

Karnataka Science and Technology Academy (KSTA)

Guidelines for Organizing Eleventh Conference of KSTA

1.0 Background

Science and Technology (S&T) are the bedrock of a successful economy, especially as nations are moving towards knowledge-based economy. They are particularly important to raise living standards, create wealth and to alleviate degradation of natural resources and biodiversity. Besides, S&T hold the key to obtain sustainable solutions to many of the current challenges that people are facing. India, being a developing country with high population, has many challenges such as hunger, poverty, health issues, environmental degradation and so on. Harnessing S&T applications to address these challenges would help to find sustainable and cost-effective solutions to the problems that plague our society and enhance the quality of life.

On the other hand, science and technology continue to advance at an increasingly rapid pace. This has tremendous impact on increased food production, improved health care, low mortality and faster drug development, clean water and sanitation, environmental remediation, data gathering and dissemination at faster rate, etc and thus facilitating societal transformation. In addition to host of current issues, numerous emerging problems need to be addressed in future. In view of this, communication of S&T knowledge plays a pivotal role in shaping the policy on science related issues, popularizing science, improving scientific literacy and would be a driving force for socio-economic development.

Considering this, Karnataka Science and Technology Academy (KSTA) has been organizing an annual state level conference to create awareness on applications of science and technology in different sectors of the societal development. Insightful talks by leading scientists and scholars on various science and technological developments as well as harnessing S&T applications for sustainable development of the state are organized during different sessions of the Conference. The focal theme, sub themes and speakers shall be decided in the KSTA meeting. However, the host institute may provide input for the same.

2.0 Objectives of Conference

KSTA Conference is being organized with the following objectives:

- To bring awareness about contribution of science and technology for human welfare among different cross sections of civil society
- To create interest in scientific and technological developments among officers of line departments, teaching faculty and research scholars
- To foster understanding of scientific developments and advancements in the field of S&T
- To popularize utilization of advanced technological tools in various sectors of the economy for the overall development of the state
- To felicitate eminent scientists for their contribution to S&T developments in the state as well as the country

3.0 Previous Conferences of KSTA

KSTA has been successfully organizing Annual Karnataka Science and Technology Academy Conference in association with various institutions and universities viz., First Conference in Bangalore on 23 August 2007; Second in Gulbarga during 23-24 September 2009 in association with Gulbarga University; Third in Mysore during 15-16 February 2011 in association with Mysore University; Fourth in Mangalore during 28-29 January 2012 in association with Mangalore University; Fifth in Bangalore during 19-20 December 2012 in association with Dayananda Sagar Educational Institution; Sixth in Bangalore in association with Christ University during 20-21 December 2013; Seventh in Bengaluru in association with Oxford Science College, H. S. R. Layout during 5-6 February 2015; Eighth in Bengaluru in association with Bangalore Institute of Technology (BIT) during 5-6 November 2015 and Ninth in association with Christ University during 20-21 December 2016. The tenth KSTA conference was held during 18-19 January 2018 in association with the REVA University, Yelahanka, Bengaluru.

4.0 Lifetime Achievement Award

KSTA has been honoring a senior distinguished scientist who has made significant contribution to the field of science and technology with a Lifetime Achievement Award. Previous recipients of the award include: Prof. C N R Rao, Prof. U R Rao, Prof. Roddam Narasimha, Dr. V Prakash, Prof. R Dwarakinath, Dr. P S Shankar, Prof. H Sharat Chandra Dr. Vasudev K Aatre, Dr. B N Suresh, Shri A S Kiran Kumar and Dr. S K Shiva Kumar. KSTA Committee will select a senior scientist of the state, who has made immense contribution to the field of S&T for the award and the same will be presented in the Eleventh KSTA Conference.

5.0 Eleventh Conference of KSTA

The Conference will be organized as a Signature Event of KSTA in association with an Institute / University in Bengaluru. The Event has to be organized on any two mutually convenient days between November 2018 – January 2019.

6.0 Delegates for the Conference

During the conference, distinguished talks will be organized by inviting renowned scientists and eminent technologists on various topics covering frontiers of science and technology for delegates to broaden the horizon of their knowledge. Conference delegates include teaching faculty, research scholars and Post Graduate students of various Universities, officers of government line departments, scientists from research institutes as well as science writers and a few interested general public. **The host institute should provide accommodation for 300 outstation delegates and make vehicle arrangements to transport delegates from nearby bus stand/railway station.**

7.0 Poster Presentation

The conference will provide a platform for delegates to present their ideas and research outcomes in the form of research poster presentations. The posters could be presented on any aspects related to ***physical & mathematical sciences; chemical sciences; life sciences; interdisciplinary sciences and engineering sciences***

(including all branches) by Scientists/Researchers, Teaching Faculty and Post Graduate/ Research Students of the State. A compendium of selected abstracts with ISBN number will be brought out and circulated to all the delegates during the conference.

