



PERIYAR UNIVERSITY

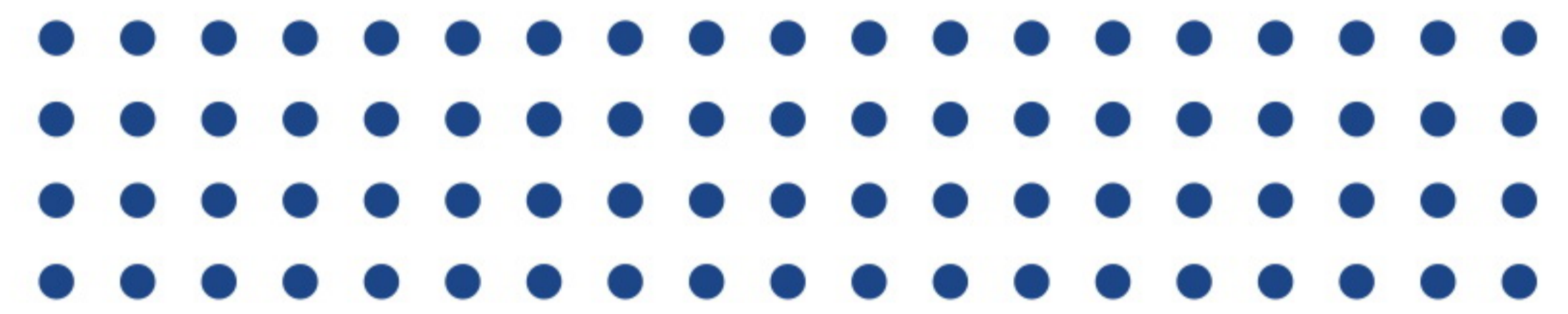
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SALEM – 636 011, TAMIL NADU



Newsletter

January 2023



Prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award to Prof. R. Balagurunathan
by the National Academy of Biological Sciences

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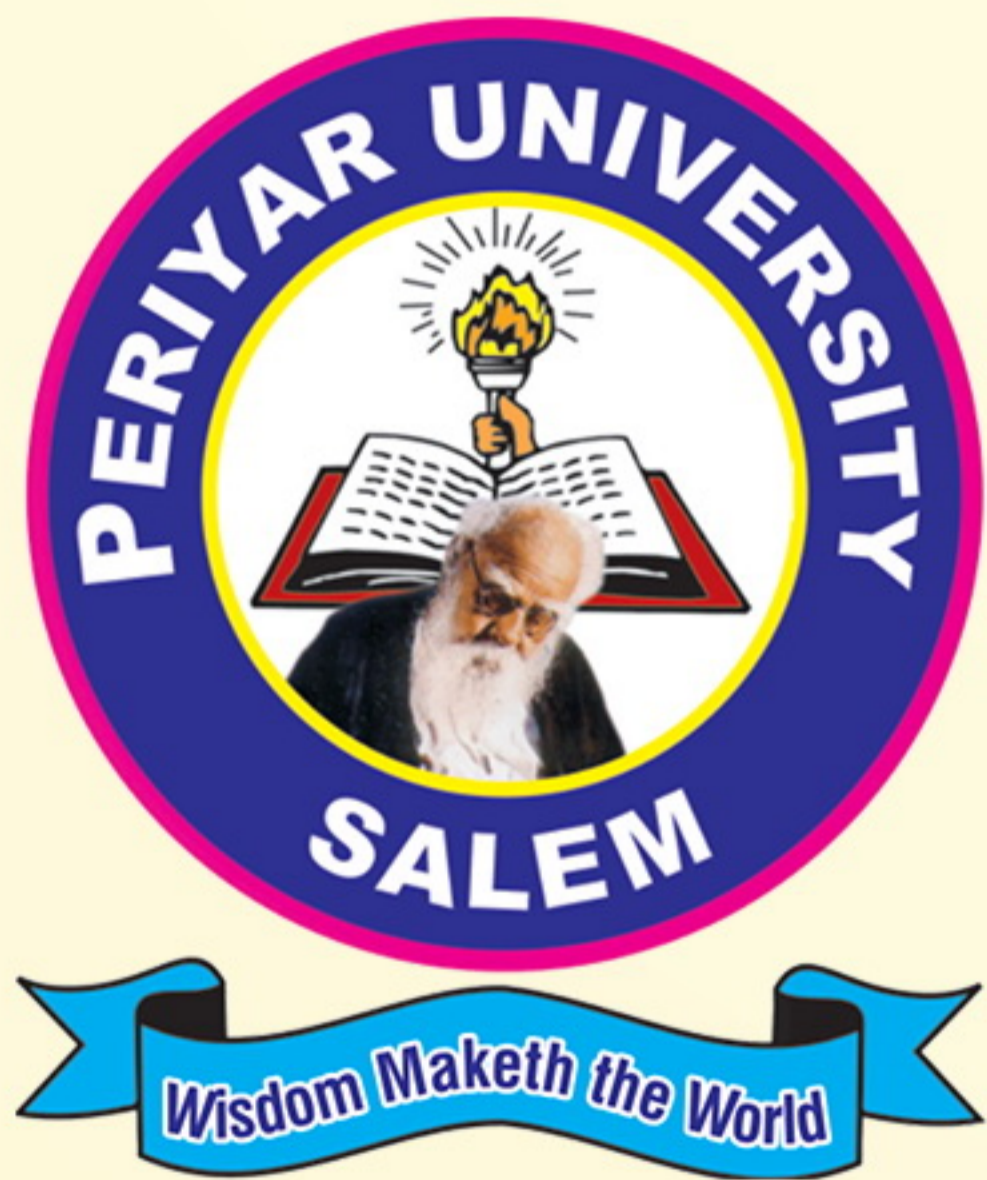
The National Academy of Biological Sciences (NABS) conferred the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award on Prof. R. Balagurunathan, Registrar (FAC) to honor his sustained contributions to the microbiological sciences on 25.01.2023. The NABS award recognizes leading scientists and researchers in the biological sciences community for their professional accomplishments and contributions to research, education, clinical laboratories, service, and scientific diversity.

