Indian Institute of Plantation Management-Bengaluru, a premier sector institute of plantation and agribusiness, hosted a Webinar on Transformations in Food Systems, on 30th May 2020, in line with PGDM on Food Processing & Business Management (FPBM) program. Experts from food sector & academic institutions addressed the participants of the event.

Dr. V. Prakash, Former Director CFTRI, Mysuru, highlighted on the Future Industry Driven Academic Programs on Food Business and the challenges & impact of pandemic scenario of both pre and post COVID19 within Food System perspectives. Further, concept of farm to folk importance was highlighted with an emphasis to understand the biology of virus and its preventive measure to food chain for self-sufficiency. Dr. Suresh Babu, Economic Researcher, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington D.C. USA, addressed on Food Policy System: Challenges & Opportunities and discussed on the Essential Commodity Act and Agricultural Produce & Market Committee Acts and its need for reformation in food policy system for essential commodities. Components of opening free market to farmers and market determined process were emphasized during his interaction with participants. Mr. Giridar Rao, Vice President- Global Operations, Griffith Foods, highlighted on nutrition concerns, food innovation and future opportunities for food industry. Rao opined, a way forward scenario of post Coivd 19 through food innovations viz., novel meal kits, home meal replacement and food business reorientation with herbas.

Over 120 participants comprising of students, academicians, researchers and practitioners of food technology and business participated in the event. Webinar concluded on the value and importance of institute’s 24 months program on Food Processing and Business Management (FP&BM) and its career opportunity for young graduates of food sector. A series of program on food sector was coordinated by IIPM Professors Chenna Kesava Reddy, John Mano Raj and Rana Salva.

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