The following Agenda for the meeting had been notified by G K Arora, the Secretary of the Forum to the members, vide his letter dated 03. 03. 2010 sent to the members by e-mail/ post. Copies of this notice were placed on the table at the time of the meeting as per the decision taken at an earlier meeting of the Management Committee for ready reference:

**Agenda**

1. Welcome and Introductory Remarks by the President
2. Passing of Condolence Resolution on the Demise of Prof S C Jain
3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the Management Committee held on August 12, 2009
4. Follow-up Action on the various decisions taken at the above meeting.
5. Status Report by the Secretary
6. Reports of the following Area Committees:
   - 6.1 Medical Affairs Committee (Chairman – Dr. Dr. A P Jain/ Co-Chairman – Shri A C Gupta/ Convener – Dr. V S Panwar)
   - 6.2 Welfare Committee (Chairman – Dr. B N Srivastava/ Co-Chairman – Dr. S P Varma/Convener/– Dr. V S Panwar)
   - 6.3 Scientific Affairs Committee (Chairman - Dr. Kailash Chandra/ Co-Chairman – Dr. S V Gupta/ Convener – Shri G K Arora)
   - 6.3.1 Sub-Committee on Superstition (Chairman - Dr. Kailash Chandra/ Co-Chairman – Dr. A P Jain/ Convener – Shri G K Arora)
   - 6.4 Scholarship Committee (Chairman – Dr. Vikram Kumar/ Co-Chairman – Dr. V N Bindal/ Convener – Shri V P Wasan)
   - 6.5 Publication Committee (Chairman – Dr. R Bhattacharyya/ Co-Chairman – St. N Singh/Convener – Shri G K Arora)
   - 6.6 Programme Committee (Chairman – Dr. S K Sharma/ Co-Chairman – Dr. V R Singh/Convener – Dr. V S Panwar)
7. Consideration of the Draft Letter to the Prime Minister of India, Prepared by the Chairman, Welfare Committee regarding the Anomaly in regard to the fixation of Pension of the Pre-1996 Pensioners as per the recommendations of the Sixth Central Pay Commission to which attention had been drawn by Prof. E S R Gopal
8. Approval to the Induction of New Members to the Forum
9. Reconstitution of the Scholarship Committee
10. Resolution for opening of Accounts in respect of New Scholarships/ Awards
12. Any other Item with the permission of the Chair.

**Attendance**

The following attended the meeting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Dr. V N Bindal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Dr. A P Jain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Secretary</td>
<td>Dr. V S Panwar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Shri V P Wasan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Shri K N Bhatnagar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Shri R C Dhawan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Dr. P C Jain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Dr. (Mrs) Namita Kundu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Mrs. Santosh Manrai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Shri P K Mittal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Dr. Shiv Nath Singh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Dr. Ved Ram Singh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Nominated Member</td>
<td>Dr. Soham Lal Jain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-chairman, Scientific Affairs Committee</td>
<td>Dr. S V Gupta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Shri G K Arora</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dr. S K Sharma, Mrs. Shashikala Shastri and Dr. S P Varma had expressed their inability to attend the meeting, and so had Dr. B N Srivastava who had been invited to the meeting in his capacity as Chairman of the Welfare Committee. Dr. Kailash Chandra was also unable to attend the meeting as he was abroad. Dr. R Bhattacharyya did not attend the meeting.

Prof. S S Mathur, who had been intimately associated with the activities of the Scientific Affairs Committee in regard to its activity on popularization of Science along with Dr. (Mrs.) Kundu, and who had e-mailed to the Secretary a copy of the note “Initialization of Science in School Level” (Annexure – ‘A’) [Tabled at the meeting], had also been invited to the meeting, but had regretted his inability to be present.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

1. **Welcome and Introductory Remarks by the President:** Dr. V N Bindal welcomed the members to the Meeting and said that he had nominated Dr. Sohan Lal Jain and Dr. Kamlesh Kumar Jain as the additional members of the Management Committee to make it fully representative of the Forum and effective to its full potential. He was happy that Dr S L Jain was present at this meeting, though Dr. K K Jain was unable to attend it.

