



NUTRITION SOCIETY OF INDIA

(Reg. No. 125 of 1966)

NEWSLETTER

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NUTRITION SOCIETY OF INDIA

(Society Reg. No. 125 of 1966)

National Institute of Nutrition Campus
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NEWSLETTER Vol.66, 2017

48th ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The 48th Annual National Conference of the Nutrition Society of India was held at the St John's Research Institute, Bangalore on 4th and 5th November 2016. This was preceded by 4 pre-conference workshops on 3rd November 2016. Eight hundred and sixty (771 registered, 46 office bearers and about 43 invited speakers and guests) attended the conference. Participants included those from academia and research from universities and colleges of nutrition, home science, food technology, food science, agriculture, medicine etc, and professionals from the field of nutrition, food science and technology, agriculture, food policy and several other related fields as well as professionals from industry.

The theme of the conference was "Nutrition Risk Management and Communication" chosen due to its current relevance in present day India. With both economic and nutrition transitions taking place rapidly in India, there is now a double burden of both under-nutrition and overweight and obesity which needs to be tackled effectively. Over the past decade or so, with the advent of the culture of consumerism both in urban and rural India, considerable changes in dietary intakes have occurred affecting health and nutritional outcomes. In addition, what people consume include not only their basic diet, but also nutrients added through fortification and supplementation.

Nutritional management has become a more complicated process than before and there is a need to formulate and promote more effective communicative strategies to populations as ultimately the right messages on nutritional guidelines from professionals and experts must reach the consumers through policy based decisions and translate into optimal health outcomes.

The 4 pre-conference workshops held on 3rd November 2016 were:

1. Principles of Ethics in Nutrition Research
2. Manuscript writing
3. Assessment of body composition
4. Molecular nutrition and epigenetics

The preconference workshop had a total of 275 registrations.

The 40th Dr Gopalan oration was delivered by Dr Anura V Kurpad, Professor and Head of Physiology at St John's Medical College and Head Division of Nutrition, St John's Research Institute, Bengaluru. The title of the talk was "The health-nutrition-agriculture connect for protein in India".

Dr Brahman, Former Scientist "F", Head of the Division of Community Studies, National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau and I/C of Division of Extension & Training, National Institute of Nutrition delivered the 27th Dr Srikantia Memorial Lecture on 'Dietary diversification as a means of

prevention of micronutrient deficiencies in the communities: A distant dream?"

Dr Hemalatha, Scientist 'F' (Senior Deputy Director), Head, Clinical Division, Microbiology and Immunology, National Institute of Nutrition delivered the 7th Dr Rajammal Devadas Memorial lecture on

"Maternal and Child Nutrition – Life Cycle Approach."

The 3rd Dr BK Anand Memorial Award was presented to Dr Mario Vaz, Professor of Physiology, St John's Medical College and Head, Division of Health and Humanities, St John's Research Institute, Bengaluru.

HIGHLIGHTS OF PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOP 1: PRINCIPLES OF ETHICS IN NUTRITION RESEARCH was conducted by faculty from National Institute of Nutrition, Dr B Dinesh Kumar Bharadwaj, Dr Santhosh and Dr Srinivasa Reddy, and 2 faculty from St John's Medical College Dr Ravindran and Dr Mario Vaz. Topics covered included biosafety concerns and regulations for safety evaluations of GMOs, ethics of conducting research in animal studies and clinical research, presentation of case studies and historical lessons on research ethics. The session was attended by 123 candidates and facilitated by Dr Pratibha Dwarkanath from SJRI. The interaction between students and the delegates was well appreciated. Lectures and handouts were shared.

WORKSHOP 2: MANUSCRIPT WRITING was conducted by Professor Christopher Duggan and Dr Ronald Bosch from the Harvard school of Public Health and Professor Teresa Davis, Editor-in-Chief, The Journal of Nutrition from Children's Nutrition Centre, Baylor College of Medicine. The session was facilitated by Dr Tinku Thomas from SJRI. Approximately 100 candidates attended the session which included lectures and a video. The sessions included organizing and writing research papers, the importance of statistics, selecting the right journal, submitting manuscripts, the peer review process,

responding to reviewers and ethical issues in publishing.

