

Intel STDF Coaching Camp Report

1. Event Details

- Name: Intel STDF Coaching Camp
- Date: January 10 to 13, 2005
- Venue: Nehru Science Centre, Mumbai
- Audience Size: 16 Students & 12 Guides

2. Background (Why is the Event taking place)

The Intel Science Talent Discovery was held from December 10 to 12, 2004 at Anna University, Chennai. Eight Individual and four Team Projects were selected as National Winners from the two fairs held. These students were invited for a Coaching Camp at Nehru Science Centre from January 10 to 13, 2005.

3. Objective of the Event

- To select four Individual and two Team Projects to represent India at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair to be held from May 8 to 14, 2005 at Phoenix, Arizona.
- Review the project improvements made by the students based on suggestions given to them at the National Fair during the course of the Project Improvement session.
- Provide project improvement tips to final selected students in terms of their:
 - Content
 - Display material
 - Presentation skills

4. Agenda

Schedule For Intel STDF Coaching Camp at Nehru Science Center, Mumbai

Dates: January 10 to 13, 2005

Monday, Jan 10

0900 hrs	Students report in to the venue
1115 hrs	Students & guides report at the Conference Room
1130 hrs	Welcome session by Intel and Nehru Science Center
1200 hrs	Setting-up of the projects by the students
1300 hrs	Lunch
1330 hrs	Brief introduction of students and their projects
1430 hrs	Introduction to ISEF rules and guidelines
1500 hrs	Group formation and introduction to respective Judges/Mentors
1530 hrs	Individual project study and discussion on improvement with respective Judges/Mentors (individual groups)
1630 hrs	Tea Break
1700hrs	Work on improvements recommended by Judges and Mentors

Tuesday Jan 11

0900 hrs	Breakfast for students
0930 hrs	Students report outside the Auditorium
0940 hrs	Outdoor visit to NEERI & IIT Mumbai for project improvement
1700 hrs	Departure from IIT Mumbai for Nehru Science Center
1830 hrs	Arrival at Nehru Science Center & free time to work on Project

Wednesday Jan 12

0900 hrs	Breakfast for students
1000 hrs	Students report at the Conference Room
1000 1100 hrs	Time for further work on project
1100 1200 hrs	Pre-Judging
1200 1300 hrs	Judging
1300 1400 hrs	Lunch
1400 1500 hrs	Core Committee Review
1530 hrs	Announcement of the final projects for Intel ISEF 2005

Thursday Jan 13

0900 hrs	Breakfast for students
0945 hrs	Selected students & guides report at the Conference Room
1000 hrs	One to one interaction with Judges/Mentors for further inputs to selected projects <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Improvement tips▪ Display set up and content▪ Communication tips▪ Checklist for additional experiments▪ Intel ISEF SRC forms
1200 hrs	Break for lunch & all disperse

5. Judges

S. No	Name of Judge	Area of Specialization	Institution
1.	Dr. Anjali Srivastava	Environmental Science	National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI)
2.	Dr. D. V. Prabhu	Chemistry	Wilson College
3.	Dr. G. S. Rautela	Physics	Nehru Science Centre
4.	Dr. Harish Hirani	Mechanical Engineering	IIT Bombay
5.	Dr. J. B. Mistry	Physics	St. Xavier College
6.	Dr. K.B.K Rao	Botany/Zoology	Advance Centre Training, Research & Education on Cancer (ACTREC)
7.	Dr. Ravi Rao	Mathematics	IIT Bombay
8.	Mr. Arya	Aerospace Engineering	IIT Bombay
9.	Mr. Chetan Singh Solanki	Mechanical Engineering	IIT Bombay
10.	Mr. Sasikumar Mukundan	Computer Science	National Council Software & Technology. (NCST)
11.	Mrs. Medha Rajyadhaksha	Botany	Sophia College
12.	Prof. P. J. Bhat	Biosciences	IIT Bombay
13.	Shri. B.S. P. Rao	Engineering	Retd. Scientist Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC)

6. Day Wise Activities

Day 0: January 9, 2005

All the outstation students reported at the Venue.

