

Talk by Prof. Dr. Jiba Raj Pokhrel

Role of Youth in Science, Technology & Innovation in Nepal

Science is about the observation of natural phenomena and making theories.

Technology is about using the scientific theories for the benefit of the mankind.

Innovation is about making it more efficient.

In Nepal Science & Technology students in higher education is just 24% (88,847 out of 371,184 students enrolled in higher education). Ideally, the ratio should be around 40% - 60%.

In Global Innovation Index, Nepal has jumped from 109 to 95.

Sn	Countries	Rank 2020	Rank 2019	Rank 2018
1	Switzerland	1	1	1
2	UK	4	5	4
3	China	14	14	17
4	India	48	52	57
5	Nepal	95	109	108

Science and technology is dominated by civil engineering and architecture. **Raj Kulo** of the 6th century is an example in Kathmandu, Patan and Bhaktapur. Kailashkut Bhawan in Syanga of 608 AD is another example.

In Malla period, Arniko went to China and constructed a white pagoda in 1279 AD. Nyatapola temple was constructed by king Bhupatendra Malla in 1702 AD, which was unaffected by the earthquakes of 1767, 1808, 1810, 1823, 1833, 1837, 1869, 1917, 1934, 1988, 2011 and 2015 AD.

Golden Gate of Bhaktapur is a refined workmanship in metalwork.

In the times of Ranas, Mr. Gehendra Shumshere, as the first scientist of Nepal, made a machine gun. The first hydro- power station was built in Pharping in 1911.

SCIENCE IN RAMAYAN AND MAHABHARAT

• RAMAYAN(BC 5314)

— ज्ञानं कुरु कलिन्दं चिरि कुरु त कलिन्दं विज्ञानं, जनिदं केली म विसे त दुसे छ अज्ञान

• GEETA

— इदं तु ते मुद्रयामं प्रकथ्याम्य नमुष्ये । ज्ञानं विज्ञानमहितं यज्जान्ता मोक्षयसेकशुभ्रान् ।
• निर्भीकारं सांख्यानं ज्ञानं भक्त्यु मये मुने
• मुने ज्ञाने पांडुः कथं वाकीं के हुन भद्वं



During the Rana times several institutional and infrastructure buildings were made:

- Pharping Hydro-power station on 1911,
- Agriculture office in 1921,
- Ayurveda School in 1929,
- Civil Medical School for compounders and dressers in 1934,
- Technical Training School for Overseers and Forest Training Center for Rangers in 1942,
- Ghantaghar Clock Tower, Suspension Bridges, Internal Telephone, Jute Mill
- Tri-Chandra College in 1919.

Science & Technology Development:

The First Five Year Plan accorded priority for scientific research, use of scientific knowledge and technology in the construction of Roads, Irrigation, Hydrology, Meteorology, Mines and Geology. National Council for Science and Technology was established in 1976. In the 7th Plan period National Academy of Science and Technology was established.



Nyatapola temple of Bhaktapur

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The Association of Alumni in Nepal (ABAN) is a not-for-profit social organization, registered with District Administration office on February 04, 1998 and is affiliated with the British Council. It promoted the interest of the British alumni in Nepal and supports them to contribute to national development.

ABAN also works for cultural and educational exchange between Nepal and Britain.

Introducing Prof. Jiba Raj Pokhrel



Professor Dr. Jiba Raj Pokharel, an ABAN Life Member ID 462, who studied in the University of York, Yorkshire during 1992 to 1995 as a British Council scholar and did his Ph. D. in Architectural Conservation.

A professor of Architecture in the Department of Architecture & Urban Planning, Institute of Engineering, Dr. Pokhrel is a former Dean, and President of Nepal Engineers Association. He also has served as Vice Chancellor of the Nepal Academy of Science and Technology, Government of Nepal.