WORKSHOP 3: ASSESSMENT OF BODY COMPOSITION was conducted by the team from SJRI, Professor Anura Kurpad, Dr Rebecca Raj and Dr Sumathi Swaminathan and team members from SJRI assisting in the practical sessions. The workshop was attended by 32 candidates and included lectures on challenges in measurement, measurement methodologies and hands on sessions on DEXA, BODPOD, anthropometry, whole body potassium counter, stable isotope techniques and BIA. The session was facilitated by Ms. Saba Naqvi.

WORKSHOP 4: MOLECULAR NUTRITION AND EPIGENETICS was conducted by the Molecular Nutrition unit of the Division of Nutrition, St John's Research Institute, headed by Dr Arpita Mukhopadhyay and assisted by Ms Sarita Devi, Ms Ceera Mani and Ms Hyfa Meeraj. The session included lectures on concepts and applications, demonstrations on metabolomics and hands on sessions on transcriptomics and epigenomics. A total of 23 participants attended the workshop.

Participants at the workshops were students, researchers and faculty from other universities and research organizations.

INAUGURAL SESSION

The conference was inaugurated by the Dean, Dr George D'Souza from the St John's Research Institute, Bengaluru. Other dignitaries invited to the dais were the President of the Nutrition Society of India (NSI), Dr B Sesikeran, the General Secretary of the NSI, Dr Dinesh Kumar Bharadwaj, the Director In-charge of National Institute of Nutrition, Mr T Longvah, Additional Secretary and CEO of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) Shri Pawan Agarwal, the past president and the Convenor of 48th Annual National Conference of the NSI, Dr Anura V Kurpad, Co-convenor Dr A Sundaravalli, the Organizing secretary of 48th Annual National Conference, Dr Sumathi Swaminathan, Vice President of the NSI, Dr Kumud Khanna, and the recipient of the Dr BK Anand Memorial Award, Dr Mario Vaz.

The session began with a welcome speech by Dr Rebecca Kuriyan Raj, Joint Organizing secretary of the NSI, followed by a prayer song and the lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries. The message from the Founder-President, Dr C Gopalan was read

out by the President, Dr Sesikeran. The theme of the conference was elaborated upon by Dr Swaminathan while Dr Dinesh Kumar spoke about the NSI.

Dr Kumud Khanna spoke about the Dr BK Anand award and presented the 3rd Dr BK Anand Memorial award to Dr Mario Vaz. The Presidential address was then delivered by Dr Sesikeran who also mentioned that the NSI was close to celebrating its golden jubilee in 2018, the same year that the National Institute of Nutrition will complete its centenary celebrations. Dr Longvah, Mr Pawan Agarwal and Dr Kurpad addressed the gathering.

The chief guest, Dr George D'Souza released the souvenir and ended the session with a short speech.

The inauguration by Dr Sesikeran of the poster session and the stalls with exhibits set up by industry took place soon after the main inaugural session of the conference.

MESSAGE FROM FOUNDER PRESIDENT, DR C GOPALAN

Members of the Nutrition Society of India, colleagues and friends, my greetings to you all.

Once again it is time for the nutrition fraternity to come together and take stock of our achievements and the challenges that lie ahead, to share ideas and learn from one another, and to set goals for the future.

The theme of this year's Conference, NUTRITION RISK MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION, is both timely and topical.

What does nutrition risk management entail? It calls for vigilance and alertness to pick out warning signs. Like a meteorologist predicting a storm, we nutritionists too must learn to recognize when a risk is approaching. What are the looming nutrition risks in India?

Overweight and obesity are the obvious ones. They are accompanied by a vast range of non-communicable diseases including cardiovascular diseases and diabetes. Food quality and safety risks will also pose a growing challenge as more and more processed foods enter the kitchens of ordinary Indians.

