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From the Editor's Desk

Once more, it is with immense pleasure that I was given the opportunity to work on the First Edition of the Department News Letter. As we all know, a newsletter mirrors a department-its vision and mission. It also highlights events, activities and academic prowess and achievements. In this edition, I have tried to capture last six months excitement and activities. I do hope that the newsletter encourages many more including students to use it as a platform to express their creativity. I sincerely hope that this edition makes for an interesting read. Please feel free to offer any suggestions for the improvement.

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August 2020

Webinar on Mahatma Gandhi

A Webinar on Mahatma Gandhi (IWMG- 2020)" was organized by Dr. A. Arun, SPARC Principal Investigator on 18.8.2020 through online mode.

Presiding over the function, Prof. N. Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, said that MHRD directed SPARC investigators to conduct "Webinar on Mahatma Gandhi to celebrate Gandhiji's birth anniversary. He asked everyone to visit Sevagram at Wardha, Maharashtra, where Mahatma Gandhi lived a simple life for more than two decades. Gandhi travelled the length and breadth of entire India in one-year time and motivated the people to fight for country's independence.

Thiru K. Natarajan, Chairman of Tamil Nadu Gandhi Smarak Nidhi (TNGSN), Gandhi Museum, Madurai, gave a lecture on "Gandhiji's Satyagraha Abroad." Prof. Ragupathy, Professor and Head, Department of Political science and Development Administration, Gandhigram Rural University, Gandhigram, gave a lecture on "Gandhian Framework for Sustainable Development." Dr. S.Muthulaxmi, Honorary Principal of College of Gandhian Thought, TNGSN, Madurai, gave a speech on the "Role of College of Gandhian Thoughts and Gandhi Museum, Madurai, in disseminating Gandhian ideals."

Dr. Sugu Maran, Founder-Director of the Australian Tamil Academy and Valluvar Foundation from Melbourne, Australia, Faculty Members, Research Scholars students participated in the webinar. Dr. A. Arun, Convener and Organizing Secretary, welcomed the gathering and proposed a vote of thanks at the end. Prof. G. Ravi, SPARC Institutional Co-ordinator who inaugurated the webinar, highlighted the importance of SPARC project.

On behalf of the Department of Microbiology, the Journal Club program was organized on 27.08.2020 (Thursday), under the theme of microbiological research.. All the Faculty members, Scholars and Students actively took part in this session through online mode. Sunandha Jeeva Bharathi, Research Scholar presented the article entitled "**Next-Generation Sequencing Strategies**". He mentioned recent technology advances and methods in next-generation sequencing and highlights current large-scale sequencing efforts driving the evolution of the genomics space. Everyone was inspired by the research findings presented by research scholars.

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September 2020

On behalf of the Department of Microbiology, the Journal Club program was organized on 17.09.2020 (Thursday), under the theme of microbiological research. The paper was published in the World Journal of Microbiology and Biotechnology. All the Faculty members, Scholars and Students actively took part in this session through online mode. R. Akila, Research Scholar presented the article entitled “*Microbial exopolysaccharide production of Streptococcus thermophilus and its antiquorum sensing activity*”. She mentioned how important it is to investigate Exopolysaccharides produced by microbes in the limelight as a chemical that, if purified, can be used in a variety of industries for a multitude of purposes. Everyone was inspired by the research findings presented by research scholars.

October 2020

Ms. Abhispa Bora, Ph.D. scholar of the Microbiology Department, has been awarded INSPIRE Fellowship. She works under the guidance of Dr. A. Arun, Professor and Head.

On behalf of Department of Microbiology, Journal club program was organized on 09.10.2020 (Friday) in the themes of Microbiological research. Papers were presented in recent research advances in microbiology. All the Faculty members, Scholars and Students actively took part in this session through online mode. D. Monica Research Scholar presented the article entitled as “**Biochemical characterization of five marine Cyanobacteria species for their biotechnological applications**”. She explained about the estimation of protein, carbohydrate, chlorophyll and astaxanthin from cyanobacteria .Everyone was inspired by the research findings presented by research scholar.

November 2020

On behalf of Department of Microbiology, Journal club program was organized on 13.11.2020 (Friday) in the themes of Microbiological research. Papers were presented in recent research advances in microbiology. All the Faculty members, Scholars and Students actively took part in this session through online mode. T. Sathiamoorthi, Assistant Professor presented the article entitled as **“New Era for Next-Generation Sequencing in Japan”**. He explained about the urgent need to develop a medical curriculum of clinical variant interpretation and reporting. Everyone was inspired by the research findings presented by faculty.

