
**Academic growth and developments in the Department of
Medical Biochemistry, Dr. ALM PGIBMS of the University of
Madras for the past seven years (2007 – 2014)**

R.K.S. Hemalatha* & T.K.Thiruvengada Mani**

**Assistant Technical Officer, University of Madras*

***Deputy Librarian i/c, University of Madras*

ABSTRACT:

This article tries to evaluate scientific developments and academic growth in the Department of Medical Biochemistry, Dr. ALM PGIBMS of the University of Madras, Taramani Campus for the past seven years(2007 – 2014). The data pertaining to the growth of student strength, staff strength, financial positions, research achievements, projects drawn, academic activities of scholars and faculty have been collected, tabulated and analysed by scientific methods. Results arrived are published to review the merits and demerits to enable positive developments in future.

Keywords: University of Madras, Dr. ALM PGIBMS, Medical Biochemistry, Financial Position, Research activities, student and staff strength, Projects,

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of Medical Biochemistry is the first department to be established in the Institute of Basic Medical Sciences of the University of Madras. The then Vice chancellor of the University, Dr. A. L. Mudaliar, an eminent medical personality opted to give recognition for the Basic Medical Sciences and decided to start a separate campus annexed to a hospital in the outskirts of the city. The dream of the Vice chancellor became a reality and the foundation stone of Basic Medical Sciences was laid in 1968. The department started to function in Chepauk campus with one reader and a lecturer. One classroom and two labs were the space allotted to the department. The first appointment to the Department of Medical Biochemistry was Prof. K. RadhaShanmugasundaram, who headed the department.

The department teaching faculties were engaged in taking classes for M.Sc. Medical Biochemistry offered by the University of Madras. It was a three-year course, in which the students had to undergo a part of their course curriculum in Madras Medical College and the rest in the department of Medical Biochemistry in IBMS.

From this Initial position the department slowly grown into a full pledged Research Department in the Medical Biochemistry field and became a pioneer Institution.

1. Courses Offered:

The following academic courses were offered in the department for the benefit of students to gain more knowledge in Biochemistry applied to medicine and continue research in that field for the betterment of human kind.

- a) M.Sc. Medical Biochemistry (3 Years)
- b) Ph.D. (Full Time / Part Time)

2. Faculty:

Though initially the department was started with just two faculties, owing to the importance and demand for this field more teachers were appointed and at present the department functions with 9 meritorious teachers including Guest faculties. Some of the teachers during this study period are given below.

Name of the Faculty	Designation
Prof. D. Sakthisekaran	Professor & Head
Prof. P. Sachidanandam	Professor
Dr. P. Kalaiselvi	Assistant Professor
Dr. T.Sumathi	Assistant Professor
Dr.S.YaminiSudha Lakshmi	Assistant Professor
Dr.R.Venkateswari	Assistant Professor
Dr.T.M.Vijayalakshmi	Assistant Professor

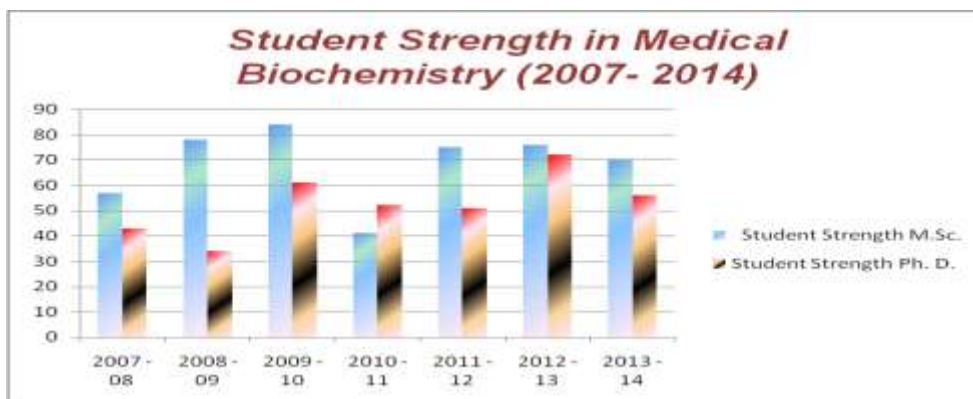
3. Student Strength for the past seven years:

Following table shows the student in take in the respective courses offered during the period taken for this study. The column chart given indicates good number of students every year, thus indicating continuous demand for the courses.