An architect by Profession, Dr. Pokharel is the designer of the famous Maya Devi temple in Lumbini. He is the writer of books such as Architecture: Oh! Architecture, written in Shakespearean Sonnets, Sikchhak Sisy Sambah, written in classical meters, and Patan Ko Krishna Mandir, written in folk style. He has also written a first ever Disaster epic entitled Maina Bulbul written in folk Nepali style.

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Introducing

Prof. Pokharel has developed technologies for disaster risk reduction such as fire resistant thatch roofing, landslide prevention technology and Earthquake damping technologies to name a few. His articles appear regularly in the Himalayan Times, Himalaya Times, Rising Nepal and Annapurna Post.

Prof. Pokharel was in a national committee formed by the Government about the conservation of Hari Bhawan. He also worked for the conservation of Jaya Bageswori temple in Pashupati premises. Recently, he worked as an Architect Team Leader for the preparation of the Sustainable Tourism Development Action Plan of Chyama Singha Dattatraya Corridor of Bhaktapur.

At present, he is the Principal of Kantipur Engineering College and he is also working as a Team Leader architect towards the preparation of the conservation and Development Action Plan of Chapagaon.

Dr. Pokharel can be contacted in jibaraj@gmail.com
 Link for Talk program promotion:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/170AnvtU5te-G_9R3cprfhPHW4Zi3New/view?usp=sharing

Role of Youth in

First Science policy was prepared in 1988 and endorsed in 1989. The plan focused on proper resource utilization and development, technology transfer, quality manpower development and extension of Science & Technology development.

The objectives of Science & Technology Ministry are:

- To enhance national capability by developing and utilizing knowledge, skill and competence in the field of science and technology,
- To contribute in the reduction of poverty by improving economic and social conditions of the people at large through sustainable use of natural resources and conservation of the environment,
- To take the nation in competitive advantage by utmost development of science and technology.

The Policy had four pronged approaches:

- Research and development,
- Technology transfer
- Human resource development and
- Science & Technology promotion development.

Science, Technology & Innovation Policy 2076 (2020)

The vision is science, technology and innovation for sustainable development and prosperity. The policy has committed to raise the investment of 1% of GDP to achieve the policy objectives:

- To raise the national production through the use of science, technology and innovation,

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The Graduate route will open for applications on 1 July 2021

Graduate route to open to international students on 1 July 2021

As detailed in the Immigration Rules laid in Parliament, the new route will open for applications on 1 July 2021, to international students who successfully complete a degree at undergraduate level or above in the UK.

The Graduate route will be unsponsored, meaning applicants will not need a job offer to apply for the route. There will be no minimum salary requirements nor caps on numbers. Graduates on the route will be able to work flexibly, switch jobs and develop their career as required.

The new route will help the government to achieve the ambition set out in the International Education Strategy to increase the number of international students in higher education in the UK to 600,000 by 2030.

Coronavirus concessions for students unable to travel to the UK due to the pandemic have also been extended, recognising the continuing disruption many face due to international travel restrictions.

Applicants who began their studies in Autumn 2020 will now have until 21 June 2021 to enter the UK (updated from 6 April 2021) in order to be eligible for the Graduate route. Students who began their studies in January or February 2021 will need to be in the UK by 27 September 2021.

The entire policy is available on https://www.gov.uk/government/news/graduate-route-to-open-to-international-students-on-1-july-2021?_cldee=YW5pbmRlckBqYW1ib3JlZVVkdWNhdGlvbi5jb20%3d&recipeid=contact-1ab7166fce9be811bb440050569d73e9-6cd39ef804264430afa96a3920c6241b&esid=9130a07c-cbad-eb11-9680-0050569d1a0d

OBITUARY

Mr. Prafulla Man Singh Pradhan, Life member of ABAN, ID 510 has expired on March 2021 at the age of 78 years.

Prafulla had done Post Graduate Diploma in Human Settlement Planning from the University College of London in 1972-73

All of us in ABAN pray the Almighty for the eternal peace to his departed soul.

