

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 843
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07/02/2024
Indian Science Congress**

843. SHRI SUBBARAYAN K.:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Science Congress which used to be held during the first week of January every year in association with the Department of Science and Technology (DST) was not held this year i.e., 2024;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Department of Science and Technology has been conducting the India International Science Festival in association with the RSS led Vigyan Bharathi since 2015 and this year it is being held at Faridabad in Haryana from 17 to 20 January;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government is thinking of discontinuing the Indian Science Congress and continue with the India International Science Festival and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्यमंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
(डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह)

(a) & (b): Indian Science Congress (ISC) could not be held this year.

(c) & (d): The India International Science Festival (IISF) is a collaborative endeavor between Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Department of Space and Department of Atomic Energy. IISF is conducted in association with various other organizations which also includes Vigyan Bharathi—a science movement spearheaded by Scientists of the nation. IISF embarked on its journey in 2015 and its 9th edition has been hosted in the State of Haryana at the combined campus of DBT-THSTI and DBT-RCB, Faridabad from 17 to 20 January, 2024 in collaboration with National Innovation Foundation (NIF), an autonomous body of DST.

The details of the IISF since 2015 onwards are as follows:

Edition of Event	Venue of Event	Dates of Event	Coordinating/ Nodal Min/ Dept.
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IISF-2015	Delhi - IIT Delhi	4-8 December 2015	Department of Science & Technology (DST)
IISF-2016	Delhi - CSIR-National Physical Laboratory (NPL) Campus, New Delhi during	7-11 December 2016	Department of Scientific and Industrial Research / Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR/CSIR)
IISF-2017	Chennai (various venues including Anna University, Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI), Structural Engineering Research Centre (SERC), National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) and IIT-Madras.	13-16 October 2017	Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)
IISF-2018	Lucknow – Indira Gandhi Pratishthan	5-8 October 2018	Department of Bio-Technology (DBT)
IISF –2019	Kolkata – Biswa Bangla Convention Centre	5-8 November 2019	Department of Science & Technology (DST)
IISF - 2020	Delhi – Virtual Mode	22-25 December 2020	Department of Scientific and Industrial Research / Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR/CSIR)
IISF– 2021	Goa - Panaji	10-13 December 2021	Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES)
IISF - 2022	Bhopal – MANIT, Bhopal	21-24 January 2023	Department of Bio-Technology (DBT)
IISF- 2023	Faridabad – DBT THSTI-RCB Campus	17-20 January 2024	Department of Science & Technology (DST)

(e) IISF, whose primary objective is to commemorate the achievements of Indian Science and Technology and making it accessible to all, is an annual public outreach event. There is no link between IISF and Indian Science Congress. They are parallel events with different kind of mandates having no bearing on each other. This year DST has disassociated itself from ISC, but there is no plan of discontinuing the Indian Science Congress permanently as of now.