Student Strength (2007- 2014)

Sl. No.	Year	Student Strength	
		M.Sc.	Ph. D.
1.	2007 - 08	57	43
2.	2008 - 09	78	34
3.	2009 - 10	84	61
4.	2010 - 11	41	52
5.	2011 - 12	75	51
6.	2012 - 13	76	72
7.	2013 - 14	70	56

Student Strength (2007- 2014)



4. Research Achievements:

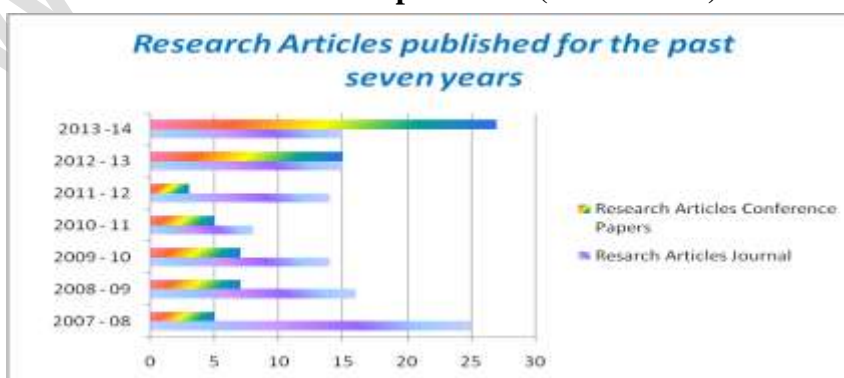
4.1 Research Articles published for the past seven years: (Faculty / Scholars)

A Good number of Research articles are published by the department every year, which are mostly in peer reviewed journals with high citation and h-index. The following table and graph shows the up and downs in publications due to various phenomena's. However the numbers have been restored from 2011- 12 which shows regular growth since then.

Research Articles published (2007 – 2014)

Sl. No.	Year	Research Articles	
		Journal Articles	Conference Papers
1.	2007 - 08	25	05
2.	2008 - 09	16	07
3.	2009 - 10	14	07
4.	2010 - 11	08	05
5.	2011 - 12	14	03
6.	2012 - 13	15	15
7.	2013 -14	15	27

Research Articles published (2007 – 2014)



4.2 Seminar/Conferences for the past seven years:

The department is regularly organizing Seminar/Conferences every year on various topics relating to ongoing global research for the wellbeing of the human kind. Due to existing demand for such interactive and knowledge updating events, the number of these seminars are gradually growing every year. During 2012 -13 the number of conferences/seminars held were at the peak with 11 events.

Seminar/Conferences (2007 - 2014)

Sl. No.	Year	No. of Seminar/Conferences
1.	2007 - 08	-
2.	2008 - 09	1
3.	2009 - 10	-
4.	2010 - 11	3
5.	2011 - 12	7
6.	2012 - 13	11
7.	2013 -14	10

Seminar/Conferences (2007 - 2014)



