

MARCH-MAY 2026

NEWS ON CSIR

R&D ACHIEVEMENTS

Volume:4





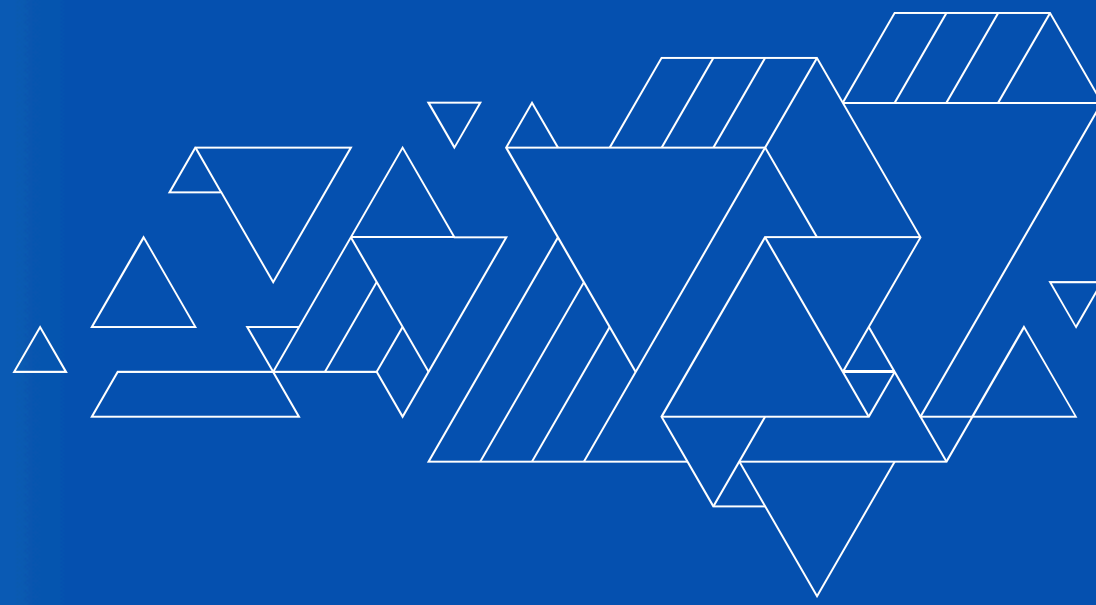
CSIR stands at the forefront of shaping India's scientific future with innovation, sustainability and inclusivity. This newsletter mirrors our mission transforming cutting-edge research into societal impact, nurturing young minds and building India's strength as a global knowledge leader.

Dr. (Mrs.) N. Kalaiselvi, Secretary, DSIR; DG CSIR and Secretary (Additional Charge), Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)



At CSIR-NIScPR, we are committed to connecting Science, Technology and Innovation with society through policy research, communication and outreach. This edition highlights our initiatives from empowering grassroots innovation to fostering industry linkages, making science not just informative, but transformative for communities and the nation.

