

National Seminar on “Avenues for Scientific Proposal Grants” 18th August, 2011.

Department of Chemistry and Research Committee

In view of celebration of **International Year of Chemistry-2011**, Department of Chemistry and Research Committee, B.N. Bandodkar College of Science, Thane in collaboration with Institute of Oriental Study, Thane and International Society of Science and Technology, Mumbai, organized National Seminar on, “*Avenues for Scientific Proposal Grants*” on 18th August 2011. This function was inaugurated at the hands of Chief Guest Principal *Dr. Rajpal Hande*, Director, BCUD, University of Mumbai. He appreciated the concept of the seminar at the College level because at this level, Research scholar’s and academician’s participation is maximum. He explained functions of the Research and Recognition committee and budgetary allocation for major and minor research grants of the University of Mumbai. He proudly stated that such budgetary allocation was almost double and 6500 online journals were subscribed for professors. He appreciated the e-inauguration of the seminar along with University song played at this occasion and was very much pleased with the information on avenues for Scientific Proposal grants. *Dr. V.V. Bedekar*, Chairman, Vidya Prasarak Mandal graced the function. *Dr. (Mrs.) Madhuri Pejaver*; Convener and Principal, conveyed in her message that research gives power of analytical thinking, hence education system is dedicated to develop the research mind among the teachers and students. *Mr. V.S. Burkule*, Head, Department of Chemistry & Co-convener, encouraged and cherished the theme of the seminar. *Dr. (Mrs.) Anita Goswami-Giri*, Organizing Secretary and Co-ordinator of Research Committee, welcome the dignitaries on the dais and off the dais. She stated that probably for the first time a seminar of this nature and stature is taking place in the Thane city. She also briefed about how the idea of the topic of seminar got conceived, how preparation started and how useful the seminar would be for research scholars and academicians to receive grants from various funding agencies.

Chairman for the first Session was *Prof. (Dr.) A.V.Karnik*, Department of Chemistry, University of Mumbai and discussant was *Prof. (Dr.) Debjani Dasgupta*, Head & Chairperson BOS, Biochemistry, University of Mumbai. In this session, *Prof. (Dr.) V.L. Maheshwari*, Director, School of Life Sciences, NMU, Jalgoan, said that innovative ideas and their implementation is very much important in applied research. Further he said that money is no longer a bottleneck for research. UGC, DBT, DST, MoEF, DAE, AICTE, RGSTC, TWAS,

AYUSH, ICMR, ICAR, CSIR, Ministry of Defense are providing funds for individuals, Colleges and Universities. It includes infrastructural facilities, instrument maintenance, expenses for college of potential for excellence. For this he offered specific tips for proposal writing.

Dr. Vrinda Khole; Scientist F, National Institute for Research in Reproductive Health (ICMR), said that extensive reference work is essential for research. She further explained that research is dependent upon infrastructural facilities along with good collaboration. Indian Science has become one of the most powerful instruments of growth and development of research. With the same aim, ICMR is conducting the projects. Science and Technology have interventions for Socially-oriented programs for rural and weaker section. Scientific surveys and services through survey of India and National Atlas and Thematic Mapping Organization (NATMO) provide funds for such programs. She explained many fellowships like Kothari, Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, and Women Scientist Scheme. She also stressed availability of water related research schemes for Aspirants, Academicians and Research scholars.

Chairman for the second Session was *Prof. V.L. Maheshwari*, Director of school of Life Sciences, NMU Jalgoan and discussant was *Prof. (Dr.) A. V.Karnik*, In this session, *Prof. (Dr.) A.K. Srivasatva*, Professor in Chemistry elucidated SERC, DNES, Socio-economic Development plans of DST, Solar and Water schemes, grants for organization of summer and winter training, FAST, SAIKS, NSTI, BOYSCAST, KVPY, USERS, Mathematical Science Program, SERC Visiting Fellowship, Travel grants, Seminar and Symposia grants, FIST for colleges etc. He also explained work of Nobel laureates in Chemistry.

Dr. P.M. Dongre, Head, Biophysics University of Mumbai, President, International Society of Science and Technology, Mumbai, stated that DAE, Govt of India, has many R&D centers in India which support extramural research and development under heading of BRNS, ATC, BSC, RTAC, and NRFC. These centers even support infrastructural facility for research and to conduct symposia/conferences and also awards research grants for young Scientist fellowship/Associate ship (KSKRA).

In the third session, *Dr R.P. Athalye*, Department of Zoology, B. N. Bandodkar College of Science, Thane, gave ground reality of consultancy which is very much useful to the

consultant who has ample knowledge of subject. Consultant and his team can receive funds through consultancy. He insisted on the teamwork rather than individual consultancy.

For valedictory function, *Prof. (Dr.) A.K. Srivasatva* was the chief guest. The Seminar was concluded with thanks giving speech by *Dr. (Mrs.) Anita Goswami-Giri* and the national anthem. Around 130 professors from different states like Maharashtra, Kerala, Gujarat enthusiastically participated in the Seminar.