4.3 Number of students Qualified in UGC NET for the past seven years:

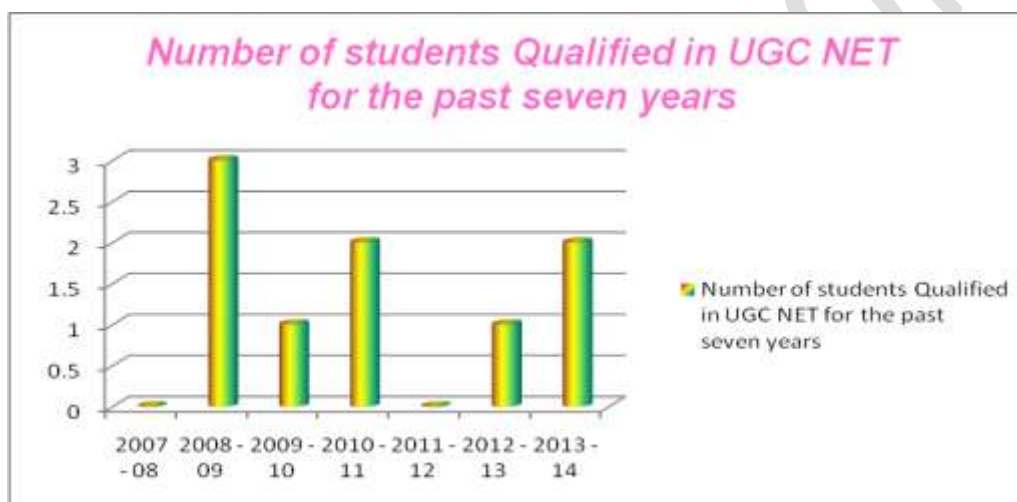
The University Grants Commission has strictly instructed all the higher education institutions in India to follow the norms for appointments to academic / research positions and insisted on qualifying for the National Entrance Test (NET).

In order to follow the above norms the department has understood the need to train their scholars for qualifying for National Entrance Test (NET) and as a result succeeded in producing ample number of NET holders. The following table and graph show this.

Number of students Qualified in UGC NET (2007 – 2014)

Sl. No.	Year	UGC NET
1.	2007 - 08	-
2.	2008 - 09	3
3.	2009 - 10	1
4.	2010 - 11	2
5.	2011 - 12	-
6.	2012 - 13	1
7.	2013 -14	2

Number of students Qualified in UGC NET (2007 – 2014)



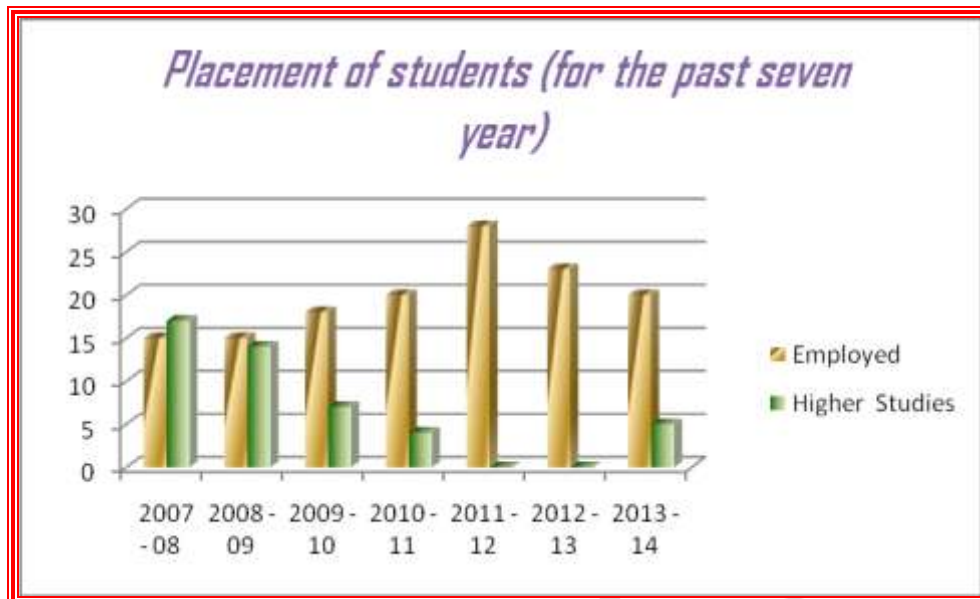
4.4 Placement of students for the past seven year :

The department not only rested with educating and coaching the scholars on par with global requirement. They also helped them acquire placement in Employment and Higher Studies in reputed institutions. The following table and graph is testimony for the same.