If we are to manage these risks successfully, we must be proactive. We must have plans in place, and these must be inter-disciplinary. Food scientists, nutritionists, dieticians and clinicians must all play their part in managing these emerging risks.

Importantly, we need good communicators. A clear message must go out to policy makers but also to the community at large. Overweight and obesity are predominantly the outcome of faulty diet and faulty lifestyles. The risk starts early in life, so the communication must reach children, parents and schools.

While we are bracing for the Twenty-first century risks, let us not lose sight of an older problem that continues to pose a risk in India....under-nutrition and micronutrient deficiencies. It is a battle not yet won, so we cannot let our guard down. Here too, faulty dietary habits need to be corrected. Here too, effective communication must play an important role.

How can we further strengthen the existing health and nutrition education and communication channels to bring about the required dietary and life style modifications? How can regulations help in these efforts? How do we ensure that food safety-related issues are tackled effectively and efficiently? How can the missing linkages between health and nutrition communications be bridged? How can we minimize the risks and manage them? These are important issues you will be discussing over the next two days. I wish the conference all success.

SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS . . .

DEBATE ON “TO REGULATE OR TO COMMUNICATE: PATH TO NUTRITIONAL WELL BEING”

The inaugural session was followed by the debate on “To regulate or to communicate: Path to nutritional well-being”. The session which included 4 speakers was moderated by Dr Sesikeran. The first speaker Dr Shweta Khandelwal from Public Health Foundation of India talked on “Need for strong regulation of labelling in India” followed by a talk by Mr Sunil Adsule of Coca-Cola on “Implication of regulation on HFSS foods”. Ms Rinka Banerjee from Thinking Forks spoke on “Regulation or consumer information and education to reduce NCD’s In India”. Mr Pawan Agarwal, the Chief Executive Officer of the FSSAI finally spoke on “Which is better - regulation and legislation or education and information to bring down the incidence of non-communicable diseases through the control of consumption of unhealthy/ ultra-processed foods high in fat, sugar, salt and calories”.

Dr Shweta Khandelwal brought out the fact that there are both benefits, such as protection to public health and safety and allowing consumers to make an informed

choice, as well as downsides to labelling such as increased compliance costs and cost of surveillance and restriction in innovation. Mr Sunil Adsule felt that there is a necessity to strike a balance between regulation and education to reach out to consumers. Ms Rinka Banerjee was of the view that both regulation and consumer education were essential to reduce the risk of non-communicable diseases in India. Shri Pawan Agarwal wrapped up the session with the message that individuals need to be given choices, communication needs to be objective and direct so that there is no miscommunication. But regulation is required to prevent NCDs. With FSSAI being a government authority, it is essential that the organization provides direction to citizens on what is healthy. However, he concluded that a more meaningful debate is further required.

Through the debate it was concluded that both regulation and communication are equally important. Change cannot be brought by rapid decisions.

SYMPOSIUM ON “RISK MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION”

The symposium held on 4th November 2016, chaired by Dr Kurpad had 4 speakers who provided an overview of not only the process of risk assessment, the methods of risk communication given the perceptions by consumers and food based strategies and body fat distribution in relation to non-

communicable diseases. Dr Joseph Lewis, a consultant with FSSAI spoke on the “Principles, practices and processes of risk assessment for foods and food components”. Dr GM Subba Rao from the National Institute of Nutrition presented on “Food scares, food risk perceptions and risk

communication". Two members from A*Star, Singapore, Dr Sumanto Halder and Dr Xinyan presented on "Food based dietary strategies in the management of

chronic diseases in Asians" and "Body fat distribution and risk of cardiovascular diseases in healthy Singaporean adults" respectively.