December 2020

On behalf of Department of Microbiology, Journal club program was organized on 31.12.2020 (Thursday) in the themes of Microbiological research. Papers were presented in recent research advances in microbiology. All the Faculty members, Scholars and Students actively took part in this session through online mode. P. Aswaja, Research Scholar presented the article entitled as **“Bioprospecting of Microbes for Biohydrogen Production: Current Status and Future Challenges”**. She explained highlights the basics of microbial hydrogen production, microbial abundance involved, large-scale hydrogen production, and its prospects. Everyone was inspired by the research findings presented by research scholar.

January 2021

Meritorious Student Awarded Certificate of Appreciation by Union Minister

On the occasion of the Republic Day on 26.01.2021, the Union Minister for Human Resource Development Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank felicitated 87 meritorious students from School/University/Institutions across the country who have secured maximum marks and figured at the top position.



The M.Sc., Microbiology student Ms. D. Monica, the PG topper in April 2019 of Alagappa University, was awarded a certificate of appreciation by the Minister. The gesture was to encourage the students to achieve new heights in the future. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Pokhriyal said that the students are the future of the country and the responsibility of creating a new and prosperous India lies on them.





On behalf of Department of Microbiology, Journal club program was organized on 21.01.21 (Thursday) in the themes of Microbiological research. Papers were presented in recent research advances in microbiology. All the Faculty members, Scholars and Students actively took part in this session through online mode. Angelin Swetha .T, Research Scholar presented the article entitled as “**Continuous ultrasonic-mediated solvent extraction of lactic acid from fermentation broths**”. She explained about the novel method of lactic acid recovery from the fermentation broth via continuous ultrasonic solvent extraction. The effectiveness of ultrasonic extraction in liquid-liquid solvent extraction, which will broaden its industrial application such as in food, chemical and petroleum refining industry. Everyone was inspired by the research findings presented by research scholar.

February 2021

On behalf of Department of Microbiology, Journal club program was organized on 15.02.2021 (Monday) in the themes of Microbiological research. Papers were presented in recent research advances in microbiology. All the Faculty members, Scholars and Students actively took part in this session through online mode. Vijay, Research Scholar presented the article entitled as “**Antagonistic activity and mechanism of an isolated *Streptomyces corchorusii* stain AUH-1 against phytopathogenic fungi**”. He explained about the broad-spectrum and

effective antagonist on various soil-borne plant pathogens. Everyone was inspired by the research findings presented by research scholar.

March 2021

WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION--2021

REPORT

On behalf of the “**Women’s club**”, Department of Microbiology, Women’s day was celebrated on 08.03.2021 (Monday). **Dr. A. Arun, Professor & Head** and the “Women’s club” Co-ordinator **Dr. T. Kavitha**, felicitated the occasion. All the scholars and students actively took part in this session. Students exhibited their cultural talents and entertained the gathering. Earlier, Ms. A. Haritha II-M.Sc. Microbiology welcomed the gathering. The session ended with a vote of thanks proposed by Ms. P. Sowmiya I-M.Sc. Microbiology.





Dr. A. Arun, Professor and Head, published a research article in the Journal of Hazardous Materials (IF 9.038). He also published a book chapter under Springer publication. He gave the keynote address on 12.03.2021 at the International Conference on Recent Technologies and Advanced Materials for Green Energy and Sustainable Environment (RTAMGESE-2021) organized by the Department of Chemical Engineering, National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli.

On behalf of Department of Microbiology, Journal club program was organized on 29.03.2021 (Monday) in the themes of Microbiological research. Papers were presented in recent research advances in microbiology. All the Faculty members, Scholars and Students actively took part in this session through online mode. T. Suganya Devi Research Scholar presented the article entitled as **“Isolation and identification of plant growth promoting rhizobacteria from cucumber rhizosphere and their effect on plant growth promotion and disease suppression”**. She explained about the isolation and identification methods of plant growth promoting bacteria from rhizosphere and their antagonistic activity and plant growth promoting activities. Everyone was inspired by the research findings presented by research scholar

April 2021

On behalf of Department of Microbiology, Journal club program was organized on 24.04.21 (Friday) in the themes of Microbiological research. Papers were presented in recent research advances in microbiology. All the Faculty members, Scholars and Students actively took part in this session through online mode. M. Shibasini, Research Scholar presented the article entitled as **“Multidrug Resistance by Microorganisms: A Review & quote”**. She explained about the antimicrobial resistance, classification of multidrug resistance and its modes of action. Everyone was inspired by the research findings presented by research scholar.