To encourage excellence in scientific research, the best posters will be awarded cash prizes in each category such as physical & mathematical sciences; chemical sciences; life sciences; interdisciplinary sciences and engineering sciences as given below:

First prize –Rs. 15,000/-

Second prize – 10,000/-

Consolation Prizes – Rs 5,000 X 2

A panel of experts consisting of KSTA Members and eminent Professors will be constituted to select the best posters. The panel will review the posters based on the originality of research, objectivity, utility to society and presentation.

8.0 Expected Outcome of the Conference

The expected outcomes of the KSTA Conference are as follows:

- Teaching faculty, research scholars, PG science students and interested general public would receive information about new frontiers of science and technology
- Creation of interest among students to pursue advanced research in scientific and technological fields
- Participants could get a glimpse of how science and technology can help in developing modern world
- Awareness about emerging and frontier technologies as well as new trends in research
- Development of scientifically aware and informed public in all strata of the civil society
- Contributes in bringing science literacy and thereby enable to build a knowledge based society

9.0 Budget

KSTA will provide a grant of Rs. 21.15 lakhs to meet the following expenditures in organizing the conference:

Sl. No	Particulars	Amount (in Rs.)
1	Printing - Invitations, Session Schedules, Badges, Banners, Publication of Compendium	1,50,000.00
2	Travel & Accommodation etc. for Resource Experts (9 Resource Experts). Honorarium @ Rs. 10,000/- per talk and Jury (10 subject matter specialists) @ Rs. 2000/- per specialist.	2,50,000.00
3	Catering - (Coffee / Tea / snacks / breakfast / Lunch / dinner etc.)	6,00,000.00
4	Conference Kit-including conference bag, writing pad, pen etc.	6,00,000.00
5	Photography and Videography (Videos of lectures will be hosted on KSTA website)	1,00,000.00
6	Accommodation & Local Transport	1,25,000.00
7	Cash prize for best Poster Presentations (First prize -Rs. 15,000/- & Second prize - 10,000/-, Consolation Prizes - Rs 5,000 X 2) - Five categories	1,75,000.00
8	Inauguration function including honorarium for Anchor	90,000.00
9	Miscellaneous	25,000.00
		21,15,000.00
(Rupees Twenty one lakh fifteen thousand only)		

Note: If KSTA spends money for any of the above mentioned items, the same will be deducted from the allocated grant and the balance would be released to the host institute.

Guidelines for Submission and Evaluation of Abstracts and Posters

1. A committee of experts from different branches of science and technology for screening of abstracts as well as to classify them into physical & mathematical sciences; chemical & life sciences; interdisciplinary sciences and engineering sciences (including different branches of engineering). Further, separate IDs are to be given for each poster.
2. Poster presentation competition is to be restricted to UG & PG students and doctoral/research scholars. Further, it is suggested that the first author should invariably be a student (UG, PG or Ph.D.) or a young researcher.
3. Authors of selected abstracts may be invited to showcase their research posters in the conference.
4. Self certification/declaration from authors stating that the submitted abstract/poster was not published elsewhere shall be obtained. In addition, authors have to be instructed to specify under which discipline (such as physical & mathematical sciences; chemical & life sciences; interdisciplinary sciences and engineering sciences, including its branches) they wish to submit the abstract/poster.
5. Poster presenters have to put-up posters before inauguration of the poster exhibition and remove after valedictory function.
6. Time slot for evaluation of posters of each discipline shall be given so as to avoid gathering of all poster presenters at a time.
7. Separate domain wise expert committees comprising of 2 experts in each discipline, including KSTA members is to be constituted. Each expert committee shall select 3-5 best posters from their respective domains for oral presentation, depending upon the

number of good posters presented. Evaluation process shall be started after inaugural function.

8. Expert Committees shall evaluate posters based on the following criteria:
 - Concept of the work / Originality / Innovation
 - Methodology
 - Findings/results – whether justified
 - Significance & Relevance – application in real world
 - Interaction

Each criterion shall carry 20 marks, totaling to 100 marks.

9. Authors of shortlisted posters have to be intimated about selection by the first day evening. First author of the poster shall (young researchers only) make an oral presentation for 5 minutes duration.
10. Domain experts may be paid honorarium for evaluation of abstracts and posters.