



The National Academy of Sciences, India

5, Lajpatrai Road, Prayagraj-211002, India

Monthly Summary for the month of March 2022



NASI continued to contribute to the 'Science & Society' as per its mandate, observing COVID appropriate behaviour during the re-spread of the coronavirus. The office of the Academy also followed the necessary orders of the govt. regarding the preventive strategies and norms, during the pandemic; however, several programmes were organised, as-

- The Academy and its several Chapters celebrated the **International Women's Day** on March 08, 2022, during which several distinguished women scientists were also awarded/felicitated for their manifold contributions to the science in general and the society, in particular. More than two dozen eminent scientists delivered very informative, inspiring and illustrative lectures on the topics of their respective research and applications. A brief report is enclosed as **Annex. 1.**
- For the **Socio-economic development of the Tribal Population**, a two days' workshop was organised at Amrawati on March 12-13, 2022, which was attended by a large audience. The brochure of the programme is enclosed as reference-**Annex. 2.**
- **Prof. Madhoolika Agrawal**, BHU, Varanasi (Chairperson, NASI-Varanasi Chapter) visited nearby areas of Varanasi to deliver lectures and interact with the students & general mass on March 15, 2022.
- As a part of **NASI's Science-Society Initiative** and *Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav*, the Delhi Chapter of NASI organised an illustrative talk as a part of the series lectures for the 'Women in Science' on March 24. The brochure of the Webinar is enclosed as **Annex. 3** for brief description; the programme was attended by several women scientists, Fellows and Members of the Academy and others.

Several other NASI-Chapters, are also organising online scientific activities. A few other programmes were undertaken by other groups. NASI also announced/invited nominations for the prestigious awards, as **NASI-Reliance Industries Awards for Action Oriented Research**; and **NASI-Platinum Jubilee Young Scientist Awards** for the innovative research. A few important meetings were also organised for the fellowship, awards and policy decisions. Several research papers were also published.



The National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI) International Women's Day (IWD)-March 8, 2022

A Brief Report

The National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI), the oldest Science Academy of this country has a mandate 'Science & Society' as coined by the founder President Prof. Meghnad Saha. NASI has been effectively pursuing this mandate through its several nationwide programmes for different groups of society since its inception in 1930. The 'Technological Empowerment of Women' is one such programme that has been executed by NASI for the last several years and meant for the women scientists, researchers as well as the rural women for scientific awareness, capacity building and skill development. Like every year, NASI HQ commemorated the [International Women's Day](#) on [March 8, 2022](#) as part of its science and society endeavor and also to celebrate [Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav \(AKAM\)](#) through virtual mode by organizing a [daylong virtual series of inspiring lectures](#). The event was attended by several women scientists, faculty members and researchers and other eminent dignitaries from all across the country.

The programme commenced with the [Welcome Address and Opening Remarks](#) by Prof. (Mrs.) Manju Sharma, Chairperson, NASI-New Initiatives, Former Secretary to the Govt. of India, Department of Biotechnology, New Delhi, Former President, NASI. She stressed on the need for inclusion of women in all developmental and decision-making activities.

Prof. Shubha Tole, TIFR, Mumbai delivered [Special Remarks on 'Women's Panel in STEMM'](#) with emphasis of women in leadership role; and mentioned about the Gender Policy guidelines which need to be implemented. The [Keynote Address](#) was delivered by Prof. Chandrima Shaha, President, INSA Former Director, NII, New Delhi, who spoke on 'Celebrating women as scientists & leaders', elucidated various factors related to low representation of women in science and stressed on two key attributes, i.e. women's determination and ability to organize. Dr. Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, Executive Chairperson and Founder Biocon Limited, Bangalore conveyed her greetings to all women on this occasion by sharing a message highlighting the [knowledge-led economy with no gender-divide](#) which was read on this occasion. Prof. Ajoy Ghatak, President, NASI, delivering his [Presidential Address](#) portrayed the women scientists /stalwarts who made tremendous contribution to different areas of S&T. The [Inaugural Address](#) was delivered by Prof. Paramjit Khurana, JC Bose Fellow, Department of Plant Molecular Biology, Delhi University- South Campus, New Delhi who shared her views on '[Women in Science: confronting inequalities](#)'.

