



**INSA-AASSA Symposium**  
on  
**'Science Policy Futures for Asia'**  
**Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi**  
**September 1-3, 2024**

**DELIVERABLE 2**

The INSA-AASSA Symposium, set to take place from September 1-3, 2024 in New Delhi, is poised to shape a visionary roadmap for science policy in Asia, with a central focus on sustainable development, innovation, and societal well-being. The symposium will serve as a distinctive platform for member academies of the Association of Academies and Societies of Sciences in Asia (AASSA) to convene, engage in meaningful deliberations, and devise strategies to tackle regional challenges. By leveraging technological advancements, the symposium aims to foster innovations that contribute to the overall well-being of science societies across Asia.

In preparation for the symposium, invitations were sent to all AASSA member academies (total number...) on June 10, 2024, requesting nomination of 1-2 of their representatives. A reminder was subsequently issued on June 25, 2024. Special invitations were also extended to key figures, including the Presidents of the Inter-Academy Partnership (IAP), the President of AASSA, the Chairman of the International Science Council (ISC), and to some guest academies such as the Royal Society of the UK, and the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) of the USA and so on. We are pleased to mention that distinguished experts from approximately 10 AASSA member academies have confirmed their participation, ensuring a robust and diverse exchange of ideas on the theme 'Science Policy Futures for Asia.'

To emphasize the inclusion of young scientists in shaping the future of science policy, we have invited representatives from the Global Young Academy (GYA) and the Indian National Young Academy of Sciences (IN-YAS). IN-YAS, as the young scientists' academy of India, plays a pivotal role in fostering the exchange of ideas, initiating discussions on scientific topics, and promoting collaborations among the new generation of scientists. IN-YAS also amplifies the voice of young researchers, ensuring that their perspectives are taken note of by senior academicians and policymakers.

We are happy to state that Prof. Chandrashekhar Sharma, a former INYAS Chair and currently serving as GYA Co-Chair, will represent GYA at the symposium, while Dr. Nishant Chakravorty, the current Chair of INYAS and a member of the IAP Young Physician Leaders' cohort of 2021, will also participate in the discussion.

The program of the symposium has been designed to include not only the more senior experienced academicians, policy makers and science administrators, but also the young and mid-career scientists. Session 6 has been devoted exclusively to discuss youth driven science and policy innovations for a sustainable future. Similarly, a separate session has been devoted to discuss the future health science technologies and innovations. The idea is to initiate discussion on integrating genomic innovations and public health strategies for disease elimination.

We have made a special effort to invite experienced policy makers who could provide greater insight into the subject and to have in-person discussion with the participants on their perspective of the science policy futures, with particular challenges for Asia.

## **Partners & collaborators:**

**The following academies and other science organizations have confirmed their participation:**

1. AASSA Member Academies:
  - Australian Academy of Science
  - Bangladesh Academy of Sciences
  - Indonesian Academy of Sciences
  - National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Kazakhstan
  - Academy of Sciences Malaysia
  - Nepal Academy of Science and Technology
  - National Academy of Sciences of Sri Lanka
  - Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA)
2. National Academy of Medical Sciences (NAMS), New Delhi, India
3. International Science Council (ISC)
4. The Royal Society, UK-As a Guest Academy
5. Global Young Academy (GYA), Halle, Germany
6. IAP Young Physician Leader (YPL)
7. Indian National Young Academy of Sciences-(INYAS), New Delhi
8. ISC Regional Focal Point (RFP) for Asia and the Pacific.

## Speakers:

In addition to the representatives from the participating AASSA member academies, we have invited a multitude of distinguished Indian experts, including Secretaries and Chairpersons of key Government Science Ministries and Departments of India. This strategic inclusion is aimed at ensuring a deeper and more comprehensive discussion during the symposium, bringing in a wealth of expertise from those who play pivotal roles in shaping and implementing science and technology policies at the highest echelons of the Indian government. The inclusion of these experts is intended to deepen the symposium's exploration of critical issues, particularly in the context of Asia's unique challenges and opportunities.

These distinguished Indian experts will bring to the table their extensive experience in managing and directing science and technology initiatives across various sectors, including energy, health, environment, education, and industrial development. Their participation will enable the symposium to address key questions such as how scientific advancements can be more effectively integrated into national policy frameworks, how to bridge the gap between research and its application in society, and how to foster innovation that aligns with the broader goals of sustainable development and societal well-being.