Dr. (Mrs.) Geetha Vani Rayasam, Director, CSIR-NIScPR



CSIR and MEA Strengthened Science Diplomacy with Global South Nations



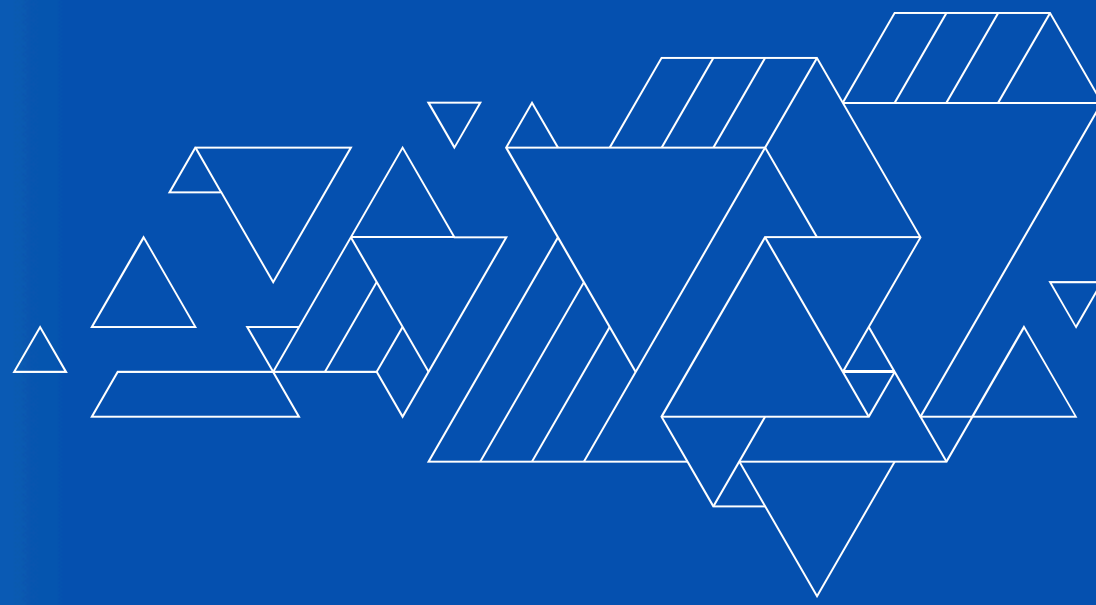
The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), organised a high-level “Capabilities Discovery Session” for Ambassadors and High Commissioners from Global South countries on 24 March 2026 in New Delhi. Jointly led by Dr Neena Malhotra, Secretary (South), MEA, and Dr N. Kalaiselvi, Director General, CSIR and Secretary, DSIR, the session showcased India’s scientific and technological capabilities across healthcare, agriculture, water, energy, infrastructure and climate resilience. Scientists from various CSIR laboratories presented innovative technologies addressing global challenges. The programme reinforced India’s commitment to science diplomacy and strengthened opportunities for collaborative research, technology transfer and sustainable development partnerships with Global South nations.



CSIR-NIScPR Celebrated International Women's Day 2026 with Focus on Leadership, Innovation and Well-being

CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR), New Delhi, celebrated International Women's Day 2026 on 6 March with a special programme highlighting the achievements and contributions of women in science. Dr Geetha Vani Rayasam, Director, CSIR-NIScPR, emphasised the importance of gender equality and women's empowerment in scientific research and innovation. The event featured talks by the Chief Guest, Dr Vibha Malhotra Sahwney, Scientist 'H' and Head, TMD, CSIR Headquarters, and Dr Minu Chandra, Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Medical Sciences. A special women scientist-centric issue of Vigyan Pragati, CSIR-NIScPR's popular science magazine, was also released during the programme. The programme reaffirmed CSIR-NIScPR's commitment to promoting women's participation and leadership in science and research.





WHO SEARO and **CSIR-IGIB** Strengthen Regional Capacity for Dengue Genomic Surveillance

