

ICAR-CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF FISHERIES EDUCATION, MUMBAI

ICAR-CIFE and NAHEP organized a lecture under western regional chapter of NAAS on **“India’s Journey from Food Security to Nutritional Security” on 10th July 2019**. Honourable Prof. (Dr.) A.K. Srivastava, Member, ASRB (Animal Sciences) delivered the lecture. Dr. Gopal Krishna, Director/Vice-Chancellor ICAR-CIFE welcomed the speaker and the guests. Dr. S.D. Tripathi (Former Director, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai) and the convenor introduced the key speaker. The lecture witnessed an active participation by faculty and students.

Prof. Srivastava presented the journey of India’s food production from food importing to food exporting country.

- He highlighted the major concerns about the nutritional security, hunger and malnutrition in India. In this regard, he empirically indicated about the challenges that will crop up in next few decades and augmented it with a lot of data available on national and global platforms.
- He stressed that by 2020, India has to provide food and nutrition to 1439 million people while by 2050 this number will reach 1619 million. Despite significant increase in agricultural production and productivity, very high level of under-nutrition and malnutrition in different forms continues to persist in India and other developing countries.
- He said that poor state of malnutrition in Indian children could be attributed to the lack of diversity in food and lesser emphasis on complementary feeding. More than 100 million children under 5 years are unable to realise their full socio-economic and human potential. Only 23% of Indian toddlers and infants get a balanced diet.
- As a remedy, he suggested that educating women can help change the scenario. Children must be provided very good nutrition during initial 2years after birth. Breast feeding upto 6 months is considered to be mandatory and best nutrition for pregnant ladies and lactating mothers should be given top priority. Community participation for health and nutrition would play the vital role to fight against malnutrition.
- Finally the talk was concluded by giving emphasis on bringing a **“Mission Mode”** action plan to address the malnutrition embracing dairy, fisheries and horticulture sector which will play a major role in providing balanced nutritional diet in future days.

Dr. Gopal Krishna, Director and Vice-Chancellor, ICAR-CIFE highlighted the importance of this special lecture for the benefit of faculty and students. The programme ended with a formal vote of thanks to chair.



