

NPL FORMER SCIENTISTS FORUM

Minutes of the Get-together of Members of the Forum
held in the TEC Conference Room, NPL on April 5, 2013 at 11.00 A.M.
in Celebration of 10th Anniversary of the Forum

The following Programme for the Get-together had been notified by Shri G K Arora, the Secretary of the Forum vide his letter dated March 21, 2013 sent to all the Members of the Forum by ordinary post, as also by e-mail to those members who could be so contacted. The spouses of the Members of the Forum who had expired or the Family members of such of those members whose spouses had also expired, were also invited for participation in the Get-together.

PROGRAMME

1. Welcome by the President
2. Achievements of the Forum since its inception – Dr. V N Bindal
3. Release of the Directory of the Forum by Dr. Krishan Lal
4. Address by Dr. Krishan Lal
5. Suggestions from Members for making the Forum more vibrant
6. Any other item with the permission of the Chairman
7. Socializing over a cup of Tea

Attendance: The following members had attended the meeting:

(Names arranged alphabetically by the Surname)

1.	Aggarwal , Rajendra Kumar (Dr.)	34.	Gupta , Davinder (Dr.)	67.	Om Prakash (Dr.)
2.	Agrawal , Arun Kumar (Dr.)	35.	Gupta , Jitendra Kumar (Dr.)	68.	Pant , Kavindra
3.	Arora , Gyanendra Kumar	36.	Halder , Sujit Kumar (Dr.)	69.	Panwar , Vinay Singh (Dr.)
4.	Awasthy , Bal Ram	37.	Hamid , Abdul	70.	Pardeep Mohan (Dr.)
5.	Bahuguna , Devendra Prasad	38.	Harish Chander (Dr.)	71.	Raina , Mohan Krishen (Dr.)
6.	Balchandani , Mulchand Kewalram	39.	Jain , Adeshwar Preshad (Dr.)	72.	Raj Singh
7.	Batra , Jai Dev	40.	Jain , Atma Ram (Dr.)	73.	Rakesh Kumar
8.	Batra , Virendra Kumar (Dr.)	41.	Jain , Prakash Chandra (Dr.)	74.	Ram Narain
9.	Bhasin , Rajinder Kumar	42.	Jain , Sohan Lal (Dr.)	75.	Saksena , Rakesh Chandra (Dr.)
10.	Bhatnagar , Kameshwer Nath	43.	Joshi , Shri Krishna (Prof.)	76.	Saxena , Rajan Babu
11.	Bhatnagar , Shashi Lekha (Mrs.)	44.	Kakkar , Om Prakash	77.	Seth , Roshan Lal (Dr.)
12.	Bhattacharya , Tushar Kant	45.	Kanjilal , Alok Kumar	78.	Sharma , Jagdish Prashad
13.	Bhola , Om Parkash	46.	Kapahi , Shashi Bhushan	79.	Sharma , Jai Krishan Narain (Dr.)
14.	Bindal , Vishwa Nath (Dr.)	47.	Kar , Meenakshi (Dr. Mrs.)	80.	Sharma , Mahesh Chandra (Dr.)
15.	Chakraborty , Bibhash Ranjan (Dr.)	48.	Kaul , Niranjan Nath	81.	Sharma , Sham Lal
16.	Chakraborty , Tarun Kumar	49.	Kaushik , Asha Rani (Mrs.)	82.	Sharma , Sushil Kumar
17.	Chakravarty , Tushar Kanti	50.	Khandekar , Ramakrishna Sitaram	83.	Sharma , Ved Parkash
18.	Chandra , Subhas (Dr.)	51.	Khanduja , Radhey Sham	84.	Shastri , Shashikala (Mrs.)
19.	Chattar Singh (Bharti)	52.	Khullar , Faqir Chand	85.	Singal , Sagar Pal (Dr.)
20.	Chitnis , Vijay Trimbak (Dr.)	53.	Kishan Lal	86.	Singh , Devendra
21.	Chopra , Parvati (Mrs.)	54.	Kohli , Nand Kishore	87.	Singh , Ved Ram (Dr.)
22.	Das Gupta , Mrinal Kanti	55.	Kothari , Prafulla Chandra (Dr.)	88.	Singhal , Raghunandan Prasad (Dr.)
23.	Dhawan , Jagdish Kumar	56.	Lal , Krishan (Dr.)	89.	Som , Jnanendra Nath (Dr.)
24.	Dhawan , Ramesh Chandra	57.	Luthra , Ram Krishan	90.	Srivastava , Brahma Nand (Dr.)
25.	Dhawan , Urmil (Mrs.)	58.	Mahajan , Kushal Kumar (Dr.)	91.	Srivastava , Navin Kumar
26.	Garg , Rakesh Kumar (Dr.)	59.	Maini , Harish Kumar	92.	Tagra , Om Parkash
27.	Garg , Satish Chand	60.	Majumdar , Suhas Chandra (Dr.)	93.	Tanwar , Randhir Singh
28.	Gera , Bhim Sain (Dr.) * * *	61.	Mehta , Hem Raj	94.	Varma , Ved Parkash
29.	Gera , Subhash Chander	62.	Mittal , Pramod Kumar	95.	Verma , Surendra Singh
30.	Ghosh , Anand Krishna	63.	Naib Singh	96.	Verma , Tribhawan
31.	Goel , Ramesh Chandra	64.	Nangia , Shiv Nandan	97.	Wasan , Ved Parkash
32.	Govindaswamy , G	65.	Nath , Mohinder		
33.	Gupta , Ashok Kumar (Dr.)	66.	Ojha , Vijay Kumar		

