



NABS *News Letter*

National Academy of Biological Sciences

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January 2019

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Former Chairperson, NBA, GOI, Chennai

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From the Desk of President.....



Dear NABSians,

New Year Greetings to one and all.

The year that went by brought us face to face with nature's fury in 2018. Devastating floods in Kerala, catastrophic storm in Tamil Nadu, freak out break of deadly NIPAH in Kerala. Do they signify Climate change? We are to discuss this in this year's conference on Climate change. The farmers of these affected areas in Tamil Nadu as well as their brethren in Kerala are in great misery as their perennial crops- coconut is completely lost besides other losses. NABS place on record its concern on the sufferings of the farmers of the regions affected by nature's fury. Because of GAJA the 11th NABS-National Conference on "*Climate change driven challenges on Ecosystems-Innovative Solutions towards Sustainable Development*" scheduled to be held at Pondicherry University, Puducherry from 28 to 30 January 2019 stands postponed to August 2019 on a mutually convenient date. The NABSians of these regions may extend all possible technical help to mitigate the crop loss and for rehabilitation.

I am delighted to inform you all that NABS brings out a book on "*The Birth and Evolution of NABS-through 2004 to 2018*" covering all activities of NABS including a special chapter with 'Memoirs of Prof. S.K' written by eminent scientists of the country and abroad, extension functionaries and students of Prof. S.K. I take this opportunity, as General Editor and President of NABS, to profusely thank all the contributors to this chapter. It would not be out of place to thank Dr. T. Marimuthu for the efforts in getting the articles for book.

Hope, the year 2019 will bring prosperity to one and all.

(V. A. Parthasarathy)
President, NABS

2. Message from Vice-President...



My New Year wishes to all NABSians!

Climate change is a current topic of interest to scientists. Climate change refers to significant variation in the state of the climate persisting for an extended period of time (decades or longer). The most evident effect of climate change is the variation in temperature leading to heat waves, drought, melting of glaciers increasing sea level, hurricanes, *etc.*

Climate change is caused by natural processes or persistent anthropogenic processes that cause change in the composition of the atmosphere. Climate change is one of the most important factors of environmental change that will influence biodiversity and ecosystem functioning in the years to come. However, predictions of the consequences of climate change on biodiversity or highly complicated by the many factors that may co-vary with climate change. For example, climate change is preceded by a gradual increase in global CO₂ levels, which have an influence on plant, animal and microbial species composition. In a global warming case study it was shown that an increase of 3.5°C in temperature alone in two years had little effect on soil respiration and plant biomass above ground; but it increased root growth which had a clear effect on the soil fauna, for example, earthworms and some groups of mites decreased in numbers. The research on climate change and its effect on ecosystem is in the beginning stage and it is difficult to draw any conclusions and this stage.

It is my firm belief that the entitled “*Climate change driven challenges on Ecosystems - Innovative Solutions Towards Sustainable Development*” organized by NABS at Pondicherry University in January 2019 will provide excellent opportunities for the scientists to exchange their ideas to overcome the ill effects of climate change on biodiversity and the services they render to the ecosystem.

I wish the Fellows and Members of NABS, and participants of the conference a very happy and prosperous 2019.

(D.J. Bagyaraj)
Vice-President

3. Message from Editor...



Wishing you all a Happy 2019!

I hope you celebrated the start of 2019 in contentment with family and friends.

Now that we are into the New Year, it is important to look ahead and strategize on what we have to accomplish and more importantly anticipate what this year might bring us.

Before that, a quick look back at 2018. It was quite an eventful year for the Academy and we continued to pursue our long-term vision of becoming a Major Science Academy in the country by creating platforms for exchanging and sharing new scientific realms and at the same time nurturing new values for the overall development of the society.

