



# INDIAN ACADEMY OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES (IABS)

(Registered under Societies Registration Act 1860 of Government of India)

# NEWS Letter

## IABSCON - 2020

The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Academy will be organized by Prof. B. M. Tiwale, Prof. & Head, Department of Biochemistry, D.Y. Patil Medical College, Vidyanagar, Kasba Bawda, Kolhapur, Maharashtra from 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> February, 2020. Details of the meeting are available on the Academy website: [www.iabs.in](http://www.iabs.in)

Email: [drtiwale@gmail.com](mailto:drtiwale@gmail.com)

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## MESSAGE



As National President of Indian Academy of Biomedical Sciences (IABS), I am elated and feel proud to pen down that the Biomedical Research events provide a platform to young and brilliant researchers, clinicians and talented students to display their research, novel ideas, improvement and progress in the field of biomedical research. The academy encourages top-level research, focussing on the recent outstanding achievements in the field of biomedical research,

future trends and needs.

I am assured that the association is deliberating all the different facets of exciting topics and come up with recommendations that will lead to a better, healthier, merrier world.

I applaud the entire team of this academy for their dedicated efforts in planning wonderful platform for the clinicians and scientists. I am proud to say that over the past eight years the association has functioned with the fervour to achieve these objectives.

My best wishes for grand success of the academy in future as well.

**Dr. Sayed Mudassar**

President, IABS

## APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR ORGANIZING MINI SYMPOSIA/SEMINARS SUPPORTED BY ACADEMY

The Academy invites applications from Members for organizing Mini Symposia/Seminar/CME. The Academy will provide seed money to the tune of Rs. 10,000/- (Ten thousand only) towards the organization of two such meetings. This money will be given on first come first serve basis. Interested persons may apply to the Academy.

## OFFICE BEARERS OF THE ACADEMY FOR THE YEAR 2019-2020

### **President**

Prof. Syed Mudassar, Srinagar

### **President – Elect**

Prof. K.G. Raghu, Thiruvananthapuram

### **Vice President**

Dr. Amarjit Singh Bhatia, Jammu

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Dr. Sandeep Tripathi, Jaipur  
Prof. Vinay Rale, Pune  
Dr. Tejas Shah, Baroda  
Dr. Bipin M. Tiwale, Kolhapur



## INAUGURATION OF VADODRARA CHAPTER OF INDIAN ACADEMY OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

The Vadodara Chapter of Indian Academy of Biomedical Sciences was inaugurated on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at the Department of Biochemistry, M.S. University, Vadodara, Gujarat under the leadership of Prof. Sarita Gupta, Head, Department of Biochemistry.

Inaugural function was attended by Prof. Hari S. Sharma, Founder President and Prof. Abbas Ali Mahdi, Secretary General. Also present on the occasion were Prof. Harish Padh, ex-Vice Chancellor, Sardar Patel University, Anand, Gujarat and Prof. Pawan Singhal from Canada.





## દિવ્ય ભાસ્કર

13-Dec-  
વડોદરા-૧

**Science Conference** MSUના બાયોકેમિસ્ટ્રી વિભાગ દ્વારા ત્રિદિવસીય આંતરરાષ્ટ્રીય કોન્ફરન્સનું આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું

### જો હૃદયમાં ગુડ પ્રોટીન ઉત્પન્ન થવા માંડશે તો હાર્ટ એટેકથી થતાં મોતનો આંકડો ઘટશે

શિલીબેંગલ / વડોદરા

મહારાજા સયાજીરાવ યુનિવર્સિટીની કેસબી એન્ડ સાયન્સના બાયોકેમિસ્ટ્રી વિભાગ દ્વારા આ દિવસીય આંતરરાષ્ટ્રીય કોન્ફરન્સનું આયોજન કરવામાં આવ્યું છે, જેમાં કેનેડા, પુલ્કેશભાઈ અને ક્રાઉપ કીરિયાણી પ્રતિભાગીનીઓ આભા છે. આરોગ્ય અને





આરોગ્ય સેનામાં પ્રોફેસર, વિનરલ એક્સપર્ટોસેપ્સ વિષયની સેન્કર-સમાં 300 ઠોડોએ ભાગ લીધો

