENTIST) (MODELLING RESEARCH)



Dr. Maheswar Pradhan

Scientist-E

For

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION (SENIOR SCIENTIST) IN MODELLING RESEARCH

"HIS WORK ADVANCED AIR-SEA INTERACTION, COUPLED MODELING, AND PREDICTION CAPABILITIES THROUGH DEVELOPMENT OF SAMUDRAFLUX, A MACHINE-LEARNING-BASED TURBULENT FLUX PARAMETERIZATION FRAMEWORK, AND ITS TESTING IN MMCFSV2. MAJOR CONTRIBUTIONS INCLUDE IMPLEMENTATION OF COARE 3.6 AND COOL-SKIN PARAMETERIZATIONS, ESTABLISHMENT AND UPGRADING OF COUPLED DATA ASSIMILATION SYSTEMS ON ARKA HPC, ENHANCEMENT OF LETKF-BASED OCEAN-ATMOSPHERE DA COMPONENTS, AND DEVELOPMENT OF ML-LSTM AND DYNAMICAL-MODEL FRAMEWORKS FOR MONSOON RAINFALL PREDICTION AND CYCLONE HAZARD-IMPACT ASSESSMENT, STRENGTHENING FORECASTING AND EARTH SYSTEM MODELING CAPABILITIES"

65th IITM Foundation Day, 17th November 2026

सत्यमेव जयते

BEST RESEARCH PAPER AWARD (YOUNG SCIENTIST)



Dr. U. V. Muralikrishna

Scientist - C

For

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION IN BEST RESEARCH PAPER AWARD (YOUNG SCIENTISTS).

" FIRST TIME, IDENTIFIED A HEAVY RAINFALL EVENT OVER THE INDIAN CORE MONSOON ZONE ON 22 AUGUST 2022 WAS DOMINATED BY STRATIFORM PRECIPITATION. C-BAND POLARIMETRIC RADAR AND REANALYSIS DATA INDICATED PLANAR CRYSTAL AND DENDRITIC ICE GROWTH NEAR −15°C. THE EVENT WAS CHARACTERIZED BY A SAGGING MELTING LAYER, LINKED TO ENHANCED RIMING AND SECONDARY ICE PRODUCTION. MICROWAVE RADIOMETER OBSERVATIONS SUPPORTED THESE FINDINGS, HIGHLIGHTING COMPLEX INTERACTIONS BETWEEN ICE MICROPHYSICS AND MELTING-LAYER PROCESSES THAT CONTRIBUTED TO INTENSE MONSOON RAINFALL, IMPROVING UNDERSTANDING OF RAINFALL GENERATION MECHANISMS OVER INDIA."

65th IITM Foundation Day, 17th November 2026

सत्यमेव जयते

BEST STUDENT RESEARCH PAPER AWARD



Ms. Meenu Nair

Senior Research Fellow

For

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO THE
BEST STUDENT RESEARCH

"FIRST TIME, TEN YEARS OF WIND PROFILER OBSERVATIONS AT GADANKI REVEAL THAT DOWNDRAFT CORES (764) OCCUR MORE FREQUENTLY THAN UPDRAFT CORES (484), ALTHOUGH UPDRAFTS ARE GENERALLY STRONGER. MOST UPDRAFTS (>70%) AND DOWNDRAFTS (>90%) REMAIN BELOW 5 M S^{-1}, WITH ONLY 12% LASTING LONGER THAN 15 MINUTES. CONGESTUS CONVECTION IS THE MOST COMMON CLOUD TYPE. SEASONAL ANALYSES SHOW DISTINCT UPDRAFT STRUCTURES, INCLUDING PRE-MONSOON DOUBLE PEAKS AND MONSOON/POST-MONSOON SINGLE PEAKS, HIGHLIGHTING THE VERTICAL DYNAMICS AND REALISTIC DRAFT MAGNITUDES OF TROPICAL CONVECTION”

