



## **National conference on strengthening food systems through increased fruit cultivation**

**Advancing scientific research and funding initiatives to increase fruit accessibility for low-income families**

### **Registered Conference Participant List**

 <b>Date:</b>	 <b>Venue:</b>	
18–19 November 2025	National Agricultural Science Complex (NASC), Pusa Campus, New Delhi	
<b>Participant Category</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Chief Guest	Dr R.S. Paroda	Founder Chairman, Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences
Guest of Honour	Dr H.P. Singh	Founder and Chair, Confederation of Horticulture Associations of India (CHAI)
Chair CFI Advisory Board	Dr Sanjay Kumar Singh	DDG (Horticulture), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
Special Guest & CFI Scientific committee member	Dr Suresh K. Malhotra	Vice Chancellor, Maharana Pratap Horticultural University
Special Guest	Dr R.R. Burman	ADG-Extension, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
CFI Scientific committee member	Dr Geeta Joshi	Scientist & Assistant Director General (Media & Extension), Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education
CFI Scientific committee member	Dr Rekha Warriar	Senior Principal Scientist, Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding
CFI Scientific committee member	Dr. Prakash Tyagi	Executive Director, Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti (GRAVIS)
CFI Scientific committee member	Dr T Longvah	Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems
CFI Scientific committee member	Dr Bharat Kakade	President and Managing Trustee, BAIF Development Research Foundation
CFI Scientific committee member	Dr Gina Kennedy	Director of Research, Translation and Impact for the Periodic Table of Food Initiative (PTFI) and Principal Scientist, Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT
CFI Scientific committee member	Dr G. Ravikanth	Sr. Fellow & Convenor, ATREE Academy
CFI Scientific committee member	Dr J. C. Rana	Country Director, Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, India
CFI Scientific committee member	Dr Uma Shankar	Professor and Emeritus Scientist (Retd) and Co-Founder ATREE
Technical advisor & executive committee member CFI	Dr Prem N. Mathur	Technical Advisor, Alliance of Bioversity International & CIAT
Program Leader Executive committee member CFI	Dr Chris Kettle	Global Program Leader, Alliance of Bioversity International & CIAT
Executive committee member CFI	Dr Smitha Krishnan	Sr. Scientist, Alliance of Bioversity International & CIAT
CFI Program Management Unit	Gaurav Srivastava	Program Assistant, Alliance of Bioversity International & CIAT
CFI program Management Unit	Disha Sanwal	Program Coordinator, Alliance of Bioversity International & CIAT
Alliance -Internal staff	Sonal Dsouza	Partnerships Manager, Alliance of Bioversity International & CIAT
Alliance -Internal staff	Dr Sarika Mitra	Consultant, Alliance of Bioversity International & CIAT

