

## Department of Microbiology Annual Report 2019-20

- The faculty and students of the Department have been actively participating in various academic and extra-curricular students throughout the year. The Department had organized a health talk on 'Cancer Awareness' on 26th September, 2019 where Dr. Poonam Gambhir, Senior Medical Officer and Dr. Jai Gopal Sharma, Consultant from Preventive Oncology, BLK Cancer Centre (B.L. Kapoor Hospital, Delhi) imparted knowledge about causes, symptoms, diagnosis and treatment of various types of cancers.
- An industrial visit of the students, accompanied by Dr. A. Archana, Dr. Parvinder Kaur, Dr. Lakshna Mahajan and Dr. Sweta Yadav, to the factory of Yakult Danone India Ltd. at Rai, Sonapat and National Institute of Food Technology and Management (NIFTEM), Sonapat was successfully conducted on 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2020. This was quite useful towards making the students understand the basic and industrial aspects of Food Microbiology and Food Technology.



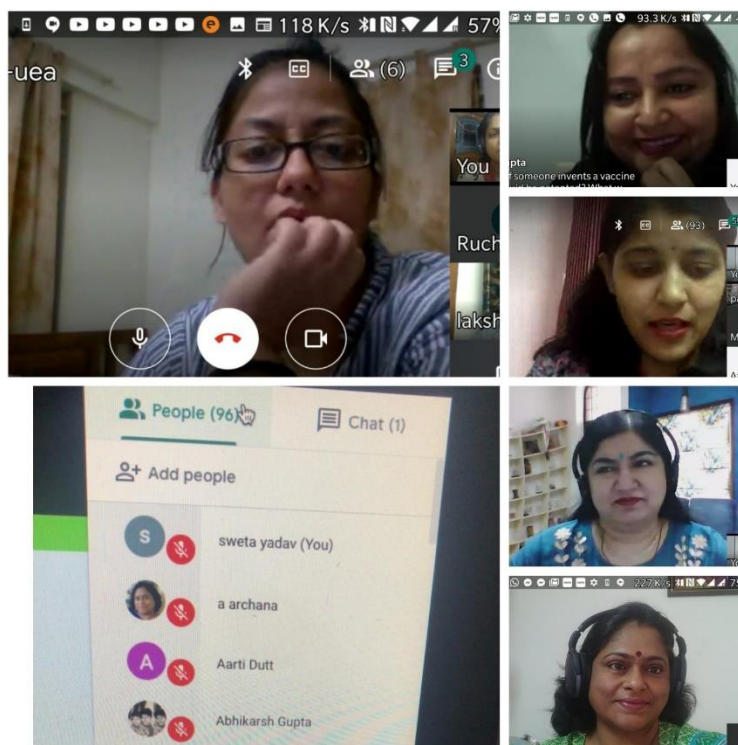
- Dr. S. K. Srivastava, Dr. A. Archana, Dr. Parvinder Kaur and Dr. Sweta Yadav accompanied students to Ram Lal Anand college on 4th February, 2020 for attending a lecture on "Synthetic Biology: From Concepts to Application" delivered by Dr. Pawan K. Dhar from School of Biotechnology, JNU.
- The Department of Microbiology, Ram Lal Anand college had also organised a DBT sponsored National Seminar on 'Metagenomics and Genome Editing' on 5th February, 2020, which was attended by 3<sup>rd</sup> year students with the faculty members- Dr. S.K. Srivastava, Dr. A. Archana and Dr. Lakshna Mahajan.
- The department successfully organized a UGC sponsored 10 days Add-on course for Microbiology students on "Industrially Relevant Aspects of Food Safety and Microbiology" conducted between 13th and 25th February, 2020. Eminent speakers spoke on topics such as food safety principles, food additives, biofilms, fermentation technology for food production, fermented foods, gut microflora, food borne diseases and their prevention, and responsibilities of a food scientist. An amazing interactive session on setting up a retail store was organized by the guest speaker, Dr. Ruchi Srivastava. This add-on course was immensely interesting, useful and was enthusiastically attended by all the participants. Convenor- Dr. A. Archana, Co-Convenor- Dr. Sweta Yadav



