

Committee of Action for Research, Extension and Services (CARES)

General Secretary's Report to the Annual General Meeting (Mar 2019 - March 2022)

28 May 2022

Dear Honourable Members of CARES,

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting of CARES. Among others, CARES aims to function as a catalyst to researches in natural and social sciences in Bangladesh and transforming the findings or innovations to the entrepreneurs to improve the services and products offered to people for improving the quality of life. We acknowledge the contributions of all the members including the Founder Chairman Dr. A. Majeed Khan for building such an important organization, CARES.

The current Executive Committee (EC) was given the responsibility in March 2019 for two years under the Chairmanship of late, Mr. Wali-ul-Marooof Matin, Founder Managing Director of Maslin Capital Limited. The new committee started its journey with upholding the **objectives of CARES to perform activities such as Branding CARES, Scientific events, Youth scientist competitions, Gold medal awards, Supporting researchers for publications and presenting research findings in international conferences, Journal publications and Website design etc.** At this point, I acknowledge the contribution of Mr. Wali-ul-Marooof Matin who had to respond to the call of Almighty and left us behind forever on 20 September 2020, (Innalillahi wa inna ilaihi rajiun). We pray for his departed soul.

The following activities were performed since March 2019:

1. Executive Committee (EC) Meetings

The current Executive Committee set for EC meeting 16 times during the year 2019 to 2022.

2. Sold off old furniture and saved office rents

We have sold off the old furniture of CARES which were stored in a rented office at Badda. That office had been closed and saved the rent since then.

3. Finalized the financial statements of 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19:

The audit report of 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 was not signed due to some issues. We solved the issues with auditors and finalized the audit reports.

4. Roundtable meeting with the professionals to explore opinions about CARES future plan

We had a roundtable meeting on 31 August 2019 at Maslin Capital with the professionals (of middle age) from University of Dhaka, National Institute of Biotechnology and BRAC University to formulate a future plan of CARES.

5. Collecting credentials of CARES members

A team consisting of 3 members was formed to collect the credentials of our founding members, fellows or resource persons. These could be uploaded to our website not only for Show casing but to make it attractive for the donors or funding agencies.

6. Revising the constitutions

We felt to revise the constitution of CARES as it contains lots of typo and some confusing matters. To this end, a 3-members subcommittee headed by Professor Dr. Haseena Khan worked on. The constitution was circulated to the members and some very constructive suggestions were surfaced. The subcommittee also received lawyer's opinion in this regard.

An Extra General Meeting was scheduled on 29 June 2019 to approve the amended constitution, but due to shortage of quorum it was postponed. Today, the amended constitution is being placed before you for its approval.

7. Updating CARES website

As there was no website before, we have built a website for CARES which is under continuous development. Among others, we decided to show case our members' credentials, we got some and waiting to have it from the other honourable members.

8. Public lecture series organized

We have organized "CARES Public Lecture Series – 1" on "Bio-chemistry in Life Science" from 22-25 September 2019 at EMK Center. The scientists (Prof. Dr. Md. Mozammel Hoq, Prof. Mohammed Manjurul Karim, Dr. Mustak Ibne Ayub and Dr. Mahbubur Rahman) of University of Dhaka had given the lectures on current issues for the wellbeing of mass people. The events were recorded and are available in CARES Youtube page "CARES BD". Dr. M A Matin, Joint Secretary, CARES, also presented on his remarkable accomplishment in water management on 26.02.2019 in the EC meeting.

9. Organized seminar on robotics

We organized a seminar on "**Technology Natives versus Technology Immigrants**" on the same day of EGM on 29 June 2019 at EMK Center. Two students, University of Dhaka and University Technology Malaysia pursuing their Bachelors have built a small robot (serve coffee) and presented in the seminar before the founding members of CARES.

10. Seminar organized at Manarat Dhaka International School & College

A seminar organized by CARES at Manarat Dhaka International School & College on "**How do students experience out of school activity in secondary school?**" on 12 January 2020 by Ms. Merium Bhuiyan, Advisor, Axis Educational Trust from UK. Professor Dr. Md. Mozammel Hoq Chaired the program.

11. Seminar at Stamford University on Super Bugs and Antibiotics

A seminar on "**Alarming Increase of and its Possible Remedial Measures in Bangladesh**" was organized jointly by CARES and Stamford University of Bangladesh on 21 January 2020. The keynote speech provided by Maj Gen Prof Dr ASM Matiur Rahman (Retd), Fellow, Bangladesh Academy of Sciences;

12. "Talk Science Apply Science" video series of renowned scientists

A series of video program on "**Talk Science Apply Science**" have been started by CARES. Till now 4 videos have been made and uploaded in CARES YouTube Channel "CARES BD". More scientists will be invited to share their experience in near future. These videos will promote the interviewees as well as the CARES.

13. A Seminar jointly organized by AFOB and CARES

A seminar on "**Promoting Academia-Industry Partnership in the light of Covid-19 crisis: way forward**" was jointly organized by Asian Federation of Biotechnology (AFOB), Bangladesh and CARES on 22 August 2020. Renowned scientists of both the organizations from home and abroad participated in this seminar.

14. A Talk Show in Channel 24 under banner of CARE & AFOB

A talk show on the topic “**Promoting Academia-Industry Partnership**” was broadcasted by Channel 24 as an activity of CARES and Asian Federation of Biotechnology (AFOB) represented by Professor(Honorary) Dr Md. Mozammel Hoq, ANM Maqsudul Haque, Pro-VC, University of Dhaka and Mr. Nawabur Rahman, Technical Director, Square Pharmaceuticals held on 27 September 2020.

15. Grants provided to the researchers

We have provided grants a total of Tk. 139,000/- to three researchers and scientists of different disciplines who presented their work in USA and Thailand. CARES contributed partial expenditure of their travel cost and made agreement that they would present their research findings in CARES` events.

16. Last year audits

Audited financial statements as of 30th June 2020 has been prepared and signed by the auditor.

17. Current year audit 2020-2021 done

Audited financial statements as of 30th June 2021 finalized and signed by the auditor.

18. Coffee table book of CARES

CARES need a brochure or **coffee table book containing information of CARES history and credentials** to present before the tentative donors. Hence we have started collecting information for the brochure from our members and fellows.

19. Demise of the Chairman, Mr. Wali-ul-Marooof Matin

We lost our Chairman, Mr. Wali-ul-Marooof Matin on 20 September 2020. With his leadership CARES stated to move forward step by step. The EC placed a Condolence Proposal in the very next meeting after the demise of Mr. Matin. The EC also selected the Vice Chairman, Mr. Mohammad Shahjahan as the Chairman (Acting) till the new Chairman selected.

20. A Talk Show organized by Channel 24

A talk show on the topic “Promoting Academia-Industry Partnership” was organized by Channel 24 and participated by University of Dhaka, CARES and Asian Federation of Biotechnology (AFOB) represented by Professor Dr Md. Mozammel Hoq and Square Pharmaceuticals held on 27 September 2020.

21. Popular Talks on the invention and winner of Nobel Laurates was organized by CARES on November 2, 2021. Three eminent speakers from the University of Dhaka and USA has given their thoughts on the inventions.

We would seek your continuous support in future as well.

Thank you very much indeed.

Md. Mozammel Hoq, PhD
General Secretary, CARES