SYMPOSIUM ON "LABELLING AND COMMUNICATION"

The session was chaired by Dr Anura Kurpad and co-chaired by Dr Madhavan Nair. Presentations were made by 4 speakers. Dr D B Anantha Narayana, member of the scientific panel of the FSSAI spoke on "Neutraceuticals and herbals". The efforts by Choices international in promoting labelling was presented by Mr

Rutger Schilpzand who spoke on "Small label, big impact". Mr Shaminder Pal Singh a consultant for the FICCI made a presentation on "Labelling: Simple is the best" and Dr Jaya Mathai an Expert Marketing Strategist spoke on "The thinking behind consumer communication".

40th GOPALAN ORATION

The oration on "The health-nutrition-agriculture connect for protein in India" was delivered by Dr Anura V Kurpad, Professor & Head, Department of Physiology & Nutrition, St John's Medical College, Bengaluru, Head, IAEA Collaborating Center for Nutrition, Margadarshi Fellow, DBT-Wellcome India Alliance. Dr Dinesh Kumar gave a brief introduction about the award while Dr Sesikeran introduced the awardee and presented the certificate and medal to the recipient Dr Anura V Kurpad.

The persistence of malnutrition in India is due to a complex web of physiology, adaptation, environmental stress, poverty and the lack of systematic implementation. As pressures like environmental sustainability, climate change and international trade in commodities increase, the challenge for Indian agriculture and food distribution systems to keep up with production and access will

become ever greater. Specifically, with regard to quality protein, the interplay of the economics and agronomic constraints to pulse supply, drivers of human consumption, bioavailability and environmental confounders is poorly understood. Research on these complex dynamics must underpin evidence-based recommendations to policymakers on the costs and benefits of promoting pulse protein as an entry point to improved human and environmental health.

Many key questions relate to current policy priorities: What does current science tell us about the optimal protein requirement in under-nourished populations in challenging environments? Can pulses be bred to optimize protein quality while minimizing anti-nutrient content? What production systems allow for maximum productivity in a context of increasing water scarcity and need for ecological sensitivity? What

evidence is needed to demonstrate health benefits? Obtaining answers to such questions, leading to policy-relevant recommendations for action, requires a

coordinated research strategy that links agriculture-nutrition, lifestyle and public health.

28th SRIKANTIA MEMORIAL LECTURE

The 27th Dr Srikantia Memorial Lecture was delivered by Dr GNV Brahman, who spoke on "Dietary diversification as a means of prevention of micronutrient deficiencies in the communities: A distant dream?" Dr GNV Brahman retired as Scientist 'F', in the year 2011, was head of the Division of Community Studies, National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau and I/C of Division of Extension & Training at the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad.

The session was chaired by Dr Kasturi Sen Ray and co-chaired by Dr Madhavan Nair. Dr Ray welcomed the gathering and introduced the Dr Srikantia Memorial Award while Dr Nair introduced the speaker. The certificate and medal was handed over to Dr Brahman by Dr Sesikeran.

During this session, Dr Prakash Shetty, who had delivered the 1st Srikantia Memorial Lecture in the year 1989 when the award

was instituted was honoured by Dr Anura Kurpad with a certificate and medal.

In India, despite rapid development during the past few decades, mild to moderate forms of micronutrient malnutrition such as VAD, IDA and VDD continues to be major public health problem in the communities. The dietary intake data over the past few decades reveal that the daily average intake of micronutrient rich foods continues to be grossly inadequate across all age groups and gender, contributing to subclinical micronutrient deficiencies. Programmes of periodical micronutrient supplementation to target groups failed to achieve significant impact, due to problems in implementation such as inadequate and irregular supplies, poor coverage and lack of compliance etc. Under the circumstances, the micronutrient fortification of foods will be an ideal strategy, as the technology of the same is readily available, cost effective and ensures better compliance.

7th RAJAMMAL P DEVDAS MEMORIAL AWARD

The Dr Rajammal P Devadas Memorial Lecture Award was instituted by the Nutrition Society of India, in association with Avinashilingam Education Trust and Avinashilingam University for Women in the year 2009 and is presented to a leading women scientist of Indian origin. This year, the Seventh Dr Rajammal P Devadas Lecture on "Mother and Child Nutrition-Life Cycle Approach" was delivered by Dr Hemalatha R, MD; Deputy Director/Scientist F, Head, Clinical, Microbiology & Immunology, National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad. The session was chaired by Dr Kowsalya, Professor Sri Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women and co-chaired by Dr Kumud Khanna, Vice President of NSI.

