Bioconservation is one of the important branches of science which finds solutions to most pressing challenges of humanity such as food production, human health and environmental protection. Medicinal plants are under threat due to biotic and abiotic factors and there is a need to conserve them with biotechnological approaches like genetic engineering. Biotechnology is one of the rapidly changing scientific fields and the innovations in the field need to be integrated in the teaching–learning process. There has been tremendous advancement in this field both in academics and in research. The proposed course broadly covers important subjects like recent innovative technologies in bioconservation, Genetic engineering for abiotic stress tolerance, Plant microbiome for plant stress management, ELISA, Western blotting, Genetic engineering for fungal disease resistance, Mushroom cultivation technology, Genomics assisted breeding for developing stress tolerant plants, Agrobacterium mediated transformation, Microorganisms as a source of human medicine, DNA sequencing, Bioprospecting of renewable forest resources, etc. It also covers scientific writing and ethics in Science and Technology, IPR, Trademarks and Copyrights.

The UGC has notified (F-3/1-2009) that teachers in universities and colleges attending two-week Refresher Courses are entitled to be considered for promotion. Applications are invited from teachers with experience in teaching undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Microbiology, Botany, Zoology, Environmental sciences, Chemistry, Genetics and breeding, Agricultural sciences and related life sciences. Maximum 35 applications will be considered and teachers who wish to participate in the Refresher Course may apply through proper channel with the following details: name, date of birth, gender, e-mail, official and residential addresses, telephone numbers, academic qualifications, courses taught, affiliation, positions held and tenure. It is also essential to submit a brief statement (between 250 and 500 words) as to why they think the Course will help to improve their classroom teaching of the above courses. There will be NO application fee/registration.

Applications should be submitted ONLINE by clicking the following link:

http://web-japps.ias.ac.in:8080/Refreshcourse/KASC.jsp

A print copy of the application must also be sent by speed post forwarded by the Head of the institution. It should reach The Course Coordinator before 10 December 2018. Outstation candidates will be provided local hospitality and round trip bus/train (three-tier AC) fare by the shortest route.

Course Director: Prof. Edathil Vijayan, ICMR-Emeritus Medical Scientist, Centre for Neuroscience, Department of Biotechnology, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Kochi.

Course Coordinator: Dr J. Karthikeyan, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Biochemistry (PG and Research), Kongunadu Arts and Science College (Autonomous), G.N. Mills Post, Coimbatore 641 029, e-mail: karthikeyankpj@gmail.com; Mobile: +91-94865 44511.