

## Brief Report on Virtual Alumni Meet 2021, “वारिSmriti’21: सफलता की परम्परा”

ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai under the aegis of the National Agricultural Higher Education Project organized a Virtual Alumni Meet, “वारिSmriti’21: सफलता की परम्परा” on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 6.00 PM using Zoom online platform. The aim of the Alumni Meet was to link the alumni with current students and to provide a platform to students to interact with their seniors and get motivated. The Meet was attended by 306 and 267 participants on the first and second day, respectively, from different parts of the World.

The inaugural session started with a brief introduction of the programme by Dr N. P. Sahu, Joint Director, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai, and he highlighted the importance of having a close interaction between the alumni and the present students, so that the younger generations can be inspired by the success stories of their seniors and to find their way to achieve their goals. Dr Gopal Krishna, Director/Vice-Chancellor, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai, addressed the gathering and urged the alumni to contribute to the growth of the institute. The Chief Guest, Dr R. C. Agrawal, DDG (Agricultural Education) and National Director, NAHEP, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, expressed happiness and appreciated CIFE for conducting this Alumni Meet. The Alumni directory 2021 and the Souvenir were also released by the Chief Guest.

The two days program had three sessions. The first session was on ‘**Students to Studentpreneur**’, which was chaired by Dr. Dilip Kumar, Former Director and Vice-Chancellor, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai. The objective of the session was to motivate students towards entrepreneurship by the alumni. Dr Praveen Nair, Bioarchive Sandiago, California; Dr Manoj Sharma, Managing Director, Mayank Aquaculture Pvt. Ltd., Gujarat and Dr Deepak George Pazhayamadom, Director, Rainbow Analytics, Australia shared their experiences and success stories in the session. A quick discussion was held at the end of the session. The second session, ‘**Local to Global: Bridging the Gap between Education and Research**’ was chaired by Dr S.C. Mukherjee, Former Joint Director, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai. Dr Salin Krishna, Associate Professor, Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand; Dr Vikas Kumar, Assistant Professor, University of Idaho, Moscow, USA and Dr J.K. Sundaray, Head, Division of Fish Genetics & Biotechnology, ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India, inspired the students to choose the right path for achieving their goal. The events on the first day of the Meet were concluded at 9.30 PM with an alumni-alumni open interaction session.

The second day was started with a glance of the first day’s events, followed by the third technical session, “**Envisioning Blue Revolution Forever**”, chaired by Dr B.K. Das, Director, ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore. Mr M.A. Upare, Retd. General Manager NABARD and Dr Manas Choudhury, Joint Adviser, Agriculture Division, Niti Ayog, New Delhi delivered inspirational talk for the students. Later, students’ queries related to career and job opportunities were answered by the alumni. Soon after showcasing the glimpses of old and memorable events, a virtual cultural program was presented by

students and alumni of CIFE. Many alumni expressed their interests to recruit the current/recent pass out students and help the students to build their career.

In the valedictory program, Dr N.P. Sahu, Joint Director, CIFE, Mumbai, urged our students to establish network with their alumni and work under their close guidance. Dr Gopal Krishna, Director/Vice-Chancellor thanked the alumni for being the ambassador of the University, spreading the name and fame of the university across the globe. The chief guest of the Valedictory Programme, Dr J.K. Jena, DDG (Fisheries Science) expressed his happiness for successful conduct of the program and advised students for connecting with the alumni and getting the right guidance from them. He also emphasized to include the alumni in the academic activities of the University. The formal vote of thanks was delivered by Dr Rupam Sharma. At the end, the alumni present in the meet were allowed to have interaction among them.

