

Activity Report of WIE, Kolkata Chapter (2021)

WIE Event 1

Event :Dare to Dream Episode 1: Life and Work of Prof. Rajeswari Chatterjee: A Pioneer in Microwave Engineering

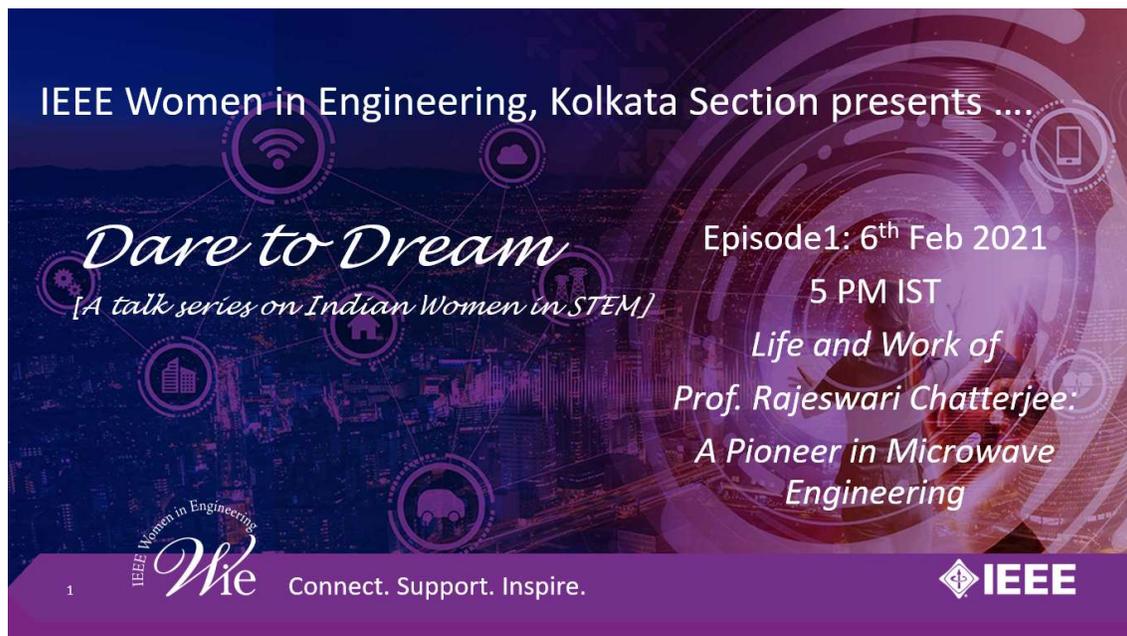
Date: 06/02/2021

Venue: Online

Attendee # 50+

IEEE Women in Engineering Kolkata section has started, "**Dare to Dream**" a talk series on Indian Women who had ventured into STEM careers more than 50 years ago. The inaugural episode of the series was held on **6th February, 2021**. The talk "**Life and Work of Prof. Rajeswari Chatterjee: A Pioneer in Microwave Engineering**" based on the research by **Ms. Ishani Hazra**, was delivered by **Prof. Prasanta Kumar Basu**.

Late Prof. Rajeswari Chatterjee (1922-2010) was the first woman scientist to pioneer in the field of microwave engineering in India. The talk chronicled her scientific and engineering career journey overcoming multiple adversaries of the pre independence India and the outbreak of World War II. The talk also focused on her PhD and training in the US and her return to Independent India to join IISc Bangalore as a faculty. Her inspirational story of path breaking research in microwave thereby producing numerous illustrious students who shaped India, motivated the audience.



Further details:

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/sudeshna-choudhury-31335692_womenintech-womenengineers-activity-6761535325119541248-vfMr

WIE Event 2

Event : Panel Discussion

Date: 13/03/2021

Venue: Online
Attendee # 80+

IEEE WIE, Kolkata Section in association with **IEEE Communication Society, Kolkata Section** had organised a panel discussion on **“Mental wellbeing in the new normal”** on **13th March, 2021**, Saturday from 4:00 - 5:30 pm IST. The talk was organised to provide all especially the students, both school and college and young professionals an avenue to understand the various aspects of professional and mental crisis created by the covid pandemic.