Role of Youth in

- To develop knowledge based entrepreneurship through the use of cutting edge technology, guarantee in investment and infrastructure development,
- To develop scientific expertise and technological manpower by upgrading and modernizing the indigenous technology, developing the scientific culture and research oriented education.

The working policies were:

- Production and production growth,
- Promotion of knowledge & manpower mobilization
- Capacity development and promotion of entrepreneurship
- Infrastructure development and safety, and
- Institutional development and coordination.

Investment in Science & Technology in Nepal:

- It was 0.135% of GDP (42.7 million) in 1980/81, which increased to 0.478% (834.4 million) in 1992/93. But it slumped to 0.338% (801.4 million) in 1999, and it is around 0.38% of Gross Domestic Product.
- Britain spends 1.7% of GDP in Science & Technology and China spends 2.75% of GDP.
- India spends 0.7% of GDP in S & T but their new policy is to spend 2% of GDP in Science & Technology.

Future Course of Action



Prof. Jiba Raj Pokharel suggested few important actions to be taken for the enhancement of Science and Technology sector in Nepal:

- Nepal should invest more in Science, Technology and Innovation,
- More focus should be on School Science,
- Youth should take interest in Science.

Count on Your Successes of British Education
 ABAN Members and others who have studied in the UK are invited to write about their experience and details on how they were able to contribute to the development of Nepal. For publication, please forward your details to mahesworbs@gmail.com

OBITUARY

Prince Philip (1921 June –2021 April)



Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, was the husband of Queen Elizabeth II, the father of Prince Charles and the grandfather of Prince Harry and Prince William.

Prince Philip was born in Greece on June 10, 1921 as members of Greek and Danish royalty. Philip and his family moved to Britain and married Queen Elizabeth II in 1939 before her ascension to the British throne in 1952 and served as the British royal consort for more than 6 decades. Philip studied at the Cheam School, and later Scotland's Gordonstoun School. After graduating in 1939, Philip attended the Royal Naval College and served in the British Navy during World War II.

Prince Philip was the only son of Prince Andrew of Greece and Denmark and Princess Alice of Battenberg. Philip attended the Royal Naval College and served in the British Navy during World War II. Prince Philip was the only son of Prince Andrew of Greece and Denmark and Princess Alice of Battenberg.

Prince Philip was interested in nature and conservation till the end. He became the international chairman of the World Wildlife Fund.

British Council Nepal

February 18, 2021:

The British Council currently has an agreement with the General Medical Council (GMC), the organisation responsible for the PLAB, to deliver the exam in fourteen countries.

The GMC is aware of the growing demand for the exam around the world, but have said that, at this time, they are not in a position to expand their reach into more countries.

My colleague in the UK will pass on ABAN's request for PLAB exams in Nepal to GMC. Let's hope that they can make it possible soon.

Best regards,

Maxim Raimann | Exams Director | General Manager, British Council

March 21, 2021

Dear Maxim,

I Hope this email finds you well. We have been continuing to get requests from doctors wishing to pursue their medical training in the UK regarding coordinating with the British Council to administer the PLAB examination in Nepal. With the challenges created by the pandemic, having to go to India or other neighboring countries for this examination, has led to a difficult situation for these doctors. Going to the UK to get further medical education and training has been a fervent dream for many of these doctors. On behalf of the candidates that reached out to us, we wanted to relay this information to you and keep you posted.

Uttam Prasad Pant, President - ABAN

ABAN's Executive Committee Meetings in April-May

The seventh Executive committee meeting of ABAN held on March 25 has decided to postpone the ABAN Family Picnic proposed on March 27, 2021 at Green Valley Resort, Shivapuri National Park.

“As ABANians, we were all eagerly looking forward to attending the annual picnic proposed on March 27. It is one of ABAN's most interesting events for most of us, as we get to unwind, network, and enjoy quality time with fellow ABANians.

