

Q. Give an account of Modern concept of gene. Giving proper illustration.

INTRODUCTION → After the discovery and rediscovery of Mendel's laws in 1900. Sutton studied his classic work thoroughly. He was also families with chromosome behaviour during meiosis and notice the similarity between segregation of during meiosis and segregation of Mendel's factors or determine during gametogenesis. He also found that there is link between the chromosome of an egg and sperm. He concluded that chromosomes are of carrier of hereditary particle of factors or determines of chromosome. During the second decade of the present century many fundamental concepts of genetics were established by Morgan, Sturtevant Bridge and Muller. They suggested that the chromosome are composed of units or genes which are carriers of hereditary characters. The term gene was coined by Johnson in 1909.

Since then various characteristics and various kinds of genes have been discovered by a number of workers.

The modern concept of gene

can be study discussed under the following headings:

- ① **Classic concept of gene** → In the later 30s of the present century many fundamental concepts of genes and genetics were established. This is known as the classic concept, the main points of which are the following.
- ② Inheritance involves the transmission gene from parent to offspring.
- ③ Genes are situated in chromosome.
- ④ There are several genes in each chromosome.
- ⑤ Each gene occupies a fix position in the chromosome.
- ⑥ Genes in a chromosome are arranged in a single linear order.
- ⑦ A single gene may occur in several different forms or states called alleles.
- ⑧ The two alleles of gene may frequently be related to each other as dominant and recessive.
- ⑨ Some genes have more than two alleles this is known as multiple allelism.
- ⑩ Frequently a gene may show a certain change from one form or state to another.
- ⑪ Carriers of one chromosome may be transferred to another.

- ⑥ Duplication of each chromosome during Mitosis is preceded by self duplication of genes of that chromosome.
- ⑦ Genes express themselves through the production of chemical substances which subsequently control cell metabolism.

⑧ The gene in terms of DNA → The genes in modern age has been illustrated in terms of DNA. According to this view gene is that portion of DNA molecule that produces a trait. Sarre (1959) coined the following term to describe the subdivision of genes.

⑨ Cistron → It is the functional unit of DNA molecule and refers to called gene. It can be also called a genetic unit of DNA molecule.

⑩ Muton → Each gene or system is composed of several subunits or functionally sized arranged in a linear fashion arranged in series. Each subunit is capable under going mutation and hence called them muton. Thus a number of muton constitute a gene.

⑪ Racon → It is the subunit capable under going recombination to give rise to new forms it is termed as Racon.

III Chemical structures of Genes →
cytochemical studies on microorganisms by
a number of workers such as Griffith
(1945), Avery (1946), Hershey and Chase
(1952). Leo established, that
DNA is primary genetic material res-
ponsible for DNA. DNA occurs widely
in all kind of cells. It is composed
of deoxyribose sugars, phosphoric acid
and Nitrogen bases namely Adenine,
Cytosine, Thymine and Guanine.

The following evidence

to the point fact DNA is the genes.

- a) The total DNA content is the same
in all the diploid cells of organism
of the same species.
- b) The haploid cells contain half the amount
of DNA present in the somatic cell.
- c) In polyplid cells the DNA complement
increases proportionately.
- d) Mitosis brings about and equal dis-
tribution of DNA to daughter cells.
- e) Composition of DNA is similar in
organisms of the same species.
- f) Structure of DNA is in tune with the
fact that genes are arranged in linear
fashion in chromosome.
- g) DNA is capable of self duplication
with outermost accuracy. This is
essential for preservation and transmission
of genetic information from generation to

generation.

⑥ DNA is capable of controlling and regulatory protein synthesis essential for expression of traits.

⑦ Genes are known to be very stable DNA is the most stable compound therefore

⑧ There are physical and chemical agents which alter the chemical storage of DNA

IV Multiple alleles → Most genes occur in two alternative forms or states which influence the same trait. Alternatively and occupying the same locus in homologous chain. Such different forms of the same genes are referred to as alleles. Some genes occur in more than two allelic form which are collectively referred to as multiple alleles. The set of multiple alleles are the mutant forms of the same gene. Such genes have been discovered in rabbit, Drosophila in other organism.

⑨ Split genes → Generally the genes coding for the synthesis of particular polypeptide has continuous sequence of nucleotides.

But there are reports that the sequences is not continuous in many carriers.

This has been called as split genes. There are two form of split genes.

⑩ Hexon gene → The DNA of adeno virus

is double stranded. It occurs ~~for~~ in about 25 bases. Eight genes are called lactogen, because they transcribe m RNA in lacte in virus life. The total length of the 8 m RNA is than the length of the original transcript. In m RNA there is 3 loops which represent the un-pair regions. This is known as the hexon gene.

⑥ **Ovalbumin gene** → It has been reported in chicken. It is not continuous but is made up of pieces scattered in the chromosome.

⑦ **Overlapping gene** → There is general conception that one gene is responsible for the coding of one protein. But their are reported that one gene may code several polypeptides. Such genes have been called overlapping genes. They have been reported by Beadle and worker (1926) in bacterial viruses.

⑧ **Suppressor gene** → This genes inhibit the phenotypic expression of 6th chromosome gene. They may not be linked to the genes whose action they suppress. These action is probably indirect.

CONCLUSION → Before the development of microbial and biochemical genetics. Several were made between 1900 and 1905 to understand the nature of genes. It is possible to study the gene with stranded genes the techniques by observing recombination. Phenotype and mutation contain DNA which is the hereditary material.

According to the modern concept of gene it is a segment of DNA that serves as code for a particular portion. The genes must therefore be linear in structure and consists of many subunit called as nucleotides. The nucleotide is the functional unit of mutation.