   He informed the Committee about the highlights of the very pleasant meeting that he had held with Prof. R C Budhani, on 4th February 2010, at which he had also presented to him a copy of the Forum’s Newsletter Issue No. 6, dated September 2009, as also a copy of the Self Assessment Survey Questionnaire which had been circulated to the Members. He had also taken this opportunity to have Prof.
Budhani’s consent for taking up the Chairmanship of the Scholarship Committee, and to apprise him also of the financial support that the Forum had been receiving from NPL by way of the advertisement in the Forum’s Newsletter – the next issue of which had “Environment” as the theme.

Dr. Bindal expressed his happiness at the very valuable contributions that Dr. S V Gupta had been making, and also showed to the members the following two books which he had recently published and had brought with him at the meeting:

2. *Units of Measurement -Past, Present and Future - International System of Units*, Springer Series in Materials Science No, 122, December 2009, Published by the Metrology Society of India, 158 Pages; 99.95 Euro; 129.0 US $;155.50 French F; 89.0 Sterling Pound; [ISBN978-3-642-00738-5].

The members of the Committee congratulated Dr. Gupta for these publications. Shri G K Arora also informed that the highlights of both these publications had already been received from Dr. Gupta, for publication in the next issue of the Forum’s Newsletter.

Dr. Bindal requested Dr. Gupta to ascertain the status of publication of the Revised Chart on “SI Units of Measurement” for which he had also made a mention to Prof. Budhani, and that the initiative that had been taken by the Forum and the contributions made by Dr. Kailash Chandra and Dr. S V Gupta in this task in particular.

Dr. Bindal said that the very purpose of having Co-Chairmen for the various Area Committees was to ensure their effective functioning when the Chairmen, for some reasons, were unable to discharge their responsibilities. He added that the Co-Chairmen exercised full authority as Chairmen in such situations, and advised the Secretary that, in future, all the Chairmen and Co-Chairmen of the various Area Committees should be invited for the meetings of the Management Committee, irrespective of whether they were members of the Management Committee or not. He also said that Dr. Bhattacharyya, Chairman of the Publication Committee, had been requested to pursue with Director, NPL, the issue of putting our Forum on NPL’s website, and since he could not be present, Dr. S N Singh was requested to pursue this issue in his capacity as the Co-Chairman of that Committee.

2. Passing of Condolence Resolution on the Demise of Prof S C Jain: The members noted the demise of Prof. Suresh Chand Jain on 10. 12. 2009, where after the Secretary read out the Condolence Resolution. The members observed a two-minute silence, and advised that the Resolution passed on his expiry be sent to Dr. Amitabh Jain, after ascertaining his contact particulars from Dr. K K Jain who had been named by Prof. S C Jain as his Contact in his Membership Form.

3. Confirmation of the Minutes of Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the Management Committee held on August 12, 2009: The members noted that since no comments had been received on the Minutes of the Meeting as detailed by the Secretary in his Status Report (*Annexure 'B'*) [circulated to the members at the time of the meeting], these were confirmed.

4. Follow-up Action on the various decisions taken at the above meeting: The follow-up action on the decisions taken at the above meeting as reported by the Secretary in his Status Report was noted. As for the utilization of the Forum’s Room it was decided to once again refer the following issue to the Welfare Committee for consideration and to give its suggestions for making the Room functional:

“This Committee shall also examine the issue of raising financial contributions by Members of the Forum in multiples of Rs, 100/- as suggested by Dr. Kailash Chandra”.

5. Status Report by the Secretary: The Secretary presented in brief the report which had been tabled at the meeting.

6. Reports of the Area Committees:

6.1: Medical Affairs Committee: No meeting of this Committee had been held. However, the committee was informed by the Secretary that it had been learnt that a decision had been taken by NPL to prepare Drafts for the amounts of the CGHS Contributions in advance before the expiry of the validity of the CGHS Cards, in respect of those persons who had already made their contributions for 10 years. The Chairman of the Committee was requested to have the formal confirmation of this decision.

The Committee was also informed that at the initiative of the Publication Committee, Shri K N Bhatnagar had undertaken the task of ascertaining the Phone Numbers of the various Hospitals & Diagnostic Centres empanelled by CGHS for incorporation of up-to-date information in respect of such Hospitals/ Diagnostic Centres in the next issue of the Forum’s Newsletter. He had already collected substantial information in this regard and the Medical Affairs Committee may now take over the remaining work.

