

University of Mysore constituted a **Committee for Development of Science in Schools (CDSS)** to motivate, encourage and empower the younger generation at secondary school level to gain basic scientific knowledge and pursue science education and career in future. The objectives of CDSS are;

- To create awareness among school children about basic sciences
- To dispel the myth that learning of science and mathematics is difficult
- To empower science teachers in schools
- To identify and encourage talent in children
- To promote scientific temper among school children

The programme was designed to address the discouraging and disappointing trend for science learning seen in the schools of Karnataka. This required motivation of the younger generation to pursue science so as to build a future society strong in scientific knowledge.

Under this programme the following activities are conducted regularly.

- Reaching children through seminars and special lecture by experts in regional language
- Residential science learning program for talented children in Manasagangotri Campus
- Model building workshops and Science exhibition
- Workshop for science teachers
- Regular science interaction programmes
- Publishing science articles in local newspapers
- Mobile Science Laboratory developed under the programme is taken to different schools in and around Mysore and various science experiment are conducted/ demonstrated to students.
- This is an extremely useful community outreach activity of the University
- Created an opportunity for younger generation to interact with the academic faculty of the University
- A forum to enquire, to know, to understand and to discuss concepts in science
- An opportunity to exhibit talent in science and model building

The unique outreach program started by the University of Mysore through CDSS is becoming highly popular not only among the school students but also among the general public since it is a highly societal oriented program.