

IIT Hyderabad hosted International Conference on Circadian Rhythms in Health and Diseases (CRHD 2024)

Prof. Vinod Kumar, President of the Indian Society for Chronobiology was awarded Lifetime Achievement Award

Highlights :

- *International Conference on Circadian Rhythms in Health and Diseases: From Discovery to Function (CRHD 2024)*
- *Prof. Ch. Mohan Rao, President of Telangana Academy of Sciences and former Director of the Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology (CCMB) graced the occasion as Chief Guest.*
- *Lifetime Achievement Award has been presented to Prof. Vinod Kumar, President of the Indian Society for Chronobiology*
- *CRHD 2024 brought together leading scientists from 11 countries*
- *This is a new benchmark for the Indian chronobiology community*

Hyderabad, 10th December 2024: The Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) proudly hosted the **International Conference on Circadian Rhythms in Health and Diseases: From Discovery to Function (CRHD 2024)** in conjunction with the **Biennial Meeting of the Indian Society for Chronobiology (InSC)** from 5-7 December 2024 at its state-of-the-art Convention Center. The conference was supported by the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), Department of Science & Technology, Government of India.

The event was convened by Dr. Sandipan Ray, Assistant Professor and Group Leader of the Circadian Rhythms and Disease Biology Laboratory, Department of Biotechnology, IITH, and co-convened by Dr. Neeraj Kumar, Assistant Professor of Cognitive Science, Department of Liberal Arts, IITH.

Inauguration and Key Highlights:

The conference was inaugurated in the presence of the distinguished **Chief Guest, Prof. Ch. Mohan Rao, President of Telangana Academy of Sciences and former Director of the Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology (CCMB)**. The event also featured opening addresses by Prof. B.S. Murty, Director, IITH, Prof. G. Narahari Sastry, Dean of Sponsored Research & Consultancy, IITH, and Dr. Sandipan Ray, the convenor of CRHD 2024.

A highlight of the event was the presentation of the **Lifetime Achievement Award to Prof. Vinod Kumar, President of the Indian Society for Chronobiology**, for his remarkable contributions to chronobiology research and education in India.

Global Collaboration and Focus on Chronobiology:

CRHD 2024 brought together leading scientists from **11 countries**, including Australia, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Singapore, the UAE, the UK, Israel, the USA, and India. The conference featured 55% international speakers, fostering a rich exchange of ideas and advancing the field of chronobiology. With a focus on the profound impact of circadian rhythms on human health, the event emphasized their role in regulating daily physiological, metabolic, emotional, and behavioural processes. The importance of circadian rhythms was underscored by the 2017 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for the discovery of molecular mechanisms controlling these rhythms.

Scientific Sessions and Panel Discussions:

The conference program included keynote addresses, innovative research presentations, and thought-provoking panel discussions:

1. **“Circadian Rhythms in Translational Clinical Research: Prospects and Challenges”**
Moderated by **Dr. Sandipan Ray**, this session featured seven global experts, including representatives from **Swinburne University (Australia)**, **Monash University (Australia)**,

University of Sydney (Australia), University of Oxford (UK), The Ohio State University (USA), and others. The discussion emphasized integrating circadian factors into translational clinical research and explored challenges in implementing chronobiology findings in clinical practice.

2. “The Future of Industry-Academia Collaboration for Creating a Start-up-Friendly Ecosystem” moderated by Prof. Chandra Shekhar Sharma, Department of Chemical Engineering, IITH, this session included eminent academicians from IITH and senior representatives from Novartis, Thermo Fisher Scientific, and Agilent Technologies, along with Dr. Krishna Kanth Pulicherla from the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India. The panel deliberated on fostering industry-academia collaboration to nurture a start-up-friendly ecosystem.

A Milestone for Indian Chronobiology:

Dr. Sandipan Ray, the convenor of CRHD 2024, remarked, “This event marks a pioneering initiative in India, showcasing the critical applications of circadian rhythms in health and disease research. It serves as a springboard for international collaboration and engagement in this vital field.”

CRHD 2024 has set a new benchmark for the Indian chronobiology community, paving the way for groundbreaking advancements in research and innovation.

About IIT Hyderabad:

IITH, established in 2008, as one of the second Generation IITs, has reached a respectable position in both academics, research, technology development and startups in the short span of 16 years. In the recent Indian National Ranking (NIRF-2024), IITH is placed at 3rd in Innovation and 8th among Engineering institutes in India.

It has 320+ full-time faculty, 5,300+ students (PG + PhD students accounting for about 60%). The institute has a strong research focus with Rs. 1300+ Cr of R&D funding, 11,000+ publications, 420+ Patents, and about 260+ startups (that have generated 1100+ jobs and a revenue of Rs. 1500+ Cr). Follow us on [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Koo](#), and [YouTube](#) for the latest updates.

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