6.2 Welfare Committee: Dr. V S Panwar informed about the meeting that had been held under the chairmanship of Dr. B N Srivastava to consider the issue which appears as Item 7 on the Agenda.

6.3 Scientific Affairs Committee: Dr. (Mrs.) Kundu briefly presented the highlights of the note on “Initialization of Science in School Level”. It was clarified by her that the Scheme envisaged no financial obligation from the Forum. The only thing that was expected from the Forum was “Resource Persons” who may be willing to offer their services for giving talks in schools. The following members of the Management Committee offered to be on this pool:

1. Dr. S L Jain
2. Shri V P Wasan
3. Dr. V R Singh
4. Dr. (Mrs.) N Kundu

In addition, Prof S S Mathur will himself be available. It was also felt that Dr. R Bhattacharyya would also perhaps be interested to be on this pool in addition to some other members of the Forum who may be apprised of this Scheme by the President at the next meeting of the Forum.

6.3.1: Sub-Committee on Superstition: Though, the Secretary of this Sub-Committee had submitted to the Members of this Sub-Committee the report on the response that had been received to the Self Assessment Survey on Superstitions & Myths and a preliminary analysis of the same in November 2009 to the for detailed analysis and study, no action on it had been initiated so far. The issue had also been considered at a meeting of the Publication Committee held on 10. 12. 2009 vis-à-vis the publication of the envisaged document on superstition. The committee felt that this issue could be considered only after a thorough investigation and with scientific evidence against them. It was felt that the Superstition Sub-Committee may, work jointly with the Sub-Committee on Popularization of Science.

The Management Committee endorsed the above suggestion of the publication Committee and requested Dr. (Mrs.) Kundu to integrate this issue with the Scheme envisaged for popularization of Science initially at the School level. Further, since Dr. Kailash Chandra was abroad and Dr. A P Jain’s present state of health did not permit him to devote much attention to this issue, the Secretary was requested to explore some alternative solution.

6.4: Scholarship Committee: Dr. Vikram Kumar, Director, NPL having retired and Dr. Anil Kumar Gupta, who had been representing him as his nominee as Chairman of this Committee having been appointed as Director, AMPRI, Bhopal, and both. Shri R P Sharma, former COA, NPL and Shri Balraj Singh who...
represented him on this Committee having been transferred from NPL, representation on this Committee from NPL needs to be changed. Dr. Bindal said that as already informed in his introductory remarks, Prof. R C Budhani, had agreed to be the Chairman of this Committee and Shri T V Josha who has taken over as the new COA, NPL has also been sounded to replace Shri R P Sharma on this Committee. A proposal for reconstitution of this committee has been placed before the Management Committee vide Agenda Item 9.

Further, a New Scholarship – “Mrs. Brij Bala Memorial Scholarship” – has been initiated by Shri N K Kohli for which he has already contributed Rs. 65,000/- A resolution for opening a separate account for this Scholarship also figures as item 10 on the Agenda. He added that he had also requested Shri Wasun to present the present status of the accounts of the Forum under Item No. 12, to apprise the members of the Management Committee about the present status.

6.5: Publication Committee: The Management Committee was informed that the Publication Committee, at its meeting considered the proposal for publication of two issues per year at its meeting held on 10. 12. 2009. It was felt that it shall not be possible to publish two issues per year as it will not be possible to meet the expenditure within the receipts anticipated by way of advertisements to meet their cost, besides adding to the workload of the Committee. It was therefore decided to continue with publication of one issue per year. If there was any thing requiring immediate attention of the Members, the same could be brought to the notice of the Members at the meetings of the Forum.

At this meeting it was also decided to have “Environment” as the theme for the next issue of the Newsletter. It was decided to have at least three articles covering different aspects of Environment from amongst the Members of the Forum and the working Scientists of NPL as under:

1. Shri S C Garg and Dr. (Mrs.) Namita Kundu Climate Change
2. Dr. R Bhattacharyya and Dr. Shiv Nath Singh Solar Energy
3. Shri Prabhat K Gupta Water & Methane Emission from Paddy Crops

They may enlist the cooperation of other members of the Forum and also the persons on the rolls of NPL, the first named person being the coordinator.