The challenges we face now are identical to the ones we have always been facing. The first challenge is obviously to enhance our membership so that more and more are brought into our fold. This will not only strengthen the Academy but will also allow us to expand our horizons beyond India. Our second challenge is to not lose sight of our focus, which is to put science at the heart of everything we do and showing the society how we can evolve sustainable solutions and support them whenever possible through a range of clear and simple ideas.

It is now important to use our time wisely with renewed vigour and move forward as confidently and decisively as we can in 2019. Of course, this will only be possible with your continued commitment, zeal and teamwork. We have been making impressive strides right from the beginning and we at the Academy would like to thank you all for your continued support and dedication. The future is wrought with challenges but I am sure by working together we can keep focused on our priorities and realize our ambitions.

(M. Anandaraj)
Editor, NABS NL

4. News and Events

Obituary



Prof. Dr. N. Anand [28-12-1947 to 22-12-2018]

Prof. Dr. N. Anand, the Founder Vice President, NABS & recipient of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Memorial NABS- Life Time Achievement Award (for 2016) & Formerly Vice Chancellor of VELS University, Chennai & Dean (Research) and Director, Centre for Advanced Studies in Botany, University of Madras, Chennai passed away on 22-12-2018 by 03:20pm at his residence at Chennai.

Prof. Anand belongs to the algological school at the University of Madras established in 1930s by Prof. M.O.P. Iyengar and had the privilege of working with Eminent Algologist of the country Late Prof. T. V. Desikachary and Professor Sir W. D. P. Stewart, FRS., at University of Dundee, Scotland. He had been trained on the physiology and biochemistry of nitrogen fixing blue-greens. Prof. Anand was the recipient of the Fulton Fellowship at the University of Wales, Swansea during 1992 and worked with Late Prof. J. R. Gallon at University of Wales, Swansea on the mechanism of nitrogen fixation by non-heterocystous blue-greens. He had specialized in areas of Taxonomy of blue-green algae and his major research contributions are on Cyanobacteria- including biodiversity, biochemistry of nitrogen fixation and refinements in blue-green algal biofertilizer technology.

Prof. Anand was awarded the degree of Doctor of Science by the University of Madras in 2003 for the contribution on the taxonomy and biology of blue-green algae for over three decades of research.

Prof. Anand was nominated as Honorary Emeritus Professor in 2014 and continues to guide algal research programs in the country for which he received number of awards and fellowship. Prof. Anand is now the Vice-President of Phycological Society, India (founded by Prof. M. O. P. Iyengar) and the Chief Editor of *Phykos*.

WE the NABSians deeply mourn the sudden demise of Prof. Dr. N. Anand and pay our respectful homage to the departed soul and convey our profound grief to the family members. MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE.



Prof. Dr. K. Samiayyan (10-05-1960 to 11-12-2018)

Prof. Dr. K. Samiayyan, Professor & Head, Department of Plant Protection, Horticultural College and Research Institute for Women, Tiruchirappalli- 620 009 & Member of Executive Council of National Academy of Biological Sciences attained eternal bliss on 11 December, 2018 due to vehicle mishap near Perambalur, Tamil Nadu.

Prof. K. Samiayyan, formerly Dean, Mother Teresa College of Agriculture (affiliated to TNAU), Pudukkottai was born on 10 May 1960 in a village-Poyyundarkottai, Orathanadu, Thanjavur district of Tamil Nadu. He is basically an agricultural graduate from TNAU; had an advanced three months training on Education Technology (Experiential Learning) at the University of Western Sydney, Australia and an able teacher and a dedicated researcher in Agricultural Entomology who has been serving in various capacities at the Department of Agricultural Entomology of TNAU. He had specialized in IPM especially in Spider diversity in different agro ecosystems and Integrated Rodents management besides Experiential Learning in Agriculture.

He had been awarded with “25 years of unblemished glorious best services from TNAU” (2010); Bharat Ratna C. Subramanian Award for best teacher (ICAR) 2010); Recognition awards towards the release of management technologies and Black gram variety from TNAU (2007); Certificate of Appreciation-IRRI and TNAU on developing Site-Specific Nutrition Management (SSNM) for the rice farmers of Cauvery Delta (2004).

