

## ASSOCIATION NEWS



On the occasion of World Tuberculosis Day 2018, Association of Pharmacy Professionals (APP) Karnataka State Branch organized **National Conference on 'Global Challenges in Pharmaceutical Sciences and Nanotechnology'** on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at Oxbridge College of Pharmacy, Bangalore, Karnataka, in collaboration with APP Biotechnology Division.

During this conference, Dr. Chandrashekar Sulthanpur, Deputy Registrar, RGUHS, Bangalore acted as 'Chief Guest'; Mr. Aijaz Ali Khan, Chairman, Oxbridge Group of Institutions, Bangalore, Karnataka acted as 'Chief Patron'; Mrs. Razia Ali Khan, Director, Oxbridge College of Pharmacy, Bangalore, Karnataka as 'Patron'; Dr. Sunita Dahiya, General Secretary APP from School of Pharmacy, University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, PR, USA acted as 'Convener'; Prof. Kuntal Das, President, APP Karnataka State Branch from Krupanidhi College of Pharmacy, Bangalore, Karnataka acted as 'Co-convener'; Prof. Sridharamurthy NB, Principal, Oxbridge College of Pharmacy, Bangalore, Karnataka as 'Organizing Secretary' and Dr. Rajiv Dahiya, Founder President APP & Director, School of Pharmacy, The University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago acted as 'Scientific Committee Chairman'. Further, Dr. Abhilash Thomas, Head, Department of Pharmacy Practice, Oxbridge College of Pharmacy, Bangalore, Karnataka acted as 'Co-ordinator' of the conference.

Scientific session of the conference was enriched with invited lectures of Prof. Ravikumar Rajarathinam, National Head, APP BioTech Division and HDD, Department of Biotechnology, Bannari Amman Institute of Technology, Sathyamangalam, Erode, Tamilnadu; Prof. M. Sudhakar, Principal, Malla Reddy College of Pharmacy, Secunderabad, Telangana and Prof. Kuntal Das, President, APP Karnataka State Branch from Department of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry,

Krupanidhi College of Pharmacy, Bangalore, Karnataka.

Prof. R. Ravikumar addressed the professional gathering on 'Integrated Boswellic Acid and Phycocyanin Nanoparticle for Medical and Bioenergy Application'. He described that the integrated Boswellic acid (extracted from *Boswellia serrata*) and Phycocyanin (extracted from *Oscillatoria cortiana*) nanoparticle has important medical applications and major advantage than using them individually. Prof. Ravikumar was honored with 'APP Innovative Researcher Award 2018' for his outstanding research output in past years. This award was provided by the President, APP Karnataka State Branch.

Prof. M. Sudhakar delivered a lecture on 'Nanotechnology in Drug Delivery'. He made aware the audience about nanoparticles, nanosuspensions, nanospheres, nanocapsules. Prof. Sudhakar described monolithic and capsule type of nanoparticles and focused on different types of polymers like polymethyl methacrylate copolymers, polymethyl cyanoacrylate, polybutyl cyanoacrylate etc. and method for preparation of nanosuspension. He further, emphasized on nanosuspension based formulations which are currently in market as well as facing Phase I to III clinical trials.

Scientific session of the conference was terminated by lecture of Prof. Das on 'Endangered Plant Species: New Future Biosources for Mitigation of Tuberculosis'. He described that, in present situation where synthetic medicines are associated with various adverse effects like hepatitis, hypersensitivity reactions, nausea, vomiting etc, natural based plant products can be suitable alternatives for curing root level of tuberculosis disease. Prof. Das further told that plant secondary metabolites are responsible for anti-TB activity.

During the valedictory function, Mrs. Thanujashree P, B.Pharm student, Oxbridge College of Pharmacy was conferred with 'APP Best Student Award' for her outstanding academic performance. The programme ended with felicitation of Chairman & Principal of the hosting college with 'APP Appreciation Awards' and distribution of prizes to best poster presentees. Further, Dr. Abhilash Thomas was nominated as 'Joint Secretary' of the APP KA State Branch.

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