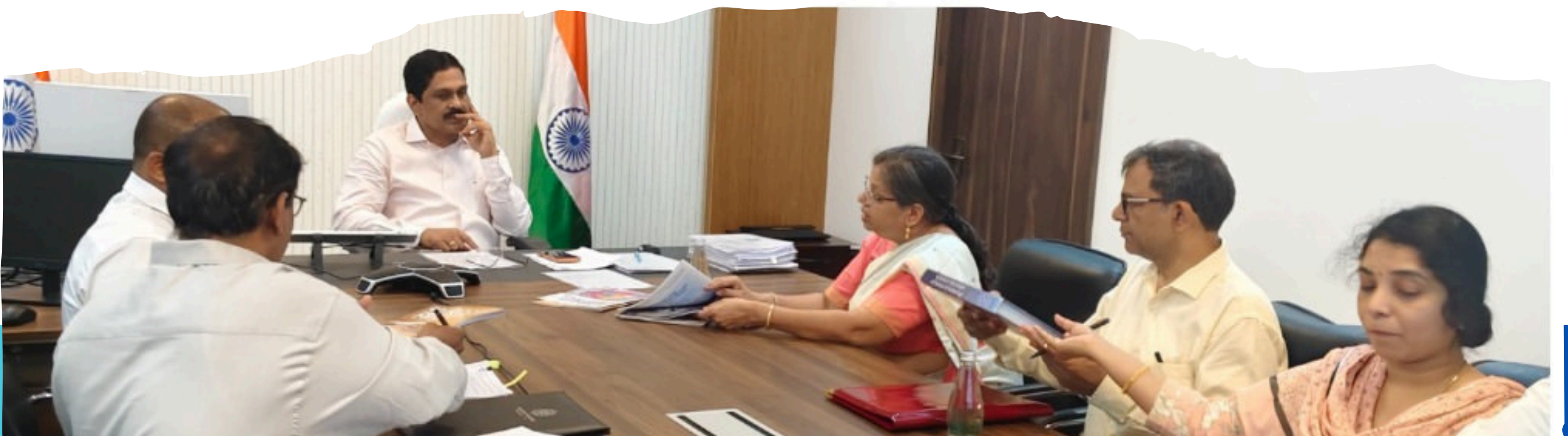


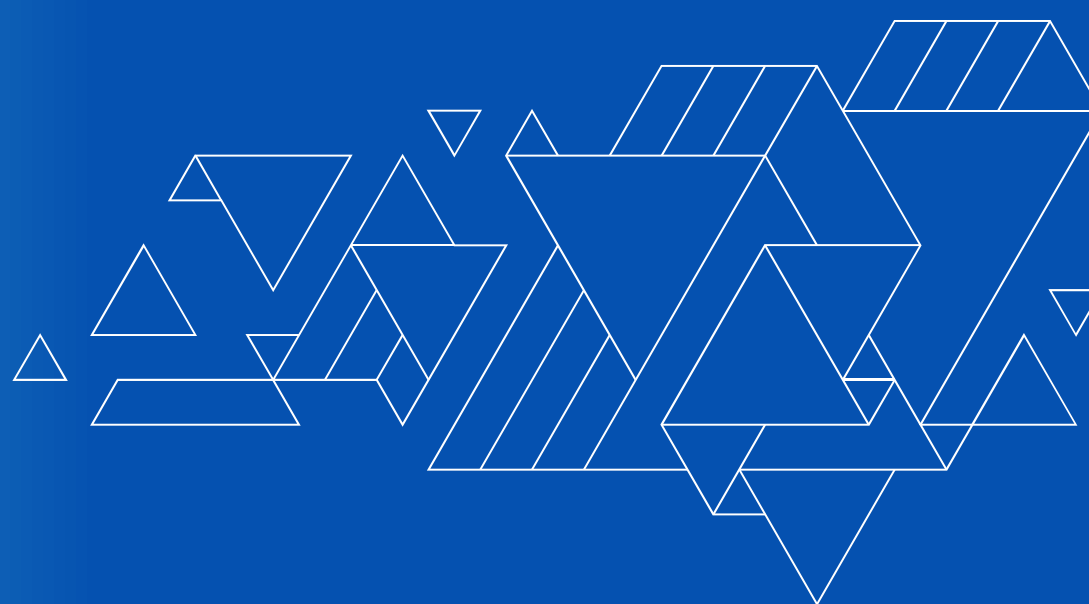
WHO South-East Asia Regional Office (SEARO), in collaboration with CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (CSIR-IGIB), organised a five-day regional workshop on dengue genome sequencing and bioinformatics analysis from 16–20 March 2026 at CSIR-IGIB. The hands-on training brought together laboratory experts and public health professionals from Bhutan, Nepal and Timor-Leste to strengthen genomic surveillance capacity. Participants were trained across the complete genomic workflow, from viral sample sequencing to advanced bioinformatics and phylogenetic analysis, enabling them to track dengue lineages, understand transmission pathways and interpret genomic data for public health decisions. The workshop also promoted standardized analytical approaches, regional knowledge sharing and stronger surveillance networks to support earlier outbreak detection, targeted response strategies and enhanced health security preparedness.



