

NCL brains add buzz to kids' magazine

Scientists have done so to celebrate International Year of Chemistry

DNA Correspondent

A group of scientists from the city-based National Chemical Laboratory (NCL) have contributed their mite to the latest issue of *Brainwave*, the recently launched children's science magazine from Amar Chitra Katha.

The scientists have done so to celebrate the International Year of Chemistry in 2011. A press statement from NCL said that the scientists developed a storyline for the children's magazine.

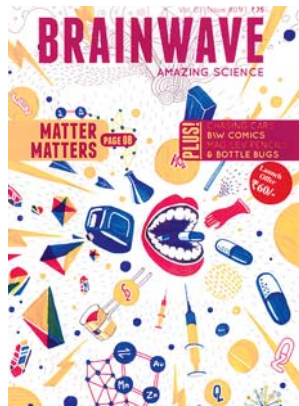
Neelanjana Sengupta and Kumar Vanka were the two scientists who took the lead in this effort.



From left: Guruswamy Kumaraswamy, Kumar Vanka, S Sivaram and Neelanjana Sengupta were some of the NCL scientists who contributed to the latest issue of *Brainwave*, a science magazine for children (R)

Guruswamy Kumaraswamy, one of the NCL scientist who has contributed to the magazine, told *DNA* on Wednesday that the main theme in the current issue (now on the stands)

is woven around a scientist-sleuth called Gaia Goel, who uses her knowledge of chemistry to foil terrorists from sabotaging clean energy research. "Some of us — including our



former director, S Sivaram, a Padma Shri awardee and one of the foremost scientists in the country — have written articles in this issue," Guruswamy said.

According to Guruswamy, NCL and its neighbouring institution, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, are presently running workshops for schoolchildren where they can come and visit laboratories and do hands-on experiments.

"The feedback we have got for these workshops is very good. Both teachers and students appear to like the workshops. Our scientists are also having a great time doing the workshops," Guruswamy said.

For details of the workshops visit: <http://www.excitingscience.org/IYC2011/index.php>.