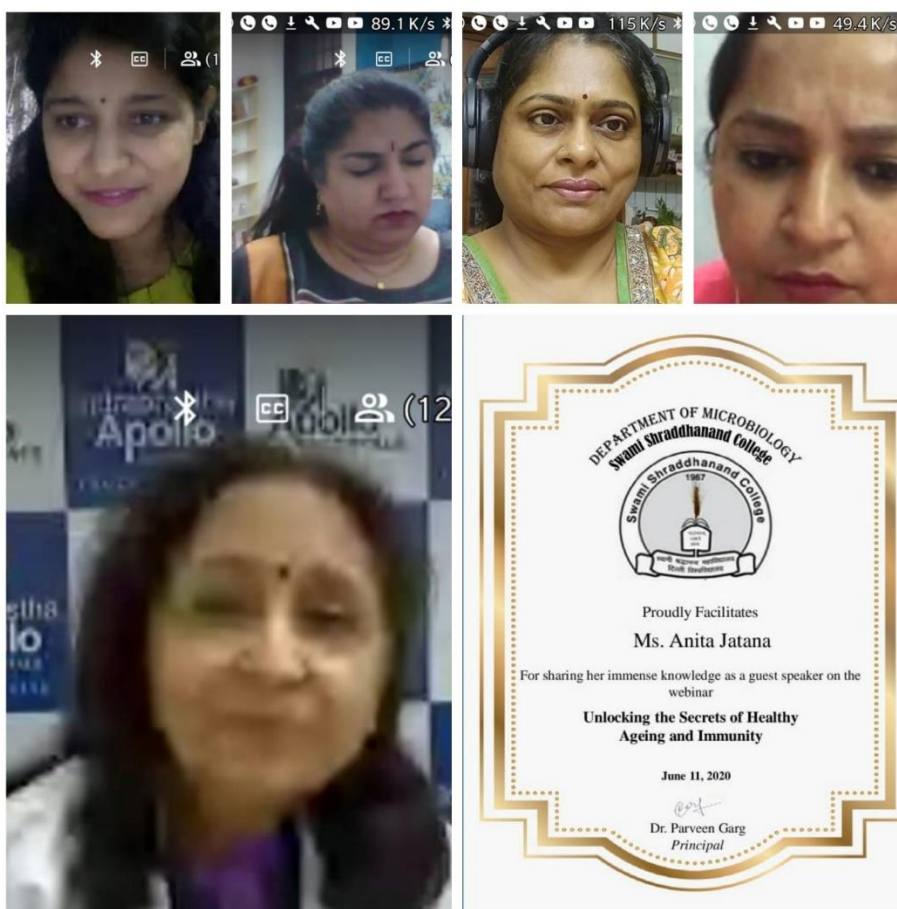
- During COVID times, a number of webinars were conducted to build in awareness about the disease and to bring up awareness about many scientific and academic topics among students and faculty members. The following events were held:
  - **Webinar:** “Food Safety in Covid-19” by Dr. Shalini Sehgal, Department of Food Technology, Bhaskaracharya College of Applied Sciences, Delhi University on 19th May, 2020. Convenor- Dr. A. Archana, Co-Convenor- Dr. Sweta Yadav



- **Webinar:** “Own your ideas: Intellectual Property Rights” by Ms. Ruchita Singh, Registered patent agent & IP facilitator on 23rd May, 2020. Convenor- Dr. A. Archana, Co-Convenor- Dr. Parvinder Kaur, Moderator: Dr. Sweta Yadav



- **Webinar:** “Unlocking the Secrets of Healthy Ageing” by Ms. Anita Jatana, Chief Dietician, Indraprastha Apollo Hospital Delhi, New Delhi on 11th June, 2020. Convenor-Dr. A. Archana, Co-Convenor- Dr. Lakshna Mahajan



### Academic activities of Faculty Members

#### Dr. Anjana Kapoor

- attended IPS Annual Meeting (Delhi Zone) and
- National Symposium on ‘Bio-intensive approaches for management of crop diseases’, held by the Indian Phytopathological Society on 21st December, 2019.