Several distinguished women scientists viz. Prof. Paramjit Khurana, Dr. Subhra Chakraborty, Dr. K Indira Priyadarsini, Dr. M V Padma Srivastava, Prof. Madhoolika Agrawal, Dr. Latha Rangan, Prof. Annapurni Subramaniam presented their work/ shared their expertise on various aspects related to 'women in science' by portraying the true picture of their own journey related to the theme of the event; and were felicitated/ awarded by NASI on this occasion for their pioneering work and contribution in different areas of S&T.

Several other distinguished scientists representing different scientific institutions/organizations of repute, as well as universities from all across the country participated in the event ([Encl: Annex-1](#)) and shared their expertise to enlighten the masses, especially the young women researchers.



The National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI)

cordially invites you to join

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY-2022

(to be organized through virtual mode)

Web link: <https://nasi.webex.com/nasi/j.php?MTID=m94fdaf4e06ab85391d44665f8c7de3d0>

Theme: Break the bias

(Celebrating 75 years of India's independence- 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav')

Date: March 8, 2022

Time: 11:00 am-4:30 pm

Coordinator: Ms. Archana Pant, NASI

Programme

Inaugural Session (11:00 am-12:20 pm)

Opening remarks & Welcome

Prof. (Mrs.) Manju Sharma

Chairperson, NASI-New Initiatives
Former Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Department of Biotechnology, New Delhi
Former President, NASI

**Special remarks on
'Women's Panel in STEMM':**

Prof. Shubha Tole

TIFR, Mumbai

Keynote Address:

Prof. Chandrima Shaha

President, INSA
Former Director, NII, New Delhi

Message:

Dr. Kiran Mazumdar Shaw

Executive Chairperson and Founder
Biocon Limited, Bangalore

Presidential Address:

Prof. Ajoy Ghatak

President, NASI

Inaugural Address:
(Prof. Archana Sharma Memorial
Award lecture-2019)

Prof. Paramjit Khurana

JC Bose Fellow
Department of Plant Molecular Biology,
Delhi University- South Campus, New Delhi

Title:

'Women in Science: confronting inequalities'

Plenary Session (12:20-1:00 pm)

Chair: Prof. Manju Sharma
Chairperson, NASI-New Initiatives
Former Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Department of Biotechnology, New Delhi
Former President, NASI

Co-Chair: Prof. Jaya Tyagi
NASI Senior Scientist
Department of Biotechnology, AIIMS, New Delhi

Plenary Lecture: 1 Prof. Sanghmitra Bandyopadhyay
Director, ISI, Kolkata

Plenary Lecture: 2 Dr. Sandhya P Koushika
Associate Professor, DBS-TIFR, Mumbai

Title: 'Women in Science: barriers to entry and progress'

Lunch break 1:00-1:30pm

NASI MEMORIAL AWARD LECTURES

Prof. Archana Sharma Memorial Award Lectures (1:30-2:10 pm)

Chair: Prof. Shobhona Sharma
INSA Honorary Scientist, ICT, Mumbai
Former Senior Professor and Chairperson, Department of Biology,
TIFR, Mumbai

Co-Chair: Dr. Suchitra Banerjee
NASI Senior Scientist, CSIR-CIMAP, Lucknow

Speaker: Dr. Subhra Chakraborty (2020)
Director, NIPGR, New Delhi

Speaker: Dr. K Indira Priyadarsini (2021)
DAE, Raja Ramanna Fellow
UM-DAE Centre for Excellence in Basic Sciences,
University of Mumbai, Mumbai

Title: 'Rejoicing my scientific journey in DAE: Did I have to break the bias?'

Prof. V P Sharma Memorial Award Lecture (2:10-2:30 pm)

Chair: Prof. V P Kamboj
Former Director, CDRI, Lucknow
Former President, NASI

Co-Chair: Prof. Nisha Patro
Scientist & Faculty
School of Studies in Neuroscience
Jiwaji University, Gwalior

Speaker: Dr. M V Padma Srivastava
Professor and Head
Department of Neurology, AIIMS, New Delhi

Title: 'Stoke Care Pathways: small solutions to big problems!'