Alliance -Internal staff	Dr Harinder Vishwakarma	Consultant, Alliance of Bioversity International & CIAT
Invited Speaker	Dr K.K. Srivastava	Principal Scientist, ICAR-Central Institute of Sub tropical horticulture
Invited Speaker	Dr Shailendra Rajan	Former Director, ICAR-Central Institute of Sub tropical horticulture
Invited Speaker	Prof. Tridip Kumar Hazarika	Professor and HOD Horticulture, Mizoram University
Invited Speaker	Dr S. Naresh Kumar	Head, Principal Scientist, Environment Science, India Agricultural Research Institute
Invited Speaker	Dr Dinesh Kumar	Head, Principal Scientist, Food Science & Post Harvest Technology, India Agricultural Research Institute
Invited Speaker	Dr P.S. Birthal	Director, ICAR-National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research
Invited Speaker	Saurabh Pradhan	SMS- Fruits, VNR Nursery Pvt. Ltd.
Invited Speaker	Randip Gosh	SMS- Fruits, VNR Nursery Pvt. Ltd.
Invited Speaker	Dr Balkrishna Yadav	Sr. Vice President, Agri Biotech R&D, Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd
Invited Guest	Dr K. B. Patil	Senior Vice President, Jain Irrigation Pv.t Ltd.
Invited Guest	Dr Anil Patil	Sr. Vice President-Tissue Culture of Jain Irrigation System Ltd
Invited Guest	Dr R. Annathan	Scientist-E, Food Chemistry Division, ICMR-National Institute of Nutrition
Invited Guest	Dr Nand Kishore Sharma	Professor Agrostology, Swami Keshwand Rajasthan Agriculture University
Invited Guest	Dr Umesh Srivastava	Ex ADG-Horticulture, Indian Council of Agricultural Research
Invited Guest	Dr R. K. Tyagi	Senior Consultant, Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences
Invited Guest	Dr Radha Mohan Sharma	Professor and Principal Scientist, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI)
Invited Guest	Dr Alok Sikka	Country Representative - India, International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
Invited Guest	Pramod Kumar Gupta	Additional Director, NHRDF
Invited Guest	Dr Rajneesh Mishra	Joint Director, NHRDF
Invited Guest	Dr Vijyalakshmi	Research & Communication officer, International Livestock Research Institute
Invited Speaker	Harshit Godha	CEO, Indo-Israel Avocado
Invited Speaker	Sunila Kumari	Founder and Director, DragonFlora Farms LLP
Invited Guest	Ms Freesia Kumari	Digital marketing assistant, DragonFlora Farms LLP
Invited Speaker	Sudhanshu Kumar	Founder, Orchards of Nayanagar
Invited Speaker	Shwetanshu Chaturvedi	Director, Chaturvedi Botanicals, Secretary Lychee Growers Association
Proposal Applicant	Dr M. Mathiyazagan	Associate Professor & HOD, Nagaland University
Proposal Applicant	Dr Vikas Chandra	Assistant Professor-cum-Jr. Scientist, Bihar Agricultural University Sabour
Proposal Applicant	Pallavi Gill	Programme Officer- Partnerships, Aga Khan Foundation
Proposal Applicant	Ashok Singh	Program Officer - Health & Nutrition, Aga Khan Foundation
Proposal Applicant	Tinni Sawhney	Director, Aga Khan Foundation

Proposal Applicant	Dr Kishan Lal Kumawat	Scientist (Fruit Science), ICAR-Central Institute for Arid Horticulture
Proposal Applicant	Dr Manisha Choudhury	Assistant Professor, Department of Food and Nutrition, Assam Agricultural University
Proposal Applicant	Pradeep Singh	Program Officer, Jan Evom Krishi Vikas Sansthan
Proposal Applicant	Dr M. Thenmozhi	Assistant Professor, SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST)
Proposal Applicant	Reji Joseph	Co-founder and President, JaivOrg
Proposal Applicant	Ganesh Bedare	Thematic Programme Executive - Agriculture Research, BAIF Development Research Foundation
Proposal Applicant	Dr Akhilesh Kumar Srivastava	Professor & Head, Department of Fruit Science, College of Horticulture, Banda University of Agriculture & Technology,
Proposal Applicant	Dr Subhash Chandra	Associate Professor, Fruit Science, College of Horticulture, Banda University of Agriculture & Technology,
Proposal Applicant	R.S. Negi	Sr. Scientist & Head, Deendayal Research Institute, Krishi Vigyan Kendra
Proposal Applicant	Dr Hari Om Saxena	Scientist -E, ICFRE – Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur
Proposal Applicant	Dr Dheeraj Thakural	Head, Division of Integrated Farming Systems, Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI)
Proposal Applicant	Gopal Krishna	Director, e-PAHEL
Proposal Applicant	Dr Rajeev Kumar Narolia	Associate Professor; Sri Karan Narendra Agriculture University
Proposal Applicant	Dr Luna Panda	Executive Director, Pragati, Koraput
Proposal Applicant	Anshuman Pattnayak	Program officer, Pragati, Koraput
Proposal Applicant	Om Prakash Sharma	Secretary, Gram Chetna Kendra
Proposal Applicant	Pavan Wasnik	Program Manager, Gram Chetna Kendra
Proposal Applicant	Dr Yamuna Pandey	Assistant Professor of fruit science, Central Agricultural University (CAU)
Proposal Applicant	Dr Shalini Pilonia	Assistant Professor, Maharana Pratap Horticulture University
Proposal Applicant	Rajendra Kumar	Sr. Program Coordinator, Gramin Vikas Vigyan Samiti (GRAVIS)
Proposal Applicant	Girigan Gopi	Principal Scientist (Economics), Biodiversity Prog, MSSRF, M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation
Proposal Applicant	Dr Sudhir Verma	Professor, Dr YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry
Proposal Applicant	Dr Prashant Kisan Nimbolkar	Assistant Professor (Fruit Science), Central Agricultural University Imphal
Proposal Applicant	Dr Omveer Singh	Professor Horticulture, G. B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology
Proposal Applicant	Dr Ratna Rai	Professor Horticulture, G. B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology
Proposal Applicant	Shubhendu Shekhar	Founder President, Grey2Greens Foundation
Proposal Applicant	Dr Rajesh Kumar	Horticulture consultant, Grey2Greens Foundation
Proposal Applicant	Dr Nimisha Sharma	Scientist, ICAR-Indian Agriculture Research Institute