WE the NABSians deeply mourn the sudden and premature demise of Prof. S. Samiayyan and pay our respectful homage to the departed soul and convey our profound grief to his wife, son and daughter and other family members.

MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE.

4.1. Permanent Secretariat for NABS

A good news to all NABSians that the Secretariat of National Academy of Biological Sciences [NABS] will be housed at

Room No. 209, Second floor, Centre for Advanced Studies in Botany, University of Madras, Guindy Campus, Chennai-600 025, Tamil Nadu, India. NABS places on records its gratitude to Dr.P.Duraisamy, the Vice Chancellor, University of Madras, Chennai, Tamil Nadu who gave permission to have a permanent office at its campus and Dr. N. Mathivanan, Director & Head, Centre for Advanced Studies in Botany, University of Madras, Maraimalai Campus (Guindy Campus), Chennai- 600 025, Tamil Nadu, India and Member, Executive Council, NABS for his sustained efforts to convince the authorities to give permission.

4.2. Fellowship and NABS-Awards for 2017

The Technical Review Committee appointed by President met on 14, 15, & 16 June 2018 and finalized the selection of members for NABS Fellowship and Awards for the year 2017 which was communicated to the individuals.

The Search Committee nominated by President, NABS selected one Scientist each for Prof. S. Kannaiyan Memorial Award (for 2018) and Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Memorial NABS-Life Time Achievement Award (2017).

The Fellowship and Awards will be presented during the 11th NABS-National Conference scheduled during August 2019 at Pondicherry University, Puducherry.

The list of members who were selected / nominated for the Fellowship and Award is furnished below:

S.No.	Fellowship / Awards	Name of Awardee
1.	Prof. S. Kannaiyan Memorial Award (2018)	: Dr. K. P. Viswanatha
2.	Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Memorial NABS-Life Time Achievement Award (2017)	: Dr. Y.D. Gaur
3.	Fellowship (2017)	
	(Under Agricultural Sciences & Forestry)	
	Dr. Anjani Kumar Jha	Dr. Narendra Pratap Singh
	Dr. B. S. Dwivedi	Dr. Ramesh Sundar
	Dr. R. Elanhezian	Dr. Tapan Kumar Monadal
	(Under Basic Sciences)	
	Dr. K. Premkumar	Dr. E.V. Soniya
	Dr. Shylaja M. Dharmesh	Dr. Varughese George
	(Under Veterinary & Fisheries)	: No selection made
	(Under Food & Nutrition)	: Dr. Harinder Singh Oberoi
4.	Associate Fellowship (2017)	: No application received or No selection made
5.	Dr. E. K. Janaki Ammal Memorial NABS-Best Woman Scientist Award (2017)	: Dr. E. V. Soniya
6.	NABS- Best Scientist Award (2017)	
	i. Under Agricultural Sciences & Forestry	
	Dr. B.P. Pal Memorial NABS-Best Scientist Award	: Dr. M. Prakash
	ii. Under Basic Sciences	
	Dr. G. S. Venkataraman Memorial NABS-Best Scientist Award	: No application received or No selection made
	iii. Under Veterinary & Fisheries	
	Dr. V. S. Alwar Memorial NABS-Best Scientist Award	: No application received or No selection made
	iv. Under Food & Nutrition	
	Dr. Smt. Rajammal P. Devadas Memorial NABS-Best Scientist Award	: No application received or No selection made