## International Experts/ Participants

Sl No	Academy	Name	Designation
1	Australian Academy of Science (AAS)	Prof. Chennupati Jagadish AC	President Australian Academy of Sciences (AAS) & Co-Chair Advisory Council, ISC Regional Focal Point for Asia and the Pacific. He will represent AAS, RFP and deliver address on behalf of the ISC President.
2	Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS)	Dr. Zeba Islam Seraj	Fellow, BAS and Former Professor, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
3	Indonesian Academy of Sciences (AIPI)	Dr. Chairil Abdini Said	Secretary General of AIPI
4	Indonesian Academy of Sciences (AIPI)	Dr. Finarya Legoh	Head of AIPI International Relation & Funding Bureau
5	National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Kazakhstan	Dr Lyazzat Yeraliyeva	Vice President, National Academy of Sciences, Republic of Kazakhstan
6	National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Kazakhstan	Mrs. Anar Mukhtarova	Head of the Center for Scientific and Technical Cooperation

7	Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM)	Prof. Mahendhiran Sanggaran Nair	ASM Fellow
8	Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST)	Prof. Dr. Dilip Subba	Vice Chancellor of NAST
9	Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST)	Dr. Rabindra Prasad Dhakal	Secretary of NAST
10	National Academy of Sciences of Sri Lanka (NASSL)	Dr Ranjith Mahindapala	NASSL fellow
11	National Academy of Sciences of Sri Lanka (NASSL)	Prof. Sagarika Ekanayake	Senior Professor NASSL
12	Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA)	Prof. Muzaffer Şeker	President of TÜBA
13	Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA)	Prof. Mehmet Akif Kireççi	President of ECO Educational Institute and Member of TÜBA International Relations Working Grp
14	InterAcademy Partnership	Dr Masresha Fetene	Co-President, IAP
15	The Royal Society, UK	Dr Rupert Lewis	Chief Science Policy Officer
16	The Royal Society, UK	Ms Laura Penelope Jennifer Wilton	Head of International Affairs - Europe and Asia

### **Indian Experts/Speakers/ Chairs/ Dignitaries**

#### **INSA Executive Council**

##### **Professor Ashutosh Sharma**

President, INSA  
Institute Chair Professor

##### **Professor Madhu Dikshit**

INSA Vice-President  
(Fellowship Affairs)

##### **Professor Indranil Manna**

INSA Vice-President  
(Science and Society)

##### **Professor Narinder Kumar Mehra**

INSA Vice-President  
(International Affairs)

**Professor Sanjay Puri**

Vice-President  
(Resource Generation and Management)

**Dr Virendra Mani Tiwari**

INSA Vice-President  
(Publications / Informatics)

**Professor Spenta Rustom Wadia**

Vice-President  
(Science Promotion)

**Distinguished Speakers from India**

Sl No	Name	Designation & Address	Contact Details
1	Dr Rajesh S. Gokhale	Secretary, Department of Biotechnology	<a href="mailto:secy@dbt.nic.in">secy@dbt.nic.in</a>
2	Dr Vinod K Paul	Hon'ble Member, NITI Aayog	<a href="mailto:vinodk.paul@gov.in">vinodk.paul@gov.in</a>
3	Mr SP Somanath	Chairman Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Department of Space (DoS) Bengaluru	<a href="mailto:somanath@isro.gov.in">somanath@isro.gov.in</a> , <a href="mailto:chairman@isro.gov.in">chairman@isro.gov.in</a>
4	Dr. N. Kalaiselvi	Director General, CSIR & Secretary DSIR Address Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, New Delhi	<a href="mailto:dgcsir@csir.res.in">dgcsir@csir.res.in</a> , <a href="mailto:secy-dsir@nic.in">secy-dsir@nic.in</a>
5	Prof. Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar	Chairman, University Grant Commission (UGC), New Delhi	<a href="mailto:cm.ugc@nic.in">cm.ugc@nic.in</a> , <a href="mailto:mamidala@ee.iitd.ac.in">mamidala@ee.iitd.ac.in</a>
6	Dr Krishna M Ella	Co-Founder and Executive Chairman Bharat Biotech International Limited, Hyderabad-500078	<a href="mailto:krishna.ella@bharatbiotech.Com">krishna.ella@bharatbiotech.Com</a>
7	Prof. K VijayRaghavan	Emeritus Professor & Former Director, National Centre for Biological Sciences Bengaluru	<a href="mailto:vijay@ncbs.res.in">vijay@ncbs.res.in</a>
8	Prof. Ambuj Sagar	Founding Head, School of Public Policy; Vipula and	<a href="mailto:ambuj.sagar@gmail.com">ambuj.sagar@gmail.com</a>

