- 1. Microbiology of Ecosystems Soil, Rhizosphere, Phyllosphere, water and air.
- 2. Role of microbes in biogeochemical cycles-Carbon cycle, Nitrogen cycle, Sulphur cycle, phosphorous cycle.
- 3. Factors affecting the movement of microorganisms in soil Adsorption to soil particles, soil physical properties, plant roots, soil animals and human beings
- 4. Ecophysiological interactions in microbes & higher plants Interaction with plant roots, interaction with aerial plant structures microbial diseases of plant with specific examples of mycorrhiza, lichens, Rhizobacteria.
- 5. Phosphate solubilizing bacteria and fungi (including mycorrhiza), potassium solubilizing bacteria and fungi (including mycorrhiza)
- 6. Nitrogen fixation Biochemistry of N2 fixation, properties of terrestrial nitrogen fixing organisms, free living diazotrophs. Symbiotic nitrogen fixation: Rhizobium Legume association, Actinorhizal associations, contribution of symbiotic nitrogen fixation. Denitrification.
- 7. Biocontrol Concept, types, mode of action & applications of biopesticides and bioherbicides, Biopesticides classification, advantages. Major biopesticides based on bacteria, viruses & fungi (Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt) toxin, Boverin, DeVine, Collego).
- 8. Biofertilizer-Mass cultivation of microbial inoculants; green manuring; algalization; Azolla.
- 9. Microbial products and plant health: PGPR (plant growth promoting rhizobacteria)s
- 10. Isolation and preservation of different types of microorganisms, methods of sterilization and disinfection, microscopy, microbial assay of enzymes and antibiotics.
- 11. Industrial production of metabolites. Fermenter designs and types. Control of fermentation process.

## National Institute of Plant Health Management Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500 030

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