

Message from the Chairman of the National Science Foundation



I am pleased to send this message on the occasion of the National Science and Technology Award Ceremony 2014. Science & Technology plays an essential role not only in economic development but in addressing all three dimensions of sustainable development which includes environmental, economic and social development. Assistive technology, accessible information, communications technology and technological adaptation measures make significant contributions to enhance the quality of human life.

Science, technology and innovation has vital impact on driving the economy of the country. National Science and Technology Awards Scheme recognizes commendable contribution made by scientists and technologists towards socioeconomic development. Enhancing numerous avenues for research activities through various schemes would enable the scientific community to engage and present their ideas and produce innovation through research. This is also an opportunity to emphasize the importance of creating an avenue and a path for accessible technology for all through Research & Development.

Exploration of new market opportunities through advancement in innovation, research and development sustains a knowledge based economy for the country. Research and technological innovation focusing on national priorities supports national development through impact on local industries. Therefore local scientists and technologists should be encouraged towards research, development and innovation that would ensure industry competitiveness, entrepreneurial development and ultimately contribute to the national economy.

I am hopeful that the National Science and Technology Award Scheme will greatly contribute towards recognizing work done by scientists and give much needed visibility and thereby encourage others especially youngsters to take up science and technology as their future careers. This is a remarkable opportunity to recognize outstanding scientists of the country who have shown excellent performance through their tremendous contribution to research and development.

Prof. W.L. Sumathipala

February 20th, 2015

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Planning and organizing for presentation of national awards is indeed a painstaking task that the National Science foundation (NSF) has taken up and has been responsible for many years by now.

It is indeed a great privilege Your Excellency has given the NSF this opportunity to present the NASTA Awards 2014 at the Presidential Secretariat. The Board of Management of the NSF is deeply grateful for this honour. The Board is also duly honoured by Your Excellency's gracious acceptance to be present at this occasion to address the gathering and confer the awards.

The Board of Management is also pleased with the message given by the Hon. Prime Minister and his presence at this awards ceremony.

It is indeed a great pleasure to have the Hon. Minister of Highways, Higher Education and Investment Promotion, at this occasion to address the distinguished gathering.

Presentation of National Awards for Science & Technology Achievements is a prestigious ceremony and the NSF is highly rewarded by the presence of this distinguished invitees at this occasion to witness and honour the bestowed recipients of National Awards and Certificates of Merit.

Sri Lankan R & D and Innovation has intrinsic merit. The applications are accepted only from the citizens of Sri Lanka with the work which has contributed to the Sri Lankan socio-economic development. The NSF is thankful to all the applicants who had shown interest in applying for 2014 NASTA Awards presenting their work.

The process of evaluation has taken considerable time and commitment of a distinguished Panel of Judges representing different fields, appointed by the Board of Management of the NSF. The Board of Management of the NSF is deeply impressed by the evaluation method adopted by the Panel of Judges and implementing same towards impartial and fair assessment which concluded with the selected Awards and Certificates of Merit presented in this booklet. The Board of Management gratefully acknowledges the efforts of Panel of Judges for completing this difficult task.

The NSF duly acknowledges the directions given by the Board of Management for fulfilling this tedious task.

The Board of Management also acknowledges the untiring efforts of the staff of the Technology Division for planning and implementing the awards scheme successfully in this year which concluded with five National Awards and five Certificates of Merit. The Board of Management further wishes to acknowledge the encouragement and support given by all who's names are not mentioned here to make this ceremony successful.