CSIR-NIScPR Strengthens Strategic Partnerships in STI Policy and Science Communication

CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR) expanded its collaborative network through MoUs with the Science City of Andhra Pradesh (SCAP) and the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), signed on 30 March and 6 May 2026, respectively. The partnerships aim to advance Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) policy research, science communication, science diplomacy and evidence-based policymaking. The collaboration with SCAP focuses on joint research, capacity building, training, publications and outreach to enhance scientific awareness and benefit students, researchers and academic institutions across Andhra Pradesh. The partnership with RIS promotes joint research, policy analysis and knowledge sharing, with emphasis on science diplomacy, South-South cooperation, traditional knowledge and sustainable development.





First Scientific Conclave on Indian Pharmacopoeia 2026 Held at **CSIR-IIIM** Jammu



The first-ever scientific conclave and interactive session on Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP) 2026 in Jammu and Kashmir was held at CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (CSIR-IIIM), Jammu, on 17 April 2026 to strengthen drug quality standards and regulatory coordination. Organised by the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC), in collaboration with CSIR-IIIM and the J&K Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association, the event brought together regulators, industry, academia and researchers. Dr Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM, highlighted the importance of robust regulatory frameworks and GMP-compliant infrastructure for translating research into medicines. Dr V Kalaiselvan, Secretary-cum-Scientific Director, IPC, noted that IP 2026 includes over 3,000 monographs and supports scientific autonomy, exports, ease of doing business, green pharmacopoeia and pharmacovigilance initiatives.

NEWS CAPSULES

CSIR-NBRI Organised Bougainvillea Festival 2026 to Promote Urban Gardening and Biodiversity



CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute (CSIR-NBRI), Lucknow, organised the two-day Bougainvillea Festival 2026 at the Central Lawn of its Botanic Garden on 14-15 March 2026. The festival aimed to promote ornamental horticulture, biodiversity conservation and urban gardening. Shri N. K. S. Chauhan, Officer on Special Duty in the Chief Minister's Office, inaugurated the event as the Chief Guest. Speaking on the occasion, Dr D. K. Awasthi, Director, CSIR-NBRI, highlighted the importance of preserving bougainvillea's genetic diversity and encouraging climate-suitable home gardening. The festival concluded with a prize distribution ceremony graced by Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel, who felicitated winners across various competition categories.



CSIR-IIIM Organised Flower Show-cum-Floritech Conclave 2026

CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (CSIR-IIIM), Jammu, organised the Flower Show-cum-Floritech Conclave 2026 on 14-15 March 2026. The event was inaugurated by Dr N. Kalaiselvi, Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) and Director General, CSIR. In her presidential address, Dr Kalaiselvi highlighted the institute's long-standing tradition of organising flower shows since 1961 and emphasised the role of floriculture and apiculture in promoting rural livelihoods and economic diversification. She noted that region-specific scientific interventions can help farmers adopt crops best suited to local conditions and market demand. Dr Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM Jammu, reaffirmed the institute's commitment to strengthening the floriculture sector through science-driven innovations and outreach initiatives.



Australian Consul General Visited CSIR-IMMT to Strengthen Critical Minerals Collaboration

The Australian Consul General in Kolkata, H.E. Bernard Lynch, visited CSIR-Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology (CSIR-IMMT), Bhubaneswar, on 15 March 2026 to explore opportunities for strengthening Indo-Australian cooperation in critical minerals and advanced mineral processing technologies. During the visit, he held discussions with Dr Ramanuj Narayan, Director, CSIR-IMMT, and senior scientists, and toured key research facilities. Dr Kali Sanjay highlighted the institute's collaborations with Australian organisations, including the University of Adelaide and CSIRO, Australia, as well as initiatives under the Centre of Excellence on Critical Minerals. The visit concluded with a tree plantation, symbolising the shared commitment to sustainable development and scientific cooperation.



Odisha Village Selected Under CSIR's Smart Village Initiative

Kusunupur village in Odisha's Kendrapara district has been selected as one of six villages across India under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)'s Smart Village initiative. Notably, it is the only village from eastern India chosen for the programme. The initiative aims to transform rural communities through science-led interventions in agriculture, livelihood generation, nutrition, education and disaster resilience. The selected villages will serve as "living laboratories" where innovations developed in research laboratories will be implemented and tested on the ground. The three-year programme seeks to develop scalable rural development models that can be replicated across the country, promoting sustainable and inclusive growth.



