New Delhi, March 09: It is now well recognized that while the exact cause of cancer is difficult to pinpoint, this disease can have a genetic basis. The differences in the genetic makeup between populations in India and in other geographic regions, especially the western world, necessitate Indian population-specific cancer genomics studies. Creating awareness about cancer genomics is pivotal for the success of such large-scale studies, which would require patients’ and their families’ willingness to contribute. To this end, the National Centre for Cell Science (DBT-NCCS) in Pune has organized a free webinar on the topic, ‘Genomic Drivers of Oral Cancer and Proximal Metastasis’.

This is part of a webinar series being organized as a prelude to the 75th year of independence of India. This talk was delivered by Prof. Partha Majumder, Distinguished Professor at the National Institute of Biomedical Genomics (NIBMG) in Kalyani, and the Founder Director of NIBMG. Prof. Majumder has made significant contributions to human genetics, and especially towards understanding the genetic diversity of ethnic Indian populations. He was one of the early human geneticists to recognize the importance of studying ethnic populations to identify genes associated with population-specific susceptibility to diseases. He discussed cancer genomics with special reference to oral cancer, one of the most common types of cancers affecting the Indian population.

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