7. Prof. M.S. Swaminathan
NABS-Leadership Award (2017) : Dr. N. Thajuddin
8. Dr. G. N. Ramachandran Memorial
NABS-Young Scientist Award (2017) : No application received or No selection made
9. NABS- Best Research Paper Award (2017) :
 - i. Under Agricultural Sciences & Forestry
Prof. G. Rangaswami Memorial
NABS-Best Research Paper Award Award : Dr. S. Vinodkumar
 - ii. Under Basic Sciences
Prof. T. S. Sadasivan Memorial
NABS-Best Research Paper Award Award : Dr. Pradeep Kumar Yadav
 - iii. Under Veterinary & Fisheries
Dr. C. M. Singh Memorial NABS-Best
Research Paper Award : No application received or No selection made
 - iv. Under Food & Nutrition
Dr. V. Subrahmanyam Memorial NABS-
Best Research Paper Award Award : No application received or No selection made

4.3. About AWSAR (Augmenting Writing Skills for Articulating Research (AWSAR))

AWSAR is an initiative of Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India and is coordinated by Vigyan Prasar (An autonomous institute of DST) to link current gap in communication research to common person and to disseminate Indian research stories of Science, Technology and Innovation to the common man to understand using the latent potential of Ph.D. Scholars and Post-Doctoral Fellows (PDFs).

Every year DST will invite research stories from their own research work from Ph.D. scholars and Post-Doctoral Fellows (PDF) of India. It can be from any stream of Science and Technology (S&T) like physical, natural, mathematical and information sciences, applied science, engineering, technology, and multi-disciplinary science to make a mark in science communication. DST will also conduct training workshops for the Ph.D. Scholars and PDFs to improve popular science writing. The writings must include the importance of their research matter, significance, societal benefits and should be engrossing to the reader. It should be an unpublished data in simple language to be understood by the common man. The students must be from a recognized University/R&D Institute and an Indian citizen. One candidate can submit one article per year. The winners of the previous year cannot submit in the next year in the same category. The candidates must mention the theme, title with their name, affiliation and contact information in the submitted article. Articles submitted must carry a statement that the article is original and hasn't been previously published elsewhere. Article should be of 1000-1500 words (A4-size with 2.5 cm margin on all sides, single column, Times New Roman font, font size 12, 1.5 line spacing composed in MS Word). Applicants found guilty of plagiarism will be blacklisted and debarred from being involved in future. All posts must be submitted through an online portal. It's suggested that hard copy may also be submitted to the office for record.

A panel of distinguished scientists and science communicators featured by DST will pick the very best 100 entries from Ph.D. scholars and 20 best entries from postdoctoral fellows. For Ph.D. Researchers 100 selected entries will be given a cash prize of 10,000/- along with Certificate of Appreciation. Again, from these 100 stories three best articles/stories will be selected which will be awarded a cash prize of Rs. 1, 00,000/-, Rs. 50, 000/- and 25,000/- respectively. In case of Pos-doc fellows twenty articles will be selected which will be given a cash prize of Rs. 10, 000/- each along a Certificate of Appreciation. From these the outstanding article/story will be awarded the cash prize of Rs. 1,00,000/-. The awards will be bestowed on 28 February on National Science Day every year.

Dr. Renu Agrawal

Executive Council Member of National Academy of Biological Sciences &
Formerly Chief Scientist, CFTRI, Mysuru, Karnataka. E-mail: renuagrawal46@gmail.com

4.4. Eleventh NABS-National Conference

The 11th NABS National Conference on “Climate change driven challenges on Ecosystems- *Innovative solutions towards sustainable development*” is scheduled at Pondicherry University, Puducherry, UT., India, stands postponed to August 2019. Details will follow soon through Announcement. The unique feature is that the inaugural function will be scheduled on the AN so that two solid days are available for AGM and Technical Sessions.

4.5. The Birth and Evolution of NABS-Through 2004 to 2018

The above titled book is under preparation which will cover all the activities of NABS from its founding till today. The book will be released during the 11th NABS-National Conference scheduled at Pondicherry University, Puducherry during August 2019.