The esteemed award was presented during the valedictory function of the 13th Conference of the National Academy of Biological Sciences. Dr. D.J. Bagyaraj, Vice President -NABS, conferred this coveted academic award on Prof. R. Balagurunathan for his outstanding achievement in microbial research especially his specialization on Bioactive Compounds From Actinobacteria, Microbial Nanotechnology, and Environmental Aspects of Actinobacteria.

The Eminent Professor is already credited with a Doctor of Science in the discipline for his strong research career for about 3 decades, the Best Teacher Award, Tamilnadu Government's Best Scientist Award, and Best Micro-biologist Award along with other dozen more awards from the national level institutions. Prof. R. Balagurunathan has teaching and research experience in China, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, and India; had mentored 20 Ph.D. Researchers and 27 M.Phil. Research scholars. He has completed more than 10 research projects from reputed funding agencies like IFS, DOD, DST, UGC, ICMR, DBT, and VIRBAC publishing more than 150 research articles in national and international journals.



அறிவால் விளையும் உலகு



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13th National Academy of Biological Sciences (NABS) Conference

School of Life Science and School of Biosciences of Periyar University conducted the 13th NABS National Conference in association with the National Academy of Biological Sciences on the Current Perspectives for Sustainable Development in Life Sciences, Environment and Agriculture on 23.01.2023. Prof. R. Balagurunathan, Registrar (FAC) and Convener of the programme welcomed the gathering. Dr. P. Thangavel, Organizing Secretary explained about the theme of the conference.

Then, Vice Chancellor, Prof. R. Jagannathan, released Proceedings of the Conference and delivered the presidential address in the 3 day programme.

In his inaugural address, Prof. R. Raghavendra Rao, INSA Honorary Scientist, Bangalore, Karnataka, said that in order to meet the housing and business requirement of the rising population more and more buildings are constructed every day across the globe and it has resulted in multifold air, water, and other environmental pollution. He further highlighted how the life in Delhi becomes standstill quite often due to the air pollution, the worst of any major city in the world. Then, he called for the participants to crusade against this evil by joining hands together. Prof. Rao is a laureate of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Memorial NABS-Life Time Achievement Award.



Prof. S. Kannan, Dean (CDC), Periyar University and Shri. S. Jeyaprakash, Cluster Officer, NABARD, Salem felicitated the grand event. Dr. D.J. Bagyaraj, Vice President, NABS, Chennai provided the overview of NABS' activities. Dr. N. Mathivanan, Vice President (HQ), NABS / Director & Head, CAS in Botany, University of Madras, Chennai talked about NABS Newsletter.

Dr. V.A. Parthasarathy, President, NABS, Chennai, conferred "Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Memorial NABS-Life Achievement Award" for 2021 on Prof. R. Raghavendra Rao. Prof. R. Jagannathan, Vice Chancellor, conferred "Prof. S. Kannaiyan Memorial Award" for 2022 on Prof. Dr. S. C. Sharma.

