

16.3.2023

Expert Talks on “Biotechnology and Entrepreneurship”

Department of Biotechnology, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra and Kurukshetra University Technology Incubation Centre (KUTIC) organised expert talks on ‘Biotechnology and Entrepreneurship’ on 16th March 2023 in Senate Hall, KUK. Dr Jitendra Sharma, Dean Life Sciences, offered his expertise as the cover of the program while Prof. Sunita Dalal, Dept of Biotechnology acted as the organising secretary.

The event posed as a great opportunity for students and researchers alike to learn about the importance of commercialization of biological research and scope of entrepreneurship in the field.

To commence with, lamp lighting ceremony was performed by the guests. Dr Jitendra Sharma introduced and wholeheartedly welcomed the keynote speaker, Dr. Banwari Lal and expert speakers, Dr. Nagma Abbasi and Dr. Gurvinder Singh Kochhar.

Prof. Anurekha Sharma introduced the students to importance of innovation and the role KUTIC in promoting young minds by providing seed fund.

Dr. Sunita Dalal welcomed the keynote speaker, Dr. Banwari Lal, on stage. He is a pioneer figure in the field of research as well as entrepreneurship. He worked on the development of ‘Oilzapper’ utilize to clean up oil spills that threaten our biodiversity. He also introduced technologies that utilise microorganisms for enhanced oil recovery bt mobilization of crude oil.

He is the CEO and Managing Director of ONGC-TERI Biotech Ltd. He has over 100 research paper in his name and has won many prestigious awards.

Dr. Banwari Lal commenced his talk by giving a brief about his work and the journey that led to the establishment of ONGC-TERI Biotech Ltd. He presented and explained his technology used to treat paraffin deposition in oil pipelines. Dr. Lal enthusiastically interacted with and answered questions put up by the audience before bringing his talk to an end.

The entire experience proved to be very enlightening for the audience.



KURUKSHETRA UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY INCUBATION CENTRE



7082113059



kutic@kuk.ac.in



kutic.rusakuk.in

The second half of the event constituted talks from the experts. Dr. Bindu Battan, Department of Biotechnology, KUK, introduced the next speaker, Dr. Nagma Abbasi, an eminent figure in the field of industrial biotechnology. She is the founder and CEO of NextGen Life Sciences Pvt. Ltd. Her company offers many services and develop products under the Make in India scheme. She has also established her own Research and development lab recently and aims to train and guide students to promote Entrepreneurship to reach their potential. She has won many prestigious awards during her work.

The title of her talk was 'Entrepreneurship: Opportunities and challenges in biotechnology'. Her talk summarised the skills that an entrepreneur needs to possess to for success in the field. Through her journey from academia to establishing a name in the market, she managed to encourage young mind to innovate, think out of the box and step out if their comfort zones.

The next expert to impart his wisdom was Prof. Gurvinder Singh Kochhar, HOD Microbiology, Punjab Agricultural University. He was welcomed by Dr. Sulekha Chahal. Department of Biotechnology, KUK. He has written about 80 papers and has proved to be a remarkable figure that changed the industrial production of many products. He also has many patents in his name. He started by explaining the importance of vinegar in Indian household. However, the method used was crude and very slow. This led to commercial production of synthetic vinegar which lacked nutrition value.

He worked hard and along with his team, managed to develop a dual fermentation technology and get it patented. He provided insight into commercialization of products and bridged the gap between theory and application of scientific work.

Both experts interacted with audience showing zeal and answered their queries.

Lastly, the guests were presented with mementos and Dr. Raman Saini. Department of Biotechnology, Kurukshetra University, provided a token of thanks. The event concluded as a great success.



KURUKSHETRA UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY INCUBATION CENTRE



7082113059



kutic@kuk.ac.in



kutic.rusakuk.in