

27th Prof. Brahm Prakash Memorial Materials Quiz (BPMMQ 2019)
20 & 21 September, 2019 – A Report

IIM-Kalpakkam Chapter conducted the 27th Prof. Brahm Prakash Memorial Materials Quiz (BPMMQ) at Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research, Kalpakkam during September 20-21, 2019. A total of thirty three (33) teams comprising of sixty six (66) students of class XI and XII accompanied by escorts and office bearers from Nineteen (19) chapters across India participated in this flagship programme.

On September 20, 2019, the Metal Camp programme commenced with welcome by Dr. Divakar R., Chairman, IIM Kalpakkam and special address by Dr. G. Amarendra, Chairman – BPMMQ 2019. A video film “Kalpakkam on Course” highlighting the various reactor facilities and research laboratories at Kalpakkam was screened. This was followed by **Prof. Brahm Prakash Memorial Lecture 2019**, delivered by Dr. G. Amarendra, Distinguished Scientist and Director, Metallurgy and Materials Group, IGCAR, on the topic “Effects of Radiation on Materials”. The speaker presented an overview of the structural materials used in nuclear reactors and the type of radiations they are exposed. He lucidly explained how materials behave differently and their properties alter under irradiation. He presented the results of materials irradiated in FBTR and charged particle accelerators. This was followed with visit to the facilities at Kalpakkam namely Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR), Madras Atomic Power Station – (MAPS) and the Nuclear Desalination Demonstration Plant (NDDP). A souvenir **BPMMQ 2019 Digest** containing the details of all BPMMQ events held in previous years, essay articles selected for elocution contest and special messages from dignitaries was released on this occasion.

On September 21, 2019, the quiz programme commenced with drawl of lots for the preliminary rounds held in six parallel sessions. The winner and runner of each session contested in semifinal round held in two parallel session. The teams included Jamshedpur – A & B, Bhilai - B, Sunabeda - B, Trichy - A & B, Chennai A & B, Bhubaneswar - B, Hyderabad, Mumbai and Bangalore - A. A total of six teams (three from each semi-final round) were selected for the Grand Finale. The teams included Trichy - A & B, Chennai - A & B, Bangalore - A and Mumbai.

Dr. Sumanth C. Raman, a renowned sports quiz master from Chennai conducted the **Grand finale of BPMMQ 2019**. The Finale comprised of eight rounds with audio, video, dumb charades and rapid fire rounds. The winner of BPMMQ 2019 was IIM Bangalore Team – A comprising of Ashutosh M. Bharadwaj and Bharath Shankar of National Public School, Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore. IIM Trichy Team-B comprising of P. Harshavarthini and V. Srideiva Prasanna of Sri Jayendra Swamigal Silver Jubilee MHSS, Tirunelveli won the second place.

The essay **cum elocution contest for the quiz participants** also was well received this year. The topics were (i) “Evolution of the Periodic Table of Elements – Is it complete?” (ii) “Destination Moon – A materials Perspective” and (iii) “Ocean Bed – Store House of Rare Metals and Minerals. A total of nineteen (19) essays (7 in Periodic Table; 6 in Materials - Moon; and 6 in Rare metals) were received. Six best essays were selected for elocution contest. The selected participants rendered excellent and flawless elocution and was judged by a three member jury of eminent experts from IGCAR, Kalpakkam. Ms. Arpita Mahapatra, D.A.V. Public School, Kalinga, Angul Chapter, was the winner of Essay/Elocution contest for the topic “Evolution of the Periodic Table of Elements – Is it complete?” and Agnidh Ghosh, Loyola School, Bistupur, Jamshedpur Chapter, was the runner of this contest for the topic “Destination Moon – A materials Perspective”.

The Winner and Runner teams of the Quiz and the elocution contest were awarded with prizes by Dr A.K. Bhaduri, Director IGCAR, Kalpakkam. The event was successfully conducted with generous financial supports from several well-wishers and promoters of science, including Department of Atomic Energy, The Indian Institute of Metals, Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research, JSW Centre, Mumbai, ARCI,

Hyderabad, NFC, Hyderabad, MIDHANI, Hyderabad, Madras Atomic Power Station, BHAVINI, Heavy Water Board, Mumbai, and several leading firms dealing with metallurgical equipment and services. Dr. B. Anandkumar, Convener BPMMQ 2019 proposed a vote of thanks.



Dr. G. Amarendra, Distinguished Scientist, IGCAR delivering BPMMO2019



Dr. Sumanth C. Raman Quiz Master, conducting BPMMQ 2019 Grand Finale



Dr. A.K. Bhaduri, Distinguished Scientist and Director, IGCAR, Kalpakkam, distributing the prizes to winners and runners-up of BPMMQ2019

