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### 'Innovation can happen anywhere'

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Dr. V.A. Shiva Ayyadurai

Posed with the challenge of translating the conventional paper-based interoffice and inter-organisational communication system to electronic communication system, a 14-year-old school student came out with flying colours to copyright his work called 'Email'.

Dr. V.A. Shiva Ayyadurai (49), an Indian-born American, is a scientist and entrepreneur who is known for electronic mail technologies and integrative medicines. He is in the city to interact with students of V.M.K.V. Engineering College here on Monday.

His grandmother's effort in healing villagers' diseases using Siddha has inspired him to become a doctor.

But after moving to the U.S., he started his own company and was entrusted with the job of classifying inbound email for the White House.

Though recruited as the first Outstanding Scientist and Technocrat of Indian Origin in 2009 by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, it was mired in controversy and he left the country.

Talking about the Indian youth, he said that they were disgusted with the old bureaucratic setup and wanted them to enter politics to lead the nation.

He was critical of the West which thinks that innovations could take place only in large universities, by big companies and by their military.

"If the thoughts of youth are elicited and mentored, innovations can take place anywhere, by anybody and at any time," he said.

He also warned that India should stop following western ideologies and theories and asked the youth to reinvent the lost glory from the past that dates back to 2,000 years ago.

The scientist said that Siddha yogis had recognised multi-drug combinations and his company had come out with such drugs for treating cancer and diabetes which was cheaper and without side effects. "The process is in the investigation stage with the Food and Drug Administration Department of the United States." He said that six children aged between 14 and 17 would be selected each from the U.S and villages and small cities in India and would be trained to start companies to come out with innovative products.