

Academy of Finland keen to partner with CSIR Labs

A three member delegation from the Academy of Finland visited CSIR, New Delhi on Friday 17 November, 2006 for holding discussions to evolve ways and means to strengthen and enlarge the scope of S&T cooperation with CSIR in emerging fields of mutual interest. The following attended the meeting:

Academy of Finland

Dr (Ms). Jaana Roos, Senior Science Advisor
Dr (Ms) Sirpa Huuskonen, Science Adviser
Dr. Jukka Reivinen, Science adviser

CSIR

Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Head, ISTAD
Dr. B.K.Ramaprasad, Scientist, ISTAD
Dr. U.S.Tandon, Scientist, ISTAD
Sh. A.K. Chakraborty, Scientist, ISTAD
Sh. Pramod Bhushan, Scientist, ISTAD
Dr. (Ms) Rama Bansal, Scientist, ISTAD
Dr. (Ms) Purnima Rupal, Scientist, ISTAD

Dr. Alok Dhawan, Scientist, ITRC, Lucknow
Dr. Rishi Shankar, Scientist, ITRC, Lucknow
Dr. D. K. Dutta, Scientist, RRL- Jorhat

Head, ISTAD chaired the meeting and apprised the delegation of the activities of CSIR in relation to the scope of the working of the Academy. After a power point presentation on CSIR, the scientists of ITRC and RRL made a detailed presentation on the achievements and on going projects in the areas of nanomedicine, nano probes, nanomaterial toxicology, nano biotechnology and nanoparticle composites.

Dr. Roos made a detailed presentation on the Academy of Finland. She informed that the Academy has agreements with 38 organizations in 26 countries. As a research funding agency, the Academy's aim is to support the application of research results for the benefit of social welfare, culture, economy and environment. Each year the Academy receives applications worth 1.2 billion Euros and makes funding decisions worth 240 million Euros. More than 500 researchers benefit every year from the Academy's research funding.

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International Science and Technology Affairs Division
Council of Scientific & Industrial Research
New Delhi 110006*

The Academy is the contact point for the prestigious 7th Framework Programme (FP7) of the European Union scheduled to be launched in January 2007. Dr. Roos concluded by inviting CSIR to explore possibilities of accessing research funding in the areas of material research and nanosciences through joint projects. She also requested CSIR to make use of the '*Finland Distinguished Professor Programme*' wherein the Academy funds the visit of outstanding researchers from across the globe for a fixed term of 2-3 years to work in Centres of Excellence in diverse areas of science in Finland.

It was agreed by both sides to initiate steps to explore funding possibilities for collaborative projects by CSIR in the area of nanosciences and also try to tap the potential of the visiting professorship scheme.

Further information is available on the Academy's website: www.aka.fi/eng and phone 358 9 774 881

Queries in this regard can also be forwarded to istad@csir.res.in

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