

Discussions on Science Communication, Popularisation and Extension in Bengali – the Road Ahead



Prof. (Dr.) S. N. JOARDAR, M.V.Sc., Ph.D., FSAB, MNAVS
Professor, WBUAFS & Secretary, PASE
joardar69@gmail.com

Dr. Siddhartha Narayan Joardar completed his Bachelor's Degree in Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry (B.V.Sc. & A.H.) from Bidhan Chandra Krishiviswavidyalaya (BCKV) in the year 1993. After securing 1st position in National Level Entrance Test meant for post Graduate Degree in Veterinary Science, he subsequently moved to the Prestigious Institution-Indian Veterinary Research Institute (at Bareilly, U.P.), the so called "Mecca of Veterinary Science" for pursuing P.G. (M.V.Sc.) and Ph.D. programmes. He joined West Bengal University of Animal and Fishery Sciences (WBUAFS) as Lecturer in the year 2000. Presently, he is working as Professor in the Department of Veterinary Microbiology. He acted as Head of the Department (HOD) for three terms. Dr. Joardar handled 13 research projects, funded by DST, DBT and ICAR. He Supervised 5 Ph.D., 13 M.V.Sc. and 8 M.F.Sc. students for their theses work. He worked as Honorary Member in the Advisory Committee meant for Animal and Fishery Sciences of West Bengal State Council of Science and Technology, Govt. of W.B. during 2008-11. He is a Fellow of 'Society for Applied Biotechnology', Member of 'National Academy of Veterinary Science (India)' and Life Member of 6 professional societies. He has got 2 patents (applied) and wrote 3 books. Dr. Joardar published 149 research papers in various International and National journals of repute. He is a recipient of 'Rashtriya Gaurav Award', 'Best Teacher Award' of the University, 'IAAVR Merit Award', 'Personality of the Year (2018) Award', 'Dr. CM Singh Award for Best Research Paper', 'Best Demonstrator Award' and 'Best Research Paper Awards' in 9 occasions in different scientific symposia. Dr. Joardar is a 'Popular Science Activist' by passion and associated with several scientific organizations and NGOs. He has delivered more than 60 popular lectures in schools, colleges, universities and different electronic media. He is a popular science writer and columnist of different magazines and daily newspapers.

Point-wise proposals:

- The stakeholders (or the target group) for the benefit of science popularization in Bengali should be determined
- Different tools of communication (print, digital, electronic, *jhata* etc.) are to be used as and when required
- One of the **objectives** of VigyanPrasar (VP) should be - to coordinate the already existing scientific Institutes and organizations (science clubs etc.) in Bengal with the aim of developing a **network of science communicators** in the state to support and patronage. Science writers of little magazines and books (in Bengali) should make a part of this initiative
- VP may act as linking force (agent) between the Research Institute(s)/Universities and local science clubs (organizations) while executing Institutional outreach programme (science popularization) in certain villages
- VP may act as linking agent between outreach programme of museums (under NCSM) and local science clubs (organizations) during any exhibition at school level

- VP should prepare and maintain a database of all the scientific institutions and organizations (including science clubs) in West Bengal those are engaged in science popularization. This database should be available for all the stakeholders
- To encourage hard working science worker/organization/writer actively engaged in science popularization (in Bengali),VP may take initiative to recognize them in form of Awards
- VP may take initiative for launching 'DD Bigyan' in Bengali (initially 1 hr and for more hr later) and entrust the responsibility of making the contents of the programmes to local scientific organizations
- Since for science communicators and teachers, scientific temperament is must, VP should take initiative for organizing workshops in schools, colleges, universities, research institutions and organizations to develop and nurture **scientific temper, humanism, the spirit of inquiry & reform** among the students, teachers, professors, scientists and scientific workers at their personal and professional life as a part of their constitutional fundamental duty [as per Article 51A (h)]
- 'Adda's may be organized regularly by VP in Kolkata to nurture and uphold scientific temperament among common people of science and non-science background (humanities, arts & culture, sports, music & cinema etc.)
- VP may adopt the slogan-Think Scientifically, Act Scientifically to uphold Scientific Humanism