Another decision taken at this meeting was (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), to bring out a Directory of Members of the Forum covering the following ten points

1. Full Name – First Name, Middle Name, Surname (Shri/ Dr, Miss, Mrs.). Also any change in Name after joining NPL
2. Date of Birth
3. Date of Joining NPL and the Position held at the Time of Joining.
4. Last Position in NPL and the Date from which it was held
5. Educational Qualification – Degree/ Diploma, Subject, Year, University, in respect of each Degree/ Diploma.
6. Activity with which presently associated
7. Specialization
8. Honours & Awards received
9. In case Registered for Doctorate Degree, the Name of the University and of the Guide from NPL.
10. In respect of persons who have already obtained Doctorate Degree, particulars about the University awarding the Degree, the Year of Award, the names of the Guides and the Title of the Doctorate Degree Thesis may also be please indicated.

In addition, this “Directory of Members of the Forum” will also carry information about the doctoral theses awarded to and guided by the members of the Forum.

Efforts in this direction are on hand.

6.6: Programme Committee: The Management Committee was informed about the very successful First Family Get-together that had been organized by this Committee on 25th October 2009. Shri Arora informed that a report on this get-together had also been prepared for publication in the next issue of the Forum’s Newsletter.

The President specially congratulated the Committee for organizing this Get-together and expressed the hope that this would be an annual feature of the Forum.

Shri P K Mittal had been keeping the financial aspects of this Get-together and he would be furnishing the accounts of receipts and expenditure on it to the Treasurer.

Dr. Bindal informed about the efforts that he had made in inviting Dr. J V Narlikar for a popular talk on superstition during the International Astronomical Year observed during 2009, but it could not materialize. Dr. V R Singh offered to renew this effort. It was decided to sound him for a talk some time in August/ September with about 20 days advance notice, so that a meeting could be properly organized for that talk.

7. Consideration of the Draft Letter to the Prime Minister of India, Prepared by the Chairman, Welfare Committee regarding the Anomaly in regard to the fixation of Pension of the Pre-1996 Pensioners as per the recommendations of the Sixth Central Pay Commission to which attention had been drawn by Prof. E S R Gopal: Dr. V S Panwar explained the apparent anomaly that had been noticed in respect of Scientist ‘G’. Similar anomaly appeared to be there in respect of lower grade posts also, and based on the deliberations of the meeting of a specially convened meeting of the Welfare Committee for this issue only, Dr. B N Srivastava had prepared a draft for consideration at this meeting.

The Committee authorized Dr. V N Bindal to invoke the guidance of Dr. Vikram Kumar in this matter as he had also been the Chairman of the CSIR Committee on Implementation of the Sixth Central Pay Commission Recommendations.

8. Approval to the Induction of New Members to the Forum: The Committee approved the induction of all the four new members to the Forum as placed before it in the Status Report by the Secretary.

9. Reconstitution of the Scholarship Committee: The need for reconstitution of the Scholarship Committee from the side of NPL had already been indicated by Dr. V N Bindal under Para 6.4 above. From the side of the Forum also a vacancy on the Membership of this Committee had been created with the demise of Prof. S C Jain. The Management Committee approved the following Constitution of this Committee replacing Prof. S C Jain by Dr. P C Jain, who was the third person to have contributed towards the Scholarship/ Award Fund by initiating the Vina Jain Memorial Award, as a member of the Committee. As per the past practice, all other initiators of Scholarships & Awards by the Forum shall be invitees to the meetings of this Committee.
10. Resolution for opening of Accounts in respect of New Scholarships/ Awards: The Committee passed the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION

Resolved that separate accounts of donors should be maintained, so that the principal amount and interest earned thereon are accounted for separately. This will ensure transparency and safe custody of donor’s money.

For this purpose the following separate savings bank accounts should be opened:

1. NPL-FSF A/c N K Kohli
2. Similar accounts should be opened for any other donors in future. The name of the A/c shall have donors name preceded by NPL-FSF A/c.

The accounts may be opened in Syndicate Bank NPL, Pusa. An appropriate amount from these accounts may be invested in term deposits for suitable period at the prevailing rate of interest, with instructions to deposit quarterly interest in the respective SF a/c regularly.