CSIR Transferred Bio-Bitumen Technology to Turn Farm Residue into Sustainable Roads

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) organised a Technology Transfer Event on 30 March 2026 in New Delhi for its innovative technology, “Bio-Bitumen from Lignocellulosic Biomass – From Farm Residue to Roads,” marking a significant step towards sustainable and circular infrastructure development. Developed jointly by CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CSIR-CRRI) and CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum (CSIR-IIP), the technology converts agricultural residues into a renewable alternative to conventional petroleum-based bitumen. The event was attended by Union Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Dr Jitendra Singh and CSIR Director General Dr N. Kalaiselvi. The technology addressed stubble burning, reduced dependence on imported bitumen and supported India’s climate, circular economy and Waste-to-Wealth goals.



Hon'ble Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh Inaugurated BioNEST Incubation Centre at CSIR-CFTRI

On 3 April 2026, Union Minister of State (IC) for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, Dr Jitendra Singh, inaugurated the BIRAC-BioNEST Incubation Centre at CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute (CSIR-CFTRI), Mysuru, and reviewed an exhibition of startup-driven technologies and products. The state-of-the-art incubation facility was designed to support food and biotechnology startups through advanced infrastructure, research support and technology validation. As of March 2026, the BioNEST ecosystem had supported 26 startups working in areas such as nutraceuticals, precision fermentation, probiotics and CRISPR-based technologies. During the event, four MoUs were signed and two products were launched, reinforcing CSIR-CFTRI's role in fostering innovation, entrepreneurship and industry collaboration in India's food processing and biotechnology sectors.



Hon'ble Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh Inaugurated Aroma Industry Farmer Meet Ahead of Lavender Festival 2026

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, and Vice President, CSIR, Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated the Aroma Industry–Farmer Meet on 9 May 2026 at the CSIR Innovation Complex, Mumbai. Organised by CSIR–Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (CSIR–IIIM), Jammu, as a precursor to Lavender Festival 2026, the event brought together aroma industries, scientists, startups, entrepreneurs and lavender farmers from Jammu and Kashmir. Addressing the gathering virtually, Dr Singh highlighted the success of the CSIR Aroma Mission and the Purple Revolution in creating livelihood opportunities through aromatic crop cultivation. The meet aimed to strengthen industry–farmer linkages, promote value addition and support the growth of a sustainable lavender–based enterprise ecosystem.



Hon'ble Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh Highlighted Himalayan Economy as a Key Driver of Viksit Bharat 2047