The book will have a Foreword by Prof. MS Swaminathan and chapters (1) The Great Visionary Prof. S. Kannaiyan with sub-chapter- “Memoirs on Prof. S. Kannaiyan” (2) Glimpses of National Academy of Biological Sciences (3) Interactive Workshops /National Seminars/Conferences (4) NABS-Fellowships and Awards (5) NABS-Special Awards (6) NABS-Student Awards (7) NABS-Awards in the name of Eminent Scientists (8) Prof. SK Memorial Lecture Workshop (9) NABS- News Letter (10) Prof. SK Memorial Corpus Fund (11) Bylaws of National Academy of Biological Sciences, (12) Executive Council Members of NABS and Meetings and (13) Inter Academy Meet : NABS participation in the Silver Jubilee celebrations of NAAS.

4.6. Carl Linnaeus Award & Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Award

- The award was instituted in 2017. The awards are meant for Ph.D./ M.Sc. students respectively.
- Carl Linnaeus Award carries a certificate and cash prize of Rs. 5000/-
- Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Award carries a certificate and cash prize of Rs. 4000/-
- The award competition will be held only when a minimum of THREE selected applicants are available for presentation during NABS-National Conference / Seminar.
- If the above criteria are not fulfilled no completion will be held.
- The applicants shall look for the Announcement / Brochure of NABS-National Conference of the year which will normally be uploaded in the website / circulated to all members of NABS.
- The aspirants are requested to go through the rules and regulations for this award [vide www.nabsindia.org]

Name of Award

Mode of selection

Carl Linnaeus Award [For Ph.D. students]

Based on best oral presentation made during

Prof. M. S. Swaminathan Award [For M.Sc. students]

NABS-National Conference

5. Awards, Recognitions, Honors received by members of NABS / Activities of the members

5.1. Awards, Recognitions and Honors

Congratulations to all the NABSians who received awards and recognition from various institutions and organizations in the country and outside during 2018.

Name of Member

Name of Award/Recognition received

A. Awards and recognitions received from other organizations

- Aravinth, V.
- Received Professor MS Swaminathan Best Young Scientist Award in the field of Agronomy (2017-2018) from Bose Science Society, Pudukkottai on 15.09.2018.
 - Received Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Award for Young Scientist in the field of Agronomy (2018) from Marina Labs, Chennai on 13.10.2018.
- Bagyaraj, D.J.
- Received 'Life Time Achievement Award' from Mycological Society of India (November 19, 2018).