* * * **Note:** Though Dr. Bhim Sain Gera (Sr. No. 28) attended the function, he did not sign the Attendance Record. It is possible that some other members of the Forum had not affixed their signatures on the Attendance Record.

Invitees: In addition to the above listed members of the Forum the following invitees also attended the Get-together:

Sr. No.	Name & Relationship with the Member
1.	Mrs. Pooja Balchandani Wife of Shri M K Balchandani
2. * * *	Shri Bhupindra Kumar Son of (Late Shri Dev Kumar)
3.	Mrs. Kusum Chaudhary Wife of (Late) Shri Sudashan Kumar
4.	Mrs. Nancy Anand Daughter-in-Law of (Late) Dr. J R Anand
5.	Shri Saurabh Anand Son of (Late) Dr. J R Anand
6.	Mrs. Sunanda Mitra Wife of (Late Dr. A P Mitra)

* * * **Note:** Though Shri Bhupindra Kumar (Sr. No. 2) attended the function, he did not sign the Attendance Record.

The Following Members had expressed either their inability to attend the meeting or else were abroad

(Names arranged alphabetically by the Surname)

1.	Agnihotry , Suhasini (Dr. Mrs.)	30.	Malhotra , Bansi Dhar (Dr.)
2.	Anandani , Ramesh Chandra	31.	Malhotra , Girdhari Lal
3.	Bahl , Madhu (Mrs.)	32.	Manrai , Santosh (Mrs.)
4.	Bahl , Om Parkash (Dr.)	33.	Mathur , Sartaj Swarup (Prof.)
5.	Balakrishnan , K Saraswathi (Dr. Mrs.)	34.	Menon , Thottasari Raghavan Kuttly
6.	Basu , Amitabha (Dr.)	35.	Mohanani , Vellur (Dr.)
7.	Bhatia , Gopal (Dr.)	36.	Poddar , Hari Nandan Prasad
8.	Bhattacharyya , Raghunath (Dr.)	37.	Raja Gopal , Erode Subrabanian (Dr.)
9.	Chandra , Kailash (Dr.)	38.	Ram Prasad
10.	Chaudhary , Janki Nath	39.	Rao , S Uma Mahehwar
11.	Chhabra , Kailash Chander	40.	Rathore , Hazara Singh
12.	Chhibber , Mohinder Kumar	41.	Sarkar , Ajit Kumar (Dr.)
13.	Datta , Kali Kirshan	42.	Sarma , Kuchibhatla Subrahmanya
14.	Dhawan , Surinder Mohan (Dr.)	43.	Shah , Vilaschandra Vithaldas (Dr.)
15.	Dixit , Ganga Prasad	44.	Sharma , Ram Gopal (Dr.)
16.	Ghosh , Pradip Kumar (Dr.)	45.	Singh , Dharam Pal (Dr.)
17.	Gogia , Vinod Kumar	46.	Sootha , Ganesh Datt (Dr.)
18.	Gupta , Akhilesh Chandra	47.	Srinivasan , Thirumalai Mappur (Dr.)
19.	Gupta , Anil Kumar (Dr.)	48.	Tanwar , Lakhani Singh (Dr.)
20.	Gupta , Satish Chander	49.	Tiwari , Indra (Mrs.)
21.	Gupta , Sita Ram (Dr.)	50.	Trehan , Jagdish Chander (Dr.)
22.	Hanjura , Ashok Kumar (Dr.)	51.	Tripathi , Prabhu Shanker
23.	Hans , Gokul Singh	52.	Tripurari Lal
24.	Hari Kishan (Dr.)	53.	Varma , Satya Prakash (Dr.)
25.	Jain , Kamlesh Kumar (Dr.)	54.	Vasishth , Satish Chandra
26.	Joshi , Kundal Chandra (Dr.)	55.	Vikram Kumar (Dr.)
27.	Khanna , Radhey Kishen	56.	Wadhwa , Rajindar Pal (Dr.)
28.	Kumaraswamy , Beladekere Venkatasubbiah	57.	Zalpuri , Kunwar Susheel (Dr.)
29.	Mahajan , Surender Kumar (Dr.)		

