

ACTIVITIES REPORT OF ODISHA BIGYAN ACADEMY FOR 2014-15

1. During 2014-15, twelve issues of monthly popular science magazine in Odia "Bigyan Diganta" have been published and distributed to all Government recognised High Schools of the State free of cost.
2. Four issues of quarterly magazine in abridged version of popular science magazine "Bigyan Diganta" have been published in braille odia script and distributed to the visually handicapped students and their institutions free of cost.
3. Twelve issues of monthly Science Magazine "Science Horizon" in English language have been published and distributed to Govt. English Medium High Schools and Government +2 Science Colleges of the State free of cost.
4. Odisha Bigyan Academy (OBA) celebrated its foundation day on 01.04.2014 (Utkal Divas). Padmabhusan Prof. Trilochan Pradhan, Founder Director, Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar and Former Vice-Chancellor, Utkal University and Prof. Ashok Kumar Mohapatra, Director, AIIMS, Bhubaneswar were the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour respectively. On this occasion, Quiz and Sit & Draw competition were conducted among the High School Students of Odisha. The Chief Guest distributed Prizes to the Winners. Students interacted with renowned Scientists of Odisha and enjoyed a science magic show presented by a member of Regional Science Centre, Bhubaneswar and Math Magic show by Mr. Saroj Mohanty, ORSAC.
5. The Investiture ceremony of different Awards of OBA for the year 2012 was organised at Jaydev Bhawan, Bhubaneswar on 05.08.2014 under the Presidentship of Prof. Uma Charan Mohanty. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha S.J. Naveen Patnaik graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Dr. Pradeep Kumar Panigrahy, Hon'ble Minister, Higher Education, Science & Technology, Rural Development (Rural Water Supply), Odisha and S.J. Surendra Kumar, Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government, Science & Technology Department, Government of Odisha were the Guests of Honour. Hon'ble Chief Minister felicitated and awarded eminent scientists of Odisha. Dr. (Smt.) Rekha Das, Secretary, Odisha Bigyan Academy gave the vote of thanks.
6. Popular Science Lectures were organised on 16.08.2014 (Saturday) and 20.09.2014 (Saturday). Prof. Baishnab Charan Tripathy, Vice-Chancellor, Ravenshaw University and Prof. Ganapati Panda, Visiting Professor, Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar & Awardee of "Biju Patnaik Award for Scientific Excellence-2012" were the resource persons respectively. Students from different Colleges of Bhubaneswar, Life Members and Patrons of the Academy and general public attended the programme.
7. Writers Workshop, for writing in 'Bigyan Diganta' & 'Science Horizon' were organised on 26.09.2014 at its Conference Hall. The purpose of the workshop was to improve the quality and standard of popular science writing for 'Bigyan Diganta' & 'Science Horizon' published by Odisha Bigyan Academy. Many eminent popular science writers of Odisha and outside were the resource persons for the said Workshop and gave their views. More than 70 science writers participated in the Workshop.
8. Expert Panel Meeting for Selection of Awards for the Year- 2013 was held from 13-15 December, 2014.
9. Odisha Bigyan Academy organised a programme on 'Interaction and Inspiration Programme for Junior Lecturers (Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Botany, Zoology) and +2 Science Students of Odisha' in collaboration with P.G. Department of Geology, Utkal University from 10-13.02.2015 at M.K.C.G. Auditorium, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar.
10. The National Science Day-2015 was celebrated by Odisha Bigyan Academy in collaboration with Regional Science Centre, Bhubaneswar on 28.02.2015. In this occasion, science based project/exhibition, essay & debate competitions were conducted. Students and teachers of different high schools participated in the programme. This year Prof. Basanta Kumar Behura Memorial Award, Prof. Gokulananda Mohapatra Memorial Award and Prof. Kulamani Samal Memorial Award were presented to three students for best Essay, Debate and Project respectively. Prof. Amulya Kumar Panda, Former Principal and Prof. Aruna Kumari Mishra, Eminent Botanist delivered talk on the theme "Science for Nation Building". Students, teachers and general public participated in the programme.