The accounts shall be operated by any two of the following signatories:

President, NPL-FSF  Secretary, NPL-FSF  Treasurer, NPL-FSF

11. Time & Agenda for the next meeting of the Forum on 31st March 2010: The Committee was informed that the TEC Conference Room had already been booked for the meeting with Prof. R C Budhani on the Forenoon of Wednesday, the 31st March 2010. The Committee authorized the President to finalize the Time and Agenda for the Meeting.

12. Any other Item with the permission of the Chair: As desired by the President, Shri V P Wasan presented the following status of accounts as on 11.03.2010:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Name</th>
<th>Amount in Savings Fund Account</th>
<th>Amount in Fixed Deposit Account</th>
<th>Remarks. If any</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NPL-FSF A/c (Forum)</td>
<td>70,163.85</td>
<td>58,749.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>NPL-FSF A/c Sh, Dev Kumar</td>
<td>13,137.28</td>
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<td>NPL-FSF A/c Prof. S C Jain</td>
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<td>39,168.00</td>
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<td>NPL-FSF A/c Prof. S K Joshi</td>
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<td>49,500.00</td>
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<td>2,903.55</td>
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<td>NPL-FSF A/c Sh. S L Gupta</td>
<td>1,579.79</td>
<td>55,000.00</td>
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<td>NPL-FSF A/c Sh. V P Wasan</td>
<td>2,645.65</td>
<td>15,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>NPL-FSF A/c Ms. Sushila Verma</td>
<td>3,131.37</td>
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<td>NPL-FSF A/c Sh. J N Chaudhary</td>
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<td>2,500.00</td>
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<td>NPL-FSF A/c Shri Balraj Singh</td>
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<td>NPL-FSF A/c Dr. A K Gupta</td>
<td>3,171.76</td>
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<td>NPL-FSF A/c Dr. V N Bindal</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>20,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>NPL-FSF A/c General Donation Fund</td>
<td>8,051.20</td>
<td>91,000.00</td>
<td>Includes Rs. 65,000.00 contributed by Shri N K Kohli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>1,25,584.94</td>
<td>4,11,917.00</td>
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</table>

It was decided that out of Rs. 70,163.85 in the Savings Fund Account of the Forum, an amount of **Rs. 40,000/- may be put in Fixed Deposit** with the Syndicate Bank, NPL, for earning higher rate of interest.

The Issue regarding **Income Tax Exemption** was raised by Shri P K Mittal. The Secretary informed that consequent on the rejection of the earlier application for Income Tax Exemption by the Department on the grounds that the Aims and Objects of the Forum under which it had been registered did not justify such exemption, the Registrar of Societies had been sent two copies of the Revised Memorandum of Association incorporating the Re-formulated Aims and Objects of the Forum, along with the detailed information that was required to be furnished before this could be done. This had been done through a **Registered AD Letter** dated 7th April 2009 posted from the Kalkaji Post Office on 8th April 2009. As the acknowledgement card had not been received back, the Postal Authorities were contacted for the status of delivery of that letter. Getting the confirmation from the Postal Authorities vide their letter dated 26th June 2009, informing that that the said letter had been delivered on 9th April 2009, another reminder was sent to the Registrar of Societies on 6th July 2009 by **Speed Post**, but till date there had not been any response from the Registrar of Societies. Till such time that a copy of the Revised Memorandum of Association of the Forum, duly authenticated by the Registrar of Societies is received, the issue regarding Income Tax Exemption cannot be taken up again.

Shri P K Mittal was requested to offer his help in expediting the matter with the Registrar of Societies. Dr. S V Gupta also offered his help in this regard, if possible.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.
INITIALIZATION OF SCIENCE

IN SCHOOL LEVEL

Science primarily aims at seeking the truth. One expects that students, particularly in the early stages of their study, imbibe this objective and relate it to their daily experiences. In our prevailing education system, unfortunately, we encourage them to memorize some scientific principles, phenomena and their applications by heart? They neither get the flavour of scientific concepts involved, nor do they realize how science plays a role in our every day life. Moreover, scientific knowledge grows through keen observation, seeking explanations of the various phenomena and asking questions. Unless these aspects are introduced and liberally practiced during early science education, it will be difficult to produce scientists qualified and competent to push frontiers of scientific knowledge.

