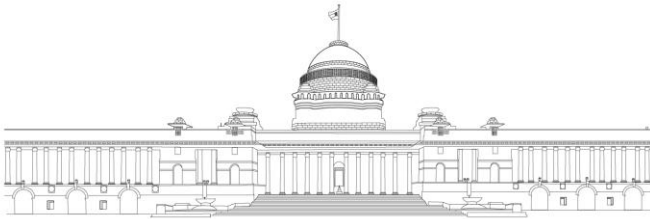




**6TH VISITOR'S AWARDS,
7th June, 2023**



PRESENTATION CEREMONY

RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN
NEW DELHI

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Fore-Court

The main gates of Rashtrapati Bhavan open to a stately path, called the Forecourt that leads to the main building. The drive up to the T shaped Forecourt, is lined with trees and water channels making it a beautiful sight. The horizontal spread of the Rashtrapati Bhavan, which is almost 640 feet wide, gives it a more majestic feel than its height. One can see the Indian flag fluttering atop the Central Dome of the building signifying that the President is in residence. The Forecourt is used for ceremonial reception of visiting Heads of State & Heads of Government as also for the Change of Guard ceremony. It was also used in May 2014 and 2019 to host the swearing in ceremony of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Council of Ministers.

BRIEF BACKGROUND

The President of India, in his capacity as Visitor of the Central Universities, annually confers Visitor's Awards in the following categories to promote healthy competition amongst Central Universities and motivate them to adopt best practices from around the world in pursuit of excellence:

- A. Visitor's Award for Innovation
- B. Visitor's Award for Research
 - (i) Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences
 - (ii) Physical Sciences
 - (iii) Biological Sciences
- C. Visitor's Award for Technology Development.

2. A Selection Committee headed by the Secretary to the President, Shri K.D. Tripathi and comprising eminent persons and academicians, was constituted for selecting the awardees for 6th Visitor's Awards, 2020.

3. The entry process was online and no paper work was involved at any stage.



Ashok Hall

Ashok Hall is one of the most fascinating and ornately decorated rooms of Rashtrapati Bhavan. It is now used for important ceremonial functions, was erstwhile used as the State Ballroom. The Ashok Hall is used for presentation of credentials by Heads of Missions of foreign countries and as a formal place of introductions for the visiting and Indian delegations prior to the commencement of the State Banquets hosted by the President.

The floor of the hall is totally wooden and has springs beneath its surface while the ceilings of Ashok Hall are decorated with oil paintings. The centre of the ceiling has a leather painting showing an equestrian portrait of Fateh Ali Shah, the second of seven Qajar rulers of Persia, hunting a tiger in the presence of his twenty two sons. A loft in the State Ballroom was used as a space for the orchestra, however, it is now used for playing the National Anthem during important functions.

Members of Selection Committee for the 6th Visitors Awards

1. Shri K.D. Tripathi, Secretary to the President
2. Shri Amit Khare, Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education (MoE) - Member
3. Prof. Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, Department of Science & Technology - Member
4. Dr. Renu Swarup, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology - Member
5. Dr. P.S. Goel, Chairman, Executive National Innovation Foundation - Member
6. Prof. Dharendra Pal Singh, Chairman, University Grants Commission
7. Prof. Anil D. Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, All India Council for Technical Education
8. Shri Ajay Bhadoo, Joint Secretary to the President
9. Shri P. Praveen Siddharth, Private Secretary to the President
10. Shri Jagannath Srinivasan, Officer on Special Duty
11. Prof. Govindan Rangarajan, Director, IISc-Bangalore
12. Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao, Director, IIT Delhi - Member
13. Shri Virander S. Chauhan, Former Director, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, New Delhi
14. Dr. Kiran Kalia, Former Director, NIPER Ahmedabad
15. Dr. Vineet Joshi, Additional Secretary, Department of Higher Education, MoE
16. Prof. Virendra Kumar Malhotra, Member Secretary, Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi

Awardees

1. Prof. Pritam Deb, Tezpur University
2. Professor Mohammad Zahid Ashraf



Tungabhadra (Long Drawing Room)

Long Drawing Room (LDR), as the name suggests, is a long conference room of the Rashtrapati Bhavan where the President used to host the annual conferences of Governors/Lieutenant-Governors. This room is also used by the Hon'ble President to attend meetings with select groups and organizations. Situated near the Durbar Hall, the Tungabhadra has two doors that open to the corridors of Saryu(North Drawing Room) and the Sotlej(South Drawing Room) on either end.

Decorated in hues of turquoise green, the Tungabhadra is adorned with four huge mirrors that are hung on the sides of the two doors. Equipped with modern furnishings for the conferences and meetings, four LED Screens are also installed in this room. Paintings are an integral part of the decorations of Rashtrapati Bhavan. Four paintings were specially commissioned for Rashtrapati Bhavan during the time of its building. Out of these two are displayed in Tungabhadra they are: *Fort St. George and the Madras Road, Fort William in Bengal*, both by *Oliver Hall*.

