

Arni University
Report on National Conference
Role of Biological Sciences in Sustainable Development & Biodiversity Conservation
(March 09-10, 2017)
Organized by Deptt. of Biosciences & Biotechnology

Two days National Conference on “**Role of Biological Sciences in Sustainable development and Biodiversity conservation**”, sponsored by “**NITI Aayog, New Delhi**” was successfully organized in Arni University by Dept of Biosciences & Biotechnology on 09-10 March 2017.

In these two days, we had 4 technical sessions, 2 oral sessions & 01 poster session. Approximately 150 participants attended the conference representing different fields of science from more than 10 northern states. All the participants interacted with each other, enjoyed the lectures, technical sessions and beautiful campus. There were 20 oral presentations and around 50 poster presentations.

The conference was inaugurated by Chief Guest, Brig. S. C. Verma, Vice Chancellor of the university, Guest of Honour, Prof. O. P. Aggrawal, Former Vice Chancellor, Jiwaji University, Gwalior. Various eminent scientists, Prof. S. S. Kanwar, Prof. P. K. Pati, Prof. P. K. Shrivastava, Dr. S. Chatterjee, Dr. Tokeer Ahmad and others from various colleges/universities and institutes graced the event by their presence.

Prof. O. P. Agrawal delivered his key note address on “Bioremediation as potential means of waste management and sustainable development” with particular emphasis on Vermicomposite technology which helps and support directly or indirectly to “**Clean India Mission**”.

Prof. S. S. Kanwar, explained about how we ourselves are adding to environmental pollution and explained about its adverse effects. This was followed by Dr. S. Chatterjee and Prof. P. K. Pati, who emphasized on the use of metabolomic profiling in clinical research, biomarker research which have potential use in public health and use of RNAi technology in crop improvement to strengthen the agriculture, respectively. Prof. Pati talked about the **Golden Rice Evolution and Blue Rose Story** also.

Prof. P. K. Shrivastava, from CSIR-CDRI, Lucknow, informed the participants about the very common and basic concepts. He talked about the modern utilities we are using these

days. The ideas for which originated from nature or working of different animals, arthropods, reptiles and birds. He provided true inspiring examples of ants, kingfisher, beetles, butterflies and birds and so many. These examples revealed that you just need to trigger an idea and you can have good research. He introduced the new field of science “**SCIENTOONICS, BIONICS, BIOMIMICS**” WITH which many of us were not aware.

In continuation of this, Dr. Tokeer Ahmed emphasized on the use of chemistry of nano particles in day to day life application of current science and technology. He explained that the physical laws and effects differ from nano particles to bulk particles. In addition to the examples of Prof. Shrivastava, Dr. Ahmed very simply explained that the use of nano materials helps in the making of scratch proof car. These nano particles spread in the sunlight from one place to another. He emphasized the use of nano particles in public health, like treatment of cancer. It was concluded that nano particles might play an important role in maintaining the sustainable development and this area of research needs to be explored in better management of natural resources and health related issues.

In the last, we had an eminent scientist Prof. D. P. Abrol, Dean Faculty of Agriculture, Sher-e-Kashmir, University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, J & K. He delivered his talk on “**Decline in Pollinators – A threat to Sustainable Agriculture and Global Food Security**”. He added that pollinating insects are in decline throughout the world which may result in pollination crisis and may lead to loss of natural biodiversity. Pollinators have a key role in maintaining ecosystem services and helping nature to adjust to external threats like climate change. Introduction of foreign species, vast deforestation, increasing human population, habitat loss are the best possible drivers of decline of insect pollinators. This develops the necessity of collective efforts from conservation biologists and policy makers to get rid of pollination crisis.

All the technical sessions were highly informative & interactive. Students actively participated in the technical as well as oral sessions & cleared their doubts and queries. Approximately 20 researchers presented their research work in oral sessions. They were asked questions by the experts & other participants. Various suggestions were also made by experts to do better in their research work. Best presenter was awarded Best Oral paper Award during the valedictory function.

More than 45 researcher and students presented their work through poster presentations. The chairman of poster session evaluated the posters & interacted with the

presenters. Healthy discussions took place between the experts & the presenters. Best Poster Award was given to Ms Priyanka, Dept of Biotechnology, Arni University.

Report of the conference was presented by Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Organizing Secretary of the conference at the end.

Arni University is thankful to **NITI Aayog** for providing funds to organize the conference. We thank the eminent faculties who come out of their hectic schedule and presented their findings before us. We are also thankful to the students, teaching & non-teaching staff who helped to make this event a successful one.

We also thank the participants from various institutes who came and presented their research work and made the event successful one. We hope you might have enjoyed the lectures, food, accommodation and campus as well.

Thanks a lot.