A disheartening phenomenon in modern times is the switching of better students from science streams to subjects like finance, business administration, information technology etc. which brings more economic returns. The enrolments of brilliant students in pure and applied sciences such as medicine, engineering and bio-technology have thinned out and hence the scientific advancement in the country has been curtailed. If science education successfully brings out aptitude and interest among students, one can hope that many bright young students will be willing to pursue science as a career.

The way science is presented to our school children, therefore, needs considerable reform.

To bring about this reform, we, the science popularization committee of the NPL Former Scientists’ Forum (The Forum) and Eduheal Foundation (The Foundation), an NGO with wide experience in educational programs are planning to undertake a joint program for promoting creativity among science students.

The members of the Forum have vast experience of research in several areas of science and have made significant contributions to their development. They can provide the resource persons - both retired and active - of the highest quality in the country for this programme.

Since the Forum is in contact with other knowledge banks like the Delhi University, IITD, Inter University Science Centre, Enzyme Institute, Medical Colleges and Institutes etc., it will be able to get some of their scientists as well to take part in the program as resource persons.

The Foundation, on the other hand, has been in touch with more than 3,500 schools in India for their various activities. Their network and liaison with a large number of schools across the whole country will provide us a strong link to liaise with the schools interested in our programme.

We intend to follow a pattern of activity similar to that of SPIC MACAY for popularizing Indian classical music amongst youth. The project will support a 3 tier program:

Tier-1: Primary level:
To initiate inquisitiveness in young minds we would start with children in the Primary School, say from 4th class onwards and involve them in participative demonstration experiments. A number of experiments will be designed, fabricated and taken to the schools. Students will be able to relate their experiences in daily life to the basic principles of science with abundant clarity and also develop interest in understanding the way science plays its role in every aspect of their lives.

Tier-2: Middle level:
In classes VII and VIII, additionally, a group of two or three students can perform some experiments in the classroom under the supervision and guidance of the resource persons. Individual students will be asked to explain what they observe. After discussing with them the scientist can offer the correct explanation. This will encourage independent thinking by the students and also develop the power of communication in them. School teachers will be invited to attend these sessions so that they can continue this activity on their own later.

Tier-3 High School level:
For classes IX to XII lectures on advance topics like Nanotechnology, Near and Deep space Astronomy, Superconductivity etc., in simple language will be given by scientists working in these fields. Science teachers will be invited to attend these lectures so that they also benefit from this exposure and continue with similar activities on their own.

We have already identified speakers for the third tier and scientist-in-charge for conducting the experiments in the middle level.

The role of the Foundations will be to identify resource persons and fix the venue for 3 months at a time and provide some token honorarium for the resource persons. The infrastructural resources required for conducting the program along with transport, if possible, will be provided by the interested schools. The Foundation will provide the liaison between the scientists with the interested schools. We hope to be able to use the auditorium facilities of NPL for some special functions like inauguration, yearly functions and seminars etc. The Foundation will provide sundry expenses like honorarium, refreshments etc.

The aim of this effort will be to reach children of both the municipal and public schools. Promising students can be picked and efforts will be made to provide them with scholarships and, if possible, nurture them, so that, they can later contribute significantly in pushing the frontiers of Science and Technology.

We wish to contact the schools and fix the program with a view to starting from the next academic station i.e. from April 2010.

The program will be started in the reverse order - the third tier first - with the children in the high school level, because it is easier to do so. A number of schools will be grouped together so that the speaker has an optimum number of students/teachers in his lecture. By the nature of programmes in the first and second tiers, we need, beside resource persons, other teaching aids, instrument, and various types of material which will take more time to put together.

At first, the programme will be started modestly in the NCR region even though requests from some schools in cities like Bhopal, Indore, and Hyderabad etc. have reached us and some contact persons have been identified.
1. Twenty Fifth Meeting of The Management Committee (Ref: Agenda Item 3): The Minutes of the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the Management Committee held on 12th August 2009, (as approved by the Chairman), had been circulated by the Secretary vide his letter dated September 2, 2009 by e-mail/post, inviting comments by September 12, 2009. Copies of this letter and the Minutes of that Meeting will also be tabled at the time of the meeting.

