

India's Solar Success with Cleaner Air

A Candid Conversation

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Both visited his researcher uncle's laboratory and installed solar panel sites on rooftop

Newspaper and my curious nephew

It was a Sunday morning, 7 o'clock. A sudden shout woke me: "Uncle, your name is on the newspaper; come see." I couldn't believe myself. Still, I entered the living room hesitantly. Meanwhile, Bodh, my curious nephew, had taken the newspaper from my father and shown it to me.

The line "... a study carried out in IIT Delhi" appeared before my eyes. That was an amazing day, and my research transcended the confines of the laboratory and reached society.

It was 8:30 in the morning. I was in a hurry to have breakfast.

Before I left for the lab, Bodh exclaimed, "Why don't you have a holiday?"

To avoid his sincere objection, I proposed, "Okay, let's come with me today."

He was excited, as I could see.

On our way to IIT, he asked, "Uncle, what are you doing at IIT Delhi that brings you to the lab even on Sunday?"

I replied, "I am doing PhD and re-searching how air pollution impacts India's solar energy goals."

He looked at me and asked with fervent interest, "How does it go, and why are you finding these questions?"

Before responding, I recalled Sir Mark Walport's sayings, "Science is not finished until it is communicated," and decided to share my PhD journey with him.

"Let me tell you how all these started.", I replied.

Photoshoot to Photovoltaic: My Eureka Moment

It was mid-March of 2019; my supervisor had organised a workshop on atmospheric monitoring. After the training, we