

ACTIVITIES REPORT OF ODISHA BIGYAN ACADEMY 2019-20

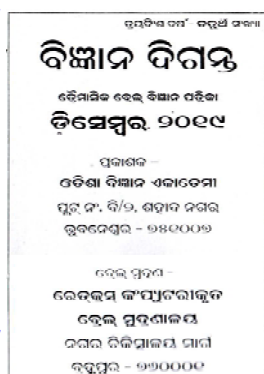
1. Monthly Odia popular science magazine “Bigyan Diganta” published and distributed to Government recognised High Schools of Odisha, free of cost every month.



2. Monthly English popular science magazine “Science Horizon” published and distributed to Kendriya Vidyalaya, Navodaya Vidyalaya, Government +2 and +3 Colleges of Odisha free of cost every month.



3. Abridged version of quarterly Science Magazine “Bigyan Diganta” in Odia Braille Script published for free distribution to visually handicapped students and their institutions of Odisha.



4. Conducted Quiz and Drawing Competitions among the High School Students of Odisha during **Foundation Day Celebration of Odisha Bigyan Academy** on 01.04.2019 (Utkal Divas).



5. A popular talk ‘Yoga & Health’ was delivered in the



conference hall of Odisha Bigyan Academy by Prof. (Dr.) Saileswar Nanda on 21st June 2019, the International Day of Yoga.

6. The meeting of the Expert Panel in different disciplines for selection of “Pranakrushna Parija Popular Science Book Award” in children category & general category, “Biju Patnaik Award for Scientific Excellence”, “Samanta Chandra Sekhar Award” and “Odisha Young Scientists Award” for the year 2018 inviting National and International reputed Scientists of India were held on 18.07.2019, 03.08.2019, 10.08.2019, 11.08.2019 & 12.08.2019 respectively.

7. Odisha Bigyan Academy organised a Science Writers Workshop for con-



tributing articles to ‘Bigyan Diganta’ and ‘Science Horizon’ at its Conference Hall on 27.09.2019. The purpose of the workshop was to improve the quality of popular science writing for ‘Bigyan Diganta’ & ‘Science Horizon’ published by Odisha Bigyan Academy. Many eminent popular science writers of Odisha were the resource persons for the said Workshop and gave their views.

8. On 27th September, 2019 a Lecture Programme was arranged at KISS Deemed University, Patia, Bhubaneswar. Prof. (Dr.) Saileswar Nanda, Retd.



Professor and Head, Dept. of Biochemistry, SCB Medical College, Cuttack and Mr. Kamala Kanta Jena, Faculty in Dept. of Physics, Bhadrak Autonomous College addressed around 300 undergraduate college students of KISS on Health Awareness and Chandrayaan-II respectively.

9. In accordance with the rules and procedures of “Biju Patnaik Award for Scientific Excellence”, “Samanta Chandra Sekhar Award”, “Odisha Young Scientists Award”, “Pranakrushna Parija Popular Science Book Award” and “Felicitation of Senior Scientists of Odisha” the names of the awardees for the year 2018, as recommended by Expert Committees and approved by Executive Council, have been concurred by the Government. Investiture Ceremony scheduled to be held on 26.03.2020 was cancelled due to pandemic situation and lockdown.
10. Nominations for different Awards and Honours of Odisha Bigyan Academy for the year 2019 have been received. The Selection Committees were constituted to meet during 11th and 12th April 2020 for selection of Awardees. But the meeting was postponed due to pandemic situation and lockdown.
11. Odisha Bigyan Academy organised Biju Patnaik Award Winning Extramural Lecture at Sambalpur University, Jyoti Vihar, Burla



on 19.10.2019. Prof. (Dr.) Uma Charan Mohanty, “Biju Patnaik Awardee for Scientific Excellence” - 2017 gave a talk on **“Understanding and prediction of weather and climate extremes”** for the benefit of Science Teachers, Students and Research Scholars of Sambalpur University.

12. Odisha Bigyan Academy organised Samanta Chandra Sekhar Award Winning Extramural Lecture at KIMS Auditorium, Bhubaneswar on 26.10.2019. Prof. (Dr.) Bidyut Kumar Das “Samanta Chandra Sekhar Awardee” 2017 gave a lecture on **“The untold saga of Vitamin ‘D’ as an immuno-**



modulator in autoimmune diseases” for the benefit of Medical Students & Teachers of KIMS, Bhubaneswar.

13. The OBA organised district level Interactive Meet of Science Teachers and Students on 21-22, December, 2019. Students and Science Teachers of different districts have participated and

interacted with eminent scientists of Odisha in this Interactive Meet at IMAGE, Siripur,



Bhubaneswar. Prof. (Dr.) Priyambada Mohanty-Hejmadi, an eminent Academician of the State graced the meet as honourable Chief Guest.

14. The Odisha Bigyan Academy celebrated the National Science Day in its Conference Hall on 28.02.2020.



Prof. Bimal Prasad Mohapatra, the former Professor and Head in the Department of Physics, Sambalpur University graced the function as Chief Guest and Dr. Prahallad



Chandra Naik, former Director-in-charge, Pathani Samanta Planetarium as Chief Speaker. Prof. Mohapatra spoke and discuss on the contribution of Sir C.V. Raman towards development of modern science in



India, whereas Dr. Naik discussed the contribution of Pathani Samanta, the naked eye astronomer to the science of Astronomy in India and also discussed on 'Siddhanta Darpana'. Students of different High Schools of Odisha who were declared winners of various competitions were awarded certificates and cash prizes by the Chief Guest and Chief Speaker. The meeting was attended and participated by the teachers and students of Rama Devi Women's University, O.U.A.T. and different Colleges and High Schools of the state.