As no comments from any members had been received, the minutes of this meeting may be confirmed.

2. Follow-up Action on the Decisions taken at the above Meeting (Ref: Agenda Item 4):

2.1. Re-constitution of the various Area Committees: The re-constitution of the various Area Committees was notified in the September 2009 Issue of the Forum’s Newsletter No. 6, released at the Meeting of the Forum held on 9th October 2009. These appear on pages 3-4 of that Issue of the Newsletter

2.2. Utilization of the Forum’s Room in NPL: No action has so far been reported by the Welfare Committee in the light of the following reference made to it by the Management Committee at the meeting held on 12. 08. 2009:

“This Committee shall also examine the issue of raising financial contributions by Members of the Forum in multiples of Rs, 100/- as suggested by Dr. Kailash Chandra”.

2.3. Self-Assessment Survey on Superstitions & Myths: A report on the response that has been received to the Self Assessment Survey on Superstitions & Myths, and a preliminary analysis of the same was made by the Secretary and sent for detailed study and analysis by the Sub-Committee on Superstitions of the Scientific Affairs Committee vide his letter dated November 20, 2009, with a copy also to the President of the Forum. This had also been earlier e-mailed to the members who could be sent this report as also to the President of the Forum, in the form of two attachments to his e-mail dated 15. 11. 2009. One attachment to this mail carried the detailed tabulation of the response received and the other attachment took stock of the comments, observations and suggestions and a summary of the analysis. A copy of this document shall be placed on the table at the time of the meeting.

2.4. Highlights of the Forum Meeting held on October 9, 2009: The Sixth Issue of the Forum’s Newsletter Dated September – 2009 – Special Issue ‘On Being Eighty’ – was released by Shri Dev Kumar, the Eldest Member of the Forum. The Members were also informed about the First Family Get-together that had been planned by the Programme Committee – the Dewali Get-together – on 25th October 2009 –, for which they could contribute @ Rs. 100/- per participant. A report on this Get-together has been prepared and it is proposed to be published in the next issue of the Forum’s Newsletter.

2.5. Opening of New Savings Fund Account: In the light of the resolution passed at the meeting, a Saving Fund Account NPL-FSF A/c V N Bindal has been opened in the Syndicate Bank, NPL, New Delhi.

3. Induction of New Members (Ref: Agenda Item 8): Filled up Membership Forms have been received from the following persons, whose induction as New Members of the Forum is proposed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Name &amp; Date of Birth</th>
<th>Amount Received</th>
<th>Last Post Held</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Dr. Ramadhar Singh [08. 09. 1948]</td>
<td>Rs. 700/- (Cheque)</td>
<td>Scientist ‘G’</td>
<td>Retired from NPL on 30. 09. 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Dr. Vikram Kumar [08. 07. 1947]</td>
<td>Rs. 700/- (Cheque)</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Retired from NPL on 31. 07. 2009</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Re-constitution of the Scholarship Committee(Ref: Agenda Item 9): Dr. Vikram Kumar, Director, NPL having retired and Dr. Anil Kumar Gupta, who had been representing him as his nominee as Chairman of this Committee having been appointed as Director, AMPRI, and both Shri R P Sharma, former COA, NPL and Shri Balraj Singh who represented him on this Committee having been transferred from NPL, representation on this Committee from NPL needs to be changed. Prof. R C Budhani, the Present Director, NPL and Shri T V Josha who has taken over as the new COA, NPL, have been approached by the President of the Forum to assume the respective responsibilities. From the side of the Forum also a vacancy on the Membership of this Committee has been created with the demise of Prof. S C Jain. It is suggested that the following reconstitution of the Scholarship Committee may be approved:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Composition</th>
<th>Scholarship Committee (Sch-C)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>Prof. R C Budhani, Director, NPL (Or his Nominee)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-Chairman</td>
<td>Dr. V N Bindal, President, NPL-FSF (Ex-Officio)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convener</td>
<td>Shri V V Wasan, Treasurer, NPL-FSF (Ex-Officio)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Shri T V Josha COA, NPL (Or his Nominee)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Shri Dev Kumar (Or his Nominee)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Prof. S C Jain (Or his Nominee)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Shri G K Arora, Secretary, NPL-FSF (Ex-Officio)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. Resolution for Opening of Accounts in Respect of New Scholarships & Awards *(Ref: Agenda Item 10)*: Shri N K Kohli has proposed the initiation of Mrs. Brij Bala Memorial Scholarship in the memory of his wife, for which he has already donated Rs. 65,000/- . To facilitate the institution of this Scholarship and to maintain separate accounts for this Scholarship, the Committee is requested to pass the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION**

