

**ICAR-National Research Centre for Integrated Pest Management
LBS Building, Pusa campus, New Delhi**

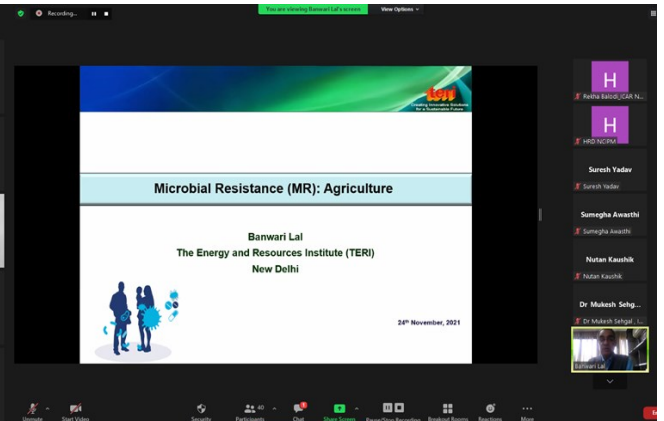
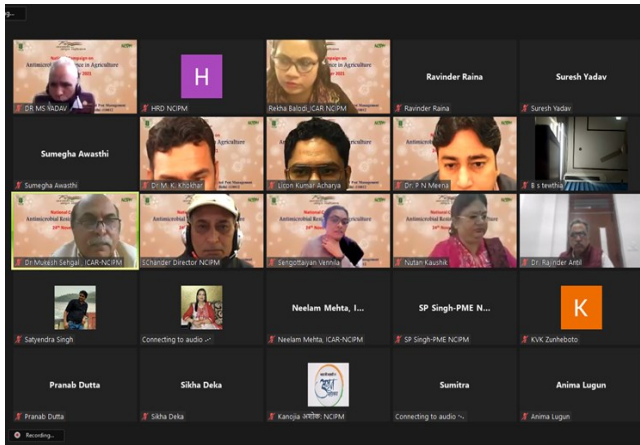
National Campaign on Antimicrobial Resistance

In the series of events under “*Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav*” ICAR-National Research Centre for Integrated Pest Management, New Delhi organized the National campaign by organizing National webinar on “**Antimicrobial Resistance in Agriculture**” on November 24, 2021 in virtual mode. The programme started with welcome address by Dr. Rekha Balodi, scientist and Programme Coordinator. Dr. Mukesh Sehgal, Principal Scientist & Incharge HRD, was the convener of the programme and introduced the topic and stressed the urgent need of awareness about Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). Dr. Subhash Chander, Director ICAR-National Research Centre for Integrated Pest Management, New Delhi briefed about the topic and enlightened the AMR threatens the effective prevention and treatment of an ever-increasing range of infections caused by bacteria, parasites, viruses and fungi in human, animals and agriculture. Invited speakers were Dr Nutan Kaushik, Director General, Food and Agriculture Foundation, Amity University, Noida, Uttar Pradesh and Dr Banwari Lal, Senior Director, Environment and Industrial Biotechnology, Teri, New Delhi.

Dr Nutan Kaushik, delivered a talk on “Antimicrobial Resistance in Agriculture” and stressed about drivers, dynamics and epidemiology of AMR in agriculture production. She explained that the AMR is an ancient and naturally occurring phenomenon in bacteria and other microbes. However, the use of antimicrobial pesticides– in agriculture, health care or industrial settings – exerts a selection pressure, which can favour the survival of resistant strains (or genes) over susceptible ones, leading to a relative increase in resistant bacteria within microbial communities and thereby posing health risks.

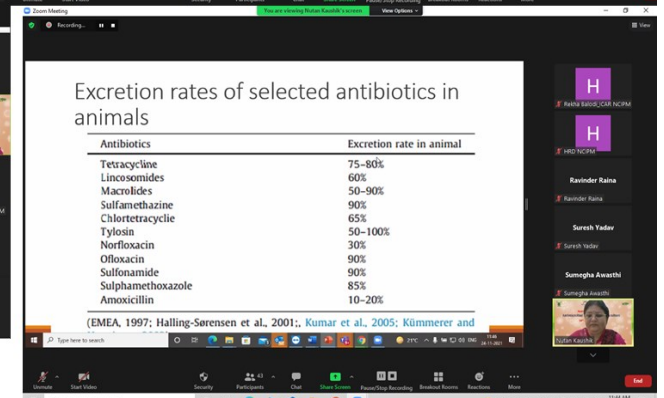
Dr Banwari Lal in his lecture described about overuse and improper use of antimicrobials in many parts of the world, which are recognized as key drivers of the emergence and spread of AMR. Antimicrobials are used for non-therapeutic purpose in animal husbandry and there is need to develop SOP’s for the regulation of the same. The presence of antimicrobials in the environment – as observed in hospitals or intensive farm settings – has been associated with the survival of strains with higher rates of mutation. He stressed that livestock, humans and the environment are intimately connected and it is important to consider the emergence and spread of AMR from a “One Health” perspective, which provides a framework for an interdisciplinary approach to dealing with this enormous challenge.

Participants from different of parts of India *viz.* Delhi, Assam, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Udaipur, Nagaland and Jhansi, Satna interacted with the speakers and with the promise that the message of proper utilization of antimicrobials will be spread to other researchers, students, farmers and extension workers.



Antibiotics consumption in food animals

- China (23%),
- United States (13%),
- Brazil (9%),
- India (3%) and
- Germany (3%).



Glimpses of Online webinar on ‘Antimicrobial Resistance’