PROGRAMME

Assembly and Group Photograph

Date : 7th June, 2022
Venue : Tungabhadra (Long Drawing Room),
Rashtrapati Bhavan

1545 hrs - **THE PRESIDENT** arrives in Ashok Hall

1546 hrs - GROUP PHOTOGRAPH

Visitor's Award Presentation

Date : 7th June, 2022
Venue : Tungabhadra (Long Drawing Room),
Rashtrapati Bhavan

1600 hrs - **THE PRESIDENT** arrives

1601 hrs - NATIONAL ANTHEM

1602 – - Welcome Address by Secretary to the
1605 hrs President and introduction to 6th Visitor's
Awards 2020

1605 – - **Presentation of 6th Visitor's Awards
2020**

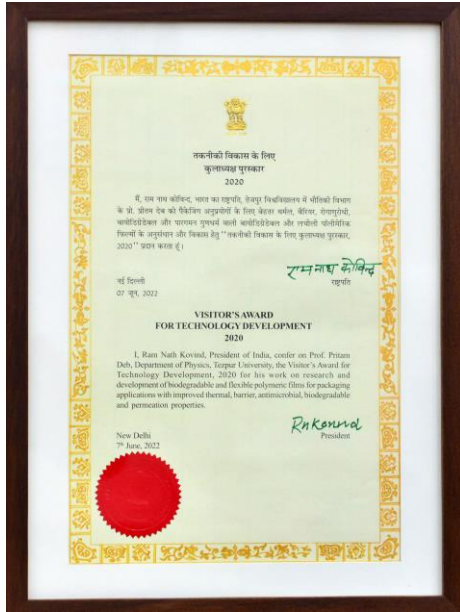
1620 hrs 1605 h The Secretary to the
Presidents announces the
names of the Award Winners
of 6th Visitor's Awards

1608h – Introduction about the winning
1614 h entry on Technology
Development followed by
Video & presentation of
Citation & Cheque by **THE
PRESIDENT**

1614h – Introduction about the winning
1620 h entry on Research in the field
of Biological Sciences 2020
followed by Video &
presentation of Citation &
Cheque by **THE PRESIDENT**

1620 – - BREAK (**THE PRESIDENT** meets the
1635 hrs Awardees)

**VISITOR'S AWARD
FOR
TECHNOLOGY
DEVELOPMENT, 2020**



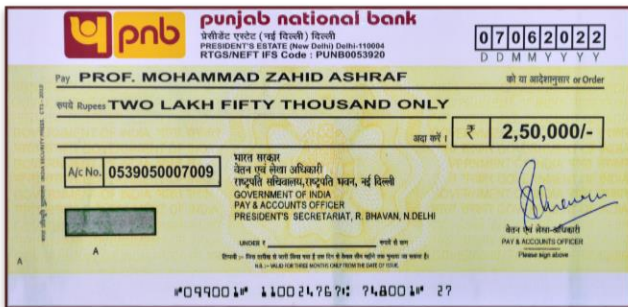


Prof. Pritam Deb
Department of Physics
Tezpur University

The Visitor's Award for Technology Development for the year 2020 is being awarded to Prof. Pritam Deb from the Department of Physics, Tezpur University. He has developed 2D CuSe/g-C₃N₄ heterostructure based biodegradable films as packaging materials for food preservation. The patented films show improved thermal, barrier, antimicrobial, biodegradable, and permeation properties that hold high potential for environmentally friendly packaging.

The technology details an innovative packaging film developed for the replacement of plastic in food packaging industries which is the need of the hour. The developed composite films, which are field tested, show positive aspects of better food preservation owing to its antimicrobial properties, tensile strength, transparency, easy biodegradability and absence of odor. Thus the composite film offers an economically viable alternative to the non-biodegradable packaging materials for food preservation applications.

**VISITOR'S AWARD
FOR
RESEARCH
(BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES), 2020**





Professor Mohammad Zahid Ashraf
Department of Biotechnology
Jamia Millia Islamia

The Visitor's Award for Research in the field of Biological Sciences for the year 2020 is being awarded to Prof. Mohammad Zahid Ashraf of Jamia Millia Islamia for conducting seminal research on resolving the mystery of blood clotting on exposure to hypoxia, condition of limited oxygen bioavailability. His research revealed the cause for blood clot formation at altitudes and proposed 'Calpain' as a novel biomarker. He has divulged the role of NLRP3 inflammasome linked through Hypoxia-Inducible-Factors-1 α in potentiating thrombosis under hypoxia. This research found special mention in current pandemic; the COVID-19-virus triggers hypoxia induced inflammatory response that activates blood clotting, the very mechanism was proposed by them. His laboratory has also developed a specific microRNAs-145 based therapy against thrombosis.

His research collaborations with Indian Army have contributed to the people staying at high altitude regions. He is fellows of National Academy of Sciences and Indian Academy of Sciences. He received DBT's National Biosciences and ICMR's Basanti Devi Amir Chand awards.

Venues in Rashtrapati Bhavan

7th June, 2022

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Assembly of Participants | Brahmaputra
(Banquet Hall) | 1515 hrs |
| 2. Group Photograph | Ashok Hall | 1545 hrs |
| 3. Presentation of
Visitor's Awards | Tungabhadra
(LDR) | 1605-
1620 hrs |
| 4. High - Tea | Brahmaputra
(Banquet Hall) | 1805 hrs
onwards |

