

PRESS RELEASE 05.12.17

The 44th National Conference of Association of Clinical Biochemists of India was inaugurated by Prof. M.L.B. Bhatt, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, King George's Medical University, Lucknow at the Scientific Convention Centre, King George's Medical University, Lucknow yesterday.

The inaugural function started with welcome address delivered by Dr. Shivani Pandey, Joint Organizing Secretary of the conference. She welcomed the delegates and guests and said that it is a matter of great pride that for the first time ACBI conference is being organized at Lucknow.

Dr. R. R. Sinha, Professor & Head, Department of Biochemistry, Nalanda Medical College, Patna and current Secretary of ACBI presented the annual report of the society highlighting the important developments taking place during last one year.

President ACBI, Dr. Poornima A. Manjrekar, Professor & Head, Department of Biochemistry, Manipal Medical College, Manipal (Karnataka) delivering Presidential address said that it is of great significance that ACBI is meeting in the historic city of Lucknow to reflect on several current and emerging topics, explore new areas of practice and discuss enhancing quality of professional services. She congratulated Prof. Abbas Ali Mahdi, Organizing Secretary, ACBICON 2017 for excellent programme setup and said that Prof. Abbas is a very good host as already heard before.

Prof. Morrizio Ferrari, President, International Federation of Clinical Chemists & Professor of Clinical Pathology, University Vita Salute San Raffaele, Director of Clinical Molecular Biology and Cytogenetics Laboratory, and Head of Genomic Unit for the Diagnosis of Human Pathologies, Division of Genetics and Cell Biology, IRCCS San Raffaele, Milan, Italy, Dr. Gustavo Zubieta-Calleja, Vice Chancellor, Zubieta University, Bolivia, an Internationally recognized High Altitude Medicine Specialist and Prof Howard Morris, President - Elect, International Federation of Clinical Chemists & Professor of Medical Science in the School of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences, University of South Australia and Clinical Scientist in Chemical Pathology at SA Pathology, Adelaide, Australia graced the inaugural function as Guests of Honour. They all congratulated Prof. A. A. Mahdi for organizing a excellent and innovative scientific programme.

Prof. Abbas Ali Mahdi took over as new President of ACBI at the inaugural function. The current President of ACBI, Dr. Poornima A. Manjrekar handed over the charge to Prof. Mahdi. Accepting the office Prof. Mahdi said that he is humbled and honored to take over this coveted post which has been earlier occupied by stalwarts of Medical Biochemistry in India. He said that he is aware of his responsibilities and will try his level best to come to the expectations of the Honorable members of the Association

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of King George's Medical University, Prof. M. L. B. Bhatt, who was the Chief Guest of the occasion, released the ACBICON 2017 Souvenir and Books titled "*Phytochemistry and Pharmacology of Medicinal Herbs*", "*Molecular Biology and Pharmacognosy of Beneficial Plants*", "*Herbal Medicine and Modern Drug Discovery*", "*Biochemistry and Therapeutic Uses of Medicinal Plants*" and "*Biomedical Science And Herbal Medicine*" edited by **Prof. Abbas Ali Mahdi**, Organizing Secretary, ACBICON 2017.

The organizing committee of ACBICON 2017 felicitated Professor R.K. Singh, former Head, Department of Biochemistry, King George's Medical University, Lucknow for his contributions in the field of medical biochemistry.

Fellowships of ACBI, K. P. Sinha - P.S. Krishnan Award, and A. K. Thakur Award, were also distributed on the occasion

Addressing the participants Chief Guest Prof. M. L. B. Bhatt congratulated the organizing committee for organizing such a great scientific extravaganza. He said the unique feature of the conference is the four pre-conference workshops that were organized in ACBICON 2017 on 3rd December 2017. He appreciated the research work undertaken by the Department of Biochemistry where more than 40 research papers are being published annually which is a big achievement. He further stated that this is

the only department which is having the National Referral Centre for Lead Poisoning in addition to Molecular Cell Biology, Cell Culture, Free Radical Research & Metal Toxicity, and Natural Product Research Laboratory under one roof.

At the end of the function, Dr. Dilutpal Sharma, Joint Organizing Secretary ACBICON 2017 proposed vote of thanks. He thanked the distinguished guests and delegates. He specifically thanked the press, media and corporate members.

