Report on the organization of a 2-day Lecture Workshop on Biotechnology, held at Sri Kaliswari College, Sivakasi (4-5 February 2011)

Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore; Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi and The National Academy of Sciences, India, Allahabad jointly supports 2-day Lecture Workshop on various disciplines of science. The Department of Biotechnology, Sri Kaliswari College, Sivakasi conducted a workshop during 4-5 February 2011. Undergraduate and postgraduate students who study Biotechnology, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Zoology, and Botany from 17 colleges participated in this program. A total of 127 students have participated, apart from 12 faculty members and 27 research scholars.

The program started with a short formal inaugural function in the presence of the College Secretary, Mr.A.P.Selvarajan. Dr. R. Narayanapraksh, Director, Dept. of Biotechnology, welcomed the gathering. Dr. G. Marimuthu, Convener of this Workshop introduced the programme to the participants. The Principal of the college Dr. (Mrs.) S. Kanmani delivered presidential address. Mr. S. Saravanan, Coordinator of this Workshop proposed vote of thanks.

The lecture programme contained 8 technical sessions, in which eight scientists delivered lectures on various areas in biology and biotechnology such as Developmental Biology, Immunogenetics, Animal Behavior, Molecular Biology, Plant Biotechnology, Cancer Proteomics & Bioinformatics.

In the first session, Dr. T.J. Pandian, Visiting Professor, CAS in Marine Biotechnology, Annamalai University, a Fellow of the Academy spoke on “Primordial Germ Cells and Spermatogonial Stem Cells”. Afterwards, Mr. Arun Kumar, Mr.V.S.Arun and Ms. Shyama, from the Madurai Kamaraj University (MKU) spoke on “The Genographic and the Migration of Man-40 & Genomic Technologies of Genographic-40”.

In the afternoon session, a documentary film “Journey of Man and Story of India” was shown. In the technical session III, Dr.S. Sudhagar, Associate Professor & Head, Dept. of Biotechnology, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli delivered a lecture on ‘Aging’. He narrated the recent work that he has carried out in the field of Aging. In the last session of the first day, Prof. G. Marimuthu, a Fellow of the Academy, and the Convener of this Workshop spoke on Biology & Behavior of Bats.
On second day, the program began with the lecture by Dr. S. Kannan, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Zoology, Bharathiyar University, Coimbatore. He spoke on Cancer Proteomics. In the technical session VI, Dr. Hussain Munavar, Professor & Head, Dept. of Molecular Biology, MKU, Madurai, narrated the Novel regulatory network controlling transcription in *E. coli*.

Dr.K.Veluthambi, Professor & Head, Dept. of Plant Biotechnology, MKU and a Fellow of Academy, described in the technical session VII upon “Selectable marker elimination in transgenic rice”. In Session VIII Dr. S. Krishnaswamy, Head & Chairperson, School of Biotechnology, MKU, explained how Bioinformatics tools are used to study the structural biology of porins of *Salmonella typhi*.

At the end of the program, a short, formal valedictory meeting was arranged. Dr.R. Narayana Prakash, summarized the two-day lecture proceedings. Dr. K. Muthuchelian, Vice-Chancellor Periyar University, Salem graced the function and addressed the audience. He pointed out the important role of biotechnology on health care. He mentioned the range of biotechnologies that help combat infection diseases, and the recent development in research in biotechnology like manufacture of heart using stem cells.

While elaborating about vaccines, he emphasized the role of biotechnology on production of vaccines for cancer, malaria, plant-based vaccines, etc. He concluded that Life Sciences, from classical biology to modern biotechnology touches the core of all lives and plays a vital role in developing medicines, vaccines, fine chemicals, energy generation etc.

During the two-day program the Academy’s Science Education Journal ‘Resonance’ was displayed on the conference hall for the student participants to use them.

\[\text{\signature}

Dr.G.Marimuthu

Convener\]
4th February 2011 - Friday
Inaugural Session 09.30 am - 10.00 am

Opening of Kuthuvilaku
Shri A.P. Selvarajan
Secretary, Sri Kaliswari College, Sivakasi

Welcome Address
Dr. R. Narayana Prakash
Director, Department of Biotechnology
Sri Kaliswari College, Sivakasi

Introduction of the Programme
Prof. G. Marimuthu
Convener, Head & Chairperson
Department of Animal Behaviour and Physiology
School of Biological Sciences,
Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai

General & Presidential Address
Dr. (Mrs.) S. Kanmani
Principal, Sri Kaliswari College, Sivakasi

Address of Thanks
Mr. S. Saravanan
Head, Department of Biotechnology
Sri Kaliswari College, Sivakasi

10.15 am - 11.15 am Technical Session I

Haral: Primordial germ cells and Spermatogonial stem cells
Dr. T. J. Pandian
National Professor

Break 11.15 - 11.30 am

11.30 am - 01.00 pm Technical Session II

Haral: The Genographic and the migration of man - 40
Prof. R. M. Pitchappan

1.30 pm - 2.30 pm Technical Session III

Topic: Selectable Marker elimination in Transgenic Rice
Dr. K. Veluthambi
Professor & Head, Department of Plant Biotechnology
School of Biotechnology, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai

2.30 pm - 3.30 pm Technical Session IV

Topic: Novel Regulatory network controlling transcription in E.coli
Dr. Hussain Munavar
Professor & Head, Department of Molecular Biology
School of Biological Sciences, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai

Tea Break: 3.30 pm - 3.45 pm

3.45 pm - 4.45 pm Technical Session V

Topic: Biology and Behaviour of Bats
Prof. G. Marimuthu
Convener, Head & Chairperson, Dept. of Animal Behaviour & Physiology, School of Biological Sciences,
Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai

5th February 2011, Saturday

10.30 am - 11.30 am Technical Session VI

Topic: Cancer Proteomics
Dr. R. Kannan
Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology
Bharathiyar University, Coimbatore

Tea Break: 11.30 am - 11.45 am
01.15 - 2.15 pm - Documentary Film: "Journey of Man and Story of India"

02.15 am - 03.15 pm - Technical Session VIII

Topic: Structural Biology of outer membrane porins of S.typhi

Dr. S. Krishnasamy
Head & Chairperson, School of Biotechnology
Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai

Tea Break: 3.15 - 3.30 pm

Valedictory Session - 3.30 pm

Welcome Address
Dr. R. Narayana Prakash
Director, Department of Biotechnology
Sri Kaliswari College, Sivakasi

Valedictory Address
Dr. K. Muthuchelian
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor,
Periyar University, Salem

Vote of Thanks
Mr. S. Saravanan
Head, Department of Biotechnology
Sri Kaliswari College, Sivakasi

Programme Convener:
Dr. G. Marimuthu
Prof. & Head, Chairperson
Department of Animal Behaviour & Physiology
School of Biological Sciences, M.K. University