#### Dr. S. K. Srivastava

- Attended the Hands-on Training on the Recent Advances in Immuno-Proteomics held at CSIR-IGIB, Delhi Aug 29 -30,2019.
- Successfully completed the Workshops on Cancer Immune Responsiveness and Adoptive Cellular Therapies organized by The Society of Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) at Houston USA, Sep 4-6,2019.
- Successfully completed the IUIS-IIS-FIMSA course on Basic and Advanced Translational Immunology held at Medical College of the Rajasthan University of Health Sciences, Jaipur Oct.12-16,2019.
- Delivered a Popular Science Lecture on Challenges of Microbes in Medicine at the National Science Center, New Delhi, Nov 13,2019

- Delivered a Popular Science Critique on Nova-Wonders of Life, a film made by the Harvard Medical School at the National Science Center, New Delhi, Dec 17, 2019
- Presented a paper entitled, “Applications of Viral Nanoparticles in Vaccination Immunotherapy and Cancer Treatment” in the National Conference on Nano Biotechnology jointly organized by National Institute of Immunology and JNU, New Delhi Dec 19-21,2019.
- Attended the second International Workshop on Cancer Immunotherapy and Gene Therapy at the India Habitat Center, New Delhi Jan 11,2020. Became a member of Society of Cancer Immunotherapy (SITC), USA.
- Successfully completed the Winter School on Cancer Immunity conducted by th SITC at Houston, USA Jan 13-17,2020.
- Visited the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda MD, USA, Jan 23,2020
- Presented a Lead paper entitled Utilization of Viruses maintained in Plants for Vaccination, Cancer and Immunotherapy at the VIROCON, 2020, an International Conference on Evolution of Viruses and Viral Diseases held at Indian Nation Science Academy, New Delhi 18-20 Feb 2020
- Received a Hands-on Training in Gene Editing and Phage Therapy workshop jointly organized by the Department of Biotechnology and IARI New Delhi Feb 1 20.2020

#### **Dr. Lakshna Mahajan**

- Attended a One week short course/ FDP on 'Computational Biology and Translational Bioinformatics' at E & ICT Academy, IIT Roorkee held from 30th September -4th October, 2019.
- She also published a chapter in a book as follows: “Surfactant protein D in immune surveillance against cancer”- Gargi Thakur, Lakshna Mahajan, Anuvinder Kaur, Robert Bulla, Uday Kishore & Taruna Madan (2020) in book "Collectin Protein Family and its Multiple Biological Activities", Published by Springer Nature.

#### **Student’s Achievements**

- Kritika Jha, Twinkle Yadav and Ayushi Singh, final year students of B.Sc. (Hons.) Microbiology, who have been associated with the Fine Arts Society of our college since its inception in 2018, RENNAISSANCE, have won many laurels in a number of intercollege festa on a consistent basis, bringing name and fame to our college.
- Milind Raj, a member of PRAVAAD, is a well known name in the university circle as an outstanding orator and extempore speaker.
- Sagar Atri, a co-founder and ex-president of ENACTUS-SSNC branch (Entrepreneurial Action for others creates a better world for US all, an organization that fulfills 17 UN sustainable goals worldwide, impacting numerous human lives), along with Bharmjeet and Vanshika of second year, have made a positive difference for the underprivileged around our college area via entrepreneurship activities for betterment of their living standards.
- Rakesh Kumar of second year served as the Vice President of NSS.