## CENTRAL ZONE IABSCON



The Department of Biochemistry, King George's Medical University, Lucknow, organized a two day Central Zone National Conference "IABSCON-2019" under the aegis of Indian Academy of Biomedical Sciences on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2019 at Kalam Centre, KGMU, Lucknow. An exciting and informative scientific program was prepared by the scientific committee in which excellent interactive sessions by experts were conducted. Large number of clinicians and basic scientists from different parts of the country participated in the two day conference. The participants of the conference experienced a breath of learning and continuing education opportunities, as was



rightly depicted in the theme of the conference, "Recent Trends in Biomedical Research: Advances and Challenges". More than 300 delegates attended the conference and more than 100 papers and posters were presented by research scholar/PG students.

The conference was inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shabihul Hasnain at Selby Hall of the King George's Medical University, Lucknow. Prof. M.L.B. Bhatt, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, King George's Medical University, presided over the inaugural function which was also graced by Prof. Abbas Ali Mahdi, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Era University, Lucknow, Prof. Moinuddin, Secretary, Central Zone IABS as also Chairman, Department of





Biochemistry, J. N. Medical College, AMU, Aligarh, Dr. Dilutpal Sharma, Head, Department of Biochemistry, KGMU, Lucknow and Dr. Farzana Mahdi, Director – Academics of Era University, Lucknow. Dr. M Kaleem Ahmad, from the Department of Biochemistry at KGMU was the Organizing Secretary of the conference.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shabihul Hasnain released conference Souvenir and presented Fellowship of Academy to Prof. M. L. B. Bhatt, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of King George's Medical University, Lucknow. Mrs. Abida Mahdi



Award for a Scientist who has made outstanding contributions in the field of Neuroscience Research was presented to Dr. Kunzang Chosdol from AIIMS, New Delhi and Shri. Om Prakash Sharma Award for a Young Scientist who has made outstanding contributions in Biomedical Research was presented to Dr. Rajnish Chaturvedi, from CSIR – IITR, Lucknow, for the year 2016 and to Dr. Amit Misra from IIT, Jodhpur for the year 2017.

Some of the prominent speakers were Dr. Rima Dada and Dr. Savita Yadav from AIIMS New Delhi and Dr. Kamla Kant Shukla from AIIMS, Jodhpur. Dr. Kamla Kant Shukla,





spoke on increasing prevalence of male infertility in India due to indiscriminate use of pesticides and other chemicals leading to profound decrement in not only the sperm count but also in its quality, Dr. Rima Dada explained the scientific importance of yoga and meditation in healthy life and elaborated its role in improving sperm quality and number by preventing DNA Damage and loss of telomeric length. Dr. Bushra Ateeq from IIT, Kanpur presented her work on prostate cancer and explained the role of microRNA based new diagnostic and prognostic biomarkers for the disease. She said that she is working in collaboration with AIIMS, New Delhi and KGMU, Lucknow



to devise new biomarkers for prostate cancer. Dr. Amit Prasad from IIT, Mandi in his talk explained how parasite *Taenia solium*, attack human immune system and weaken immune response that leads to epilepsy in developing world.

Dr. Amit Mishra from IIT, Jodhpur spoke on the beneficial role of enzyme E3 Ubiquitin ligases in preventing neurodegenerative diseases. Prof. S. S. Chauhan from AIIMS, New Delhi said that the enzyme cathepsin level is higher in blood cancer patients and its inhibition can be used as a chemotherapeutic agent.

Prof. Alpana Sharma from AIIMS, New Delhi presented her





work on novel diagnostic markers for bladder cancer. Prof. Sadhna Sharmna from AIIMS, Patna spoke at length on latest developments in immunotherapy for cancer. Prof. Kunzang Chosdol from AIIMS, New Delhi delivered her lecture on the gene FAT1 which can be used as a prognostic or therapeutic marker for Glioblastoma. Prof. N. S. Verma from KGMU Lucknow spoke on the beneficial effect of omega 3 fatty acids in the management of Diabetes and Dyslipidemia. IABSCON-2019 finally concluded on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2019 with the valedictory function which was graced by Chief Guest Prof. R. K. Garg, Dean – Research & Head,

Department of Neurology, King George's Medical University, Lucknow. The function started with the welcome address by the Chairperson, Scientific Committee, Dr. Shivani Pandey. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Era University, Prof. Abbas Ali Mahdi, addressing the audience said that organizing this type of conference is very important for the continuous update of the latest trends in the field of medical research. He congratulated Dr. M. K. Ahmad, Organizing Secretary for organizing the conference of this magnitude very nicely and hoped that this conference will benefit the young clinicians and researchers.





