



# Bangladesh Academy of Sciences

## NEWSLETTER

**Vol. 5 No. 2 May-August 2016**

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, BAS



I am pleased to see that the BAS Newsletter has come out, thanks to the Editor and the Editorial Committee for their efforts in this regard. The Academy founded in 1974, has gone through many trials and tribulations but has always maintained its distinct entity and dignity. From a rented house of Asad Avenue to its present location in the NMST campus at Agargaon, the Academy has always kept itself vibrant with programmes and activities on issues of national and global interests. We are grateful to our past Presidents and Councils some of whom are no more with us, for their undaunted efforts for furthering the objectives of the Academy. As the apex scientific professional body of the country, it has played very significant role in promoting science and technology in the country. Over the years it has focussed on many burning national and global issues like energy, water, health and hygiene, ICT, science education, biotechnology, environment and biodiversity etc. It maintains a close liaison with the government and it is actively involved in many of the programmes of the Ministry of Science and Technology.

The Academy is the focal point of a number of international scientific professional organizations like ICSU, TWAS, IGBP, IAP, IAMP, AASSA (formerly AASA and FASAS now fused together), NASIC. The President of the Academy is included in the Executive Committee of some of these bodies. The Academy has an agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for supporting research projects in agriculture and life sciences and an endowment fund has been provided by the USDA for this purpose. The Academy programmes for sending young scientists abroad are generously supported by the North American Bangladesh Islamic Community (NABIC) for participation in different international events like Lindau Nobel Laureates meeting in Germany and HOPE Nobel Laureates meeting in Japan, ACM-ICPC World Competition, Meeting of the Young Champions under the auspices of the World Science Forum etc.

I hope the BAS Newsletter will keep the Fellows of the Academy updated about different programmes and activities of the Academy and related national and international events.

**Aminul Islam**

President

Bangladesh Academy of Sciences

## NATIONAL EVENTS

### I. Election of BAS Council (July 2016-June 2019), 21 May 2016

BAS Council election for the period, July 2016 - June 2019 was held on 21 May 2016 at the Annual General Meeting 2015 of the Academy in the seminar room. Professor Dr. KM Sultanul Aziz, Fellow, BAS, was Head of the Election Commission, Dr. M Idris Ali, Fellow, BAS and Prof. Dr. Saidur Rahman, Fellow, BAS was members of the election commission. The following BAS Council (July 2016 - June 2019) was elected:

#### *President*

Prof. Dr. Aminul Islam

#### *Vice-President*

Prof. Dr. Quazi Abdul Fattah

#### *Vice-President*

Prof. Dr. Naiyyum Choudhury

#### *Treasurer*

Prof. Dr. Z N Tahmida Begum

#### *Secretary*

Prof. Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmed

#### *Associate Secretary*

Prof. Dr. Haseena Khan

#### *Immediate Past Secretary (Ex-officio)*

Prof. Dr. K.M. Sultanul Aziz

#### **Members**

Prof. Dr. M. Shamsheer Ali

National Emeritus Scientist Dr. Kazi M. Badruddoza

Prof. Dr. Zahurul Karim

Prof. Dr. Hajera Mahtab

Prof. Dr. Liaquat Ali

Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ali Asgar



BAS Council (July 2016 - June 2019)

### II. Annual General Meeting 2015 of Bangladesh Academy of Sciences, 21 May 2016

The Annual General Meeting 2015 of the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) was held on Saturday, 21 May 2016 at 4:00 pm at the Conference Room of the Academy in the National Museum of Science & Technology Bhavan, Agargaon, Dhaka 1207. Professor Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmad, President, BAS, was in the Chair.

The Annual General Meeting 2015 was held in a cordial atmosphere as per agenda. The new BAS Council (July 2016 - June 2019) was elected.

Fellows present took active participation on the agenda of the AGM.

After detailed discussion the following resolutions were taken during AGM 2015:

- i. Dissemination of research output i.e. technology and innovation developed should be done through appropriate extension agents;
- ii. All Fellows should be involved in different activities of the Academy as appropriate. Promotion of excellence of science in different ways could be done by the Fellows;
- iii. All Sectional Committees of BAS should be active and appropriate activities in different fields of science should be taken up to make them visible;
- iv. To discuss the ongoing activities and output of the research proposals, half-yearly workshop should be organized and all the Fellows should be invited to participate in the workshop;
- v. As the activities of the Academy are increasing, and yearly generation of fund is decreasing, the Ministry of Science and Technology should be approached for further grant of fund;
- vi. The Fellows should be given a permanent Fellow Number and Identity Cards should be given to all the Fellows of the Academy.



