

**TEC - IVRI Pune successfully organised Interactive Career
Workshop “Sustainable Futures: Career Development,
Opportunities & Challenges in International Higher Education”
on 29th January 2024**

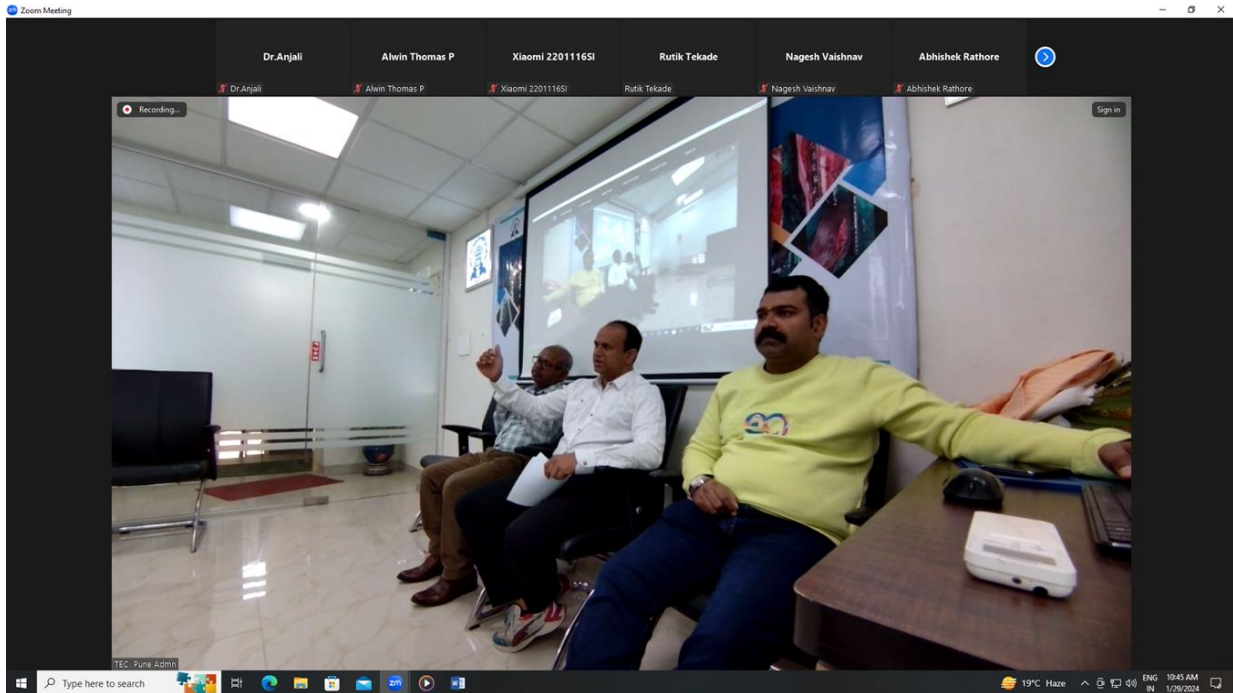
Igniting the spark of curiosity and ambition, the Training and Education Centre, ICAR-IVRI, Pune, recently organized an interactive workshop, titled *"Sustainable Futures: Career Development, Opportunities & Challenges in International Higher Education"*. Conducted on 29th January 2024, was an inspiration for undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral students hailing from State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), State Veterinary Universities (SVUs), and Central Agricultural Universities (CAUs) to explore promising career opportunities at global level. The workshop, aimed at unraveling the complexities of pursuing global opportunities, drew participation from diverse groups and 422 registrations were received across India, including two (02) from Nigeria, showcasing the universal appeal of the subject.



(Dr Ulhas Kadam, guest speaker interacting with the participants)

Dr SK Das, Principal Scientist, TEC Pune, welcomed the guest speaker and informed the unique efforts of TEC IVRI Pune to empower the young researchers in the agricultural and livestock sector with much needed events. Dr Ulhas Kadam,

Research Professor at the Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology Research Center, Gyeongsang National University, Jinju-si, Republic of Korea was the guest speaker.



(Zoom meeting interaction with an online participant)

Dr Kadam not only shared his wealth of knowledge but also actively engaged with the participants, motivating them to build a career in science. During the interactive session, he emphasized the importance of disciplined work, skill improvement during undergraduate studies, active volunteering for organizations of choice, and the habit of daily reading and regular writing. Dr Kadam provided a comprehensive and detailed guide on the step-by-step process to prepare for Master's or PhD admissions in the United States, shedding light on the intricacies of the application procedure. He outlined the importance of strategic preparation for standardized tests like GRE and TOEFL, offering valuable insights into the specific approaches needed to excel in these exams, crucial for securing admission to prestigious American institutions.

In addition to demystifying the testing process, Dr Kadam shared a brief yet insightful account of the available fellowships for students aspiring to pursue higher education. By navigating through the landscape of available funding opportunities, he tried to equip the participants with crucial information to explore financial support for their academic pursuits.