Candidates who received best oral paper awards were Dr. Uzma from KGMU, Dr. Abdullah from AMU, Aligarh and Dr. Roshan Kumar from Gwalior. Candidates who received best poster awards were Tanya Tripathi from KGMU, Priya Dixit from Era University, Md. Yasir Khan from Integral University, Md. Talha from AMU, Aligarh, Priya Yadav from SGT Medical College, Gurgaon, Divya Yadav from KGMU, Lucknow, Md. Wamique from KGMU, Ritambhara from Allahabad University, Allahabad, and Deepak from Rama Medical College, Kanpur.

Prof. R. K. Garg, Head, Department of Neurology, King George's Medical University, Lucknow addressing the audience emphasized that more and more clinicians should participate in such type of conferences. He congratulated Dr. M. K. Ahmad for organizing the conference and hoped that this conference will benefit the young researchers.

The function concluded with the vote of thanks by Dr. Ranjana Singh, Associate Professor at the Department of Biochemistry, KGMU, Lucknow.





## THE EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING OF INDIAN ACADEMY OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES (IABS)

The Eight Annual Meeting of Indian Academy of Biomedical Sciences (IABS) was organized by CSIR-NIIST, Trivandrum (Kerala) from 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> February 2019 as Conference on “Deliberation on Translation of Basic Scientific Insight into Affordable Healthcare Products”. Meeting started on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019 morning with opening remarks by Prof. Abbas Ali Mahdi, Dr. K G Raghu, and Dr. Hari Sharma. This was followed by plenary lectures by Dr. Madhu Dixit, former Director of CDRI, Lucknow and Dr. Adriaan Ligtenberg Chairman, SparkHealth B.V, U.S. Dr. Dixit delivered lecture on “Anti-thrombotic effect of S007-867, a small molecule inhibitor of collagen dependent platelet activation”. She discussed about signaling molecules for treatment of intravascular thrombosis. Another plenary lecture was delivered by Dr. Adriaan Ligtenberg who outlined the driving healthcare innovation, the need for data driven solutions. This session was chaired by Prof.





Abbas Ali Mahdi, Dr. K G Raghu, and Dr. Hari Sharma. Thereafter, invited lectures by eminent researchers from various medical schools and research institutes followed. During the conference many sessions were organized where national and international experts from different fields deliberated upon Environmental Toxins, Lung Diseases, Neurological Disorders, Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases, Metabolic Disorders, Autoimmune Diseases and Recent Advances in Medical Research. Oration Award Session was also organized which was chaired by Dr. Z.G. Badade and Dr. Nibhriti Das. Prof. Sohail Ahmad Oration was delivered by



Prof. Ashis Kumar (Tezpur University, Assam). He spoke on “Tandom mass spectrometry analysis to show geographical variation in Indian Russell's Viper venom composition and its impact on clinical manifestation and anti-venom therapy”. Shri Om Prakash Sharma Oration was delivered by Dr. P. Gopinath (IIT, Roorkee). He gave a talk on “Therapeutic Carbon dots from rosy periwinkle plant leaves for cancer therapy”. Smt. Kusum Sharma Oration was delivered by Dr. Parul Mishra (Hyderabad University, Hyderabad). She spoke on “Profiling functional and evolutionary plasticity in HSP90”. Mrs. Farah Deeba Oration was delivered by Dr. Arifuddin (MHSMSC, Algapur), he outlined in his lecture the “Analysis of codon usage bias and prediction



of miRNA for the regulation of some important genes involved in ovarian cancer”. Mrs. Abida Mahdi Oration was given by Dr. Yasir Hasan Siddiqui (AMU, Aligarh). Dr. Siddiqui delivered talk on “Protective effect of Majun baladur on the transgenic Drosophila model of Parkinson's disease”. Prof. Noorul Islam Award Session was also conducted on first day of the conference.