1. Welcome by the President: Welcoming the Members to the Get-together Shri S C Garg was happy to say that a number of new faces are seen at this very-well attended get-together. Earlier it had been planned to have it on 17th January 2013 – the day on which the Forum completed 10 years – but on account of the very cold weather, it was decided to have it at a later date. He said that the credit for the achievements made during these ten years goes largely to the devotion of Dr. V N Bindal, Shri G K Arora, Dr. A P Jain, Shri V P Wasan, Dr. V S Panwar and a number of other Founder Member and other Members of the Forum and the guidance and support that was received from the Patrons of the Forum and the persons who had served as Directors of NPL. He said that his effort as the President of the Forum is to carry forward the good work that has been done so far and for this he welcomes suggestions from all the members for making the Forum more vibrant as would be seen from Item 5 of the Programme indicated in the notice for this Get-together.

Shri S C Garg said that today we have gathered here to take stock of the achievements made during the past ten years which will be presented to you by Dr. V N Bindal before the release of the Directory of Members of the Forum by Dr. Krishan Lal. The Directory has been compiled by Shri G K Arora and Dr. Amitabha Basu with the co-operation provided not only by the other members of the Publications Committee but all of us who have furnished the information for this compilation.

During this period, a number of members of the Forum have also expired. Their names are published in the Directory of Members to be released. Their spouses have also been invited to this Get-together, and where their spouses have also expired, other members of their families have been invited. It is only appropriate that we start the deliberations by paying homage to their memory.

2. Homage to Members who had expired: Shri G K Arora read out the names of the 27 members of the Forum who had expired since the inception of the Forum in January 2003, where after the house observed two-minute silence. Condolence resolutions in respect of them had been passed at the various meetings of the Forum.

3. Achievements of the Forum since its inception: Dr. V N Bindal started by recalling the day when about a dozen retired scientists of the Forum met on 19th December 2002 at which Dr. Krishan Lal, then Director, NPL, and had also taken part in the deliberations of that meeting which was also attended by Prof. A R Verma. It was at that meeting that it was decided to name this Forum as “NPL Former Scientists Forum” Its First Meeting was held on 17th January 2003. What the Forum has been able to achieve during the ten years is largely the result of the support that we received from all the Directors of the Laboratory and the Scientific, Technical, Administrative and support staff of the Laboratory.

He said that we are very fortunate to have with us Dr. Krishan Lal again today, despite of his having assumed even greater responsibilities as president of INSA. He said that while he has lot to say about the achievements of the Forum, he would highlight only some of them as Dr. Krishan Lal has to leave shortly.

The Forum has got registered as a Society with well defined Aims & Objects, has a Logo of its own, has been allotted a room in the NPL which is its Registered Office, and above all, has provided a Platform where its Members could meet, benefit from deliberations on topics of common interest and also socialize over a cup of tea. The Life-time Membership Fee, which now is Rs. 700/- only, can hardly provide sufficient funds for meeting the expenses for the various activities of the Forum, but it is the donations from the members and others that we are able to overcome this deficiency.

A major activity of the Forum has been the Publication of the Newsletter, which contains a wealth of information. Nine issues of it have been published so far, compiled and edited by Shri G K Arora, whose devotion towards the Forum is known to all of us but needs a special mention here. Publication of the Newsletter is one of the costliest activities of the Forum, but it has not only been made self

supporting through advertisements but has often contributed towards the Forum's funds from its savings. He expressed the hope that Dr. Krishan Lal will explore the possibility of providing some funds from INSA so that this publication could be made more presentable.

He also recalled the release of the Special Issue of the Forum's Newsletter No. 3, dated August 2006 – "NPL Diamond Jubilee Special", on 24th August 2006 by Dr. R A Mashelkar, the then Director General, CSIR, and felt that it would be desirable to invite Dr. S K Brahmachari, the Present Director General, CSIR also at a suitable occasion to have the benefit of his guidance and advice at one of the meetings of the Forum.

