

NCL outreach lecture enthralled students

NATIONAL CHEMICAL LABORATORY'S (NCL) SCHOOL OUTREACH PROGRAMME WAS CONDUCTED AT INNOVATIVE PARK RECENTLY. AROUND 90 STUDENTS OF VARIOUS SECONDARY SCHOOLS ATTENDED THE PROGRAMME. NCL'S CHEMICAL ENGINEERING DIVISION SCIENTIST SANJAY NENE DELIVERED THE SPEECH ON TOPIC 'NEERA, A TRULY INDIGENOUS DRINK'.

Friday 6 Aug-10 Cityplus Aundh/Baner

Students learnt about various species of Neera. Neera is a non-alcoholic beverage produced by tapping the Palmyra palm (*Borassus flabellifer*) and other palms. Neera is collected overnight in earthenware pots from an incision made in the inflorescence axis of the spathe.

Neera is collected the subsequent morning and transported under chilled conditions to local collection centres where it is dispensed to the public as a healthy nutritious drink. It is very popular in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Orissa, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. It is documented that the Chola kings fed their

The coming NCL Outreach talk by Dr Aurnab Ghosh IISER entitled, Stuff of brains will be held.

warriors and princes Neera on account of its health giving properties.

Nene said, "NCL has taken strong initiative to reach out to schools and excite additional interest in students. Live pictures of farmers collecting Neera from the tree, its processing and transportation were also displayed. Children enjoyed it."

The coming NCL



Outreach talk by Dr Aurnab Ghosh IISER (Indian Institute of Science Education and Research) entitled, Stuff of brains will be held at the NCL Innovation Park on Sunday, August 29 at 10 am. These talks are free of cost and are open to all school students

between Class VIII and X. To attend this talk students can register at register@exciting-science.org with the following details: your name, school and standard. More information is available at the website: www.exciting-science.org.