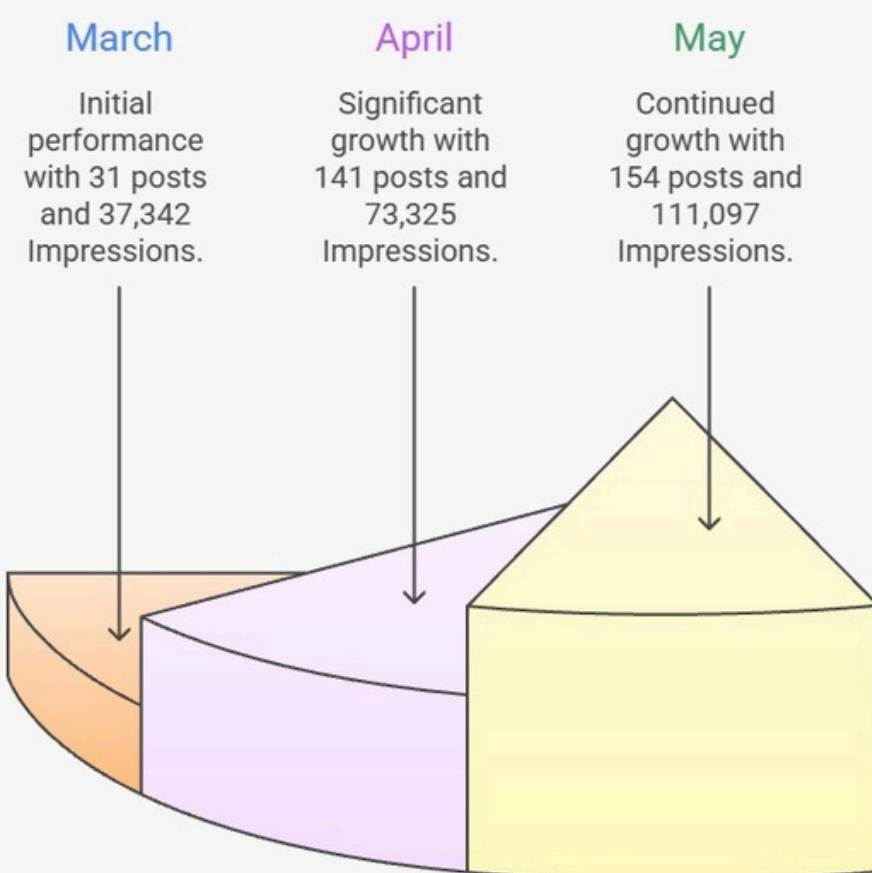
On 28 May 2026, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, Dr Jitendra Singh, addressed the National Technology Day programme at CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (CSIR-IHBT), Palampur, highlighting the Himalayan economy as a major contributor to India's future growth under the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. He emphasised the role of scientific interventions through initiatives such as the Aroma Mission and Floriculture Mission in creating livelihood opportunities for farmers, women, youth and entrepreneurs across Himalayan regions. The programme was attended by Dr N. Kalaiselvi, Director General, CSIR and Secretary, DSIR. Dr Singh also highlighted CSIR-IHBT's contributions in floriculture, aromatic crops, nutrition, biotechnology and the sustainable utilisation of Himalayan bioresources for economic development and self-reliance.



