Final Report of the Lecture Workshop

About the Programme
Every year Science Academies Lecture Workshop of different branches of science is being organized in different places of India. This year Burdwan Raj College has been identified to organize lecture workshop for Biological Science (http://www.ias.ac.in/what.html #lecwork). This two-day lecture Workshop was meant to orient young students of biological sciences towards progress and carrier prospect of biological sciences. Speakers in this workshop were renowned persons and most of them were fellows of the sponsoring societies.

This lecture workshop was meant for students who are studying undergraduate and postgraduate courses. Participation of the faculty members and research scholars of different colleges, academic institutions and universities were highly appreciated. Different colleges of the Burdwan town and several departments of the University of Burdwan viz., Botany, Biotechnology, Microbiology, Zoology, etc. were visited and the faculty members and research scholars were requested to participate the Lecture Workshop. There was no registration fee for participation.

About Burdwan Raj College
Burdwan Raj College, established in 1881, is one of the premier and oldest colleges, not only in the Burdwan District but also in the whole state of West Bengal. The picturesque campus is situated at the centre of the town adjacent to Shyamsayar and Burdwan Medical College and Hospital. It runs three shifts – morning, day and evening. Eighteen honours courses are taught here in addition to B.B.A. (H) and B.C.A. (H). It is a constituent college of the University of Burdwan as it offers postgraduate course in Bengali.

The departments of Botany and Zoology are specially mentioned owing to their long tradition of research activities. Some of the senior faculty members received financial assistance from various government funding agencies, viz. Department of Science and Technology, Department of Biotechnology, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Defense Research and Development Organization, University Grants Commission, etc. for performing research. Several technical monographs, books and about 200 research communications have been published by senior faculty members. Prestigious UGC Research Award and Biotechnology National Associateship have been received by a senior faculty member of the department of Zoology.

Dates of the Two-Day Lecture Workshop
16th and 17th August 2011.

Venue of the Lecture Workshop
Burdwan Raj College, Aftab House, Shyamsayar, Burdwan 713 104, West Bengal.
Day 1: 16 August 2011
Registration
There was no registration fee. However, participants registered their names. Registration materials and a book on the ‘Complete Works of Acharyya Jagadish Chandra Bose and Lady Abala Bose’ were given to the student, research scholar, teacher participants and also to resource persons.

A total of 198 participants registered their names who came from Burdwan Raj College, Burdwan, Vivekananda Mahavidyalaya, Burdwan, M.U.C. Women’s College, Burdwan, S.G.B. College, Magra, Netaji Mahavidyalaya, Arambag, Burdwan University, Golapbag, Burdwan and Burdwan Institute of Management and Computer Science, Burdwan. Moreover, a few journalists from different news papers attended the workshop.

Inauguration
The inaugural programme of the Lecture Workshop was started at 10-30 AM. Dr Bishnu Charan Sarkar, Chief Guest of the Inaugural Function and Dean, Faculty of Science and Professor of Physics, Burdwan University has been kind enough to induct the workshop by lighting the lamp and he also delivered his inaugural speech. Dr. S.C. Nandi, Principal, Burdwan Raj College has preside over the function and delivered presidential address. Other dignitaries present on the Dias were Professor Aparna Dutta Gupta, Professor of Animal Science Department, Hyderabad University, Hyderabad and Jt. Convener of the Lecture Workshop, Prof. Samir Bhattacharya of Visva Bharati, Santiniketan, Dr. Susanta Roychoudhury, Senior Principal Scientist, Cancer Biology and Immunology Division, Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, Kolkata, Dr. Asok Kumar Mukherjee, Professor of Botany (Retired), Burdwan University, Burdwan and Dr. Anupam Basu, Associate Professor of Zoology, Burdwan University, Burdwan and Jt. Convener of the Lecture Workshop. Dr. Apurba K. Chattopadhyay, Jt. Coordinator of the Lecture Workshop and Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Zoology, Burdwan Raj College, Burdwan, delivered Welcome Address and gratefully acknowledged the role of sponsoring societies for their financial assistance. Professor Aparna Dutta Gupta delivered a brief lecture.

Academic Session of the 1st Day
Pre-Lunch Session
This session started just after inaugural function was over. The first lecture was delivered by Prof. Samir Bhattacharya of Visva Bharati, Santiniketan. The title of his deliberation was ‘Do you enjoy science?’ Prof. Bhattacharya was introduced by Dr. Kaushik Ghosh, Assistant Professor of Zoology, Burdwan University, Burdwan. In his deliberation Prof. Bhattacharya shared his own experience with the participants.

The next speaker was Dr. S.C. Nandi, Principal, Burdwan Raj College, Burdwan who talked about different aspects of Ethnobotany. Dr. Nirupama Goswami, Associate Professor of Botany and Jt. Coordinator of the Lecture Workshop introduced her teacher.