Dr. V.A. Parthasarathy President, NABS and Dr. D. J. Bagyaraj Vice President, NABS chaired the special technical session. Dr. K. Selvam Professor of Botany, Periyar University and Dr. N. Mathivanan Vice President (HQ), NABS Co-Chaired it. Prof. S. C. Sharma Director National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) Bangalore, Karnataka, delivered Prof. S. Kannaiyan Memorial Oration (online). Prof. R. R. Hanchinal, Formerly Chairperson PPV & FRA, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, GoI & Vice Chancellor, UAS-Dharwad presented the Carl Linnaeus / Prof. MSS Awards and Valedictory Address.



Dr. A. Naresh Kumar, Organizing Secretary, presented the Recommendations emanated from the Conference

The event was very successful with the participation of 750 delegates including leading scientists from various domains of science. Dr. T.L. Baskaran Treasurer, NABS, Chennai, delivered the Vote of Thanks.

Regional Level Boot Camp for District Level Innovation Idea Winners

Periyar University's Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Program Hub (PU-IEDP-HUB) organized a 2 day Regional Level Boot Camp for District Level Innovation Idea Winners jointly with Entrepreneurship Development and Innovation Institute- Chennai, Department of School Education, and School Development Innovation Project (SIDP 2022-23), and United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEP) on 27.01.2023.

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. R. Jagannathan, delivered Presidential Address. In his speech he explained about the Innovation and how it develops our country to the peak. Further, he motivated the school students to bring more innovative ideas.

He appreciated the students who brought up the new innovative ideas and he said that there are lots of opportunities to develop and exhibit their business innovative ideas. Explaining the development of entrepreneurship thinking right from school level, he motivated the school students to involve and exhibit that talent in startup business.



Nearly 250 school students from various schools in Salem Namakkal, Krishnagiri and Dharmapuri participated the camp. Finally, P. Selvam, District Eco-Coordinator, Chief Educational Office- Salem delivered vote of thanks.

Prof. V.R. Palanivelu, Professor and Head & PU IEDP Hub Coordinator Department of Management Studies Periyar University had convened the event and Dr. A. Abdul Kathar, Field Coordinator PU-IEDP-HUB, Periyar University, Er. S. Gowtham Shanmugam Field coordinator, EDII-TN-IEDP-SCT-HUB Salem coordinated overall programme.

Faculty Development Programme



The Department of Chemistry conducted a 7 day Faculty Development Programme for the faculty members in the discipline of Chemistry to upskill them in advanced teaching and research in the discipline of Chemistry. In the inauguration Prof. V. Raj, Professor and Head, Department of Chemistry welcomed the participants. Inaugurating the event, Vice Chancellor, Prof. R. Jagannathan, addressed the issues and challenges for the teaching community in updating themselves in their teaching and research. Dr. K.Pandian, Professor and Head, Department of Inorganic Chemistry, University of Madras encouraged the participants by explain the nuances in the research in chemistry. Dr.R.Rajavel, Professor, Department of Chemistry organized the event.

» New Instrument to identify the liver cancer «



Dr. K. Thangavel, Professor and Head, the Department of Computer Science and his team have developed a new and smart instrument to identify liver cancer. Modern food habit involves a lot of fat and chemicals devoid of fiber content that makes most of the population vulnerable to liver cancer. Having identified such a need of the hour, Prof. K. Thangavel ventured into discovering a new, handy, smart, and easy-to-use instrument and now their efforts have given their fruits. Prof. R. Jagannathan, the Vice Chancellor, assured that with the consultation of the Government, the new instrument would be made available for public use.

National Girl Child Day Celebration



The Department of Sociology, and Center for Women Studies, Periyar University, Salem jointly celebrated National Girl Child Day. Periyar University Vice Chancellor Prof. R. Jagannathan in his speech opined that the Boys should celebrate the Girl Child Day to achieve gender equality in the society. He motivated the students to work diligently, achieve more and serve the society.

Mayil, a former student of Periyar University and Salem District Sub Collector, participated in the function as a special invitee and said, 'Periyar's protests have been the foundation of the government's women welfare programs. Creating gender equality between men and women is the purpose of International Day of the Girl Child. Women should not lag behind mentally and should work hard and succeed in all things. We should create achievements with the thought that we can do it without standing aside as women,' she said. The Head, Department of Sociology Dr. Gopalakrishnan and Co-ordinator of Women's Center Dr. Lalitha also participated and delivered a speech encouraging women to empower themselves.