Talking about the working of the Forum, various Area Committees had been set up, directed towards the achievement of the various Aims & Objectives of the Forum. A Committee which requires a special mention is the Scholarships & Awards Committee, chaired by Director, NPL, and the President of the Forum as the Co-Chairman. This Committee was constituted when Shri Dev Kumar instituted the "Astronaut Kalpana Chawla Samman Chatravritti", followed by other Scholarships instituted by Prof. S C Jain, Prof. S K Joshi, and Awards instituted by Dr. P C Jain and Shri V P Wasan. For the First time these Scholarships & Awards were given to the Children of the Staff Members of NPL in September 2007. More Scholarships & Awards have been added subsequently, and in addition to the Scholarship/ Award money, specially designed certificates, duly signed by Director, NPL and the President of the Forum, are presented by Director himself as a Part of the CSIR Foundation Day Celebrations organized by the NPL. To ensure that the Scholarships and Awards, once instituted, are run on a continuous basis, the expenditure is met only out of the interest earned on the principal amount kept in fixed deposit with the bank. He was very happy to say that already the money in fixed deposits is now more than 10 lakhs.

Dr. Bindal also mentioned about the 31 trees that had been planted on 15th August 2010 and another 20 trees planted on 25th September 2012, under a joint programme between NPL and the Forum, in honour/ memory of those persons who had made very significant contributions to the Laboratory, and who had not been so honoured so far in this manner. This was done on the recommendation of a Sub-Committee of the Scholarship Committee that had been set-up under the Chairmanship of Shri G K Arora. On the recommendations of this Sub-committee, the Lawns in front of the NPL auditorium were also dedicated to the Memory of Prof. A R Verma on 20th September 2011, at a function organized jointly by NPL and the Forum in celebration of 90th Birth Anniversary of Prof. Verma. At this function Prof Budhani also released the revised Chart on S I Units of Measurement – again the outcome of a joint effort by NPL and the Forum. He said that what is very significant to note is that we the retired scientists of NPL are a part of the NPL Family. The Plaque dedicating the lawn in front of the NPL Auditorium also reads, "Prof. A R Verma Lawn, Dedicated on his 90th Birth Anniversary by Entire NPL Fraternity".

He said that the room allotted to the Forum was not just meant to serve as the Registered Office of the Forum but also to be used by the members as and when they visit the Laboratory and feel the need for a place where they could sit for a while. Ways & means need to be found to make it serve the desired purpose.

He specially invited attention to the item on the Agenda inviting suggestions for making the Forum more vibrant and hoped that the members of the Forum shall come forward not only with their suggestions but also involve themselves in their implementation towards the achievement of the various aim & objects of the Forum.

Dr. Bindal felt that it would be desirable if Shri Arora gives a brief presentation on the Directory of Members before its release by Dr. Krishan Lal.

4. Directory of Members to be released at the Get-together: Shri G K Arora thanked Dr. Bindal for the opportunity to say some thing about the Directory, which had been the result of a joint effort put in by him and Dr. Amitabha Basu, the Chairman of the Publication Committee, and the support received from all the Members of the Forum in providing the input for it.

He said that this Directory of Members forms only a part of the Project on compilation of a "Directory of R & D Associates of NPL since its inception" which was taken up at the initiative of Dr. V N Bindal at the time when NPL started work on compilation of its Diamond Jubilee Volume, and Dr. Vikram Kumar, the then Director NPL also involved some members of the Forum.

While undertaking this project, it was realized that any such compilation covering the R & D Associates of NPL since its inception will never be able to cover all persons who had contributed to the growth of NPL yet it was envisaged that, by enlisting the cooperation of the available scientists, (a number of whom were members of the Forum) it might be possible to (i) fill up the gaps, (ii) add the names of the scientists not listed, and also to (iii) make corrections in that list, it shall be possible to bring out a reasonably complete document.

The First tangible outcome of this project was the publication of a "Bare List of Old R & D Associates of NPL" in Forums Newsletter No. 3, dated August 2006 – NPL Diamond Jubilee Issue, which was released by Dr. R A Mashelkar, the then Director General, CSIR.

