

Dr. Lekha T Pazhamala

Lekha T Pazhamala is a DST Women Scientist working at International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) based in Hyderabad under the Genetic Gains Program. She received a PhD in Biotechnology and has been involved in identifying drought-responsive ESTs in rice root transcriptome using microarray. She has got more than six years of post-doctoral experience in functional genomics studies and her research focuses on developing transcriptomics resources for assisting crop improvement programs of grain legumes important to the semi-arid tropics, especially chickpea and pigeonpea. Her research includes using next generation sequencing technology for the identification of candidate genes for abiotic and biotic stress tolerance, characterization of environment-sensitive male sterile line for two-line hybrid breeding system, development of transcriptomic resources such as gene expression atlas for pigeonpea. She has delivered invited talks in several international conferences such as Plant and Animal Genome XXII conference ASIA 2016 and Plant and Animal Genome XXII conference 2014.