Optimal nutrition and health of the mother and infant in the first 1000 days of life, from conception to 2 years age in infants are closely linked to growth, learning and earning potential and reduced risk for diabetes and cardiovascular diseases, which in turn will affect economic development of the country. Small for gestational age (SGA) or stunted children have low earning capacity as adults and contribute to the intergenerational transmission of poverty. India has the largest number (12.8 million) of small of SGA of any country; and more than 40% children are still stunted and underweight in most states. The fetal origin

hypothesis states that nutritional deprivation in early life when followed by rapid weight gain later leads to increased incidence of diabetes and cardiovascular diseases. India is experiencing rapidly escalating epidemics of diabetes and cardiovascular disease. There is much reason to worry whether intra uterine growth restriction resulting in increasing adiposity may be the cause of this epidemic.

Preconception phase of women is being increasingly considered to be an important determinant of maternal and fetal health outcomes. In a recent meta-analysis, maternal pre-pregnancy weight was found to be a significant factor contributing to a 32% higher risk of preterm birth. In India, one in two pregnant women are anemic or undernourished in the first 6 to 12 weeks of gestation; when major organs, including the neural tube (brain, spinal cord, and other neural tissue) and heart, are rapidly developing. Due to various reasons nutrition status of women cannot be addressed during the initial period of gestation and therefore they must be targeted before pregnancy. Programs must aim to aggressively improve nutrition status of women before pregnancy to optimize anthropometry of neonates and reduce the long term consequences such as diabetes and cardiovascular diseases.

3rd DR. BK ANAND MEMORIAL AWARD

The Dr BK Anand Memorial award was instituted by the Nutrition Society of India, in association with B K Anand Benevolent Trust, New Delhi, in memory of Prof Bal Kishan Anand, an internationally renowned physiologist. A brief summary of the life and works of Dr BK Anand was presented by Dr Kumud Khanna. Dr Dinesh Kumar

Bharadwaj introduced the present awardee Dr Mario Vaz, Professor of Physiology, St John's Medical College and Head, Division of Health and Humanities, St John's Research Institute. The award was presented by Dr Kumud Khanna to Dr Mario Vaz.

AWARDS FROM SESSIONS . . .

YOUNG SCIENTISTS AWARDS

A total of 25 papers (5 for Senior Award in Community Nutrition, 7 for Junior Award in Community Nutrition, 3 for Senior Award in Experimental Nutrition and 10 for Junior Award in Experimental Nutrition;) were presented in the Young Scientists Awards Sessions at the 48th National Conference. The following papers were selected for Young Scientists Awards:

Senior Awards in Community Nutrition

Dr Alli MV, Seethalakshmi Ramaswamy College, Tiruchirapalli, received the award for the paper entitled "Functional skill development of the autistic children through dietary intervention"

Junior Awards in Community Nutrition

Ms Shraddha Chauhan, Institute of Home Economics, New Delhi received the

award for the paper entitled "Lipid lowering effect of canola oil vis a vis other commonly consumed oils among dyslipidemic adults"

Senior Award in Experimental Nutrition

Dr Vakdevi Validandi, Food Toxicology Division, National Institute of Nutrition, Jamai Osmania PO, Tarnaka, Hyderabad received the award for the paper entitled "Tamarind ameliorates the fluoride induced glucose intolerance and insulin resistance in rats",

Junior Award in Experimental Nutrition

Ms Shravani Ladkat, National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad received the award for the paper entitled "A study on quality and safety of rice grains stored in 'hot and cold' storage system.

