



CCMB celebrates Founder's Day on Dr PM Bhargava's birth anniversary

Hyderabad, 22nd Feb, 2022: CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) celebrated the Founder's Day on the occasion of birth anniversary of their Founder Director, Dr PM Bhargava on Feb 22. "Dr PM Bhargava set the foundation for setting up a world class research institute in life sciences in India. The institute's vision was and has been to address fundamental questions of biology, and address societal challenges through it. Now after more than 40 years of CCMB and training more than 400 PhD students, we see our students playing an important role in multiple areas of life sciences. The celebrations on our Founder's Day is a reminder of that," said Dr Vinay K Nandicoori, Director, CCMB.

The celebrations, each year, is organized by the present CCMB students to bring alumni back on campus and learn from their experiences. The alumni speakers this year were Dr Rana Anjum, Director-Oncology Clinical Science, GSK in Boston, USA, and Dr Suresh Chintalapati, Co-founder, Triangulum Biopharma, California, USA and Mabgenex, Hyderabad, India. Both spoke of their career journeys on transitioning from academia to life science industry. Dr Anjum also highlighted the challenges she had to overcome as a woman scientist in the family who wanted to work beyond her city and country. Dr Chintalapati spoke of his navigation through academia while dealing with dyslexia.

"The opportunities after completing a PhD are limitless, ranging from various positions in academia to industry and even science communication. CCMB has built a rich heritage, and CCMB graduates have penetrated in all areas of science. Inviting these CCMB alumni provides an avenue for the current graduates students to connect with them and get a perspective on the opportunities that lie ahead after completing a PhD," said the student organizers.

Prof K VijayRaghavan, Principal Scientific Advisor, Government of India was the guest speaker for the event. He underlined the importance of restructuring science research institutes in the country. He urged greater collaborations across scientists interacting across disciplines, including with the industry. He emphasized that it is important for the society to nurture young scientists to address questions of their interests while forging collaborations. This is imperative for addressing the questions of future, he said.

In addition, the day had many short exciting talks by the present students on unaddressed questions to understand life. The day ended with a Carnatic vocal performance by Shri Modumudi Sudhakar accompanied by Shri Dinakar on violin and Shri Jayabhaaskar on mridangam.