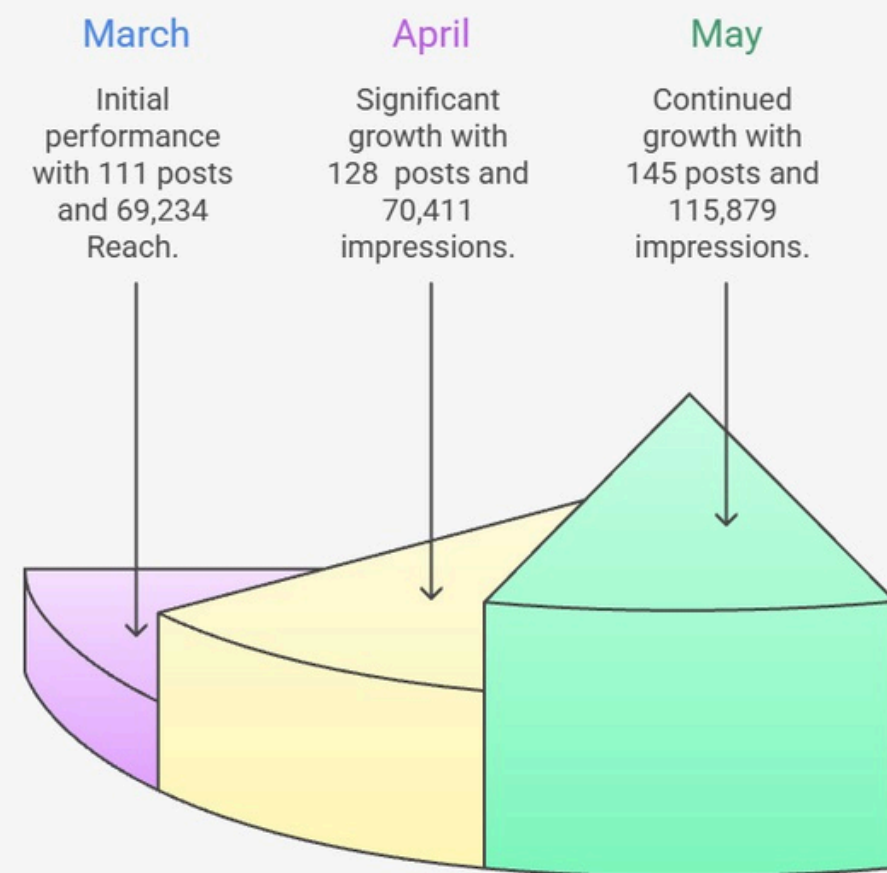
DATA ANALYSIS



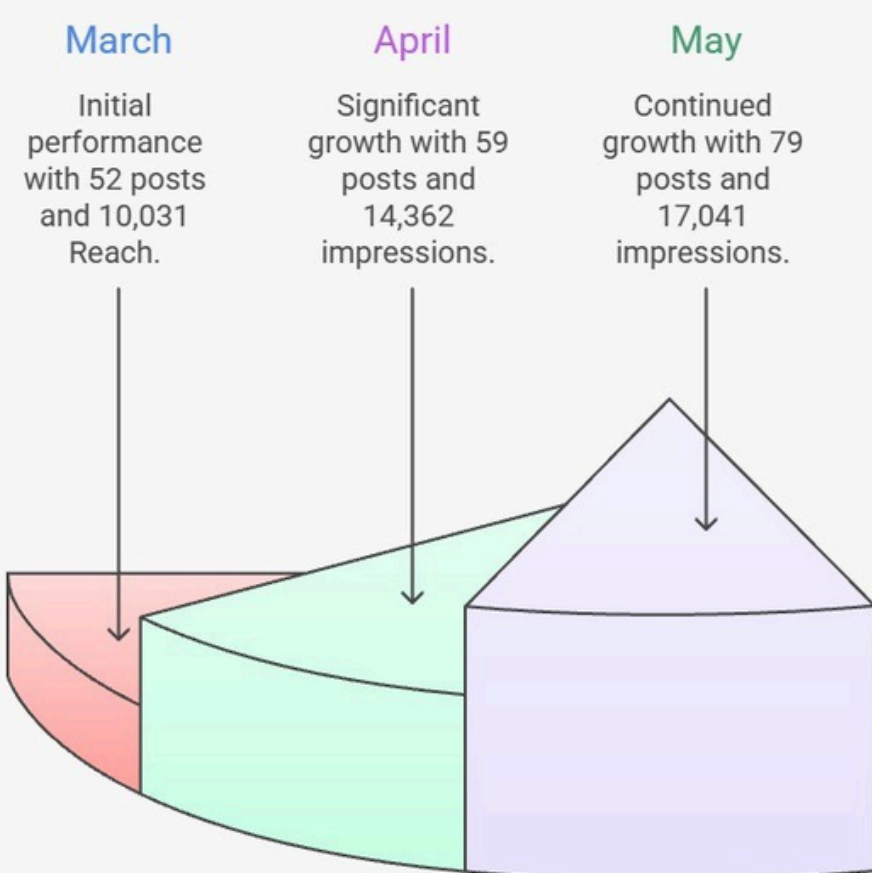
X (Twitter): Monthly Engagement Growth



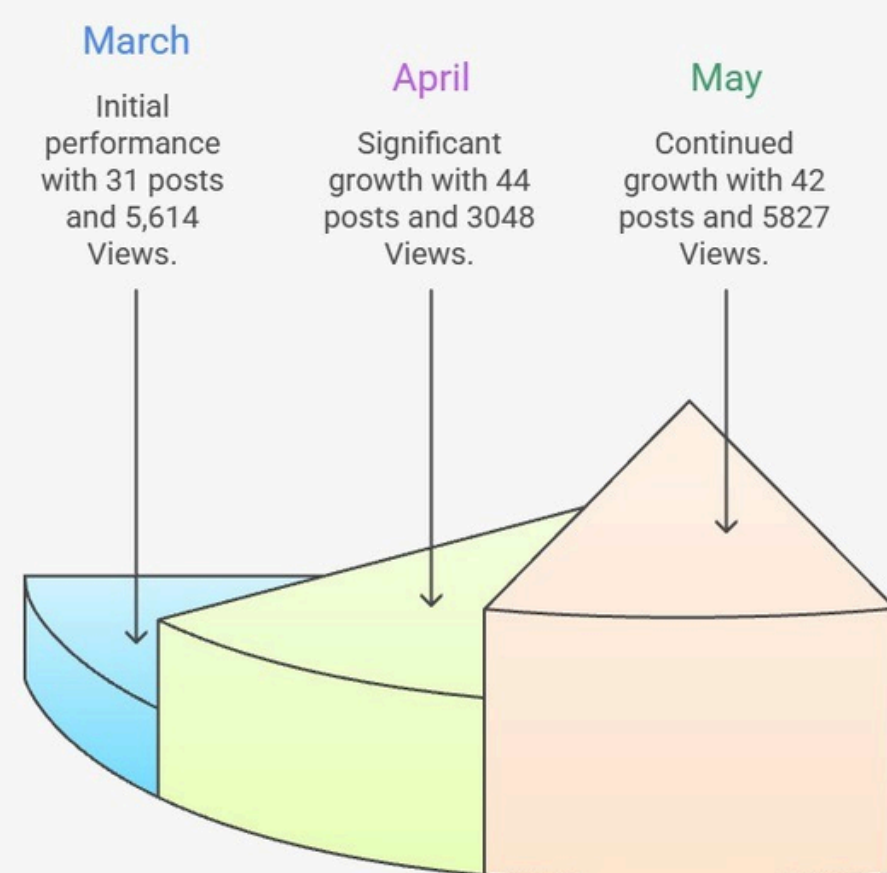
Facebook: Monthly Engagement Growth