FREE COMMUNICATION

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

A total of 20 oral presentation were selected for presentation on Community nutrition (13) and Nutrition Education Communication and Policy Research (7) on 4th November 2016 and 19 on 5th November on Clinical nutrition (4), Sports Nutrition (1), Experimental Nutrition (9) and Food Science and Nutrition (5). The prizes awarded for oral free communications are listed below:

Ramanathan Prize for Community Nutrition:

Ms Aarushi Jain, Lady Irwin College, New Delhi, for "Risk assessment of sulphite exposure through foods among adolescents of Delhi".

NSI Prize for Community Nutrition:

Sayali Deshpande Joshi, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune, for "Decadal changes in anthropometric profile and associated blood pressure risk among cohort of young rural men in India

NSI Prize for Experimental Nutrition:

Awarded to 2 presenters:

1. Nisha Kemse, Bharati Vidyapeeth University, Pune, for "Effect of supplementation of maternal micronutrients (folic acid, vitamin B₁₂) and omega 3 fatty acids on the expression of genes involved in angiogenesis and inflammation in a pregnancy induced hypertension rat model."
2. Nagashree R, SVYASA University, Bengaluru, for "Diet enriched in fresh coconut saturated fats do not alter the plasma lipids".

NSI Prize for Clinical Nutrition:

Jeffrey Pradeep Raj, CSI Hospital, Erode, for "Dietary calcium intake and physical activity levels among urban south Indian type-2 diabetic patients".

NSI Prize for Food Science and Nutrition:

Vibha Nagaraja, University of Mysore, Mysore, for "Bio-accessibility of polyphenols in selected green leafy vegetables".

NSI Prize for Nutrition Education Communication and Policy Research:

Archana Konapur, NIN, Hyderabad, for "Development of context specific knowledge attitude practice questionnaire on micronutrients using focus group among literate mothers of 6-10 year old children and its validation."

NSI Prize for Sports Nutrition:

Keren Susan Cherian, NIN, Hyderabad, for "Energy availability as a tool to test nutrient adequacy among Indian junior national athletes."

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

A total of 221 poster presentations were selected for display. On 4th November 117 posters on Community nutrition (62) and Nutrition Education Communication and Policy Research (21), Clinical nutrition (29), Sports Nutrition (5) were presented. On 5th November 2016, 104 posters on Experimental Nutrition (35) and Food Science and Nutrition (69) were displayed. The prize winners are listed below.

Haveli Ram Pasricha Prize for Community Nutrition:

Suchismita Behera, Regional Medical Research Centre, ICMR, Bhubaneswar for "Trace elements and their association with nutritional status, vitamin A and anaemia among children of Khurda district, Odisha, India".

NSI prize for community nutrition:

Awarded to 2 posters:

1. Deepa Pandit Agarwal, Hirabai Cowasji Jehangir Medical Research Institute, Pune, for "A simple screening score for early detection of cardio-metabolic risk in Indian adults"
2. Harapriya Samantaraya, Berhampur University, Ganjam, Odisha for "Food system and well-being interventions and policy potential for better tribal health: an observation from Odisha"

Seetharam Bhat Prize for Experimental Nutrition:

Maharshi Bhaswant, Koneru Lakshmahai University, Guntur, for "Anthocyanin-rich plum juice reduces blood pressure and lipid parameters in overweight and obese people with mild hypertension".

NSI Prize for Experimental Nutrition:

Lohith Mysuru Shivanna, University of Mysore, Mysore, for "Anti-cancer potential of Morus indica extracts in HT-29 cell line".

NSI Prize for Clinical Nutrition

Awarded to 2 posters:

1. Shayari Das, NIN, Hyderabad, for "Status of Vitamin B12 in diabetic nephropathy: a pilot study".
2. Vasundhara Donugama, NIN, Hyderabad "for "Effect of probiotic supplementation on pregnant women with bacterial vaginosis".

