



Report on National Symposium on Recent trends in biotechnology: Technology to skill development (RTB-2K18)

The current era is the coming of age for Biotechnology as a science and art. Advancements like next generation sequencing using protein and solid-state nanopores, precise genome editing using CRISPR-Cas, base editing for conversion of one DNA base into another without requiring double-strand breaks, integration of cloud computing for biological sequence data analysis, use of electronic sensors for clinical diagnostics and drug delivery, etc have led to a paradigm shift in simplifying our understanding of biological complexities. The outcomes of the advancements made in recent years have had significant impact upon increasing food productivity, livestock improvement, drug development, prediction and management of disease epidemics, and creation of genetically modified-organisms.



With the aim to highlight these advancements, and to make researchers and students aware of skill development in these areas, the Institute of Biosciences and Technology (IBST) at Shri Ramswaroop Memorial University (SRMU) organized a two day “National Symposium On recent trends in biotechnology: Technology to Skill Development” on 23rd and 24th March 2018. The symposium was inaugurated on 23rd March by Chancellor Mr Pankaj Agarwal, Pro-Chancellor Mrs Pooja Agarwal and Vice-Chancellor Dr AK Singh. The symposium abstract book was released during the inaugural function.

Dr S Rajan, Director, Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture, delivered the keynote address. He emphasized upon the importance of skill development in biotechnology, and encouraged the students to continue learning new skills. On the first day, two lectures were delivered by invited speakers. The first lecture was by Dr Anju Bajpai, principal scientist, Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture, on mango genomics for precision

breeding. Dr Hemant Yadav, Scientist, National Botanical Research Institute, delivered the second lecture on the day. His talk dealt with the advances in molecular marker technology and its relevance in crop improvement.



The second day, 24th March, 2018, witnessed two lectures delivered by prominent scientists. The first lecture was delivered by Dr Satish Mishra, Scientist, Central Drug



Research Institute, on genetically attenuated malaria parasites as a



vaccine. The second lecture was delivered by Dr RL Singh, Head, Department of Biotechnology, Dr RML Avadh University, Faizabad. The topic of his talk was bioremediation of textile industry effluents. Both the lectures were highly informative and well received.

The oral and poster presentation sessions by students and researchers were scheduled for both the days. The students and researchers from SRMU and other institutions participated in large numbers in both the sessions. The best oral and poster presentations were awarded.



To summarize, the symposium received participation from 2 states, 6 cities and 14 institutions from across India. More than 125 research scholars, undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD students participated from premiere institutions from Lucknow, Barabanki, Faizabad, Allahabad, Mumbai, etc. There were a total of 63 presentations, out of which 44 were posters, and 19 were oral presentations. These presentations covered diverse fields of biotechnology like genome editing, whole genome sequencing, crop improvement, stem cell biology, etc. In all, the symposium encompassed 234 keywords gathered from both the oral and poster presentations; few of them being NGS, genome, bioremediation, transcriptome, apoptosis, transcription factors, stem cells, cancer, micropropagation, tissue culture, nanoparticles, docking, angiogenesis, biodiesel, bioprocess engineering, parkinsons disease, arthritis, etc. The symposium provided a conducive forum for the eminent speakers, and participants to share their views and thoughts on cutting-edge advancements made in biotechnology. It provided a platform to deliberate upon diverse areas of biological sciences, and their applications, and how biotechnological advances will shape the future of humankind.

The team RTB-2K18 would like to express their gratitude to the Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor, and Vice-Chancellor. The team would like to thank director, IBST Dr. Sanjiv Kumar Maheshwari for his kind support and encouragement. The team would also like to thank the RTB-2K18 organizing committee for all help and support.

States	2
Cities	6
Institutions	14
Guest Speakers	4
Abstracts	63
Oral	19
Posters	44
Keywords	234