65th IITM Foundation Day, 17th November 2026

BEST STUDENT PHD THESIS AWARD

सत्यमेव जयते



Dr. Rakesh Khosh

Project Scientist-II

For

OUTSTANDING PHD THESIS

"OVER INDIA, LIGHTNING CHARACTERISTICS EXHIBIT STRONG REGIONAL, SEASONAL, MICROPHYSICAL, AND AEROSOL-DEPENDENT VARIABILITY WITH IMPORTANT IMPLICATIONS FOR FORECASTING AND HAZARD MITIGATION. THE INTRACLOUD-TO-CLOUD-TO-GROUND (IC:CG) LIGHTNING RATIO VARIES GEOGRAPHICALLY FROM ABOUT 0.5-3.5 IN NORTHEAST INDIA TO 6-10 IN NORTHWEST INDIA, WITH HIGHER VALUES DURING PRE-MONSOON (3.81 ± 0.79) THAN MONSOON (3.04 ± 0.50). COLD-CLOUD DEPTH IS THE PRIMARY CONTROL ON IC:CG VARIABILITY, WHEREAS TOTAL FLASH RATE SCALES ONLY WEAKLY. MONSOON BREAK PERIODS FAVOR POSITIVE CG LIGHTNING AND ENHANCED ELECTRIFICATION THROUGH MIXED-PHASE CHARGING PROCESSES. ACTIVE MONSOON PHASES PRODUCE FEWER FLASHES DESPITE STRONGER CONVECTION, WHEREAS BREAK PERIODS SUSTAIN MIXED-PHASE HYDROMETEORS AND LOCALIZED UPDRAFTS CONDUCIVE TO LIGHTNING. LIGHTNING PREFERENTIALLY OCCURS ALONG MONSOON-TROUGH EDGES WHEN REFLECTIVITY EXCEEDS 34-38 DBZ ABOVE THE −10°C LEVEL, WITH DISTINCT VERTICAL MICROPHYSICAL SIGNATURES SEPARATING LIGHTNING AND NON-LIGHTNING STORMS."

65th IITM Foundation Day, 17th November 2026

सत्यमेव जयते

BEST PROJECT STAFF (OBSERVATIONAL RESEARCH)



Mr. Patade Sachin Ganpat

Project Scientist-E

For

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION (PROJECT SCIENTIST) IN OBSERVATIONAL RESEARCH

"HE LED THE DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF A FOG DISSIPATION CHAMBER AT IITM, PUNE, TO INVESTIGATE EFFECTIVE FOG MITIGATION TECHNIQUES AND OPERATIONAL FOG-SEEDING STRATEGIES USING SALT AND CHARGED DROPLETS. THE FACILITY IS NEARING FULL OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY. HE ALSO ANALYZED CAIPEEX AIRCRAFT AND GROUND OBSERVATIONS TO ADVANCE UNDERSTANDING OF MIXED-PHASE CLOUD MICROPHYSICS, SECONDARY ICE PRODUCTION, AND HETEROGENEOUS ICE NUCLEATION IN INDIAN MONSOON CLOUDS. ADDITIONALLY, HE ESTABLISHED INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION WITH KIT, GERMANY, FOR LONG-TERM STUDIES OF URBAN ICE-NUCLEATING PARTICLES AND AEROSOL-CLOUD INTERACTIONS"

65th IITM Foundation Day, 17th November 2026

सत्यमेव जयते

BEST PROJECT STAFF (OBSERVATIONAL RESEARCH)



Dr. Atar Singh Pipal

Project Scientist-III

For

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION (PROJECT SCIENTIST) IN OBSERVATIONAL RESEARCH

"HE CONTRIBUTED TO ATMOSPHERIC OBSERVATIONS AT IITM'S ATMOSPHERIC CHEMISTRY LABORATORY, NEW DELHI, THROUGH OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, DATA COLLECTION, VALIDATION, AND QUALITY CONTROL OF INSTRUMENTS MONITORING AEROSOLS, AIR QUALITY, CHEMICAL COMPOSITION, AND METEOROLOGICAL PARAMETERS. HIS WORKS SUPPORTED RESEARCH ON AEROSOL CHARACTERISTICS, POLLUTION SOURCES, AND ATMOSPHERIC PROCESSES. HE ALSO PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN ESTABLISHING THE OXIDATIVE POTENTIAL LABORATORY (OPL), ADVANCING HEALTH-FOCUSED AEROSOL RESEARCH BY ASSESSING PARTICULATE MATTER TOXICITY THROUGH REDOX ACTIVITY AND OXIDATIVE STRESS MEASUREMENTS BEYOND CONVENTIONAL MASS-BASED METRICS"

सत्यमेव जयते

65th IITM Foundation Day, 17th November 2026

BEST PROJECT STAFF (MODELLING RESEARCH)



Dr. Ashish Alone

Project Scientist-II

For

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION (PROJECT SCIENTIST) IN MODELLING RESEARCH

"DEVELOPED ADVANCED BIAS-CORRECTION FRAMEWORKS TO IMPROVE RAINFALL AND HYDROLOGICAL FORECASTING BY REDUCING SYSTEMATIC MODEL ERRORS AND ENHANCING MULTI-STEP PREDICTION ACCURACY. KEY CONTRIBUTIONS INCLUDE A RECURSIVE RANDOM-FORECAST-BASED BIAS CORRECTION APPROACH FOR CENTRAL INDIA EXTREME RAINFALL FORECASTS AND AN LSTM-BASED FRAMEWORK FOR WRF-HYDRO HYDROLOGICAL PREDICTIONS. ACTIVITIES ENCOMPASSED HISTORICAL DATA PREPROCESSING, MODEL TRAINING AND VALIDATION, ERROR DIAGNOSTICS, PERFORMANCE EVALUATION USING STATISTICAL METRICS, AND INTEGRATION OF CORRECTED FORECASTS INTO OPERATIONAL WORKFLOWS, SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVING FORECAST RELIABILITY, CONSISTENCY, AND PRACTICAL APPLICABILITY"