NSI Prize for Food Science and Nutrition:

Awarded for 2 posters:

1. Aruna Talari, NIN, Hyderabad for "Effect of addition of fruit and vegetable pulps on the nutrient composition and total carotenoid content of the extruded snacks"
2. Aneesia Varkey, St John's Research Institute, Bengaluru, for "A field experiment to produce 2H labelled Mung bean (Vigna Radiata)".

NSI Prize for Nutrition Education Communication and Policy Research:

Awarded to 2 posters:

1. Snehashree Saha, Udaynaraypur Madhibalata Mahavidyalaya, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, for "Assessing the effectiveness of 'Read- B4-U-Eat'- a multi-component educational kit in promoting the use of food label information for food choices among adolescents in a simulated shopping scenario".

2. Suneeta Kalasurmath, S S Institute of Medical Sciences & Research Centre, Davanagere, for "Impact of an interprofessional educational module to bring in change in the behavioural patterns in women to combat anaemia".

NSI Prize for Sports nutrition: K Mahalakshmi Sangeetha, PSG College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore, for "Effect of food iron supplementation on the biochemical parameters and physical fitness components of selected sports person of Coimbatore".

VALEDICTORY SESSION

The valedictory function at the end of day 2 on 5th November 2017 began with remarks from Dr V Prakash, Vice president, IUNS who talked about tackling the issue of malnutrition in the country. The awards were then distributed to the prize winners

of poster presentations, free communication and young scientists. The conference ended with valedictory speech and national anthem. Dr Dinesh Kumar Bharadwaj gave the vote of thanks and concluded the session.

ANNOUNCEMENTS . . .

49th ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE SOCIETY

The 49th Annual National Conference of Nutrition Society of India will be held on 3rd - 4th November 2017 (Friday & Saturday) at Department of Food Science and Nutrition, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat. Along with the main conference, pre-conference workshops will be organized on 2nd of November 2017 (Thursday). The details of the conference and brochure of the conference will be uploaded in the NSI website www.nutritionocietyindia.org.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE 8th DR. RAJAMMAL P. DEVADAS MEMORIAL AWARD

Dr. Rajammal P. Devadas Memorial Award is instituted in NSI by the Alumni Association of the Avinashilingam Deemed University along with the faculty. The following are the terms of Reference:

- (i) Should be an outstanding woman nutrition scientist of Indian origin working in India as evidenced by scientific contribution and work.
- (ii) Should have worked in the area of applied nutritional sciences
- (iii) Should have contributed substantially in for Nutritional Sciences in the above area as evidenced by peer review publications, projects handled and high academic pursuit.

Through this notification the NSI calls for 'NOMINATIONS' in the prescribed format (please visit NSI WEBSITE) for the Sixth Dr. Rajammal P. Devadas Memorial Award. The last date to send the application in 7 copies (One original + 6 Xerox copies) is May 31, 2017. For further details you may visit NSI WEBSITE.

OTHER INFORMATION ...

Directory of members

The secretariat of the Society is planning to update the mailing list of the members. All the members of the Society are requested to send their mailing address (with **Email-ID**) to nsihyderabad@yahoo.com. Members who have not renewed their annual membership are requested to pay their membership by remitting the dues through demand draft drawn in favour of the TREASURER, NUTRITION SOCIETY OF INDIA, payable at any nationalized bank in Hyderabad / Secunderabad.

News items regarding members

Members receiving awards and honours etc. are requested to send the relevant information to Joint Secretary, Nutrition Society of India, National Institute of Nutrition, Jamai-Osmania PO, Hyderabad – 500 007 or email to nsihyderabad@yahoo.com for incorporation in the forthcoming issues of the Newsletter.

Remittance of membership fee

In view of the delay in realisation of cheques, members are requested to remit their membership fee of the NSI through demand drafts from any nationalized bank drawn in favour of the "TREASURER, NUTRITION SOCIETY OF INDIA" payable at Hyderabad/Secunderabad or as "at par" cheques payable at Hyderabad/Secunderabad Branch.

Correspondence relating to the Society and other related matters should be addressed to:

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**Cordially,
Dr.B.Dinesh Kumar
Secretary**