Post-Lunch Session
After the lunch-break Dr. Susanta Roychoudhury of Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, Kolkata delivered his lecture on Unraveling the mystery of Life – From genes to diseases. Dr. Roychoudhury rightly pointed out that due to the availability of substantial amount of human genomic data, an opportunity has been created that would allow the development of more sophisticated diagnostic and therapeutic intervention of various human diseases.
Dr. Asok Kumar Mukherjee, Professor of Botany (Retired), Burdwan University delivered a lecture on *nanotechnology in Biomedical Sciences*. He was duly introduced by Dr. Asit Baran De, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Botany, Burdwan Raj College, Burdwan. Professor Mukherjee narrated at length on the use of nanoparticles and the promises of the nanotechnology.

**Day 2: 17 August 2011**

**Pre-Lunch Session**
The first lecture of the Pre-lunch session was delivered by Professor Dhrubajyoti Chattopadhyay, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Academic), Calcutta University and B.C. Guha Professor of the B.C. Guha Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, University of Calcutta, Kolkata. Professor Chattopadhyay was introduced by Dr. Asok Kr. Mukherjee, Professor of Botany (Retired), The University of Burdwan, Burdwan. The title of the Prof. Chattopadhyay's lecture was *Excitements in Biology*. He talked about Genome engineering, Self Surviving Cell Model, etc.

The next lecture was delivered by Dr. S.K. Ghosal, Professor of Zoology (Retired), The University of Burdwan, Burdwan. He discussed at length about *Genetic abnormalities of Human – Its Molecular detection and Management*. Dr. A. K. Chattopadhyay, Jt. Coordinator of the Lecture Workshop and Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Zoology, Burdwan Raj College, Burdwan introduced Professor Ghosal.

**Post-Lunch Session**
In the Post-lunch session, the first lecture was delivered by Dr. Anupam Basu, Associate Professor of Zoology, Burdwan University, Burdwan and Jt. Convener of the Lecture Workshop. He talked on *Bioinformatics – Its developments and future prospects*. Dr. Basu was introduced by Dr. Sumedha Roy, Assistant Professor of Zoology, Burdwan University, Burdwan.

The last lecture was delivered by Professor Aparna Dutta Gupta, Professor of Animal Science Department, Hyderabad University, Hyderabad and Jt. Convener of the Lecture Workshop. Her deliberation was on *how to define a problem and how a problem can be solved?* Her lecture was very encouraging to the young students for their future prospects.

**Interactive Session**
Just before the Valedictory function, an interactive session was organized. In this session student participants expressed their future goal. This session was chaired by Professor Asok Kr. Mukherjee who called the students to express their views, their dreams. At the end, Prof. Dutta Gupta answered all the queries of the students and gave information of the premier institutions and leading scientists of India so that students could be able to continue their studies.

**Valediction**
In this session Dr. S.C. Nandi delivered a brief Valedictory speech. Certificate of Attendance was presented to the participants by Professor Aparna Dutta Gupta. At the end, Dr. Nirupama Goswami delivered Vote of Thanks.

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Science Academies’ Lecture Workshop on
PROGRESS AND PROSPECTS OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
16 -17 August 2011

Sponsored by
Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore
Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi
The National Academy of Sciences, India, Allahabad

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

16th August 2011
Inauguration : 10.30 A.M. to 11.00 A.M.
Tea break : 11.00 A.M. to 11.15 A.M.
Pre-lunch Session : 11.15 A.M. to 1.30 P.M.
   Lecture 1 – Prof. Samir Bhattacharyya, INSA Scientist, Department of Zoology, Visva Bharati
   Lecture 2 – Prof. S.C. Nandi, Principal, Burdwan Raj College, Burdwan
Lunch break : 1.30 P.M. to 2.00 P.M.
Post-lunch Session : 2.00 P.M. to 4.15 P.M.
   Lecture 1 – Dr. Susanta Roy Choudhury, Deputy Director, IICB, Kolkata
   Lecture 2 – Prof. Asok Kr. Mukherjee, Professor of Botany (Retired), Burdwan University, Burdwan

17th August 2011
Pre-lunch Session : 10.30 A.M. to 1.00 P.M
   Lecture 1 – Prof. Dhrubajyoti Chattopadhyay, Dept of Biotechnology, Calcutta University, Kolkata
   Lecture 2 – Prof. S.K. Ghosal, Professor of Zoology (Retired), Burdwan University, Burdwan
Lunch break : 1.00 P.M. to 1.30 A.M.
Post-lunch Session : 1.30 P.M. to 3.45 P.M.
   Lecture 1 – Prof. Aparna Dutta Gupta, Department of Animal Sciences, Univ. of Hyderabad, Hyderabad
   Lecture 2 – Dr. Anupam Basu, Department of Zoology, The University of Burdwan, Burdwan
Tea-break : 3.45 P.M. to 4.00 P.M.
Validation : 4.00 P.M. to 4.30 P.M.

Prof. S.C. Nandi
Principal, Burdwan Raj College, & President, Organizing Committee

Dr A.K. Chattopadhyay
Head, Department of Zoology, Burdwan Raj College & Joint Coordinator, Organizing Committee

Dr Nirupama Goswami
Department of Botany, Burdwan Raj College & Joint Coordinator, Organizing Committee