

## **INSTITUTE OF INFRASTRUCTURE, TECHNOLOGY, RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT**

### **Toy Making Workshop**

The toy market is dominated with toys from China and we can see only a few Indian toys. Further, these imported toys are sometimes made out of harmful substances that might be dangerous for our kids. The barrier for Indian manufacturers is the availability of good quality raw materials at an affordable cost, which holds them back. Despite of having good technical and managerial skills, we are always dependent on other countries for various items including toys. Seeing this, we can expect a change in the trend by making and using MADE IN INDIA toys.

To this end, toy-making workshop was arranged at IITRAM for first year students. The prime focus of the workshop was to explore capabilities of young minds by various small scientific toy making exercises. Initially, we demonstrated the procedure of making torch out of marker pen. With this, students got familiar with the process. Then, they were shown a video of specific toy. Afterwards, they were asked to make the same toy by their own in a group. They made toys like table fan, remote controlled car, low-cost torch, vibrating insect, tricycle cum auto etc. from simple and readily available waste materials like papers, plastic bottle and its cap, battery and motor. Students were very much happy as they made such scientific toys of their own. They also learnt to work in a group and share responsibilities. They learnt time-management. So many thought-provoking ideas were generated to make best out of waste!

One of the best thing, we heard from our student is: “I will try to make such toys by myself and will try to utilise for our nation. Also, I will give self-made toys to various kids. I will make sure, the materials that are usually discarded can be re-utilised and become reason of someone’s happiness.”

We believe that the toy is not said to be great based on its price but it is indeed great if it triggers the mind!