## Report: NIScPR-SVASTIK Lecture on "Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam"

Charu Lata & Paramananda Barman

CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research, Dr K S Krishnan Marg, New Delhi-110012

CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (NIScPR), a premier CSIR lab, has a glorious legacy of over 70 years in science communication, policy research and building scientific temper among diverse stakeholders including general public. Creating awareness and sharing evidence-based traditional practices/knowledge among the public is paramount to instill a sense of pride and confidence in the knowledge that we have inherited. CSIR-NIScPR has been actively involved in the conservation and promotion of traditional knowledge through its various activities. Under the guidance of Prof Ranjana Aggarwal, Director CSIR-NIScPR and a Steering Committee of eminent experts, a team of scientists from CSIR-NIScPR launched the national initiative SVASTIK (Scientifically Validated Societal Traditional Knowledge) for communicating India's traditional knowledge to the society upon the call of the Hon'ble Prime Minister and President, CSIR Society, Shri Narendra Modi. The communication campaign is run in various formats including infographics, short audio-visuals, webinars, popular lectures, blogs, books etc. As a part of this initiative, simplified creative content on scientifically validated Indian traditional knowledge is being disseminated through digital platforms in English and different Indian languages. Until now, 41 such stories have been disseminated in 09 traditional knowledge domains in English and 17 Indian languages. One can reach SVASTIK through @NIScPR\_SVASTIK on all popular social media platforms. In continuation to these efforts, a NIScPR-SVASTIK Lecture Series has been initiated with the aim to bring insightful discussions on traditional knowledge with renowned experts.



The fourth NIScPR-SVASTIK Lecture Series was organised by CSIR- NIScPR centred on the topic "*Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*," on July 25, 2023. The lecture session witnessed the convergence of eminent scholars, researchers, Yoga practitioners, and enthusiastic participants, who came together to explore the profound philosophy of Yoga and its relevance in fostering a global family. Shri Hasan Jawaid Khan, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NIScPR welcomed the dignitaries and gave introductory remarks on SVASTIK, setting the tone for the enlightening lecture that followed. The highlight of the event was the captivating keynote address by Padma Shri Dr H R Nagendra, Chancellor, S-VYASA University, Bengaluru. Dr. Nagendra's vast knowledge and expertise in the realm of Yoga enthralled the audience as he eloquently expounded on the transformative power of Yoga in uniting humanity and realizing the concept of '*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*'. His address left the attendees inspired and motivated to integrate Yoga into their lives for personal and collective well-being. The program concluded with Vote of Thanks by Dr Charu Lata, Principal Scientist and PI-SVASTIK at CSIR-NIScPR. Dr Lata expressed profound gratitude to all the distinguished guests, speaker, and attendees for their valuable presence. Participants left with a renewed appreciation for the role of Yoga in fostering global unity and harmony.

Dr Charu Lata (charulata@niscpr.res.in) is the Editor and Dr Paramananda Barman (param@niscpr.res.in) is the Associate Editor of the Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge