



KERALA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

SASTHRA BHAVAN, PATTOM, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, KERALA, INDIA, 695 004

<http://kas.org.in/>

REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE KERALA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES FOR THE PERIOD DEC 2015-DEC 2016

Honourable President, Vice Presidents, Joint Secretary, Treasurer, Executive Council members, respected Fellows, former office bearers and Life Members of the Academy:

With great pleasure, may I now present the report of the activities of the Academy for the period Dec 2015-Dec. 2016 for your consideration and approval.

I. Membership

The Academy has now in its rolls ten Honorary Fellows, fifty nine fellows (FAS) and four hundred and sixty five life members. On behalf of the Academy, I wish to welcome all the new Life Members to our midst.

II. EC Meetings

The EC met 8 times during the period under reporting.

III. International Symposium on Phytochemistry and Prof. Dr. A. Hisham Endowment Award Ceremony- 2016

International Symposium on Phytochemistry and Prof. Dr. A. Hisham Endowment Award Ceremony- 2016 was organized on Feb. 27th 2016 with the support of Malabar Botanical Garden and Institute for Plant Sciences, Kozhikode and co-sponsored by DBT, KSCSTE and JNTBGRI, The function was held at Malabar Botanical Garden and Institute for Plant Sciences, Kozhikode. The programme was attended by 139 delegates, of which 6 were from abroad and 25 were out side state delegates. The Hisham Award was presented to Dr. Priya Rani, M. currently at the Univ. of Kerala.

IV. Science Popularization Activities

As part of science popularization KAS organized lectures at Kendriya Vidyalaya, Akkulam, M. G. College Thiruvananthapuram and Kendriya Vidyalaya, Pattom The resource persons were Dr. Vijaya Mohan Director, Central Electrochemical institute, Karakkudi and Dr. G. M Nair ,Advisor, Kerala Biotechnology Commission and Vice President KAS. A lecture for students by Prof. Dr. K. N. Ninan Former Scientist VSSC was held to highlight the Global Warming and Climate Change on 26th July 2016, at Sasthrabhavan, Pattom.

V. Ozone Day Celebration

As part of Ozone day, the Academy organized a programme on 29 Sept 2016 jointly with the support of the Swamy Anandatheertha Campus and the Inter University Centre for Bioscience of the Kannur University at Payyannur.

VI. Foundation Day Programme and seminar on Frontiers in Science 2016

Foundation Day programme 2016 and seminar on Frontiers in Science was held on 14 Nov 2016 at Vet.College, Pookode, Wyanad for the students of Wayanad District. The programme was jointly organized by Vet.College, Pookode and NGC Wayanad dist. During the event, the Academy could also mobilize a membership campaign at KVASU.

VII. Prof. Dr. M. G. K. Menon commemoration

A programme was held jointly by KSCSTE and KAS on 8 Dec 2016 at KSCSTE to commemorate the contribution of Prof. Dr. M. G. K. Menon, one of the architects of modern India in the realm of science and technology.

VIII. Prof. Dr. Abraham Endowment

The Academy was entrusted with a sum of Rs 70,004/- by Dr. P. G. Latha, Director JNTBGRI received as the generous contribution from JNTBGRI towards Prof. Dr. Abraham Endowment. This sum is in addition to the sum of Rs. 50,000/- entrusted to KAS by Prof. Dr. Agusti for conducting the Prof. Abraham endowment lecture. The interest on the total amount will be utilised to conduct Prof. Dr. Abraham Endowment lecture once in two years.

IX. Honours to the members

The following fellows/Life members of the Academy won laurels as follows. Dr. Anil Bhardwaj, Director, Space Physics Laboratory, VSSC, won the Infosys Foundation Prize 2016. Dr. R. Prakash Kumar, Director, Malabar Botanic Garden & Research Institute, was elected as Fellow of National Academy of Sciences (NASI), Allahabad. Dr. V. P Balagangadharan, Former Scientist, VSSC received the Science Literature Award 2015 of KSCSTE for his contribution in popularising science awareness through his book titled "Mangalyaan-Oru Sasthranjante Kurippukal" Dr. Bibin John, Scientist, VSSC, was selected for the Kerala State Young Scientist's Award (KSYA) 2015 which was presented to him during the Kerala Science Congress held in January, 2016.

X. Other activities

The Academy was associated with the Univ. of Kerala in organizing "National Seminar on Omics and Biomarker Analysis" on 22-23rd Jun 2015 at the Dept. of Zoology, Univ. of Kerala.

Acknowledgements

The Academy is extremely thankful to KSCSTE for its support in various forms, including finances and making available the facilities at the Sasthra Bhavan. The Academy is much indebted to KSBB for providing free access to their facility to hold EC meetings and for their hospitality.

The Academy thanks DBT and JNTBGRI for financially supporting the International Seminar on Phytochemistry. The Academy owes much gratitude to Ms. Alfa Hisham for her continued and generous support for the conduct of the Seminar and Dr Hisham lecture and award functions. The Academy expresses deep appreciation to Dr. Rameshkumar and his team for organizing the International seminar and the Dr. Hisham Lecture and Award function.

The Academy expresses its gratitude to Dr. G. Madhavan Nair, former Chairman, ISRO and the then President, International Academy of Astronautics IAA for entrusting with the Academy a sum of Rs Six lakhs to be used for organizing a biannual conference on climate change.

The Academy thanks the well wishers of Prof. Dr. Abraham for further embellishing the corpus for the Prof Dr Abraham Endowment.

I now express my deep gratitude, on behalf of the Executive Council and on my personal behalf, to all the esteemed Fellows and Life Members of the Academy for their sincere support, participation and co-operation for the conduct of the affairs of the Academy. I am much indebted to the President, Vice Presidents, Jt. Secy, Treasurer, EC members, Fellows and Life Members for their invaluable support.

If there were any shortcomings in my service to the Academy as its Gen. Secretary, the full responsibility of that is mine. I again thank you all and place this report for your consideration and approval.

Sd/-

Dr. K. G. Ajit Kumar
General Secretary, KAS
23 Dec 2016