Placement of students (2007 -2014)

Sl. No.	Year	Placement/	
		Employed	Higher Studies
1.	2007 - 08	15	17
2.	2008 - 09	15	14
3.	2009 - 10	18	7
4.	2010 - 11	20	4
5.	2011 - 12	28	-
6.	2012 - 13	23	-
7.	2013 -14	20	5

Placement of students (2007 -2014)



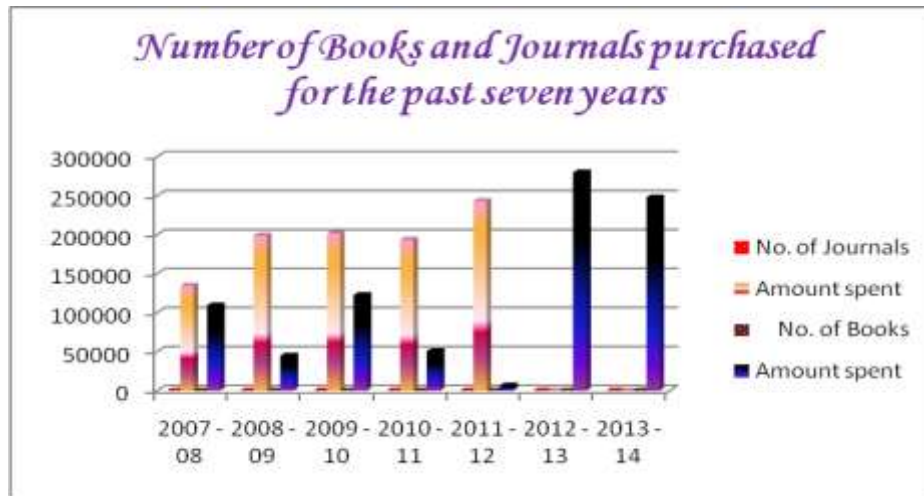
5. Number of Books and Journals purchased for the past seven years:

For every nation knowledge is power and this power can only be obtained by imparting knowledge to the students with scholarly periodicals and books. Fully aware of this the department had sufficient grants for books and periodicals. In addition to nearly 4000 Scientific Journals provided by Central Library through UGC INFONET Consortia, the department also spent about Rs. 2,40,000/- per year on these information materials. The following table and graph exhibits the growth pattern of books and periodicals. The fall in number of Journals in the list is because most of them were made available through the said consortia.

Books and Journals purchased (2007 – 2014)

Sl. No.	Year	No. of Journals	Amount spent	No. of Books	Amount spent
1.	2007 - 08	1	1,34,618	34	1,09,381
2.	2008 - 09	1	1,99,112	14	44,884
3.	2009 - 10	1	2,01,411	33	1,22,569
4.	2010 - 11	1	1,93,402	16	50,596
5.	2011 - 12	1	2,43,257	03	6,671
6.	2012 - 13	0	-	46	2,79,793
7.	2013 -14	0	-	60	2,47,831

Books and Journals purchased (2007 – 2014)



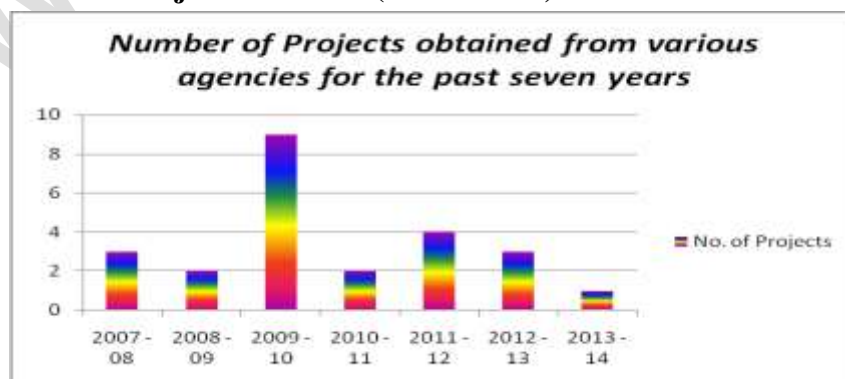
6. Number of Projects obtained from various agencies for the past seven years:

In addition to the regular research the department was also bestowed with prestigious projects from all major funding agencies. Most of the projects were aimed at protecting the mankind from dreaded diseases. The projects have led to very useful finding and got good name and recognition to the department.

