

Training on accessing of online e-journal, gene sequence alignment and phylogenetic analysis

SE Report

GANGTOK, March 26:

Three days training programme on accessing of online e-journal, gene sequence alignment and phylogenetic analysis concluded on March 23, which was conducted by Bioinformatics Centre, Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology. The programme was attended by the Secretary, State Science & Technology ML Arrawatia, Coordinator, DBT's electronic Library Consortium (Delcon), Sh DD Lall, officers and the research scholars of the Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology, informs a press release.

Three volumes of compiled research papers on Bioresource of Sikkim compiled by Bioinformatics centre was also formally released by Secretary, Science & Technology and Coordinator, Delcon consortium.

In his inaugural address, he urged the research scholars to make full use of the online e-journal facility provided by Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India through Delcon consortium and strive to publish at least two research papers in a year in high impact factor journals. He added that such online facilities of accessing and downloading these high impact factor journals in full text are available only in the top universities of the country and crores of rupees are paid annually to the publishers of these journals for each institute by DBT, Govt. of India. He



thanked the DBT, Govt. of India for providing these facilities to Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology.

The inaugural session was also addressed by the coordinator of the Delcon, Sh. Lall, who highlighted how the setting up of the Delcon consortium was conceptualised and later on materialised. He informed that around 900+ high impact factor journals are available free of cost for accessing and downloading full text to the selected institutes of the country including Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology and Sikkim University.

The Delcon consortium has been set up by the DBT to promote the use of electronic databases and full text access to journals by the research and academic community in the country, he informed.

Presently, there are 33 member including 15 DBT institutions. Back volumes of journals are available from vol. 1 issue 1 or at least from 1995. The journals in 24 fields including bioinformatics, biochem-

istry, biology / chemical biology, immunology and neuroscience are available for accessing and downloading full text research paper. Delcon consortium covers 917 e-journals.

The hands on training on accessing of online e-journals and downloading the full text research papers were imparted to the research scholars of the Sikkim State Council of Science and Technology and other research institutes of Sikkim by Sh. Lall. One can also visit the consortium website: <http://delcon.gov.in> for further queries.

Meanwhile, Bioinformatics Centre, Sikkim State Council of Science & Technology has invited research scholars working in various fields in this region to visit the centre to avail these facilities of accessing high impact factor journals of the world at zero cost which otherwise are available only on subscription or payment mode or in the top universities of the country.

On third day of the training programme, the training on sequence

alignment and the phylogenetic analysis was conducted. The training was imparted to the research scholars of the Sikkim State Council of Science and Technology. The resources persons were invited from the Regional Centre of Institute of Bioresource and Sustainable Development (RCIBSD), Tadong.

Dr. Sunil Thorat, Sr. Scientist cum Officer on Special Duty, IBSD delivered lecture on gene sequence alignment and phylogenetic analysis and performed demo of the aligning gene sequence and construction of phylogenetic tree. The lecture and the demo session was followed by hands on session. The hands on training was imparted by Dr. Pradeep, scientist, IBSD who showed how to extract the gene or protein sequence from National Centre for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) or other gene bank and align them by using various bioinformatics tools and conduct molecular studies including evolutionary relationship among species.