

# Report of the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Sessions & 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations

The Thirty Fifth Annual Sessions of the Institute of Chemistry, Ceylon were held at Trans Asia Hotel from Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2006 on the focal theme 'Research in Chemical Sciences: Outlook and Prospects for the Future'.

## 1. Inauguration

The inauguration was held at King's Court of Trans Asia Hotel on the 28<sup>th</sup> morning. The Chief Guest, Professor A P de Silva, Professor of Chemistry, Queen's University of Belfast, Northern Ireland and the Guest of Honour Professor B J Clark, Professor of Pharmaceutical & Biomedical Analysis, University of Bradford, United Kingdom were conducted to the Kings Court in a ceremonial procession by Council Members & Past Presidents. The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Sessions were inaugurated by lighting of the oil lamp by the President, Chief Guest, Guest of Honour, Acting Dean of the College of Chemical Sciences, Registrar of the College of Chemical Sciences, office bearers of the Council, winner of the Shireen Jayasuriya Gold Medal and the captain of the winning team of the All Island Chemistry Quiz.

Dr. (Mrs.) S Hewage, President of the Institute of Chemistry delivered the welcome address. The Presidential Address on 'Research in Chemical Sciences – the Sri Lankan Scenario' was delivered by Dr. (Mrs.) S. Hewage. This was followed by the addresses by the Chief Guest, Professor A P de Silva and Guest of Honour Professor B J Clark on 'Messages from Molecules: Sensing & Computing' and 'The Continued Development of Analytical Science in support of Industrial & Regulatory Requirements' respectively. The Guest of Honour distributed the following awards, certificates and prizes.

- All Island Interschool Chemistry Quiz
- Graduateship Examination in Chemistry, 2005
- Admission to Member Categories

The Chief Guest distributed the following awards,

- Kandiah Memorial Graduateship Award 2006
- Kandiah Memorial Award I 2006
- Kandiah Memorial Award II 2006
- Chandrasena Memorial Award 2006

The President distributed the Honorary Fellowships 2006 and Distinguished Service Awards 2006.

The Chandrasena Memorial Award 2006 was presented by Dr. G S Premakumara, of the Industrial Technology Institute for his outstanding contribution in the field of Organic Chemistry. Dr. (Mrs.) D I Uluwaduge of the University of Kelaniya and Dr. (Miss) S Kathirgamanathar of the Industrial Technology Institute won the Kandiah Memorial Award I while Mr. P A N Punyasiri of the Tea Research Institute won the Kandiah Memorial Award II. Mr. A P Keerthi of University of Sri Jayawardenepura and Miss M T Napagoda of the Institute of Fundamental Studies, Kandy were the recipients of the Kandiah Memorial Graduateship Award 2006.

The Honorary Fellowship 2006 were presented to

Prof. A P de Silva and Dr. R O B Wijesekera. Prof. (Mrs.) S Wimalasena of the University of Kelaniya and Mrs. Y Mahesan who was the former Government Analyst were presented with Distinguished Service Awards 2006.

Mr. H S M Pieris, President-elect delivered the Vote of thanks.

## 2. Annual General Meeting

The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Institute of Chemistry was held at 12.30 p.m. on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at Hotel Trans Asia. The President, Dr. (Mrs.) S Hewage was in the Chair. Thirty seven Corporate Members were present. Amendments to bye-law to elect 10 members to the Council was passed. The meeting ended after the election of the office bearers to the Council (2006/2007) of the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon.

## 3. Award Lectures

### 3.1 Chandrasena Memorial Award Lecture

Dr. G S Premakumara delivered the above lecture on the 'Discovery of bio-active natural products with special reference to fertility regulating compounds from marine sources' at 11.45 a.m. on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at Kings Court of Hotel Trans Asia.

### 3.2 Kandiah Memorial Award I 2006

Dr. (Mrs.) D I Uluwaduge delivered her presentation at 9.45 a.m. on 'An investigation of Palmyrah fruit pulp mediated inhibition of intestinal glucose uptake and its toxicity' while Dr. (Miss) S Kathirgamanathar made her presentation at 10.45 a.m. on 'Chemistry of five lichens of Sri Lanka and sequestration of lichen compounds by a Alycaenid butterfly *Taicada myseus*'. Both presentations were made on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at Hotel Trans Asia.

### 3.3 Kandiah Memorial Award II 2006

Mr. P A N Punyasiri delivered the above lecture on the 'Performed and induced chemical resistance of tea leaf against *Exobasidium vexans* infection' at 11.45 a.m. on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at Hotel Trans Asia.

### 3.4 Kandiah Memorial Graduateship Award 2006

Mr. A P Keerthi delivered his presentation at 1.00 p.m. on 'Local antibiotic and potential toxic principles of *Borassus flabellifer* L.' while Ms. M T Napagoda made her presentation at 2.00 p.m. on 'Chemistry and bioactive studies of some Sri Lankan flora'. Both presentations were made on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at Hotel Trans Asia..

## 4. Theme Seminar

The Theme Seminar on 'Research in Chemical Sciences: Outlook and Prospects for the Future' was held on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2006 between 9.00 a.m to 5.00 p.m. at Hotel Trans Asia.