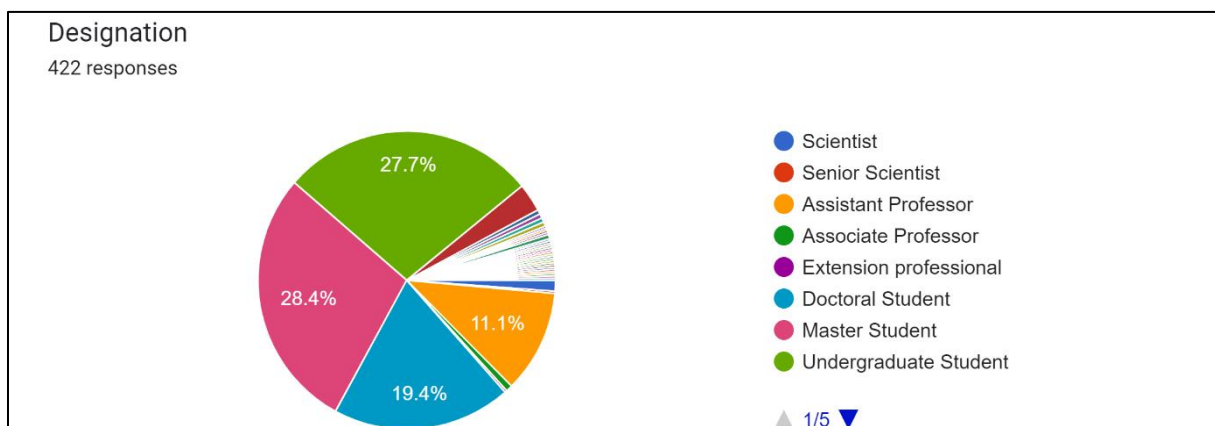
Dr Kadam emphasized the evolving trends in the industry and foreign countries, emphasizing the need for skill improvement among students from State Agricultural Universities (SAUs). His thoughtful expression underscored the dynamic

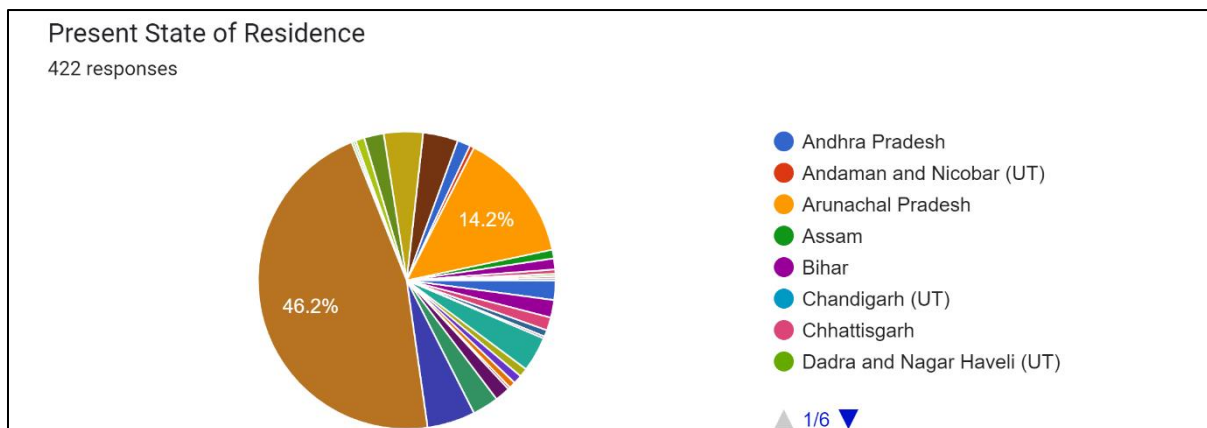
nature of academic and professional landscapes, urging students to continuously enhance their skills to align with the changing demands of both industry and international educational standards. The emphasis on skill development aimed to empower the participants to thrive in a rapidly changing global educational and professional environment.

Dr Amol Bhalerao, Scientist (Agril. Extension), TEC Pune coordinated the workshop and also interacted with the participants. Dr Bhalerao played a pivotal role in guiding and addressing the queries raised by the participants during the session. One key focus was assisting participants in making informed decisions about selecting disciplines for their master's studies. Dr Bhalerao provided insights into the various disciplines available and helped participants understand the relevance of each in the context of their academic and career goals. Furthermore, he offered valuable guidance on preparing for the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) examination, a crucial step for those aspiring to join the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). Dr Bhalerao shared strategic approaches and tips to navigate the examination process successfully, aiding participants in their pursuit of a career with ICAR.



(20 students from College of Agriculture Pune attended the workshop)





(Registration data showing greater participation from UG and MSc students, and majority of them are from Maharashtra, and followed by Uttar Pradesh)

Addressing the aspirations of those seeking international exposure, Dr Bhalerao shed light on strategies to acquire the Netaji Subhash ICAR International Fellowship. His guidance encompassed the application process, eligibility criteria, and ways to enhance one's profile to increase the likelihood of securing this prestigious fellowship. Dr Bhalerao also explored avenues for participants to enhance crucial soft skills that are increasingly valued in today's professional landscape, providing them with a holistic and well-rounded skill set. Additionally, the session covered the potential for entrepreneurship development through the IVRI Incubation Centre. Dr Bhalerao also outlined the opportunities, resources, and support available for those interested in venturing into entrepreneurial initiatives within the incubation framework of ICAR-IVRI.

Overall, an insightful dialogue encompassed a broad spectrum of topics, offering guidance on academic choices, examination preparation, international fellowships, skill development, and entrepreneurial possibilities. Guest speaker's expertise and thoughtful responses contributed significantly to the participants' understanding of their academic and professional journeys.

Finally, the workshop was ended with the vote of thanks.