- Bhagwati Prasad Bhatt
- Outstanding Achievement Award- 2018 conferred by Society for Agriculture Innovation & Development (SAID), Ranchi.
 - Lifetime Achievement Award- 2018 conferred by Endling Conferences, Pune, Maharashtra in the International Conference on Food & Agriculture (ICFA- 2018) held at Dhanbad, Jharkhand.
 - Edunuri Agaiah Memorial Award- 2018, conferred by Science & Tech for Integrated rural Improvement (S&T SIRI), Thorrur, Mahabubabad, Telangana.
- Chetan Keswani
- Publons Global Peer Review Awards in Agricultural Sciences (2018)
 - Elected Fellow of The Linnean Society, London (2016)
 - Rashtriya Gaurav Award (2017) by India International Friendship Society, New Delhi.
- Dhananjay Pandey
- Member of National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bastar Vishwavidyalaya, Jagdalpur (C.G.)
 - VIHA-2018 "Young Researcher Award by Venus International Foundation, Chennai
 - International Health Care Award (2018) by Venus International Foundation, Chennai
- Dwivedi, B. S.
- Presented with "ICAR Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Award (2017) by ICAR, New Delhi (16 July 2018)
 - ISSS Platinum Jubilee Commemoration Award (2018) by Indian Society of Soil Science (ISSS) (27 November 2018)
 - FAI Golden Jubilee Award (2018) (05 December 2018)
- Elanchezhian, R.
- Editor of Indian Journal of Plant Physiology of Indian Society for Plant Physiology, New Delhi
 - Expert for Developing Course materials for Diploma in Vocational Education and Training in Agriculture and Horticulture for NCERT, MHRD, GOI.
- Kalyana Babu, B.
- ICAR-Lal Bahadur Shastri outstanding Young Scientist Award (Crop and Horticultural Sciences) for 2017 (received on 16 July 2018 from Hon'ble Shri. Radha Mohan Singh.
- Mathivanan, N.
- Selected for Tamil Nadu Scientist Award (TANSA-2016-2017) under biological sciences by Tamil Nadu State Council for Science & Technology.
- Murty, USN
- Nominated as a Member of the Society and Governing Body of NCSM w.e.f. June 2018 for 4 years by Ministry of Culture and President, National Council for Science Museum
 - Conferred with Life Time Achievement Award by Association of Biotechnology and Pharmacy (2018)
- Nakkeeran, S
- Selected for Tamil Nadu Scientist Award (TANSA-2016-2017) under Agricultural sciences by Tamil Nadu State Council for Science & Technology.
- Paul Khurana, SM
- Scroll of Honor in recognition of exemplary research contributions and achievements and Professional Leadership in Plant Pathology by IGKV, Raipur & IPS, New Delhi (25-09-2018).
- Pramod W. Ramteke
- Fellow of Royal Society of Biology
 - Fellow of International Society of Environmental Botanists
 - Conferred with Prof. K. V. Sastry Gold Medal 2018 by The Academy of Environmental Biology, India
 - Conferred with ABAP-Senior Scientist Award 2018 by Association of Biotechnology and Pharmacy
- Rajib Deb
- Received Animal Welfare Fellowship- 2018 by Academy of Sciences for Animal Welfare
 - Received Gold Medal Award 2018 from Academy of Sciences for Animal Welfare
 - Received Publons Academy Global Peer Review Award 2018.
- Rakesh Kumar Gupta
- Distinguished Scientist in Entomology by Venus International Foundation
- Rayappa Appa Balikai
- Conferred Fellow of Plant Protection Association of India (FPPAI-2018)
- Renu Agrawal
- Nominated as member for Augmenting Writing Skills for Articulating Research [AWSAR] by Department of Science and Technology.
 - Nominated as Co-chairman of National Advisory Expert committee AWSAR committee of DST & as member of Modulation committee of AWSAR, DST

- Nominated as member of National Advisory Expert committee of Children's Science Congress.
 - Nominated as Member of National Advisory Expert committee of Indo-US fellowship by DST.
 - Visiting Scientist for: Jain University, Bangalore; HRDC, University of Mysuru; Pooja Bhagwat Biotechnology College, Mysuru.
- Shripad Kulkarni
- Fellow of Society for Biocontrol Advancement, Bangalore, Karnataka, India. (2018)
- Srivignesh, S
- Recognized as a life member of "Society for Horticultural and Development (Current Horticulture), Ghaziabad, UP, India.
 - Obtained a new scheme-"Multilayered encapsulation of 1- MCP and Hexanal as a smart delivery system to enhance the shelf life of Banana" for his post doctoral fellowship from DST-SERB, GOI (19.5 Lakhs)
- Soniya, E.V.
- Awarded Fellow of National Academy of Science, India, Allahabad for 2017 (FNASc.)
- Varughese George
- Visiting Scientist - Department of Biosciences, Universiti Putra, Malaysia

5.2. Activities of Members

5.2.1. Dr. M. Anandaraj (E-mail: arajiisr@gmail.com)

- The Recent devastating floods during August 2018 in Kerala has caused considerable loss and damages in every sphere of activities including Agriculture. At the invitation of Kerala State Government, the United Nations Organization with the help of all its eleven associate organs has taken up the "Post disaster Needs Assessment" (PDNA) and Dr. M Anandaraj, was in the team as FAO consultant and involved in preparing the report from 15 Sep to 5 Oct 2018. The report was submitted to the Government of Kerala. The report besides assessing the loss and damages has given suggestions to "Rebuild better".