» Hon'ble Chief Minister, opened & dedicated the new constructions for innovation «



The Hon'ble Chief Minister, M.K.Stalin, opened the new constructions worth about ₹7 Crores in the incubation centre online on 20.01.2023. The new building is dedicated to promoting innovation, incubation, and entrepreneurship.

International Collaboration Programme

Centre for International Relations conducted a lecture and International Collaboration Programme on 05/01/2023. In his Presidential Address Prof. R. Jagannathan, Vice Chancellor, said as the global is shrinking day by day in terms of networking boundaries and being prepared for international collaboration has become very vital and fruitful as well and institutions must use this opportunity to grow internationally. Prof. Natarajan Muthusamy Professor of Medicine, Dept. of Internal Medicine, Division of Hematology, the Ohio State University, Ohio, USA, provided the Special Address on Recent Advances in Immunotherapy for Leukemia in which he enlightened the students about the theme and shared his research experience in the USA institutions. Later he took the question from the students in the Students Interaction programme about the International Research Fellowship and Opportunities and clarified their doubts. Earlier, Dr. K. Murugesan, Director, the Centre for International Relations, had welcomed the guests.

University women's football team secures 3rd in South zone Inter University Tournament



Periyar University women's football team secured 3rd place in the South zone Inter University Tournament at Annamalai University Chidambaram held from 29.12.2022 to 01.01.2023. Further, our University team is going to participate All India Football Women's Tournament at Laskmibai National College of Physical Education at Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh

Lecture on Technical English in Computer Science



The Department of Computer Science conducted a lecture on Technical English on 02.01.2023. Dr. K. Thangavel, Professor and Head, Department of Computer Science, Periyar University, Salem explained the importance and the need for language skills. Mr. Aravindh, Resource Person, trained the participants on the nuances of language skills in English while doing the technical writing. As communication skills are very vital for international communication the participants benefitted from the technical lecture.

TNPSC Combined Statistical Subordinate Service Exam: Special Coaching Class



Civil Services Mentoring and Competitive Exams Guiding Centre in Periyar University conducted a Special Coaching Class on 08.01.23 for students in Mathematics and Statistics Departments for TNPSC Combined Statistical Subordinate Service Exam-2022. The exam was conducted on 29th January 2023.

Observation of the 6th Siddha Day Celebration



6thNational Siddha Day-2023 was celebrated on 09.01.2023. The Departments of Sociology, Food Science and Nutrition, and Nutrition and Dietetics have jointly organized the programme on the theme, “Siddha Diet and Nutrition for Health Life”. Earlier the University Grants Commission (UGC) had requested the HEIs in India to observe and popularize Siddha day through various pre-Siddha day events. According to Prof. Rajnish Jain, Secretary-UGC, the Siddha system of medicine is one of the oldest codified traditions of healthcare in the Indian sub-continent with novel therapeutic interventions and treatment modalities.

The uniqueness of Siddha medicine lies in its holistic approach- the physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being by adopting simple lifestyle practices, dietary regimens relevant to six tastes, and usage of safe and effective plant-based drugs and drugs of mineral and animal origin. Siddhar Agathiyar is considered the father of Siddha Medicine and was born in Star Ayilyam in the Tamil month of Margazhi. The Ministry of Ayush, Govt. of India has accorded approval for observing his birthday as Siddha Day every year.

International Year of Millets – 2023



On the occasion of the International Year of Millets – 2023, the Department of Botany in association with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Santhiyur organized a Millets Exhibition on 19.01.2023. A total of 82 retail millet outlets were set up in it. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. R. Jagannathan delivered the keynote address about small grains (millets) and their types. Then he spoke about the importance of small grains and the nutrients they contain. He lauded the small grains and the agriculturists who promote them. Then, Dr. R. Jeganthampal, Project Coordinator, ICAR, Santhiyur, provided an introductory speech on millets. She spoke about the importance of whole grains for healthy living and their benefits. later, the Department of Botany organized several competitions. Prizes and certificates were awarded to the winners. At the end of the program, the exhibition coordinator and Assistant Professor from the Botany Department, Dr. S. Lalitha delivered a vote of thanks thanking everyone who had helped coordinate and lead the International Year of Small Grains and its mission. Earlier Prof. Dr. K. Selvam, Professor and Head of the Department of Botany delivered the welcome speech.