Webinar series on “Food, Nutrition and Health”

The Department of Biotechnology Technology’s National Institute of Plant Genome Research (NIPGR), New Delhi has initiated a Webinar series in different thematic research areas of the Institute to bring together leading scientists and young researchers from across the world to discuss the contemporary issues, exciting research outcomes and prepare a future road map for tackling the key challenges in each of these areas.

DBT-NIPGR’s first webinar series was launched on “Food, Nutrition & Health” in line with POSHAN initiative of Govt. of India on September 21, 2020, which is the World Alzheimers’s Day and was inaugurated by Honorable Secretary, DBT, Govt. of India.

The month of September is being celebrated as the “Rashtriya Poshan Maah” with the theme Complementary Feeding. The purpose of celebrating the Poshan Month is to take the message of nutrition to every nook and corner of the country and to focus on complimentary food for children, importance of nutrition in the treatment and prevention of diseases in children and women for better health.

In this connection, the NIPGR, New Delhi in collaboration with the National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute (NABI), Mohali and the Institute of Life Sciences (ILS), Bhubaneswar held the first public engagement international webinar of the webinar series on “Food, Nutrition and Health”.

Welcome address was delivered by Dr. Subhra Chakraborty, Director, DBT-NIPGR. She further highlighted NIPGR’s scientific vision and the theme of the webinar. Dr. Amulya K. Panda,
Executive Director, Additional Charge, DBT-NABI talked about various scientific outcomes and contributions of DBT-NABI, while the Director, DBT-ILS Dr. Ajay Parida elaborated the research and mission of the Institute. The inaugural address was delivered by Dr. RenuSwarup, Secretary, DBT, Government of India.

Dr. Prema Ramachandran, Director, Nutrition Foundation of India, New Delhi delivered the first lecture on “Infant Feeding: Key to Optimal Nutrition and Health,” and Dr. Ajay Parida, Director, Institute of Life Sciences, Bhubaneswar talked about “Agriculture Intervention for Nourishing Tribal Population.” This was followed by a lecture on “The Benefits of a Colourful Diet” by Prof. Cathie Martin, Fellow of the Royal Society, Group Leader and Professor, The John Innes Centre, UK.

Invitations to the Webinar were sent by NIPGR to science ministries, distinguished scientists, all DBT institutions and various other institutes and universities across India. Webinar was open to the public and it was promoted through NIPGR social media platforms. The schedule of next webinar in this series will be announced soon.

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