Day 1: January 10, 2005

The Coaching Camp commenced with a warm welcome from the Intel SDF team with a presentation on Intel ISEF and the importance of the Coaching Camp. Dr. G. S. Rautela, Director Nehru Science Centre then welcomed the students and inspired them with a motivating speech. He along with Dr. Prabhu shared their experience as Judges at the Intel ISEF.

Students were then given time to set-up their projects for the Judging round which was to be held post-lunch.

Post-lunch Dr. Rautela briefed the Mentors/Judges and students on the ISEF Rules and Guidelines. The Judges were subject experts from various fields relevant to the selected projects. Judges evaluated whether students had incorporated the improvements on their project as suggested at the National Fair.

Day 2: January 11, 2005

The students were taken on an outdoor visit to National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI). Dr. Anjali Srivastava from NEERI, gave them a brief talk on following:

- Pollution measurement and different instruments used for it.
- Sewage measurement in water.
- Rate at which the toxic material spreads in water.
- Other environment related issues and techniques of measurement.

The students then moved towards Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Powai, Bombay. The first interaction of the students was with the Aerospace Department: Dr. Panth gave them a brief presentation on the evolution of Aviation. Students really enjoyed the session as it was interactive and animated one that the students related very well with.

After lunch, the students visited the assigned Professors who helped them with their queries and provided additional insights on their research work.

Day 3: January 12, 2005

The students were given time to incorporate suggestions from their interaction with the scientists at IIT, Mumbai.

During the pre-judging, subject experts along with the Core Committee reviewed the projects and evaluated them as per the ISEF Judging Criteria. Subject experts and the Core Committee then interviewed the students.

Dr. Rautela collated feedback from the Subject experts, which formed the basis of discussion for the Core Committee. The Core Committee, along with a few Subject experts, selected the 6 projects to represent India at Intel ISEF 2005. Ms. Anjali Nichani announced the 6 winners who would represent India at the ISEF, while Dr. Rautela gave away the sashes.

To keep the spirit of discovery alive, the students who did not qualify for the ISEF were given summer internships at renowned institutes of India. All the students were then taken for a farewell dinner at a local McDonalds.

The Winners

Individual Category

Name of Students	Project Title	Subject Category
Mrunmaye V. Math	Anti-malarial Properties Of Calycoteris Floribunda	Biochemistry
Anitha P R	Parthenium A Friendly Plant?	Botany
Sharika S	Shatavari (Asparagus) – A Potential Enhancer Of Breast milk Production	Zoology
Malvika Tiwari	Foot Operated Vehicle Device For The Physically Challenged	Engineering

Team Projects

Name of Students	Project Title	Subject Category
Malika Desai & Suvarta Desai	Traditional Spices as Bio- Pesticides	Environmental Science
Mihir Tandon & Riddhiman Yadav	Improvised Artificial Limb	Engineering

Day 4: January 13, 2005

The selected students were taken through the following details:

- Intel ISEF SRC Forms
- Display material they need to submit for the final display panel
- Timelines for form submissions
- Processing details for their passport and visa

Most students left the same day as they were preparing for their pre-boards.

7. Follow-Up Activities

- All students to complete SRC forms and e-mail their abstracts to the Intel STDF postal address by the first week of February 2005.
- Final Research plans to be e-mailed to jmehta@bom.direm.com by the first week of February 2005.
- Finalist to email their display content to jmehta@bom.direm.com by the last week of March 2005.

8. Key Highlights & Lowlights

Highlights

- The students had great experience interacting with the subject experts.
- All the students had put in lot of hardwork for improving their projects in such short span of time.
- Students appreciated their trip to NEERI & IIT Mumbai as they gained valuable feedback from the scientists, both general as well related to their research work.
- The students enjoyed the dinner at Mc Donald as they got time to talk about their hobbies and spend some fun time together after 3 days of hardwork and competition.

Low Lights

- As the Coaching Camp dates clashed with the pre-boards for some students they missed a couple of papers/exams.
- For the first time, students were eliminated at the Coaching Camp level. This was taken in good spirit by the children but seemed to be demotivating, given the small audience.