

Dr. B.P Pal Memorial Lecture organized at ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

The ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi organized 26th Dr. B. P. Pal Memorial Lecture on 27th May, 2019 in association with Genetics Club. The lecture was delivered by Padma Shri Dr. Ajay Kumar Sood, Honorary Professor, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru on the topic “**Why Do We Flock Together: A Physicist’s View**”. The function was chaired by Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary DARE and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi. Dr. A. K. Singh, DDG (Agricultural Extension) & Director, ICAR-IARI, Dr. Rashmi Agarwal, Dean & Joint Director (Education) and Dr. Vinod, Professor, Division of Genetics and President, Genetics Club were the other dignitaries present on the dais. Before the start of lecture, dignitaries paid floral tribute to late Dr. B.P. Pal in whose memory the lecture series was started. The lecture was attended by many distinguished scientists from the field of agricultural and allied sciences, faculty and students from Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi. Scientists from ICAR institutes located in Delhi and ICAR Headquarters also attended the lecture. In his lecture Dr. Sood provided an insight into the collective behavior of both physical particles and biological entities and the scientific basis of this behavior. Living beings like locusts, *E.coli*, ants and birds all have coordinated movements and this also happens to human beings at certain levels. He explained in an interesting way the coordinated movement and orderliness in biological entities based on principles of physics. The theory of flocking in physics may have significance in biological sciences also.