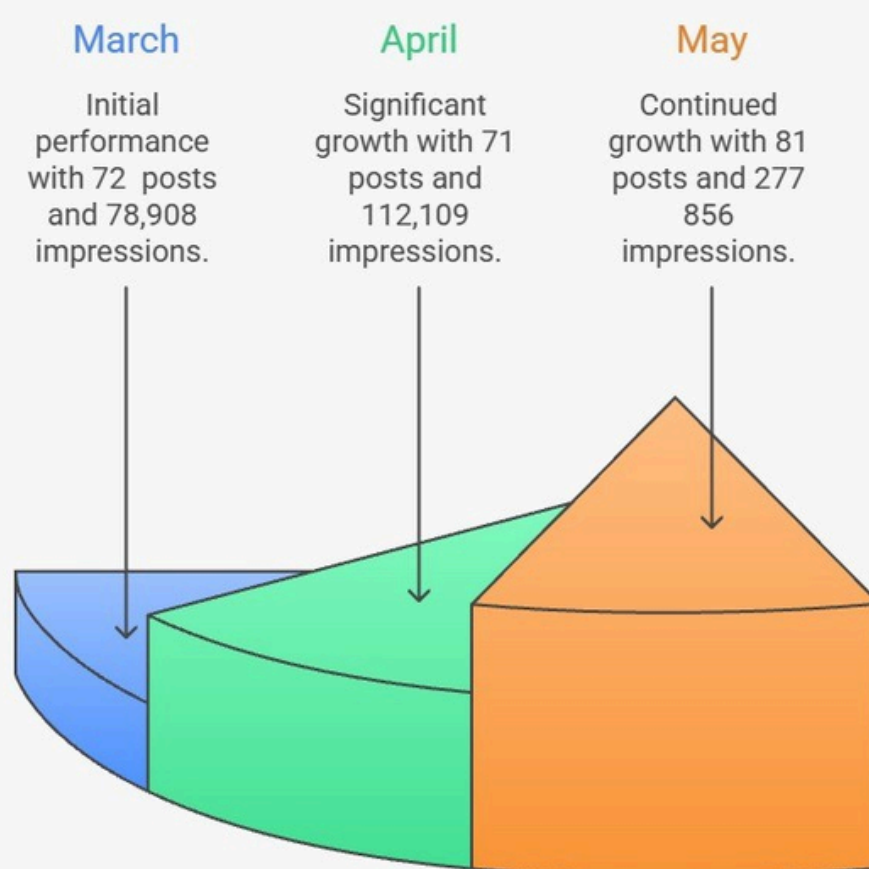
Instagram: Monthly Engagement Growth



Youtube: Monthly Engagement Growth



LinkedIn : Monthly Engagement Growth



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