Inaugural function started with the welcome speech by Dr. K. G. Raghu, Organizing Secretary. Padma Shri Prof. Chooramani Saroj Gopal, President, National Academy of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, presided over the inaugural function. Dr. Ajaya Ghosh, Director, CSIR NIIST was the chief guest. Dr Abbas Ali Mahdi, Dr. Hari Sharma, Dr. Hariom Sharma and Dr. Syed Mudassar spoke during the function. Awards were also distributed by Dr. Ajaya Ghosh. The function concluded with vote of thanks by Dr. Jaya Murthy, Co-convener of the meeting. Life time achievement Award was conferred upon Prof. Saroj Chooramani Gopal.

**D**ay 2 began with plenary talk by Professor Dr. Sathees Raghavan, Shanti Swaroop





Bhatnagar awardee from Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore and Dr. Jai Kalra, Professor of Pathology at University of Sasketchwan, Canada. Dr. Sathees spoke on “Targeting non-homologous DNA end-joining as a strategy to treat cancer” and Dr. Jai Kalra spoke on “Trends in Medical error disclosure and its implications- A global view”. This was followed by invited lectures by eminent scientists and oral/ poster presentations by young researchers. The lectures on second day were from the areas pertaining to the Indian system of Medicine, Epidemiology, Cancer, Natural products and Nutraceuticals. This was followed by IABS General Body Meeting. Thereafter, a cultural programme was held at 7:00 pm in the auditorium.

Day 3 started with plenary talk by Dr. Hari S. Sharma. He spoke on “Perpetuated airways inflammation and tissue remodeling in patients with COPD”. This was followed by invited lectures by eminent scientists and short oral presentations by young researchers.

There were 330 participants including the plenary speakers, and representation from 22 states of India.





There were 80 invited talks, 79 short oral presentations and 80 poster presentations during the conference. Valedictory function was conducted on 27<sup>th</sup> February at 2.00 pm by Dr. Priya. Dr. Abbas Ali Mahdi, and Dr. K. G. Raghu spoke during the valedictory function on different aspects of the conference. Dr. M. N. Saraf, Dr. Rajase Karan Namakkal Soorappan, Dr. Nibhriti Das shared their experiences with the participants and congratulated IABS and organizing team for conducting a successful event. One of the salient features of this meeting was high quality of presentations from





various research institutes and medical schools. Finally prizes for outstanding research were distributed by Dr. Abbas Ali Mahdi, Dr. Hari S Sharma and Dr. Vijay Kutala. Dr. Sunil Jamuna Tripathi got Prof. Noorul Islam Award. Dr. K.K. Srivastava – Prof. L.M. Srivastava Young Innovator Awards were also distributed during the valedictory function. First award was presented to Binu P (Kottayam, Kerala), Second to Dr. Tabrez Jafar (Lucknow) and Third to Anjitha Ajith (CSIR-NIIST, Trivandrum).





## NATIONAL CONFERENCE AT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU MEDICAL COLLEGE (JNMC), ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY

The Department of Biochemistry, Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College (JNMC), Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), organized a two-day national conference on “Recent Developments in Biomedical, Unani and Ayurvedic Translational Research & Darker Side of Rampant Use of Lead Based Products” on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2019. In keeping with one of the most pressing scientific and humanitarian challenges of our time, the theme of the conference was “Safe and Affordable Research Products for Better Healthcare”. It was organized under the aegis of Indian Academy of Biomedical Sciences (IABS) & Indian Society for Lead Awareness and Research (InSLAR).

The inaugural function was held at the JNMC auditorium. In his welcome address, Prof. Khursheed Alam, the Organizing Secretary of the conference said that it is hoped that through this conference, the scientific and the medical fraternity will find ways to enrich our understanding of the field that we have dedicated our lives to, and develop a culture of collaboration that serve us well. Prof. Moinuddin, the







Chairman of the Organizing Committee, highlighted that the conference would facilitate engagement between clinicians and basic scientists and spurs collaborative studies in biomedical sciences, and will also provide an opportunity to young researchers to interact with leading scientists to discuss new approaches and innovative methodologies in the field. On the occasion, Prof. Rashid Ali (Ex-Chairman, Dept. of Biochemistry, JNMC) was conferred the Lifetime Achievement Award for his contribution to medical sciences. Dr. Abul Faiz Faizy, the Joint Organizing Secretary proposed the vote of thanks while Dr. Nafis Faizi of Department of



