

# Eminent scientist lays stress on non-strategic R&D

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

JORHAT, May 12: Padma Bhushan Awardee Dr T Ramasami, a distinguished scientist and a former Secretary of Department of Science and Technology of the Central Government, on Saturday said that non-strategic research and development (R&D) was the need of the hour and that the Fourth Industrial Revolution was about the non-strategic sector. He was delivering a lecture as the chief guest at a function organised to celebrate National Technology Day at the CSIR-NEIST on the Pulibor outskirts here.

The function was attended by a large gathering of scientists, researchers, students and innovators from the north-eastern region.

Speaking on the topic 'Role of Non-Strategic Research and Development: In Shaping Future of India', Dr Ramasami reiterated the significance of National Technology Day and touched upon many important aspects of how the Non Strategic R&D sector can play a vital role for bringing sustainable developmental goals.



Stating that non-strategic R&D was the need of hour, Dr Ramasami, said that CSIR is the custodian of non-strategic R&D in India and the organisation should strive for collaborative excellence along with competitive excellence.

He further elaborated about the evolutionary paths of R&D from early human history, post Industrial Revolution to 20th century and then to 21st century realities.

The eminent scientist said that the Fourth Industrial Revolution was about non-strategic sector and emphasised that the technologies of the Fourth Industrial revolution must ensure that they were equitable for the society, bearable for the planet and viable for the economy. Dr Ramasami further spoke about the challenges and opportunities for the non-strategic R&D in the north-eastern setting.

Dr G Narahari Sastry, Director, CSIR-NEIST, in his address, mentioned about the significance of the day and stressed upon the need for strengthening of the MSME sector in the north-eastern region. SC Kalita, Chief Scientist and Head of Engineering Sciences and Technology Division, CSIR-NEIST, offered the vote of thanks in the function.