However, due to the possibility of rising COVID cases in Nepal, the CDO office released a guideline prohibiting any mass gatherings of any capacity. In light of this unprecedented situation and to prioritize the health and wellbeing of our members, we have made a difficult decision to postpone the annual picnic. We will be communicating with all members regarding the next date once we have more clarity when these restrictions will be relaxed”, wrote the president.

The guest speech of Prof. Dr. Jiba Raj Pokharel on April 2, 2021 done online via zoom could not be completed due to power outage in Solu district from where Dr. Jiba Raj was presenting. President Pant informed on the eighth ECM meeting held on 13th April 2021 that Prof. Dr. Jiba Raj Pokharel is eager to complete the remaining part of his talk as and when ABAN will arrange the program when the Covid situation will get better.



The eighth Executive committee meeting also endorsed the condolence message sent on behalf of the entire ABAN family to the British Embassy on the sad demise of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh in April.

The ninth Executive committee meeting of ABAN held on May 17, 2021 reviewed the well-beings of its executive members, expressed condolence on the sad demise of the mother of vice president Mrs. Padma Vaidya, welcomed Mr. Tulasi Uprety who came from USA and also discussed on the objectives, scope, modality and guidelines of publishing ABAN Magazine 2021/22.

All executive members and other ABANians were requested to contribute articles on the subject of their professional expertise after their British education for the overall development of Nepal. Each of the members have also to try to gather advertising materials to cover the cost of printing the Magazine. A separate circular will be issued in this matter.



WHY Join ABAN?

- Rare opportunity to **network** with fellow ABANians, who also studied in the UK,
- Share expertise gained in the UK for Nepal's development and gain mutual benefits,
- Meet and greet British scholars and authorities for mutual enrichment, and building trust,
- Be in touch with British events, activities and openings for shared happiness.
- Opportunities to serve others who need our help, guidance and network links,
- Identify as a dignified British Scholar,

More people have more reasons to join and be a part of ABAN .

Person having studied in the UK for 12 weeks or more is eligible for membership of ABAN by application together with educational certificate, ID photo and fee. It is never too late to be part of this growing organization.

New Life Members

Joining ABAN from Dec. 2020

1. Mr. Bhubanesh Kumar Pradhan (ID 538) on 27 Dec. 2020
2. Ms. Roma Balami (ID 539) on 27 Dec. 2020
3. Mr. Ram Hari Adhikari (ID540) on 27 Dec. 2020
4. Ms. Sunita Basnet (ID 541) on Jan 24, 2021
5. Dr. Sudha Shrestha (ID 86) on Jan.24, 2021
6. Mr. Satyendra Khadgi (ID 542) on Feb. 2021
7. Mr. Lusan Nakarmi (ID 543) on March 5, 2021

Membership Sub-Committee Chair:

Mr. Gobinda Neupane, Mobile: 9851014640
Email: neupane.gobinda@gmail.com

General Secretary:

Mrs. Shiba Devi Kafle. Mobile:9841295472



ABAN Activity Report 2021

Month of 2021	Main Activities
January 02	23 rd Annual General Meeting and Election of 12 th Executive Committee
January 08	1 st Introductory Executive Committee Meeting
January 16	2 nd Executive Committee Meeting for Sub Committee formation
January 24	3 rd Executive Committee Meeting for ABAN Day Preparation
February 04	ABAN Day Celebration
February 13	4 th Executive Committee Meeting to prepare for meeting with British Council
February 17	Online meeting with the British Council Country Director Ms. Shahida MacDougall and her team
March 05	5 th Executive Committee Meeting of ABAN
March 17	6 th Executive Committee Meeting of ABAN
March 25	7 th Executive Committee Meeting of ABAN
March 27	Family Picnic at Shivapuri National Park (Postponed)
April 02	Talk program on Science & Technology by Prof. Dr. Jiba Raj Pokhrel
April 17	8 th Executive Committee Meeting. Condolence message to British Embassy
May 17	9 th Executive Committee Meeting Talk program on LPG versus Induction Cooking in Nepal: Dr. J. N. Shrestha.

Published by

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