Dr. B P Pal Memorial Award Lecture (2:30-2:50 pm)

Chair: Prof. Akhilesh Tyagi
Department of Plant Molecular Biology,
Delhi University- South Campus, New Delhi
Former President, NASI

Co-Chair: Prof. S K Barik
Director, NBRI, Lucknow
Vice-President, NASI

Speaker: Prof. Madhoolika Agrawal
Department of Botany
Dean, Faculty of Science
BHU, Varanasi
General Secretary (HQ), NASI

Title: 'Tropospheric ozone and food security'

Dr. P Sheel Memorial (Young Woman Scientist) Award Lecture (2:50-3:10 pm)

Chair: Dr. Renu Swarup
Former Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Department of Biotechnology, New Delhi

Co-Chair: Dr. Kiran Katoch
Former Dr AS Paintal Distinguished Scientist Chair of ICMR
at IIHMR University, Jaipur;
Former Director, NJIL & OMD (ICMR), Agra

Speaker: Dr. Latha Rangan
Professor and Head
Department of Bioscience & Bioengineering,
IIT, Guwahati

Title: 'Tapping Zingibereceae-Wilderness to Mining Plastome'

NASI-Buti Foundation Award Lecture(3:10-3:30 pm)

Chair: Prof. Anurag Sharma
Department of Physics, IIT, Delhi
Vice-President, NASI

Co-Chair: Dr. Pratibha Jolly
Former Principal, Miranda House, New Delhi

Special: Prof. Bimla Buti
Remarks Director, Centre for Science & Society, Ahmedabad

Speaker: Prof. Annapurni Subramaniam
Director and Senior Professor
Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore

Title: 'Astronomy from Ground and Space-My Journey'

Lectures by Women Scientists working in Tribal Area (3:30-4:00 pm)

- Chair:** **Dr. Subhra Chakraborty**
Director, NIPGR, New Delhi
- Co-Chair:** **Prof. S R Joshi**
Department of Biotechnology & Bioinformatics, NEHU, Shillong
- Speaker:** **Prof. Ch. M Kumari Chitturi**
Head, Department of Applied Microbiology & Biochemistry
Sri Padmavati Viswavidyalayam, Tirupati
- Title:** 'Empowerment of Tribal Women through value-added foods in promoting healthy lifestyle'
- Speaker:** **Dr. Neetu Mishra**
Associate Professor & Head (Food & Nutrition)
Department of Family & Community Sciences (Home Science)
University of Allahabad, Prayagraj
- Title:** 'Scheduled Tribes: Rights, Responsibilities and Respect'

Concluding Session(4:00 -4:30 pm)

- Chair
& Concluding Remarks** **Dr. Madhu Dikshit**
Former National Chair, THSTI, Faridabad
Former Director, CSIR-CDRI, Lucknow

Special Remarks on DST Schemes on 'Women in Science'

- Dr. Shobhana Narsimhan**
Professor of Theoretical Sciences
Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bangalore

Remarks on 'Inspiring young girls to take up Science'

- Dr. Anindita Bhadra**
Associate Dean of International Relations and Outreach, IISER, Kolkata
Associate Professor, Behaviour and Ecology Lab
Department of Biological Sciences, IISER, Kolkata

- Vote of thanks:** **Prof. Jayesh R Bellare**
Department of Chemical Engineering, IIT, Mumbai
General Secretary (OS), NASI



Annex. 2



NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON "NATURE AND SCIENCE FOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF TRIBAL REGIONS" (NWNST-2022)

PROMOTED BY

The National Academy of Sciences (NASI), Prayagraj - India

JOINTLY ORGANIZED BY

Department of Chemistry, Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University, Amravati &
Arts, Science & Commerce College, Chikhaldara, Dist. - Amravati

DATE : MARCH 12-13, 2022

VENUE

Muthawa Community Resource & Research Center

Kotha, Tq.- Dharni, Dist. - Amravati

PATRONS



Prof. Ajoy K. Ghatak
President
NASI



Prof. Manju Sharma
Chairman
Tribal Committee
NASI



Prof. Madhoolika Agrawal
General Secretary (HQ)
NASI



Prof. D. N. Malkhede
Vice-Chancellor
SGBAU, Amravati



Prof. J. R. Bellare
General Secretary (OS)
NASI



Prof. N. S. Gajbhiye
President
Nagpur Chapter
NASI



Shri. Jagdishji Gupta
President
SSPM, Amravati

PROMOTERS



Prof. U. C. Srivastava
Treasurer
NASI



Dr. Niraj Kumar
Executive Secretary
NASI



Dr. S. K. Shukla
Asstt. Executive
NASI



Dr. T. R. Deshmukh
Registrar
SGBAU, Amravati



Dr. R. M. Kadu
Secretary
SSPM, Amravati

ORGANIZERS



Prof. A. S. Aswar
Convener & Head
Dept. of Chemistry
SGBAU, Amravati



Dr. R. S. Jaipurkar
Principal &
Ex-Pro-Vice Chancellor
SGBAU, Amravati



Dr. N. J. Suryawanshi
Organizing Secretary
ASCC, Chikhaldara

ABOUT THE PARTICIPATION :