The Publication Committee of the Forum reviewed its Status of the Project at its meeting held on 12th December 2009 when it was decided that to have the first tangible outcome of this effort by bringing out a '**DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS OF THE FORUM**' in the first instance, while continuing efforts in respect of other members on the rolls of NPL, or who had been associated with R & D activities of NPL in the past. Work on the contemplated project is on and hopefully it shall be possible to complete it also

Shri Arora said that the Directory to be release has essentially three parts. The **First Part** carries information about the Names of the Members, their Dates of Birth, Designations & Dates in respect of the First & the Last Post held, Reasons for Leaving NPL, their qualifications, specializations, Recognitions, Accolades & Awards to their credit as also their Photographs in Black & White, I D Numbers and Membership Numbers. In respect of the Members who have expired the dates n which they expired and the contact particulars of their spouses/ other members of the family are also furnished. The **Second Part** carries details relating to Doctorate Degrees of the Members as also the details of the persons whom they had guided for their doctorate degrees. The **Third Part** gives the Membership List giving additional information about their Residential addresses, E-mail I D Numbers, Contact Phone Numbers, PO Numbers and Medical Facilities availed by them. A complete list of the members who have expired is also furnished at the end of the Membership List.

5. Release of the Directory of Members of the Forum and Address by Dr. Krishan Lal: Dr. Krishan Lal, releasing the Directory, said that he was extremely happy to have been invited to do so, and recounted the day when the Forum was

formed after the meeting held in December 2002 when he was associated with NPL as Director. He was very happy that during the ten years of its formation, which the Forum had completed on 17th January 2013, very remarkable achievements had been made by the Forum. He was happy to have also made his own contributions also towards the achievement of the very laudable Aims & Objects of the Forum. While a number of you had also made very significant contributions, I would specifically like to mention the names of Dr. V N Bindal, Dr. A P Jain, Dr. P C Jain and Shri G K Arora. This Directory is the outcome of the efforts put in largely by Shri GK Arora, making the best use of his expertise also in Archives. He also presented to him a copy of his article on Prof. A R Verma, published in Biographical Memoirs of Fellows of INSA for the Archives of the Forum.

He said that the Newsletters published by the Forum carry very useful information. There are a number of Government Orders and Circulars carrying where useful information. He said that he has been receiving a periodical publication carrying information which appears relevant to the members of the Forum which he has been receiving. He offered to make it available to the Forum to draw relevant information

He wished the Forum a very bright future by recording on one copy of the Directory “With best Compliments & all the best for a Wonderful Future”.

6. Address by Prof. S K Joshi: Prof. S K Joshi, said that the remarkable manner in which Shri G K Arora has been working to involve every member of the Forum in its activities is such that he made it a point to participate in this get-together when we are celebrating the completion of ten years since its formation. He re-iterated that it is “**Our Forum**” and not Your Forum that he is talking about. It is the duty of all of us to contribute towards its activities and also prove useful to the Society in whatever manner we can.

He said that when one retires from the active service of NPL, he often finds himself in a state of sudden vacuum which needs to be filled by taking up some constructive activity. Some of us are able to find some openings to continue working in areas of interest to us but not all of us are able to find such opportunities. While providing an opportunity to contribute usefully towards achieving its objectives, our Forum also provides an opportunity to us to fill the vacuum. Shri G K Arora is a glaring example before us who has involved himself with the activities of the Forum with full devotion and a missionary zeal. Kindly join me in giving him a standing ovation for his contributions.

7. Suggestions from Members to make the Forum More Vibrant: Shri N K Kohli invited attention to the letter No. 35-02(33)2013.HR-III, dated 12th March 2013 from Joint Secretary, CSIR, on the subject “Cashless medical facility for CSIR Employees and Pensioners and their dependent family members” addressed to Director, CDRI, Lucknow, conveying the approval of DG, CSIR to cashless facilities for indoor treatment to CSIR pensioners, serving employees and their dependent family members subject to inter-alia the following conditions:

- a) CGHS recognized hospitals should be willing to extend such a facility.
- b) The recognized hospitals should be willing to provide treatment on CGHS approved rates. In case of any difference in rates, the rates specified by the hospital over and above the CGHS prescribed rates should be charged from the pensioners/ employees by the hospital.
- c) The laboratory/ Institute may enter into a MOU with the CGHS recognized hospitals to provide this facility as per terms mentioned at (b) above.

The members were informed that the issue of cashless facility had already been brought to the notice of Director, NPL after the meeting of the Management Committee of the Forum held on 19th March 2013. The contents of this letter shall also be brought to his notice for implementation in a suitable manner.

8. Socializing over a Cup of Tea: The Get-together was jointly hosted by Dr. J N Som (Rs. 2,000/-), Mrs. Parvati Chopra (Rs. 1,100/-) and Dr. A K Agrawal (Rs. 1,100/-). On-the-spot donations were also received from Prof. S K Joshi (Rs. 500/-), Shri Devendra Singh (500/-), Dr. S K Majumdar (Rs. 200/-), and two more donations of Rs. 100/- each.