Community Medicine conducted the inaugural function. While inaugurating the conference, the Vice-Chancellor of AMU and Patron of the conference, Prof. Tariq Mansoor pointed out that kidney damage may occur with exposure to lead. Detailing the possible sources of exposure, he mentioned that lead exposure which affects all organ systems in the body, can occur from contact with lead in air, household dust, soil, water as well as commercial products, and hence there is a need to increase awareness about lead and educate people of the ways and means available to minimize the risks involved. Speaking on the theme of the conference, he further





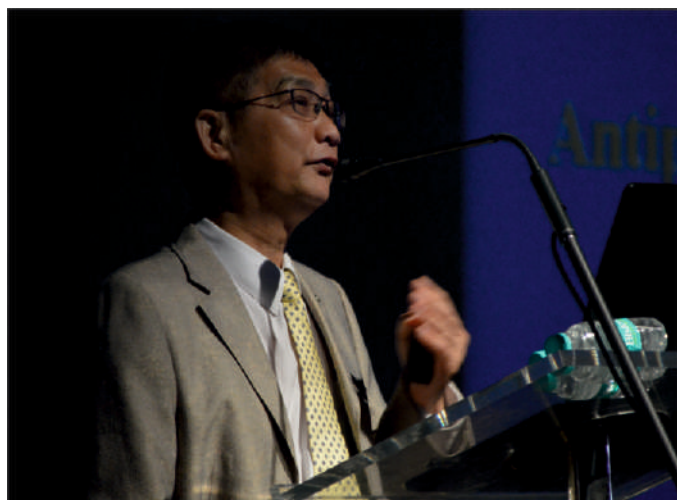
elucidated upon the need to integrate modern medicine and traditional approaches like Unani and Ayurvedic systems. Noting that people in Western countries have started opting for traditional treatments because of side effects of modern medicine, he exhorted researchers to incorporate the knowledge of these systems in modern healthcare.

In his keynote address, Prof. Thuppil Venkatesh (Professor Emeritus, Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, St. John's Medical College, Bangalore) spoke on the issue of "Lead poisoning in India – opportunities and challenges" and highlighted the importance and criticality of preventing lead exposure.





The conference also had three plenary sessions by eminent scientists. Prof. Abbas Ali Mahdi (King George's Medical University, Lucknow) highlighted the adverse effect of lead on the health of women and children. Prof. Dezhong Joshua Liao (Department of Pathology, Guizhou Medical University, China) gave a historical overview and update on using infections, especially febrile ones, to treat cancer. In the third plenary session, Prof. Niyaz Ahmed (International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh) spoke on Multiple Drug Resistant Bacteria: Implications for global infection



control priorities, and safety of the products in food and biomedical sectors.

Many eminent personalities attended the conference including Shri K.V.R. Tagore (IPS), Prof. Bechan Sharma (Department of Biochemistry, Allahabad University), Prof. Absar Ahmad (Interdisciplinary Nanotechnology Centre, AMU), Prof. (Emeritus) S. M. Hadi (Department of Biochemistry, AMU), Prof. Jamal Ahmad (Ex-Director, R.G. Centre for Diabetes & Endocrinology, AMU) and Prof. Syed Ibrahim Rizvi (Department of Biochemistry, Allahabad



University).

A cultural program was organized in the evening of 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019. The students of MBBS presented a skit, while participants from the Cultural Education Centre, AMU conducted a musical programme, which were very well received. These were followed by a sumptuous dinner.

The conference witnessed enthusiastic participation with over 200 delegates attending from different institutions spread throughout the country. A total of 52 oral and 67 poster



presentations took place during the conference. Two parallel scientific sessions were organized – one for invited delegates, and the other for young faculty and students.

The Pro-Vice Chancellor of AMU, Prof. M. H. Beg presided over the valedictory ceremony. The conference had four gold medals, two each from IABS and InSLAR for best oral and poster presentations.

## IABS SUPPORTED QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM

A two-day accreditation program on “Quality Assurance and Good Lab Practices” was organized by the Department of Clinical Biochemistry, Sher-e-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences, Srinagar, under the aegis of Indian Academy of Biomedical Sciences. Prof. Syed Mudassar, HoD, Biochemistry and President, IABS, was the organizer of the program. Prof. Venkatesh Thuppil popularly known as 'The lead man of India' was the chief guest at the occasion. He emphasized on raising awareness about quality evaluation of clinical tests among the general public so that they don't have to compromise on the quality of test results.