1) Interested research scholars and college teachers actively engaged in teaching or research related to medicinal chemistry, phytochemistry using various methods for extraction and isolation of active ingredients and their uses should send their application in prescribed format through Google form. 2) A background of natural products/phytochemistry/ethno botany is desirable for attending the workshop. 3) The number of participants is limited 60, keeping aside a few seats of dignitaries & invited speakers. 4) Selection for attending the workshop would be solely at the discretion of NWNST-2022 organizing committee. 5) There is no registration fee and we will provide breakfast, lunch & dinner. 6) Accommodation for limited outstation participants will be provided. 7) Last date of registration : March 09, 2022. 8) Acceptance of participants will be communicated by March 10, 2022. 9) Correspondence address: Dr. A. S. Aswar, Convener, NWNST-2022, Dept. of Chemistry, Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University, Amravati, E-mail- aswaranand@gmail.com, Mb. No.- 9421790866, Dr. N. J. Suryawanshi, Organizing Secretary NWNST-2022, Dept. of Industrial Chemistry, Arts, Science & Commerce College, Chikhaldara, E-mail - njsascc@gmail.com Mb.No.- 9421821746. Registration Link- <https://forms.gle/HuqDR4pY8RPm6XKY6>



Women in Science Lecture Series



On the Eve of the 75 years of Independence, the National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI) is celebrating Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav through different science and society initiatives. As part of NASI's science and society initiative, Delhi Chapter of NASI and Jaypee Institute of Information Technology (JIIT, Noida) will jointly organize a series of lectures entitled, "Women in Science Lecture Series". All the lectures of this series will be delivered by the eminent Women Scientists. The lectures will be aimed to motivate young female students involved in UG, PG and PhD programs to continue science. All the talks will have two parts. In one part, the speaker will speak lucidly about her research works and the other part will be focused to inculcate confidence among the young students that even they can do top-class science and thus contribute to the society. Some practical problems that a growing scientist faces and how to circumvent those may also be discussed during the interaction sessions at the end.

We are glad to announce first two lectures of the series (details are given below). Kindly make it convenient to join and encourage your students to actively participate in the discussion.

Lecture 3

About the speaker

Prof. Enakshi Khular Sharma is well known for her outstanding contribution in the area of photonics. She has recently retired from Delhi University (DU) where she was a Professor in the Department of Electronic Sciences. She joined DU in 1985 as a faculty. Prior to that she did her MSc and PhD from the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, in 1975 and 1979, respectively. She also worked with the Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi, India, as a Senior Scientific Officer. At DU she has worked as Director, Centre for Canadian Studies and Head, Department of Electronic Science. She was also actively involved in many Administrative activities in Delhi University.

Her research interests are Efficient analytical and computational techniques for design and analysis of wave propagation in Optical Fibers, Integrated Optical Waveguides & waveguide devices, Analysis, modeling and design of doped Optical Fibers (EDF) and waveguides for optical amplifiers. In these areas, she has published more than 100 research papers in many reputed international journals of high repute. She was granted many research projects from UGC, DRDO, Ministry of Information Technology. She has also guided more than 20 research scholars.

She was awarded National Merit Scholarship, Saraswati Gold Medal from Meerut University. She was also elected as visiting scientist under INSA-DFG exchange programme. She is an elected fellow of Optical Society of India. She is a member of IEEE including MTT society and photonics society. She is also life member of ICTP chapter of India.



Prof. Enakshi Khular Sharma

More info. about the speaker can be found at [here](#).

Title: Reflections on my Journey with Lightwaves

Date & Time: Mar 24, 2022 05:45 PM Mumbai, Kolkata, New Delhi

Zoom link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87455352457?pwd=SmFmUGdCbmlFYWEV2N1djVWtMenRaZz09>

Meeting ID: 874 5535 2457, Pass code: 823265

Convener **Prof. Anirban Pathak** **Prof. Papia Chowdhury**
anirban.pathak@jiit.ac.in papia.chowdhury@jiit.ac.in

To attend these talks and receive announcements of other talks of this series kindly fill the form <https://forms.gle/ehFrhwYrEUxGLVjv6>

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