







ACHIEVERS: LEADERS OF TOMORROW

MS. ASWATHA BIJU

YOUNGEST PALAEONTOLOGIST

PRADHANMANTRI RASHTRIYA BAL SHAKTI PURUSKAR 2022 AWARDEE

AUGUST 26, 04:00 IST

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KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS MAPPING PLATFORM

Achievers: The Leaders of Tomorrow EPISODE 2

ORGANISED BY: KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS MAPPING PLATFORM

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Date: 26th August, 2022 **Guest:** Ms Aswatha Biju (Age: 14)

Achievement: Awarded the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar for her Innovation

No. of Participants: 500+ students, parents, professors, and principals, from different places all

across India

Speaker/Presenter: Mr. Aniket Arora

Overview:

On August 26th, 2022, Knowledge and Awareness Platform (KAMP) Mapping organized the second episode its new series titled "Achievers-The Leaders of Tomorrow". This episode was conducted on the Zoom Video Communications Platform and the recordings will also be aired their Youtube on channel.





Kamp is an initiative and knowledge alliance of CSIR-NIScPR and NCPL. The main objective of KAMP is to map the science process skills and scientific attitudes of young students based on their assessment and nurture them as future scientists in the country. KAMP believes that every student is blessed with a core talent and seeks to bring out the best in them through this platform. With

this, they aim to inculcate critical thinking ability within them and fill in the gaps that prevent them from achieving their highest potential. "Achievers: The Leaders of Tomorrow" is a series that aims to inspire students to be creative, discover their true potential, be inspired by great things in life, and help develop the nation through their unique ideas. For this episode, KAMP invited a young achiever called Ms. Aswatha Biju, who is the youngest palaeontologist in the world and has been awarded the Pradhanmantri Rashtriya Bal Puruskar 2022 for the same.



With more than 500 participants, this episode of the series was graced by the presence of Dr Kanika Malik, Member-KPMC, BDG&I, CSIR-NIScPR, Mr. Rajeev Gupta, Member-KPMC, Managing Director-Resource Development International (India) Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Ashish Mittal, Project Director, KAMP, Ms Arika Mathur, Member-KAMP Planning and Monitoring Committee, and Dr Alpana Dey, who is working as a Chemistry teacher and housemistress in the Assam Valley School.



Aswatha is a 14-year-old who has been fascinated and obsessed with palaeontology since the age of 5, when she saw a picture of an ammonite fossil in the new children's encyclopedia, gifted by her father. Mr. Aniket Arora, the episode's host, initially asked Ms. Aswatha a few questions about her journey before taking questions from the audience. The participants in the audience were filled with curiosity about the subject and asked questions like how we can study fossils? Where can we typically find them? how we can preserve them? Should we sell fossils or give them to the museum? All these questions were taken one by one from the audience and were answered by Aswatha with her commendable expertise in the subject. It was an amazing interactive session that not only made the students aware of palaeontology but also motivated them to think about how they could pursue similar fields and achieve their best.



This Interactive Series is open to all, thus a detailed question and answer session can be found on KAMP's Youtube channel under the playlist titled "Achievers." Additionally, if you wish to participate, or nominate someone, you can send your entries via email to aniket@kamp.res.in or post your achievements and tag KAMP-Knowledge and Awareness Mapping Platform on Facebook or kampachievers on Instagram with the hashtag kampachievers.

Organised By:

Knowledge and Awareness Mapping Platform (KAMP Operations and Coordination Office)

Hosted By:

Mr Aniket Arora
(Host of the Series)

Team Credits:

Ms. Arika Mathur (Member KPMC)

Ms. Vishakha Gola (Sr. Coordinator KAMP)