

Science Reporter

PROUD ACHIEVEMENT

Heartiest congratulations to our scientists belonging to DRDO on the flawless launching of the nuclear-capable Agni-V, a most formidable missile in India's arsenal. This has propelled India into an elite club of nations with Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) technology. The historic day 19 April 2012 will be etched in golden letters in the annals of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

Agni-V has been very rightly described as an "overwhelming" success giving India the confidence to go ahead with a larger number of missiles with longer range. The perfect launch of Agni-V has amply demonstrated that our scientists are second to none and that the sky is indeed their limit.

Dr. S.K. Aggarwal, Dean
Academic Affairs, Amritsar College
of Engineering and Technology

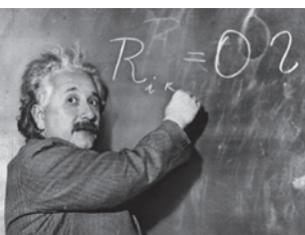
EINSTEIN: ROLE MODEL

I liked your feature article **Einstein: Consistent Scientist &**

Inconsistent Man (February 2012). Albert Einstein is one of my favorite scientists and a role model. He received

the Nobel Prize without doing any laboratory experiments, only using his mind and logical experiments in physics. His commitment towards science was great.

I have been reading *Science Reporter* regularly for the last two years, since I was in class X. This type of feature article has provided me a lot



of encouragement to become a scientist like Einstein.

Jesny V. Jose, Kerala

FRIENDLY LANTANA

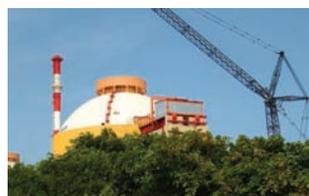
The feature article in the November 2011 about "Lantana" has advanced my knowledge on the topic. I knew this plant by the name Banaphul (wildflower). The plant has always attracted me with its attractive multi-coloured tiny flowers.

I was amazed to see the pictures of articles made of lantana wood. I had no idea that lantana wood could be used in this manner. Its medicinal value is also remarkable. I can't understand why lantana is perceived as a nuisance worldwide. I think it deserves to be appreciated for its environment-friendly role.

Sekhar Samadder, W.B.

ENERGY SOLUTION

I am a regular reader of *Science Reporter* since 1996. Currently I am a Nuclear Researcher at the GJUS&T in Hisar.



The outstanding cover article **Insight in to Kudankulam** by Puneet S. Pathak in the March 2012 issue explained the concept of risk and preventive measures in nuclear energy and why nuclear energy is the only solution to pollution and climate change. I also appreciated the feature article about ants showing how people can learn to be hard

working and co-operative from the ants.

Devi Deen Pandey, G.J.U.S&T Hisar, vatsdd@gmail.com

EUCLIDEAN ELEMENTS

In the **Fascinating World of Mathematicians** Prof. P. Manikpure has mentioned that the *Elements of Geometry* by Euclid is next only to the Bible in terms of the periodicity of publication (April 2012). For building this grand edifice, which has withstood the test of time, Euclid had the advantage, as is customary in other fields, of benefiting from the works of earlier thinkers notably Thales (of Miletus), Pythagoras, Plato and the Egyptian scholars. As a matter of fact Plato recognized the importance of geometry. On the entrance of his Academy was inscribed: "Let no man ignorant of geometry enter my doors", and more than two millennia later Albert Einstein had to say: "Anyone who was not transported by this book (the 'Elements') in youth was not born to be a theoretical researcher."

Dr. S.K. Gurtu, Mansarovar, Jaipur

COMBATING LEPROSY

The feature article in March 2012 titled **Leprosy – Hidden Disease?** made for good reading. It was very informative and well written. The various suggestions made by the authors to control the disease and rehabilitate the patients need due considerations at all levels. Awadhoot Bhagwan Ram Kusta Seva Ashram (ABRKSAD), a philanthropic organization in Parao, Varanasi, U.P., is doing excellent service to the society in treating leprosy patients. Their work has been duly documented nationally and internationally in the Limca Book of Records and the World Guinness Book of Records. It will be highly beneficial and encouraging if this Ayurvedic

method of treating the disease and its services are given due recognition and impetus. I appreciate *Science Reporter* for publishing such an information-rich article on Leprosy.

I.D. Singh, Siliguri, W. Bengal
dr.singh.id@gmail.com

PERFECT SCIENCE MAGAZINE

I have been a regular reader of *Science Reporter* since the last two years and it is doing a very good job. It is the perfect science magazine for an average high school student.

I was delighted to read the article on Ants in the March 2012 issue because insects really fascinate me. No other creature can match their

abundance and diversity.

Insects have a complex life cycle. Wherever they exist, they have a huge ecological impact as herbivores, hunters, decomposers, plant pollinators and disease carriers. They are in turn food for predators, against which they have evolved some remarkable defenses. They may be a more than a million species, yet we pay little attention to them.

The quiz on the earth and moon was mind boggling yet interesting. The obituary on Dr P.K. Iyengar was also enlightening and inspirational.

Nandini Acharjee
Durgapur, West Bengal

HAVE YOUR SAY

If you feel strongly about any article or write-up published in *Science Reporter* or have some information to share with the readers, please write to us at the postal address given in the magazine or send an Email at sr@niscair.res.in.