

# Newspaper Clippings

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## **2ND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH IN LIFE SCIENCES (ICTRLS): PLANETARY HEALTH**

The Department of Life Sciences at Kristu Jayanti College (Autonomous), in collaboration with the University of Trans-Disciplinary Health Sciences and Technology (TDU), University of Michigan – Flint, USA, and Belmont University, USA, organised the 2nd International Conference on Transdisciplinary Research in Life Sciences (ICTRLS) on 6th and 7th March. This year's conference, themed "Planetary Health," was supported by the Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology (KSCST).

The event attracted 200+ participants from over 33 institutions across the country. The conference was inaugurated by Prof Chandrabhas Narayana, Director, Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology, Thiruvananthapuram, who was honoured by Fr Jais V Thomas, Financial Administrator, Kristu Jayanti College (Autonomous). The inauguration set the stage for insightful discussions on ecological sustainability and interdisciplinary learning.

In his Presidential Address, Fr Jais V Thomas emphasised the shift from anthropocentrism to biocentrism, highlighting interdependence and the need to integrate technology with philosophy for ecological harmony. In his Inaugural Address, Prof Narayana advocated for learning beyond exams. He introduced concepts like "Bio-E3" and "BioClusters," stressing their incorporation into such conferences to foster meaningful learning.

The conference featured a series of technical sessions led by eminent scientists, including:

- Dr Yukie Yokota, Assistant Professor, Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan
- Dr Phalguni Anand Alladi, Scientist, NIMHANS

• Dr Megha, Associate Professor, Centre of Ayurveda Biology and Holistic Nutrition, TDU  
Engaging discussions continued with a dynamic lineup of experts and researchers, including:

• Dr Shelby Garner, Director of Global Health Innovation, Office of Aspirational Excellence

• Dr Tanu Rana, Associate Professor, Belmont University, USA

• Dr B Tambat, Professor, GKVK, Bangalore

The event also showcased over 160 research papers, with 107 oral presentations and 55 poster presentations. Awards were presented for the best oral and poster presentations.

The conference concluded with a valedictory session, featuring heartfelt words of appreciation and gratitude from delegates and participants. This edition of ICTRLS laid a strong foundation for discussions on planetary health, sustainability, and the role of biotechnology in addressing global challenges.

