International Webinar on AMR in connection with 35th week celebration (18-14 Nov. 2021) of Bharat Ki Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav, coinciding with 'World Antimicrobial Awareness Week' on the National Campaign theme 'Antimicrobial resistance'

In connection with 35th week celebration (18-14 Nov. 2021) of Bharat Ki Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav, coinciding with 'World Antimicrobial Awareness Week' on the National Campaign theme 'Antimicrobial resistance' ICAR CIFT, Cochin organized an International Webinar on AMR. After the introduction by Tom C Joseph, the Chief Guest Dr. J. K. Jena, Deputy Director General (Fisheries), ICAR deliberated on the initiatives taken by ICAR in addressing AMR. He briefed on the National Action Plan to combat Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and elaborated the network with technical and financial support from FAO - Indian Network for Fisheries and Animal Antimicrobial Resistance (INFAAR), its significance in surveillance of AMR in animal health and fisheries sectors.

In the technical session, Prof. Stephen Rimmer from University of Bradford gave an elaborate presentation on the use of acrylic and polyurethane hydrogels for combating antimicrobial resistance specifically on pathogens like Staphylococcus aureus and P. aeruginosa. The second speaker Prof. Xunli Zhang, an expert in the field of Bioengineering and Microsystems and the Director of Chemical Engineering Division of University of Southampton, spoke on microfluidics technology, a cost-effective platform in tackling AMR. Prof. Till Bachmann, University of Edinburgh, expert in point of care detection of infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance and conducting research at the interface of biomarkers and rapid diagnostics including for COVID-19, presented the topic: AMR diagnostics in aquaculture.

Dr. C.N. Ravishankar, Director, ICAR-CIFT in his concluding remarks on the occasion briefed about the contribution of CIFT in tackling AMR and its contribution in AMR research. Dr. T.V.Sankar, Principal Scientist & In-Charge, PME Cell, ICAR-CIFT welcomed the participants and Dr. G.K. Sivaraman, Principal Scientist, MFB Division, ICAR-CIFT proposed vote of thanks. The webinar was attended by 170 participants from all over the country and abroad representing various Universities and Research Institutes.