सत्यमेव जयते

65th IITM Foundation Day, 17th November 2026

BEST PROJECT STAFF (MODELLING RESEARCH)



Mr. Prafull Prakash Yadav

Project Scientist-I

For

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION (PROJECT SCIENTIST) IN MODELLING RESEARCH

"HE SUPPORTED OPERATIONAL AQEWS–DSS FORECASTING BY MERGING EMISSION INVENTORIES FOR 55 INDIAN CITIES AND IMPLEMENTING ADVANCED DATA ASSIMILATION OF OCM, VIIRS AOD, AND MOPITT CO IN WRF-CHEM. HE DEVELOPED AQEWS FRAMEWORKS FOR ALWAR, BHIWADI, AND JODHPUR, INITIATED MPAS MODEL SETUP AND TESTING, AND CONTRIBUTED TO FORECAST EVALUATION, SENSOR DATA QUALITY CONTROL, TECHNICAL REPORTING, AND UNEP PROJECT ANALYSES. THESE EFFORTS RESULTED IN SIX PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS, INCLUDING THREE AS FIRST AUTHOR."

65th IITM Foundation Day, 17th November 2026

सत्यमेव जयते

SPECIAL APPRECIATION AWARD



Dr. A. K. Srivastava,
Scientist-F

For

SPECIAL APPRECIATION AWARD FOR HIS LEADERSHIP QUALITIES IN ORDER TO EXECUTIVE ACTIVITIES AT IITM NEW DELHI BRANCH OFFICE

सत्यमेव जयते

BEST MSC./M.TECH./INTERN DISSERTATION AWARD



Mr. Ankit Kumar

(IIT-Kharagpur)

For

OUTSTANDING DISSERTATION/REPROTS
(OBSERVATIONS)

Title: Deep Learning-Based Reconstruction and Retrieval of Radar Reflectivity Products from INSAT-3DR Geostationary Observations: Comparative Analysis of U-Net, GAN-Refined, and Transformer Architectures with Near Real-Time Visualization Applications

Dr. Amita Prabhu (Guide)

Committee (Academic Cell)

सत्यमेव जयते

BEST MSC./M.TECH./INTERN DISSERTATION AWARD



Mr. Shivam Kumar

(NIT, Rourkela)

For

OUTSTANDING DISSERTATION/REPROTS
(DEVELOPMENT)

Title: Design and Development of a WebBased Visualization Platform for the Bharat Forecast System (BharatFS) with Heat Index Analysis

Dr. Sahadat Sarkar (Guide)

Committee (Academic Cell)

65th IITM Foundation Day, 17th November 2026

सत्यमेव जयते

BEST MSC./M.TECH./INTERN DISSERTATION AWARD



Mr. Saksham Kumar

(Central University of Rajastan)

For

OUTSTANDING DISSERTATION/REPROTS
(MODELLING)

Title: Assessment of Tropical Cyclone Impacts and Coastal Vulnerability over the North Indian Ocean

Dr. Himabindu Hanumandhu (Guide)

Committee (Academic Cell)

65th IITM Foundation Day, 17th November 2026

सत्यमेव जयते

BEST PERFORMANCE AWARD IN ADMINISTRATIVE CATEGORY (REGULAR)



Shri B. T. Pawar,
Junior Executive

For

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN ADMINISTRATIVE CATEGORY

सत्यमेव जयते

BEST PERFORMANCE AWARD IN ADMINISTRATIVE CATEGORY (CONTRACT)



Smt. Pradnya Suryavanshi,
Section Officer

For

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN
ADMINISTRATIVE CATEGORY

सत्यमेव जयते

CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS SWACHHATA HI SEVA (SHS) 2026



Dr. (Smt.) B. Padmakumari, Scientist-F

For

THE CATEGORY OF OFFICE PREMISES

सत्यमेव जयते

CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS SWACHHATA HI SEVA (SHS) 2026



Shri Srinivas Rao
UDC

For

THE CATEGORY OF RESIDENTIAL PREMISES

सत्यमेव जयते

CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS SWACHHATA HI SEVA (SHS) 2026



Ms. Tanvi Desai
SRF

For

THE CATEGORY OF HOSTEL PREMISES