5.2.2. Dr. P. Rethinam (E-mail: dr.rethinam@gmail.com)

- Participated in the Annual Day Celebrations of Cherans College of Pharmacy, Coimbatore as Guest of Honour and delivered key note address on Recent Advances in Pharmacology Science on 21 April 2018.
- Chaired two Technical Sessions at the National Conference held on Intensification and Diversification in Agriculture for Livelihood and Rural Development, organized by ASM Foundation and DRPCAU at Pusa (Samastipur) Bihar from 28-31 May, 2018, Bihar .
- Participated in the CII Coconut Festival and Conference as Distinguished Speaker and presented paper on "More nuts per tree and More value per nut" at CODISSA Trade Fair Complex, Coimbatore on 27 January 2018.
- Presented an invited paper on "The perspective of challenges of Intensification and diversification in oil seed sector for livelihood and rural development as well as edible oil security" at the National Conference held on Intensification and Diversification in Agriculture for Livelihood and Rural Development, organised by ASM Foundation and DRPCAU at Pusa (Samastipur) Bihar from 28-31 May, 2018, Bihar.

5.2.3. Dr. Srivignesh (E-mail: srivignesh.horti@gmail.com)

- Made oral presentation- "A study of the role of IDA-like gene expression in soybean and tomato abscission IDA is expressed in abscission but may not be essential" *at the*, XI International Symposium on the plant Hormone, Ethylene, Center of Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania, Crete, Greece (Abstract, p. 93-94)
- Made poster presentation on "Metagenomic profiling of hexanal treated mango fruits towards food safety" at International Conference on Recent Advances in Food Processing Technology (iCRAFPT'18) held at Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu.
- Presented a paper on "Metagenomic profiling of Nano emulsion treated mango fruits using Nano pore sequencer" during the National conference-"Challenges and Advances in Microbiology (CAM-2018) held at Department of Microbiology, Annamalai University, Annamalai nagar, Tamil Nadu (Abstract, CAM-167, p. 109).

5.2.4. Dr. N. Amaresan (Email: na.amaresan@gmail.com)

- Plans to organize a National Conference on "*Understanding the diversity to improve plant, animal, human*

and environmental health” scheduled from 7 to 9 March, 2019 at Uka Tarsadia University, Surat, Gujarat. [Contact: Dr. N. Amaresan, Organizing Secretary- Email: na.amaresan@gmail.com]

5.2.5. Dr. S. Lalitha (Email:lara9k@gmail.com)

- Invited paper on “Plant Growth Promoting Rhizobacteria (PGPR) against plant diseases in *Cicer arietinum*” presented during the International Conference on Integration of Science and Technology for Sustainable Development held at Babuio, The Philippines (24-26 November 2017).

6. Publications

i. Books

- Renu Agrawal.** 2019. Utilization of Agricultural waste for the production of high valued products. New India Publishing Agency, New Delhi, p.154.
- Bhatt, B.P.,** Mishra, J. S. and Bhutia, T.L. 2018.. Powering Second Green Revolution through Emerging Technologies. . Published by ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna, p. 289.
- Bhatt, B.P.,** Das, B., Bhadana, V.P., Sinha. N.K., Mishra, J.S., Singh, H., Giri, S.P., Kumari, M., Ahire, L.M., Kumar, A., Yadav, B.D., Rani, V., Bharti, A., Mariappan, G., Kariyanna, B., Lal, M. and Brajendra (Eds.). 2018. Doubling Farmers Income through Sustainable and Harmonious Agriculture, Jaya Publishing House, Delhi, p. 239.
- Srivastava, N., Srivastava, M., Mishra, P. K., Pathak, H. and **Ramteke, P. W.** 2018. (Eds.). Green Nanotechnology for Biofuels- Production Technologies Series: Biofuel and Biorefinery Technologies, Springer Nature, Germany
- Srivastava, N., Srivastava, M., Mishra, P. K., Upadhyay, S. N., Gupta, V. K. and **Ramteke, P. W.** 2018. Sustainable Approaches for Biofuels Production Technologies - From Current Status to Practical Implementation. Series: Biofuel and Biorefinery Technologies, Springer Nature, Germany
- Pandey Dhananjay** and Shahi Sushil Kumar. 2018. Divya Bastar (The Herbal Therapy), Himalaya Publishing House Pvt. Ltd., Girgaon, Mumbai-400004, ISO 9001:2008 certified. ISBN No: 978-93-5299-336-9

