

REPORT ON HEAM PARLIAMENTARIAN-2014

Back ground:

Indian association for Hydrogen Energy and Advanced Materials (IAHEAM) provides an active platform for school students, researchers and scientists in India for the dissemination of knowledge in the field of Hydrogen production, storage, transport, fuel cells etc. The association interacts with the budding generation of the country to promote Hydrogen. This is aimed by interacting with curriculum committees of the schools/universities/NIT/IIT's to include relevant topics in the syllabi. IAHEAM has been organizing around half a dozen of events yearly for school students to young scientists in India. Among them HEAM PARLIAMENTARIAN is the one meant for school students which is a national level debate competition. Steady progress in all fields in organizing HEAM P had been achieved as years passed by. It was planned and proposed to conduct this year's event more successfully and fruitfully than before. Authorities of EMC (Govt. of Kerala) and ANERT (Govt. of Kerala) gave a very warm support for the event.

Publicity:

As part of the notification and publicity of HEAM P-2014, at first we gave news to different newspapers. Registration form and other details were uploaded in the website www.iaheam.org. Academic joint director of DHSE of Govt. of Kerala put the details of this event as a circular in the official education portal. This circular helped many teachers along the length and breadth of Kerala to screen their students and make them thoroughly practiced for the event. Several teams across the country registered for the competition with the required answers for the question given in the brochure. Among them a final list of twenty teams from twenty schools were selected for the final competition. The venue for the event on 23/06/2014 was fixed as university senate chamber, palayam, Thiruvananthapuram.

The programme:

The registration started by 8:45 AM on 23/06/2014. All the twenty teams reported along with their teachers and parents. Registration was completed at 9:45 AM. The programme started with an introduction and welcome by Mrs. Suma. M. S (coordinator, HEAM P-2014). Dr. S. M. A. Shibli inaugurated the function. Mr. M. Shaneeth (national committee member, Hydrogen Energy Road Map, India) Head, fuel cells section, VSSC, Thiruvananthapuram presided the function. Then he took an interesting class on 'Hydrogen Energy & Fuel cells' a with power point presentation for the students. Next session was led by Mr. Pradeep. P. S (former representative of India in Nobel laureate meeting held at Germany), alumni, university of Kerala. He delivered a very beneficial talk about the various opportunities and scholarships available in basic science after plus two courses. After a break, a warm up session was given for the contestants as a model debate on the topic 'youth and technology' in order to make them familiar with the way of debating.

The Debate:

All assembled back at 1:30 PM after the lunch break. All contestants were then by ready for the competition. For transparency and for maintaining confidentiality the contestant's id was not revealed during the competition. Instead each team was given the names of elements. The panel of judges includes Dr. S. Anantha Kumar, principal scientist, NIIST, TVM, Dr. K. G. Sreejalekshmi, Assistant professor, IIST, TVM and Dr. S. M. A. Shibli, Associate professor and Head, Department of Chemistry, University of Kerala, TVM. The competition consisted of three rounds in which all the contestants performed very well with valuable and reasonable countering and defending. The competition continued till 4:30 PM. After a short tea break the judges addressed the contestants and gave them valuable suggestions and advice for their future improvement.

Results were announced by Dr. S. M. A. Shibli (president IAHEAM). Masters C. Vijay and Karthik. S. Kumar of Global Excel Central school, Thiruvattar, Tamil Nadu won the title of HEAM PARLIAMENTARIAN-2014 and a cash award of Rs 10,000/-. They were also given the memento titled HEAM PARLIAMENTARIAN-2014. Ms. Sandhya, M and Ms. Arya Subash of GGHSS Cottonhill, TVM became the first runner up and awarded with a cash prize of Rs 5000/- Ms. Maria Aby and Ms. Jitty Joly of St. GEMMA HSS Malappuram became the second runners up and awarded with a cash prize of Rs 3000/-. All the other teams were awarded with consolation prizes and each and every contestant was honoured with certificates of merit. After that every contestant was given a printed feedback form and all were asked to fill it without mentioning their identity. Then all were invited for a group photo and the programme came to an end after the national anthem.

Outcome and feedback:

The general outcome of the event proved it as a great success and the feedback from of the contestants helped us to know that nothing were less beneficial for them throughout the programme. Since these students are the future promises of our India, not a little bit, but a handful of knowledge about Hydrogen Energy and its possibilities empowered them through this attempt done by IAHEAM.

Acknowledgement:

On behalf of IAHEAM I would like to convey my sincere gratitude to the authorities of Energy Management Centre and ANERT for their support and financial assistance, University of Kerala, DHSE, press media and all those who supported for the smooth and successful execution of the programme.

Suma, M.S.
(Organizing Secretary)
(HEAM Parliamentarian 2014)