Number of Projects obtained (2007 – 2014)

Sl. No.	Year	No. of Projects
1.	2007 - 08	3
2.	2008 - 09	2
3.	2009 - 10	9
4.	2010 - 11	2
5.	2011 - 12	4
6.	2012 - 13	3
7.	2013 -14	1

Number of Projects obtained (2007 – 2014)



7. GRANTS SANCTIONED TO THE DEPARTMENT FROM VARIOUS AGENCIES FOR THE PAST SEVEN YEARS:

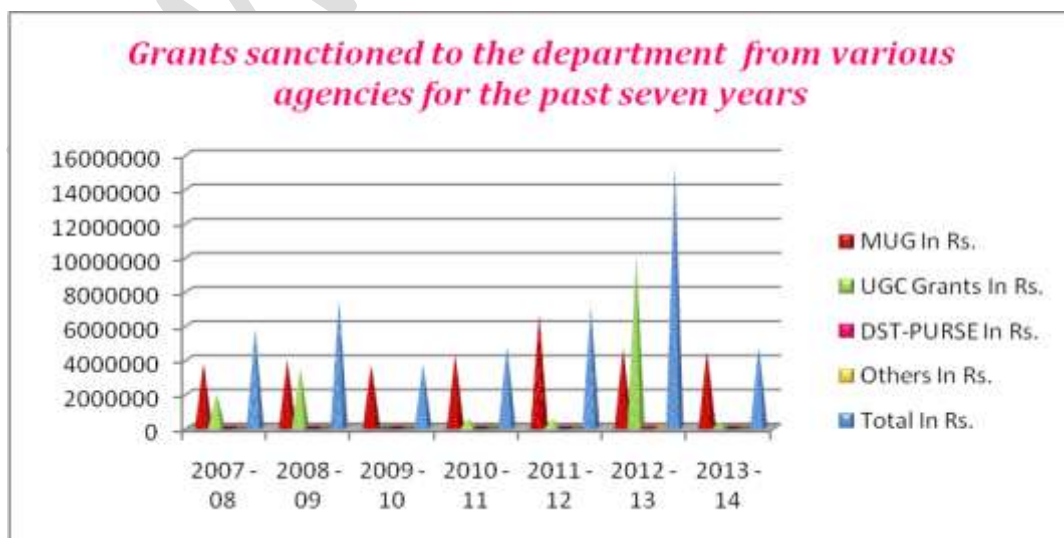
A close analysis of the grants sanctioned to the department reveals extraordinary efforts taken by the Head and Faculties in mobilizing grants for the benefit of the department. The table shows an average amount of Rs. 70,20,081 per year was spent by the department for their research and development. During the year 2012 – 2013 the grant was at its peak with Rs. 1,53,30,567 thanks to the then HOD Dr. D. Sakthisekaran's tireless efforts.

Grants sanctioned (2007 – 2014)

(Note: For convenience grants sanctioned under various heads by a same agency have been brought together for statistical purpose.)

