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Sunday , September 2 , 2012

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| Sunday , September 2 , 2012 |

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## IN TODAY'S PAPER

Front Page  
 Nation  
 Calcutta  
 Bengal  
 Opinion  
 International  
 Business  
 Sports  
 Sudoku  
 Sudoku New BETA  
 Crossword  
 Jumble  
 Gallery  
 Horse Racing  
 Press Releases  
 Travel

## WEEKLY FEATURES

7days  
**Graphiti**  
 Knowhow  
 Jobs  
 Careergraph  
 Salt Lake

## CITIES AND REGIONS

Metro  
 Northeast  
 Jharkhand  
 Bihar  
 Odisha

## ARCHIVES

Since 1st March, 1999

## THE TELEGRAPH

- About Us  
 - Advertise  
 - Feedback  
 - Contact Us

Front Page &gt; Northeast &gt; Story

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## Dream comes true and useful for scientist

SEKHAR DATTA



Arijit Das

a large number of students.

**Agartala, Sept. 1:** It is a dream come true for a scientist to arrive at a method to prove his conviction but not many have found them in their dreams the way Arijit Das did.

Das, who has discovered completely new methods of calculating hybridisation and International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) nomenclature of organic and inorganic compounds, is convinced that the methods dawned on him in a dream. Currently head of the department of chemistry in Dharmanagar Government College in North Tripura, he has been working for a long time on this complex topic to find simpler methods to teach students.

Though a scientist in the state forensic science laboratory till early last year, Das had also been teaching

“In those days I was thinking of only hybridisation and IUPAC nomenclature. You may find it strange but the truth is that one evening while dozing on a chair in my drawing room I suddenly woke up to the new formula and noted it down immediately. The crucial finding on IUPAC formula similarly came in a dream one night,” said an elated Das.

His new formula to determine the pace and quantum of hybridisation came out in a specialised article in the *Chemistry Today*, the journal published from Delhi by MTG Learning Media Programme (ISBN 2468) in May last year.

The authorities running the journal took one full year to ascertain the authenticity of the new formula as well as to wait for any contradiction that may have crop up.

“They have confirmed the correctness of my findings in a letter recently. Similarly, my new findings on IUPAC nomenclature of bicyclo and spiro compounds was published in *Chemistry Today* journal in its April 2012 issue after a year,” said Das.

A PhD in chemistry from Tripura (Central) University, Das had also been a PMLP fellow-2002-2004 in the university. Apart from this, he has been the first reviewer for two leading chemistry journals in the world, London-based *Inorganic Chemistry Communication*, published by ELACVIER and *Journal of Co-ordination Chemistry*, published by Taylor-Francis. His new discoveries have also been appreciated by professors of Burdwan University and Calcutta University in West Bengal and Tripura Central University.

Professors G.N. Mookherjee, Arabinda Kr Das and Ranendu Nath of the three universities have all congratulated Das and said that they would introduce the new methods of study in the universities.

“This is the real recognition I have got. I am also applying for J.C. Bose science award for 2012-2013. The award comprises a citation and a cash prize of Rs 20,000, which I will donate to Ramakrishna Mission, provided I win the prize,” Das said.

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