*Recitation from the holy Qur'an at the AGM 2015*



*Fellows at the AGM 2015*

### III. Joint Meeting of the BAS Council (2012-2015) and BAS Council (July 2016-June 2019), 26 May 2016

The Joint Meeting of the BAS Council (2012-2015) and newly elected BAS Council (July 2016-June 2019) was held on Thursday, 26 May 2016 at 4:00 pm in the Conference Room of the Academy at the NMST Bhavan, Agargaon, Dhaka 1207.



*The Joint Meeting of the BAS Council*

### IV. Handover and Takeover of the Charge of BAS Council



*The outgoing President greeting new President*

### V. Reception to Professor AKM Siddiq, Former President, BAS 30 July 2016

The Academy organized a meeting to accord "Reception to Professor Dr. AKM Siddiq" Fellow, BAS and former Professor, Department of Physics and Pro-Vice Chancellor, University of Dhaka for his lifelong work and achievement, on Saturday, 30 July 2016 at 3:00 pm at the Academy office, National Museum of Science and Technology Bhavan, Agargaon, Dhaka 1207. Professor Emeritus Dr. Aminul Islam, President, BAS, presided and Professor Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmed, Secretary, BAS moderated the meeting. The Fellows of the Academy were present in the meeting.

At the start, the Chair welcomed all Fellows and expressed thanks for their presence. After recitation from the Holy Qur'an by the Director, BAS, Professor Ahmed presented his welcome address and reminiscence about Professor Siddiq. Prof. MAM Muhtasham Hussain recognized Prof. Siddiq as a very successful person in consideration of all aspects of life, as a colleague, as a friend and as a human being. Prof. AM Harun-ar-Rashid recapitulated many golden moments with Prof. Siddiq and expressed heartfelt regards for Professor Siddiq. Professor Dr. M Shamsheer Ali remembered his student life and research activities with Professor Siddiq and paid tribute to him.





*Address by Professor AKM Siddiq*



*Professor Siddiq and other Fellows*

Professor HM Sengupta spoke about many moments from memoirs of his service life with Professor Siddiq and said that he would never forget those golden moments with Prof. Siddiq. Professor Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmad, Immediate Past President of BAS mentioned that during presidency of the Academy, Professor Siddiq, started many activities and raised the status of the Academy. Professor Ali Asgar, Professor Dr. Amir Hussain Khan and Professor Dr. Naiyyum Choudhury, spoke about Professor Siddiq and wished a very peaceful and happy time during rest of his life. Professor Siddiq in response expressed hearty thanks to all Fellows



*President, BAS giving an Academy Memento to Professor AKM Siddiq*

present and said that he had asked himself many a time to know whether he had been qualified for this honor. Professor Aminul Islam, President, BAS, delivered his concluding address and paid tribute to Professor Siddiq and presented an Academy Memento to Professor Siddiq.

## **VI. Special Seminar on World Breastfeeding Week, 01-07 August 2016, 08 August 2016**

Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS), Bangladesh Breast Feeding Foundation and BIRDEM General Hospital (Mohila and Shishu) jointly organized a Special Seminar on 08 August 2016 in the conference room of BIRDEM general hospital (Mohila and Shishu) on the occasion of World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) 2016, 01-07 August 2016. The theme of the workshop was "WBW theme in context of Bangladesh". Prof. Dr. Z.N Tahmida Begum, Treasurer, BAS presided over the seminar. Prof. Dr. KM Sultanul Aziz, Immediate Past Secretary, BAS moderated the seminar.



*Address by Professor Mesbahuddin Ahmed, Secretary, BAS*

About 100 doctors, nurses, health scientists and workers were present in the seminar. Prof. Dr. KM Sultanul Aziz, started the seminar through a welcome address and introductory speech about the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences and its role on promotion of excellence in science education and research and particularly to transfer latest information on health and nutrition through seminar and sponsoring projects. Professor Aziz then introduced the keynote speaker, Dr. SK Roy to the learned audience.





*Address by Dr. SK Roy at the seminar on breastfeeding*



*Participants at the seminar*

Dr. SK Roy, Chairperson, Bangladesh Breastfeeding Foundation delivered the keynote speech, about the theme, programs, objectives and actions to be taken in context of Bangladesh and finally on how to reach successful breastfeeding in Bangladesh. Prof. Dr. Tahmina Begum, Head, Dept. of Pediatrics, BIRDEM General Hospital as panel discussant, talked about advantages and barriers of successful breastfeeding and how to overcome the barriers. During open discussion, Prof. Dr. M Shamsheer Ali, Past President, BAS, emphasized upon importance of breastfeeding. Prof. Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmed, Secretary, BAS mentioned many aspects on the needs of breastfeeding. Prof. Dr. ZN Tahmida Begum, Chair of the seminar, summarized the main points of all the speakers and expressed strong supports on the programs and activities taken up by the Govt. Prof. KM Sultanul Aziz concluded the seminar through expressing thanks to the speakers, participants and organizers particularly to the BIRDEM administration for their generous support for organizing the seminar.

## INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

### I. The 5th YPL Reunion and the 69th World Health Assembly 20-24 May, 2016 Geneva, Switzerland

Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) nominated Dr. Fazle Rabbi Chowdhury, Registrar, Department of Medicine, Sylhet M. A. G. Osmani Medical College Hospital, Sylhet, Bangladesh to attend the 5th YPL Reunion and 69th World Health Assembly, 20-24 May 2016 Geneva, Switzerland.

Total 20 participants from different countries of the world participated in the YPL Reunion.

Six popular leadership styles were evaluated by the participants. A brain storming session was held to design an YPL alumni network. It was decided in the reunion to create a separate website of YPL alumni which should focus success story of YPL global communities in terms of research and training and act as a common platform to share resources. Emphasis on arranging regular webinar through which local and regional young physicians would be benefitted.



*YPL Participants and delegates at the WHA*



*Dr. Muhammad Al-saidi, President of 69th WHA and health minister of Oman at the World Health Assembly*

## II. Lindau Nobel Laureates Meeting, 26 June - 1 July 2016, Lindau, Germany

The 66th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting was held during 26 June - 1 July 2016. The 66th Lindau Meeting was dedicated to the field of physics. 29 Nobel Laureates and Vinton G. Cerf (ACM A.M. Turing Award 2004) met with 400 young scientists coming from 80 countries.



*Academy nominee for Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting receiving cheque from President, BAS*

Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) granted fund as travel support for Mr. Anock Somadder, Assistant Professor, SUST to attend 66th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting 26 June - 01 July 2016 in Germany.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### I. IAP General Assembly and Health Conference, 25-29 September 2016, Beijing, China

InterAcademy Partnership for Health Conference on Promoting Health & General Assembly will be organized by the Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE), Beijing, China during 25 - 29 September 2016.

The upcoming IAP for Health Conference and General Assembly will be hosted by IAP for Health in collaboration with the Chinese Academy of Engineering and organized in collaboration with the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences/Peking Union Medical College in September 2016. The events are generously sponsored by the China Health & Medical Development Foundation.

The opening ceremony will take place on Tuesday 27 September 2016, followed by a two-day conference on 'Promoting Health' on Tuesday 27 and Wednesday 28 September 2016. The conference will explore various topics under the theme of 'Promoting Health'. These include: social determinants of health and broad context for health promotion and disease prevention, opportunities across the lifespan, integrating prevention and population health with health care delivery and systems. Participants include distinguished scholars, presidents and leadership of national academies of science, medicine, engineering, as well as experts and health advisors from both industrialized and low and middle income countries (LMIC).

The third day (Thursday 29 September 2016) will be dedicated to IAP for Health General Assembly and is a closed session for representatives member academies.

The scientific programme is currently under preparation by the Conference Committee chaired by Dr. Peggy Hamburg, Foreign Secretary of the US National Academy of Medicine (formerly IOM), and Professor Liu Depei, past Vice President of the Chinese Academy of Engineering.

Professor Dr. ASM Matiur Rahman, Fellow, BAS will attend the IAP General Assembly and the IAP Health conference, 25-29 September 2016, Beijing, China as representative of the Academy.

### II. Young Scientists Congress and Women Scientists Mentor-Mentee Program, 27-29 October 2016, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) is going to organize "Young Scientists Congress 2016 and Women Scientists Mentor-Mentee Program 2016" to be held during 27-29 October 2016, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

About 20 participants from different countries and 300 local participants will attend the program.

Architect Yeafesh Osman, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh will be the Chief

Guest of the Inaugural Ceremony and Begum Meher Afroze Chumki, Hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh will be the Chief Guest at the Women Scientist Mentor-Mentee Program.

**Theme: Science and Technology for achieving SDGs**

**Young Scientists Congress, 27-28 October 2016**

**Sub-theme:**

- Quality Education for Science & Technology
- Environment and Climate Change
- Challenges for Modern Agriculture

**Women Scientists Mentor-Mentee Program, 29 October 2016**

**Sub-theme:**

- Gender Equality in Science & Technology
- Meeting the Energy Crisis
- R & D in mitigating the effects of Natural Disaster
- Developing Entrepreneurship from S & T Inventions

**Editorial Committee**

Professor Dr. Naiyyum Choudhury	Editor
Professor Dr. SM Humayun Kabir	Member
Professor Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmed	Member

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