



LECTURE ON “BASICS OF MOLECULAR BIOLOGY & BIOCHEMISTRY FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS” UNDER PRAKRITI PROGRAMME

The Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore conducted a one day lecture program on “**Basics of molecular biology and Biochemistry**” for students of Tamil Nadu Corporation Higher Secondary School, R.S. Puram, Coimbatore, on 16th February 2023 under the “Prakriti” programme. The event was attended by 26 students. Dr. Modhumita Dasgupta, Scientist-G & Head, Division of Plant Biotechnology and Cytogenetics welcomed the participants. This was followed by filming of “Walking Tall with trees” highlighting the achievements of ICFRE-IFGTB. An introductory lecture on “Biosphere to DNA” was delivered by Dr. C. Kunhikannan, Director, ICFRE-IFGTB. He emphasized on the importance of understanding life science, and its diversity. This was followed by a lecture on “Introduction to Biotechnology” delivered by Dr. R. Yasodha, Scientist-G & Group Coordinator Research. She narrated the importance of biotechnology which can be used as a vital tool to benefit the society.

The first lecture in this series was delivered by Dr. Rekha Warriar, Scientist-F, Division of Plant Biotechnology and Cytogenetics on “Biomolecules”. She explained in-depth on the basic structure and function of micro and macro molecules such as amino acids, lipid, sugar, nucleic acids, protein and polysaccharides. This was followed by a short talk on “The history of DNA” delivered by Dr. Modhumita Dasgupta, Scientist-G & Head, Division of Plant Biotechnology and Cytogenetics. The third lecture on “Basics of Molecular Biology” was delivered by Dr. A. Shanthi, Scientist-E, Division of Plant Biotechnology and Cytogenetics. The lecture covered the basics on nucleic acids including DNA structure and replication, RNA structure and protein synthesis.

Dr. Vigneshwaran from ENVIS, ICFRE-IFGTB addressed the students on “Life Mission” highlighting the importance of conservation of nature. Dr. S. Saravanan, Scientist-F & Head, Extension Division enumerated the extension activities of the Institute for the school students. In his concluding remarks, Dr. C. Kunhikannan, Director, ICFRE-IFGTB urged the students to enhance their knowledge base through regular interactions and in-depth reading. The program ended with vote of thanks by Mrs. S. Sudha, Technical officer.