Proposal Applicant	Dr Bikash Das	Director, ICAR–National Research Centre on Litchi
Proposal Applicant	Dr Narender Negi	ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources
Proposal Applicant	Dr Shoaib Nissar Kirmani	Subject Matter Specialist-Horticulture, ICAR -KVK Srinagar
Proposal Applicant	Dr Muralidhara BM	Scientist (Fruit Science), ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticulture Research, Central Horticultural experiment Station, Chettalli
Proposal Applicant	Dr G Karunakaran	Principal Scientist, ICAR -Indian Institute of Horticulture Research, Bengaluru
Student	Vishwajeet Singh	Student, College of Horticulture, Banda University of Agriculture & Technology,
Student	Mohit Kumar	Student, College of Horticulture, Banda University of Agriculture & Technology,
Student	Arya	Student, College of Horticulture, Banda University of Agriculture & Technology,
Student	Siddharth Kumar	Student, College of Horticulture, Banda University of Agriculture & Technology,
Student	Prashant Singh	Student, College of Horticulture, Banda University of Agriculture & Technology,
Student	Manoj Govind	Student, College of Horticulture, Banda University of Agriculture & Technology,
Student	Anita Sahu	Student, College of Horticulture, Banda University of Agriculture & Technology,
Student	Gaurav kumar Patel	Student, College of Horticulture, Banda University of Agriculture & Technology,
Student	Bhawana Singh	Student, College of Horticulture, Banda University of Agriculture & Technology,
Student	Prasanna NS	Post doctoral fellow, ATREE
Student	Akshay	PhD student ICAR-India Agricultural Research Institute
Student	Hitakari Vittal	PhD student ICAR-India Agricultural Research Institute
Student	Anita Kashyap	PhD student ICAR-India Agricultural Research Institute
Others	Dr Naseer Md.	Scientist-E, ICFRE - Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur
Others	Rajpal Singh	Principal Lead-Adaptive Technology Agriculture, Sehgal Foundation
Others	Dr Rashmi Yadav	Principal Scientist, ICAR -NBPGR
Others	Dr Vinod Sharma	Principal Scientist, ICAR -NBPGR
Others	Dr Rakesh Bhardwaj	Principal Scientist, ICAR -NBPGR
Others	Dr S.P. Ahlawat	Principal Scientist, ICAR -NBPGR
Others	Prabhanshu Mishra	Student ICAR-India Agricultural Research Institute
Others	Smita Barkatakya	Founder, Enhance Life and Livelihoods (ELL) LLP
Others	Yogesh Sawant	Senior Thematic Programme Executive, BAIF Development Research Foundation
Others	Dr P.C. Tripathi	Principal Scientist, Horticulture Science division, IARI
Others	Ruby Pathania	Program officer-Agriculture, Wadhvani AI
Others	Dr Madhubala Takur	Sr. Scientist, Food & Horticulture Technology division, IARI
Others	Dr Gagan Mehta	Assistant Professor, Maharana Pratap Horticulture University