Resolved that separate accounts of donors should be maintained, so that the principal amount and interest earned thereon are accounted for separately. This will ensure transparency and safe custody of donor’s money.

For this purpose the following separate savings bank accounts should be opened:

3. **NPL-FSF A/c N K Kohli**
   
4. Similar accounts should be opened for any other donors in future. The name of the A/c shall have donors name preceded by NPL-FSF A/c.

The accounts may be opened in Syndicate Bank NPL, Pusa. An appropriate amount from these accounts may be invested in term deposits for suitable period at the prevailing rate of interest with instructions to deposit quarterly interest in the respective SF a/c regularly.

The accounts shall be operated by any two of the following signatories:

- President, NPL-FSF
- Secretary, NPL-FSF
- Treasurer, NPL-FSF

6. Time and Agenda for the Forum’s Meeting on 31st March 2010 *(Ref: Agenda Item 11)*: Suitsing the convenience of Prof R C Budhani, (who has already been briefed by Dr. V N Bindal, about the activities of the Forum and also presented a copy of the Forum’s Newsletter dated September 2009 and a copy of the Self Assessment Survey Questionnaire which had been circulated to the Members), the first meeting of the Members of the Forum with him has been fixed for the Forenoon of Wednesday, the 31st March 2010. The venue for this meeting will be the TEC Conference Room for which the booking has been made by the Secretary. Advance intimation about this meeting has also been sent by the Secretary to the Members who could be approached by e-mail and also to some other members of the Forum by post so that they may schedule their other programmes accordingly.

Since the last meeting of the Forum held on 9th October 2009, where Shri Dewan Singh was honoured as another member of the 80-Plus Fraternity of the Forum, the following three members have also attained the age of 80-Plus, and it is proposed to honour them by presentation to them the 80-Plus Certificates, Citations and Mementos:

1. Shri Hari Mohan Mathur Born: 01. 01. 1930
2. Shri Pran Nath Taneja Born; 10. 03. 1930
3. Shri Inder Bhan Born: 12. 03. 1930

In addition, those of the 80-Plus Club Members who have not been able to collect their Mementos so far could also be requested to collect them at the time of this meeting.

At the Meeting of the Publication Committee held on 10th December 2009, it was decided to approach the members through hard copies of the draft entries about them for this Directory of R & D Associates of NPL, for seeking information, so that, as a first step, a “Directory of Members of the Forum” could be compiled on the following points:

1. Full Name – First Name, Middle Name, Surname (Shri/ Dr, Miss, Mrs.). Also any change in Name after joining NPL
2. Date of Birth
3. Date of Joining NPL and the Position held at the Time of Joining
4. Last Position held in NPL and the Date from which it was held
5. Educational Qualification – Degree/ Diploma, Subject, Year, University, in respect of each Degree/ Diploma
6. Activity with which presently associated
7. Specialization
8. Honours & Awards received
9. In case Registered for Doctorate Degree, the Name of the University and of the Guide from NPL.
10. In respect of persons who had already obtained Doctorate Degree, particulars about the University awarding the Degree, the Year of Award, the names of the Guides and the Title of the Doctorate Degree

In addition, this “Directory of Members of the Forum” will also carry information about the Doctoral Theses Awarded to and Guided by the Members of the Forum.

Action in this regard has been taken by the Secretary of the Publication Committee, and draft entries have been sent to the members of the Forum for up-dating. Already response has been received from a substantial number of members. A copy of this Directory is proposed to be presented to Prof. Budhani at this meeting.

The Committee is requested to finalize the Time and Agenda for this meeting so that the Members could be sent this intimation well in time by e-mail/ post, to make it a grand success.