Sl. No.	Year	MUG In Rs.	UGC Grants In Rs.	DST-PURSE In Rs.	Others In Rs.	Total In Rs.
1.	2007 - 08	38,300,00	20,00,000	-	-	58,300,00
2.	2008 - 09	39,890,00	35,00,000	-	-	74,890,00
3.	2009 - 10	37,230,00	-	-	-	37,230,00
4.	2010 - 11	42,980,00	5,00,000	-	-	47,980,00
5.	2011 - 12	66,570,00	5,00,000	-	-	71,570,00
6.	2012 - 13	47,090,00	1,00,38,674	4,82,893	1,00,000	1,53,30,567
7.	2013 -14	45,130,00	3,00,000	-	-	48,13,000
Total						4,91,40,567
Average						70,20,081

Grants sanctioned (2007 – 2014)



Achievements of the Department:

- Apart from the academic activities the students of the department regularly hold Medical & Dental Camps, ENT Camp, participate in NSS, Sports and extra circular activities.
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed during the year of report with the International Laboratory of Biochemistry, Nagoya . Japan.

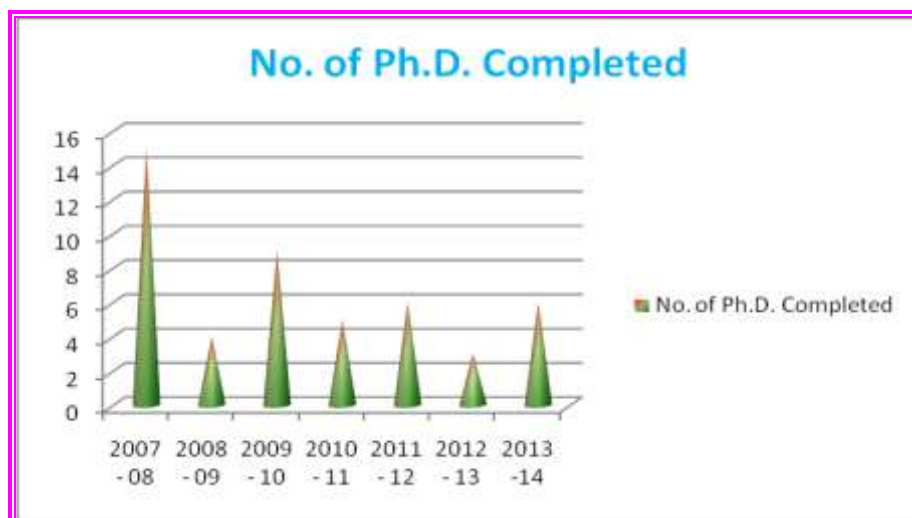
Awards Received

Sl. No.	Name of the Faculty Member	Name of the Award (Month & Year)	Awarding Agency
1.	Dr. P. Kalaiselvi	FABMS	Indian Association of Biomedical Scientists
2.	Dr. D. Sakthisekaran	Award for the Academic Achievement Award – 2012 by the University of Madras September 2012	University of Madras
3.	Dr. D. Sakthisekaran	Received the National Award for the Teaching Excellence in the Indo- American Education summit & Expo 2013, Hyberabad from the Indo-US foundation	Indo – US Foundation
4.	Prof. D. Sakthisekaran	Euro 500, SOMPS Award	19 th International Congress on Anti-cancer treatment held at Paris, France
5.	Prof. D. Sakthisekaran	BSR- Faculty Fellowship 2013 – 2-15	UGC
6.	Prof. D. Sakthisekaran	Lifetime achievement award – Dec. 2013	IABMS
7.	Prof. D. Sakthisekaran	Indira Vasudevan award – Dec. 2013	IABMS

No. of Ph.D. produced for the past seven years:

No. of Ph.D. produced (2007 – 2014)

Sl. No.	Year	No. of Ph.D. Completed
1.	2007 - 08	15
2.	2008 - 09	4
3.	2009 - 10	9
4.	2010 - 11	5
5.	2011 - 12	6
6.	2012 - 13	3
7.	2013 -14	6



CONCLUSION

The above study confirms the vision of the then Vice Chancellor Dr. AL. Mudhaliar who initiated the formation of this department for research in this area for the betterment of mankind. The research done and Theses produced clearly shows the involvement of the department in identifying various diseases affecting the mankind and evolving medicinal assistance in their treatment. Their contribution in the Oncology research is commendable. The department stands as an example for the true research institution and assists the nation in talent building in the Medical Sciences.

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