Prof. Sushmita Mitra, Professor, Machine Intelligence Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata and Chair, IEEE Kolkata Section, **Mr. Debasis Kanungo**, Consulting Partner, Workforce Analytics Analytics & Insights, TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES and **Dr. Aratrika Sen**, MD, Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry, Murshidabad Medical College and Hospital were the panelists of the event. **Ms. Sudeshna Mukhopadhyay**, Independent Lighting Advisor was the moderator.

Prof. Mitra addressed the aspects of mental well-being for people in the academic environment. She touched upon the issues faced by school children, college students, teachers in both the schools and colleges especially the hurdles created by financial, age and technological divide on the path to equitable access/ dissemination of knowledge. The facets of mental well being in the industrial domain were lucidly brought to the fore by Mr. Kanungo. Dr. Sen had touched upon the issues and tools and techniques of mental wellness of all in this time of pandemic. The highly experienced Ms. Mukhopadhyay moderated the session beautifully.

The event was highly relevant and well planned. The memento gifted also points to the thoughtfulness of the organisers. **Certificates of trees** planted in the names of the Panelists and Moderator in the Sunderbans, largest mangrove forests in the world were mailed to them. The event saw enthusiastic participation from its target audience. The plethora of questions received at the end of the session clearly demonstrated the success of the event.



The poster features four portraits of the participants: Dr. Sushmita Mitra (top left), Mr. Debasis Kanungo (top middle), Dr. Aratrika Sen (top right), and Ms. Sudeshna Mukhopadhyay (bottom left). The text on the poster includes the event title, date, time, and logos for IEEE WIE Kolkata Section, IEEE Communication Society Kolkata Section, IEEE ComSoc, and IEEE.

Mr. Debasis Kanungo
Consulting Partner
Workforce Analytics
Analytics & Insights
TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES

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Dr Sushmita Mitra
Professor
Machine Intelligence Unit
Indian Statistical Institute
Kolkata
Chair, IEEE Kolkata Section

Ms. Sudeshna Mukhopadhyay
Independent Lighting Advisor

IEEE WIE Kolkata Section
in association with
IEEE Communication Society Kolkata Section
invites you to the panel discussion on
“Mental wellbeing in the new normal”

March 13, 2021
4:00 - 5:30 pm IST

IEEE ComSoc **IEEE**
IEEE Communications Society

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Further details : https://www.linkedin.com/posts/sudeshna-choudhury-31335692_mentalwellbeing-activity-6775856428411342849-aiBY

Youtube : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZxUelBPmQrc>

WIE Event 3

Event : Episode 2: Life and Work of Dr. Bibha Chowdhuri

Date: 03/04/2021

Venue: Online

Attendee # 100+

IEEE Women in Engineering Kolkata section and IEEE Kolkata Section have jointly initiated a Talk Series “Dare to Dream” on Indian Women who had ventured into STEM careers more than 50 years ago. The second Episode of the series was held on **3rd April 2021**, Saturday at 5 pm IST with a talk on “**Life and Work of Dr. Bibha Chowdhuri**”. The speaker for the event was **Dr. Suprakash C. Roy**. He was Professor and Chairman, Department of Physics at Bose Institute, Kolkata.

The talk of Dr. Suprakash C. Roy highlighted the life, work and struggles of the enigma Dr. Chowdhuri. It also brought to light the challenges that she faced in pursuing research. Bibha Chowdhuri (1913-1991) belongs to the first generation of women scientists who began their research career in pre-independent India. She studied Physics (BSc and MSc) from Rajabazar Science College, University of Calcutta and earned her PhD from University of Manchester.

Dr. Bibha Chowdhuri undertook research in premier institutes, namely University of Michigan, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Physical Research Laboratory and Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics. Her life was described in the books *A Jewel Unearthed: Bibha Chowdhuri* and *Bibha Chowdhuri, eine indische Hochenergiephysikerin als "Star" am Himmel*.

The online event was attended by numerous researchers, faculty members, professionals and students. Mr. Deepak Mathur, Director R10, IEEE was also present during the session.