		Mahesh Chaturvedi Professor of Policy Studies, IIT Delhi	
9	Dr. Himanshu Pathak	Secretary (DARE) & Director General (ICAR) Assistant Director General (International Relations) Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Department of Agricultural Research and Education New Delhi	<a href="mailto:dg.icar@nic.in">dg.icar@nic.in</a> , <a href="mailto:hpathak.iari@gmail.com">hpathak.iari@gmail.com</a>
10	Prof. Soumya Swaminathan	Principle Advisor, Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare for the National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme	<a href="mailto:doctorsoumya@mssrf.res.in">doctorsoumya@mssrf.res.in</a> , <a href="mailto:doctorsoumya@yahoo.com">doctorsoumya@yahoo.com</a>
11	Prof Shiv Sarin	Director, ILBS and President, National Academy of Medical Sciences (NAMS)	<a href="mailto:Shivsarin@gmail.com">Shivsarin@gmail.com</a>
12	Prof. T G. Sitharam	Chairman, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), New Delhi	<a href="mailto:chairman@aicte-india.org">chairman@aicte-india.org</a> , <a href="mailto:cmoffice@aicte-india.org">cmoffice@aicte-india.org</a>
13	Prof. L. S Shashidhara	Director National Centre for Biological Sciences (TIFR-NCBS), Bengaluru	<a href="mailto:lsshashidhara@ncbs.res.in">lsshashidhara@ncbs.res.in</a>
14	Prof. Ganesan Karthikeyan	Executive Director, Translational Health Science and Technology Institute	<a href="mailto:gkarthikeyan@thsti.res.in">gkarthikeyan@thsti.res.in</a>
15	Dr Praveen Somasundaram	Head, International Cooperation Division Department of Science and Technology New Delhi	<a href="mailto:praveen@nic.in">praveen@nic.in</a>
16	Dr Chandrashekhar Sharma	Professor (Dean R&D) Department of Chemical Engineering Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad INYAS/GYA Member	<a href="mailto:cssharma@che.iith.ac.in">cssharma@che.iith.ac.in</a>
17	Dr Nishant Chakravorty	School of Medical Science and Technology, IIT Kharagpur &	<a href="mailto:nishichakra@gmail.com">nishichakra@gmail.com</a>

		Chairman INYAS, IAP Young Physician Leader	
18	Dr Anindita Das	Assistant Professor, School of Applied and Interdisciplinary Sciences, Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science (IACS), Kolkata & INSA Associate Fellows (IAF)	psuad2@iacs.res.in
19	Dr Mahak Sharma	Associate Professor & Wellcome Trust-India Alliance Senior Fellow, Department of Biological Sciences, IISER Mohali, & INSA Associate Fellows (IAF)	<a href="mailto:msharma@iisermohali.ac.in">msharma@iisermohali.ac.in</a>

### Program Agenda:

The Symposium will commence on the evening of September 1, 2024, with an Inaugural Session focused on the theme "Finding an Asian Perspective to Modern Science and Policy: Where Do the Intersections of the Past and Future Exist?" This session will explore how traditional Asian knowledge systems and philosophies can contribute to modern science and policy, highlighting the intersections between historical practices and contemporary innovations.

The main symposium spans two days, featuring six sessions that cover a range of critical topics:

#### 1. Session 1: Innovating Governance: Bridging Policy, Research, and Industry for a Resilient World

- This session will delve into how innovative governance models can enhance collaboration between government agencies, research institutions, and industry leaders.

#### 2. Session 2: Navigating the Future of Health Science: Integrating Genomic Innovations and Public Health Strategies for Disease Elimination

- Focused on the intersection of genomic research and public health, this session will address strategies for eliminating infectious diseases, with an emphasis on multi-disciplinary collaboration.

#### 3. Session 3: Embedding Science in the Cultural Ethos of Asia: Bridging Traditions with Innovation

- This session will examine how scientific advancements can be harmonized with traditional values and practices across Asia, promoting a science-culture nexus.

#### 4. Session 4: Preserving and Harnessing Megadiverse Ecosystems: Integrating Science, Education, and Policy for Sustainable Development

- The discussion will center on strategies for conserving biodiversity and integrating these efforts into higher education and agricultural research.

**5. Session 5: Navigating the Science-Society Nexus: Bridging Gaps and Shaping Future Frontiers**

- This session will explore how scientific advancements can be more effectively integrated into societal development, focusing on public engagement and policy.

**6. Session 6: Youth-Driven Science and Policy Innovations for a Sustainable Future**

- The final session will highlight the role of young scientists and policymakers in addressing global challenges and shaping the future through innovative approaches.

The symposium will conclude with a closing session and a guided tour of the Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya at Teen Murti Bhavan. The detailed Program is attached for perusal.