Prof. Abbas Ali Mahdi, Vice Chancellor of Era University, Lucknow, was the guest of honor. He congratulated Dr. Syed Mudassar, HOD Clinical, Biochemistry for taking up such a big challenge. During the inauguration ceremony Prof. Mahdi handed over IABS President certificate to Prof. Mudassar.

Director SKIMS, Prof. Omar Javed Shah and Medical Superintendent SKIMS, Prof. Farooq Jan were also present at the inaugural ceremony.

Around 350 delegates from across the country participated in the event. Along the sidelines of the conference, a model competition for the students showcasing their scientific talent and creativity was also conducted.



## ACADEMY AWARDEES FOR THE YEAR -2018

The Indian Academy of Biomedical Sciences Awards for the year 2018 presented during eighth annual meeting of IABS at CSIR-NIIST, Thiruvanthapuram, Kerala by Dr. Ajaya Ghosh, Director, CSIR NIIST on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

**Life Time Achievement Award** for an eminent Scientist who has made outstanding contributions in Biomedical Sciences.

**Recipient:**

**Prof. Saroj Chooramani Gopal**  
President  
National Academy of Medical Sciences  
New Delhi-110029



**Prof. Sohail Ahmad Award** for an eminent Scientist who has made outstanding contributions in Biomedical Sciences especially in Basic Research.

**Recipient:**

**Prof. Ashis Kumar Mukherjee**  
Department of Molecular Biology & Biotechnology  
Tezpur University  
Tezpur - 784028, Assam



**Smt. Kusum Sharma Award** for a Young Woman Scientist who has made outstanding contributions in Biomedical Research.

**Recipient:**

**Dr. Parul Mishra**  
Assistant Professor (UGC)  
Department of Animal Biology  
School of Life Sciences  
University of Hyderabad  
Gachibowli Hyderabad, 500046



**Mrs. Farha Deeba Haq Award** for a Young Scientist who has made outstanding contributions in the field of Cancer Research.

**Recipient:**

**Dr. Arifuddin**  
Department of Zoology  
M.H.C.H. Science College,  
Algapur, Hailakandi,  
Assam-788150



## ACADEMY AWARDEES FOR THE YEAR -2018

**Shri Om Prakash Sharma** Award for a Young Scientist who has made outstanding contributions in Biomedical Research

**Recipient:**

**Dr. P. Gopinath**  
Assistant Professor  
Centre of Nanotechnology  
Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee  
Roorkee -247 667, Uttarakhand



**Mrs. Abida Mahdi Award** for a Scientist who has made outstanding contributions in the field of Neuroscience Research.

**Recipient:**

**Dr. Yasir Hasan Siddiqui**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Zoology  
AMU, Aligarh- 202002



## IABS FELLOWSHIP AWARDED TO PROF. SARMAN SINGH

Prof. Sarman Singh, Director, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Bhopal, was elected as a Honorary Fellow of the Academy last year. Due to some unavoidable circumstances at the last moment he could not attend the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Academy held CSIR - NIIST, Trivandrum.

During the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of National Academy of Medical Sciences (India), held at AIIMS, Bhopal on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2019, a special function was organized in which the Hon'ble Governor of Madhya Pradesh Shri Lalji Tandon and Padma Shri Prof. Saroj Chooramani Gopal, Patron of IABS and President, National Academy of Medical Sciences (India) along with Prof. Hari S. Sharma, Founder President, and Prof. Abbas Ali Mahdi, Secretary General, handed over the IABS Fellowship certificate to Prof. Sarman Singh.

The Academy is immensely grateful to Hon'ble Governor of Madhya Pradesh and National Academy of Medical Sciences (India) for permitting us for the same.



**Note: Dr. Shiv Kumar Sarin, Senior Professor and Head, Department of Hepatology, Director, Institute of Liver and Biliary Science, Jawahar Lal Nehru University, New Delhi recipient of Padma Shri Prof. Mahdi Hasan Award, could not attend the function due to some unavoidable circumstances.**