IEEE Kolkata Section &
Women in Engineering (WIE), Kolkata Section
presents

Dare to Dream
[A talk series on Indian Women in STEM]

Introduction : Mr. Deepak Mathur, Director, IEEE R10

Speaker
Dr. Suprakash C. Roy

Life and Work of Dr. Bibha Chowdhuri
(1913-1991)

Episode 2
3rd April 2021 5 PM IST

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KOLKATA SECTION

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Further Details: https://www.linkedin.com/posts/sudeshna-choudhury-31335692_ieewie-ieeeer10-womeninstem-activity-6781866632999448576-e2zT

Youtube : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zmvSAXoltDw>

WIE Event 4

Event : Dare to Dream Episode 3: Life and Work of Ms. Ila Majumdar

Date: 26/06/2021

Venue: Online

Attendee # 50+

IEEE Women in Engineering Kolkata section and **IEEE Kolkata Section** have jointly initiated a Talk Series “Dare to Dream” on Indian Women who had ventured into STEM careers more than 50 years ago. The third Episode of the series was held on **26th June 2021**, Saturday at 5 pm IST with a talk on “**Life and Work of Ms. Ila Majumdar**”. The talk was delivered by **Prof. Indranath Sinha** based on the research by him and **Mr. Asim Deb**. Prof. Indranath Sinha is working as a Professor in Mining Engineering Department of IEST, Shibpur and Mr. Asim Deb is also attached with the same institute.

The talk was held to celebrate the International Women in Engineering Day which is observed on 23rd June, every year. This year the theme of celebration is “Engineering Heroes”. And who else a better hero than Ms. Ila Majumdar, the first female Mechanical Engineer of India.

Ms. Ila Majumdar (1930 - 2019) was the first woman engineer of University of Calcutta. She was the only female Mechanical Engineering student in her class graduating in 1951 and incidentally the first female alumna of the Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology (IEST), Shibpur the erstwhile, Bengal Engineering College, Shibpur.

Ms. Majumdar has been a path breaker since her childhood. She qualified for both Medicine and Engineering and opted for engineering as it was for the first time that females were allowed to join the engineering studies. After graduating from Bengal Engineering College, Shibpur she visited the UK to undergo postgraduate training at the Glasgow-based company - Barr and Stroud. Thus she became the first engineering woman apprentice to go abroad. She was also the first woman engineer to work in a heavy engineering production floor. In 1985, she was approached by UNESCO to set up Mahila Polytechnic in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Numerous researchers, faculty members, professionals and students logged in to listen to the inspirational story of Ms. Majumdar and her many groundbreaking achievements. The online event was also attended by Mr. Suman Ghose, her younger son.



*IEEE Kolkata Section &
Women in Engineering (WIE) Kolkata Section
presents*

Dare to Dream (D2D)

[A talk series on pioneer Indian Women in STEM]

*Celebrating International Women in
Engineering Day*

[Theme of the year: "Engineering Heroes"]

With 3rd Episode of D2D:

Life and work of Ms. Ila Majumdar (1930-2019)

26th June 2021, 5 PM IST

Speaker: Prof. Indranath Sinha

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Further Details: https://www.linkedin.com/posts/sudeshna-choudhury-31335692_ieee-ieeeer10-wie-activity-6816036344767279104-X_vO

Youtube : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MOCJ8p4vXAI>

WIE Event 5

Event : Dare to Dream : Episode 4: Life and Work of Dr. Purnima Sinha

Date: 28/08/2021

Venue: Online

Attendee # 50+

IEEE Women in Engineering Kolkata section and IEEE Kolkata Section have jointly initiated a Talk Series “Dare to Dream” on Indian Women who had ventured into STEM careers more than 50 years ago. The fourth Episode of the series was held on **28th August 2021**, with a talk on “**Life and Work of Dr. Purnima Sinha**”.

Dr. Purnima Sinha was an Indian Physicist who was the first woman to be awarded with a doctorate in Physics by the University of Calcutta.

We were privileged to have Dr. Sukanya Sinha, Physicist and daughter, to speak on the life and works of Dr. Purnima Sinha.



*IEEE Kolkata Section
&
Women in Engineering (WIE) Kolkata Section
presents*

Dare to Dream Episode 4

[A talk series on Indian Women in STEM more than 50 years back]

"Life and work of Dr. Purnima Sinha"

28th August 2021 Saturday 7:00 PM IST
Speaker : Dr. Sukanya Sinha

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Further Details: https://www.linkedin.com/posts/sudeshna-choudhury-31335692_womeninstem-womenintech-womeninscience-activity-6838409172166463488-0X-B

Youtube : https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fnzNLR-T_qA&t=27s