ACADEMIES' LECTURE WORKSHOP

ON

BIOTECHNOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION AND PROTECTION

13th & 14th Oct. 2011

A two day lecture workshop series on the Biotechnological aspects of environmental degradation and protection was successfully organized by the Department of Microbiology, The Oxford College of Science, HSR Layout Bangalore in association with the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore, Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi and the National Academy Of Sciences, Allahabad.

The Organizing committee included Sri S.Narsa Raju, Founder Chairman of the Oxford Educational Institutions as the Chief Patron, Sri S Ramesh Raju Executive Director of the Oxford Institutions, Patron Dr. Elamma Thomas Varicatt, Principal of the Oxford College of Science, Convenor Prof. K.A Natarajan, Honorary Professor Department of material Engineering IISc, Bangalore and Coordinator Prof Bharathi S Head, Department of Microbiology, The Oxford College of science.

The inaugural function of the workshop auspiciously started with the lighting of the lamp by the esteemed dignitaries and invocation song by Senior M. Sc students of Microbiology Department, The Oxford College of Science. The Inaugural address was presented by the convenor of the workshop Prof. K.A Natarajan, Honorary Professor Department of Material Engineering, IISc, Bangalore where he highlighted the functioning of the academies and their aims and objectives. Sri S Ramesh Raju Executive Director of the Oxford Institutions greeted the gathering with his best wishes. The formal inaugural function was concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Dr. Bharathi S, the Coordinator of the workshop.
Later the lecture series started by the eminent speakers as per scheduled

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Day 1 (13th Oct, 2011)

10.45-11.45 pm  
*Mining and bioremediation*

Prof. K.A. Natarajan
Honorary Professor, IISc, Bangalore

11.45-12.45 pm  
*Earthworm Biotechnology: Source for sustainable agriculture*

Dr. Radha Kale,
Director, Center for Scientific Research and Advanced Learning, Mount Carmel College, Bangalore

12.45-1.45 pm  
Lunch break

1.45-2.45 pm  
*Environmental impact on Mining- Video presentation*

Prof. K.A. Natarajan
Honorary Professor, IISc, Bangalore

2.45-3.00 pm  
Tea break

3.00-3.45 pm  
*Environmental protection through phytoremediation*

Dr. Nayeem ullah khan,
Professor, St. Joseph's college, Bangalore
Day II (14th Oct, 2011)

10.00 - 11.00 pm
*Unplanned Urbanization in Bangalore*
Dr. T. V. Ramachandra
Professor, IISc, Bangalore

11.00 - 11.15 pm
Tea break

11.15 - 12.15 pm
*An Overview of Environmental issues in Bangalore Urban*
Dr. N. Nandini
Chairman & Principal investigator
Department of Environmental science,
Bangalore University

12.15 - 1.15 pm
Lunch break

1.15 - 2.15 pm
*Biodiversity Conservation and sustainable development*
Dr. Harish Bhat,
Centre for Ecological Science
Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore

2.15 - 3.15 pm
*Role of Microbial Pesticide in environmental protection*
Dr. S.N. Kannan
Principal, KSR College of Arts and Science,
Tiruchengode

3.15 - 3.45 pm
Valedictory

3.45 - 4.30 pm
Tea break and Certificate distribution
Outcome

The environment and the human development are the principal focus of sustainable development. Over 70% of global population depends directly on land and the natural environment. It’s how the environmental goods and services are exploited, inevitably we must utilize the earth’s assets without wasting the resources that cannot be replenished and also without upsetting the dynamic equilibrium of the earth’s system that sustains us all.

As it was repeatedly cited by all the speakers, the aim of this two day lecture series was to sensitize the researchers, scientists, students and NGOs on sustainable conservation and aspects of environmental degradation and protection. The lecture series has resulted in demonstrating the role of key areas like mining, phytoremediation, environmental issues, pros and cons of urbanisation, importance of conserving biodiversity, vermi-composting and other healthy practices in agriculture.

Notably this lecture series has enlightened the new developments in understanding the biotechnological aspects which have proved to be beneficial. The speakers of this lecture series shared their research work and innovative ideas in imparting the awareness on several environmental issues like Mining and bioremediation and environmental impact of Mining by Prof. K.A Natarajan, Professor Emeritus, IISc Bangalore. Prof. Natarajan also enlightened the audience with an educational video clipping on some of the hardcore issues and activities concerned with mining.

Dr. Radha Kale, Director Centre of scientific research and advanced learning Mount Carmel College Bangalore discussed the benefits of earthworm biotechnology and vermi-compositing in agriculture and environment.
Prof. Nayeem Ullah Khan from the department of Botany St. Josephs PG college and research Centre beautifully explained the importance of environmental science, sustenance of life and the development of environment through Phyto remediation.

Dr. T. V Ramachandaran Prof IISc Bangalore delivered his thoughtful ideas of research and shred his research work on the Unplanned Urbanization in Bangalore.

The environmental issues in urban Bangalore were keenly dealt by Dr. Nandini Chairman and Principal investigator Department of Environmental science Bangalore University.

Sri Harish Bhat from the centre of Ecological sciences IISc emphasized on the biodiversity Conservation and sustainable development.

Dr. Kannan from KSR College, Tiruchengode emphasised on beneficial aspects of microbial pesticides over chemical pesticides and their environmental impact.

The audience numbered to 250 where in the participants of the lecture workshop were 225 and invitees were 25 in number. There was a tremendous response from the participants which made each session highly interactive.

In the valedictory The students of Microbiology department, The oxford college of science enacted a mime to convey the message to save mother earth.

On the whole the outcome of the lecture workshop was highly fruitful and participants left the venue highly satisfied with a carry home message of

"save earth and make the earth a better place for living"