

Centre for Plant Biotechnology and Molecular Biology

Kerala Agricultural University

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Inviting applications for Finishing School in Biotechnology 2018-19

About the Centre: The Centre for Plant Biotechnology and Molecular Biology (CPBMB) was established in 1996 with the main objective of strengthening teaching, research and outreach activities in Biotechnology at Kerala Agricultural University. The centre has been declared as the 17th statutory department (Department of Plant Biotechnology) under the Faculty of Agriculture in 2009. The centre has research projects funded by Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Department of Science and Technology (DST), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), National Horticulture Mission and Kerala State Council for Science, Technology & Environment (KSCSTE) and Kerala State Planning Board. The centre is equipped with state of the art facilities for plant biotechnological research including genomics, proteomics, transcriptomics and cell and tissue culture studies. Further, the research activities are supported by a fully functional DBT funded Bioinformatics Centre. CPBMB is the nodal centre for implementation of various mega projects of central and state governments. In recognition of its scientific contributions, DST, Government of India has supported the centre by awarding the prestigious FIST funding and Kerala State Government has declared CPBMB as the Centre of Excellence in Biotechnology and Secondary Agriculture.

The programme: Finishing school in Biotechnology (FSBT) is a unique programme funded by the Kerala State Planning Board, especially aimed at carving the industrially ready technocrats in the field of Biotechnology. This idea was initially conceived in the state of Karnataka with the emerging reports that the post-graduates in Biotechnology fresh from the campuses are not sufficiently equipped to suffice the needs of fast growing Biotech industries. Thus 12 FSBTs were started and running in Karnataka. CPBMB holds the only FSBT in Kerala.

This programme will be of 12 months duration, with the first six months for in-house training on molecular techniques, second six months for entrepreneurship development training in any of the identified biotechnology industry. The hands on technical exposure will be provided in the areas of plant tissue culture, plant molecular breeding, molecular marker analysis, plant genetic transformation, bioinformatics and rational

drug discovery, characterization and exploitation of beneficial microbes, cellular and microbial diagnostics, and data management.

Who can apply? The applicant should hold M.Sc./B.Tech. in any field of Biotechnology with a minimum of 50% marks at graduate and post-graduate levels.

Age: Below 35 years as on 15.10.2018.

Number of seats: Maximum number of seats is limited to 20.

Mode of selection: The selection will be based on academic performance. Priority will be given to candidates sponsored by academic/ research institutions or industries.

Course fee: A one time fee of Rs. 20,000/- payable at joining time.

Accommodation: Accommodation facilities have to be arranged by the participants.

How to apply: The application form is available at www.kau.edu. Applications in the given format, complete in all respects, may be submitted by e-mail (cpbmb@kau.in) to Professor and Head, CPBMB on or before 15.10.2018.

Tentative schedule: Start of the programme: 1st November 2018

Further information: Professor & Head CPBMB and Course Coordinator -9446478503, 9446364216.