ii. Technical Bulletins

- Das, Bikash., Naik, S.K., Sarkar, Pradip Kumar, Singhal, Vibha, Arunachalam, A., Acharyya, Gobinda, Borah, Debojit, Kumar, Jai, Shukla, Gopal and **Bhatt, B.P.** 2018. Agroforestry for Livelihood Security in Eastern India, ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna, p. 109.

6.1. Research notes and short communications from members

a. The Tomato Hybrid Proline-rich Protein regulates the abscission zone competence to respond to ethylene signals

In the current research we identified the Tomato Hybrid Proline-rich Protein (*THyPRP*) gene which was specifically expressed in tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*) flower abscission zone (FAZ) and its stable antisense silencing under the control of an abscission zone (AZ)-specific promoter, *Tomato Abscission Polygalacturonase4*, significantly inhibited tomato pedicel abscission following flower removal. A transcriptomic analysis of the FAZ of *THyPRP*-silenced plants was performed, using a newly developed AZ-specific tomato microarray chip. Our results suggested that *THyPRP* act as a master regulator of flower abscission in tomato, predominantly by playing a role in the regulation of the FAZ cell competence to respond to ethylene signals.

Srivignesh Sundaresan,
Sonia Philosoph-Hadas, Chao Ma, Cai-Zhong Jiang, Joseph Riov,
Raja Mugasimangalam, Betina Kochanek, Shoshana Salim,
Michael S. Reid & Shimon Meir
Email: srivignesh.horti@gmail.com

7. An appeal to contribute for Corpus Fund

Corpus Fund for Prof. S. Kannaiyan Memorial Award is being mobilized. NABS thankfully acknowledge the contributions made by members to Prof. S. Kannaiyan Memorial Corpus Fund [vide list below- continuation]

Sl. No.	Name of contributor	Amount (Rs.)
70	-	-

We earnestly appeal to all the rest of the Life members, NABS Fellows / Associate Fellows, Corporate Life Members, Corporate Fellows, Awardees of NABS and well wishers to contribute to this noble cause. The Fund shall be transferred on line to the Savings Account of National Academy of Biological Sciences [Vide details in item 8 of NL]

8. Enroll yourself as a member and be a part of NABS

Types of Membership available (one time payment)

A. Life Member	:	₹2,500/-	or	US\$ 100/-
b. Corporate Life Member	:	₹10,000/-	or	US\$ 400/-
c. Corporate Fellow	:	₹1,00,000/-	or	US\$ 4000/-

- Duly filled membership form shall be sent as pdf format by E-mail to : secretarynabs@gmail.com
- The prescribed membership fee shall be transferred on line

Name of the account holder : National Academy of Biological Sciences

Account number : **10496978637**

Type of account : Savings Account

Name of Bank : State Bank of India, Valmikinagar Branch, Thiruvanmiyur, Chennai - 600 041

Branch code / IFSC code : Branch code: 11721

IFSC code: SBIN0011721

Download your application from www.nabsindia.org

Address for all correspondences

Prof. T. Marimuthu, Ph.D., FNABS., FISNS.

Secretary, NABS

Room No. 209, Second Floor, CAS in Botany, University of Madras, Guindy Campus, Chennai - 600 025.

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Secretary, NABS

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On behalf of National Academy of Biological Sciences

An appeal to members of NABS

Kindly inform change of address including phone numbers and E-mail to the Secretary, NABS by E-mail (secretarynabs@gmail.com)

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