

NITK observes National Science Day with lectures, exhibitions

MANGALURU, DHNS

National Institute of Technology Karnataka (NITK) observed the National Science Day with enthusiasm, inspiring young minds through lectures, exhibitions and interactive sessions.

The highlight of the event was the keynote lecture delivered by Prof Maria Thaker, Professor at the Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian

Institute of Science.

Prof Thaker posed the thought-provoking question: Do animals create maps to navigate forests and savanna landscapes?

Drawing from her extensive field research in South Africa and India, Prof Thaker explained how scientists study the movement of large animals, such as elephants and other mammals, using GPS collars, radio tracking, satellite

data and temperature sensors.

She highlighted how rising temperatures influence elephant movement, with animals travelling faster to reach water sources. She also shared insights into her team's ongoing seven-year project mapping mesocarnivores in the Deccan Plateau savanna to better understand predator movement and ecosystem balance.

An inter-school quiz competition was also held.



Students visit a science exhibition organised as part of the National Science Day at NITK, Surathkal.