The welcome address was delivered by Prof. (Mrs.) S Hewage, President of the Institute of Chemistry. The Guest

lectures at the Theme Seminar were:

- 'ISO 22000, its Importance for Chemicals in Food' by Professor Michel van Schothorst, University of Wageningen, the Netherlands.
- 'Selection of a New Artemisinin Antimalaria: Efficacy is not the Most Important Factor' by Professor R K Haynes, Professor of Chemistry, Hong Kong, University of Science & Technology.
- 'Developments in Pharmaceutical Analysis in Production of Quality Medicines' by Professor B J Clark, Professor of Analytical Chemistry, School of Pharmacy, University of Bradford.
- 'The Control of Lability in Transition Metal Complexes: Does Kinetically Robust Mean Catalytically Inactive' by Professor P G Edwards, Professor of Chemistry, School of Chemistry, Cardiff University.
- Solvothermal Crystallization: Application from new Materials to Anti-Malarials' by Professor I D Williams, Department of Chemistry, Hong Kong University of Science & Technology.
- 'Luminescent Sensor and Switches as Problem Solvers: The Road to Molecular computer Identification (MCID) by Professor A P de Silva, Professor of Chemistry, Queen's University, Belfast.

The Theme Seminar was chaired by Professors A P de Silva and B J Clark. 102 participants attended the seminar.

#### 5. Seminar on Managing the Safety of Foods and Beverages in International Trade'

A seminar on 'Managing the Safety of Foods and Beverages in International Trade' was held from 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at Hotel Trans Asia. The welcome address was made by Dr. (Mrs.) Y Sultanbawa of the Industrial Technology Institute who coordinated the seminar. The seminar was organized by EU jointly with the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon. The Guest Speaker at the seminar was Professor Michael van Schothorst of the University of Wageningen, the Netherlands. Presentations were made on 'Risk Analysis in Public Health and International Trade in Food', 'Microbiological Criteria in Food Safety Management', 'Good Hygenic Practices' and 'Microbiological Practices'. The seminar was attended by 106 participants.

#### 6. Technical Sessions

The Technical Sessions were held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2006 from 2.30 – 5.15 p.m. and on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2006 from 9.00 a.m. – 3.30 p.m. at Hotel Trans Asia. The technical sessions were presided by Prof. (Mrs.) S I

Samarasinghe, Dr. (Mrs.) L S R Arambawela and Dr. A M Mubarak. 15 presentations were delivered at the technical sessions in addition to 5 award winning lecturers namely 2 Kandiah Memorial Award I lectures (3.2), the Kandiah Memorial Award II lecture (3.3) and 2 Kandiah Memorial Graduate Award lectures (3.4).

The papers on 'Electrostatic Interaction and Formation of Ionic Associated complexes Between 2-(*p*-sulphophenylazo)-1,8-dihydroxynaphthalene-3,6-disulfonic trisodium salt (SNS) and Rhodamine B (RhB) presented by P M Jayaweera, T Sanjeewa and T A U Jayarathne of the Department of Chemistry, University of Sri Jayewardenepura was considered for the Prof. M U S Sultanbawa Award 2006.

#### 7. Conclusion of Sessions

The Annual Dinner was held on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at the SLAAS auditorium.. The induction ceremony of the new President of the Institute of Chemistry Ceylon was held before the annual dinner. The Chief guest at the dinner was Prof. Tuley de Silva.

#### 8. Media Coverage

A full page supplement was published in the Ceylon Daily News of 28<sup>th</sup> June 2006. Newspaper Supplement was sponsored by Associated Motorway Cey. Ltd., Mansel Ceylon Ltd., Ceylon Insurance Co. Ltd., Harrison Chemicals (Pvt) Ltd., Paints and General Co. Ltd., Link Natural Products, LionChem (Pvt) Ltd., Super Com Computer Systems, Qualitron (Pvt) Ltd., Supreme Chemical Industries and Astron Limited. The highlights of the 35<sup>th</sup> Sessions were published in the the Ceylon Daily News, the Island, the Daily Mirror, the Sunday Observer etc. on several days in the week that proceeded the sessions. ITN and other Media personnel covered the proceedings of the Annual Sessions.

#### 9. Gifts and Donations

The following organizations contributed by way of sponsorships to the expenses of the Annual Sessions. Presidents Fund, Ministry of Science & Technology, European Union, Dr. S Jayawardena (well wisher), Royal Society of Chemistry - SL Section, Hayleys Group, Darley Bartler & Co., A Baur & Company, ACE Chemicals, MSJ Industries, Chemanex Ltd., Lankem Ceylon Ltd and some Special Degree Graduates from the Department of Chemistry, University of Colombo.

Mr. NMS Hettigedera

Hony. Joint Secretary 2005/2006

### Membership News

The following persons have been either transferred or admitted to the categories of membership between May 2006 and September 2006.

Transfer to Fellow	Admission to Member	Admission to Associate	Admission to Licentiate
Ms. M D Seneviratne	Mr. S H S Mahagama	Ms. Y T N de Silva	Mr. A M M V Abeykone
Dr. S P Amarakoon	Dr. U S K Welwegamage	Ms. P N J Fernando	
Prof. Anuara Wickramasinghe	Mr. K K G M P B Herath	Ms. J M D Abesinghe	