

ANNUAL REPORT

2025-26



National Academy of Agricultural Sciences
New Delhi

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National Academy of Agricultural Sciences

NASC, DPS Marg, New Delhi - 110012, India

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PREFACE

The National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS) has a rich history of more than 35 years and continues to serve as a credible think tank promoting agricultural research, education and extension for sustainable agricultural development. The Academy provides a platform for scientific deliberations and offers evidence-based policy inputs to address emerging challenges in agriculture and ensure food & nutritional security.



During 2025–26, the Academy organized brainstorming sessions (11) on priority areas, such as artificial intelligence in agriculture, precision irrigation, plant microbiome, marine nutraceuticals, crop residue management, and sustainable fisheries. These deliberations generated actionable recommendations aligned with national priorities and the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047. The Academy also strengthened its global engagement with the Global Youth Institute (GYI), providing a platform for six meritorious school students to interact with global experts and showcase India’s agricultural advancements.

The Academy undertook several key initiatives during the year, including NAAS–Dhanuka Awards (14) in collaboration with M/s Dhanuka Agritech Ltd. for excellence in agricultural extension, recognizing outstanding KVKs, ATARIs and Extension Scientists; Smt. Kanak Aggarwal NAAS Girls Scholarship; participation in World Food Prize event 2025; and organizing international workshop. In addition, the Academy continued to support young scientists through awards, strengthen the NAAS-YUVA platform, and promote gender inclusivity through the Smt. Kanak Aggarwal NAAS Girls Scholarship.

The Regional Chapters and NAAS-YUVA actively organized workshops, webinars and outreach activities. The Academy’s publication activity included Policy Papers (9), Strategy Papers (2), Newsletter (4 issues), Book (1) and Agricultural Research journal (4 issues).

I acknowledge the valuable contributions of the Past-President (Dr. Himanshu Pathak), Editors (Dr. R.K. Jain & Dr. R.K. Pal), Fellows, Office bearers, Executive Council, Conveners and the Secretariat for their continued support and commitment.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'M.L. Jat', written over a horizontal line.

(M.L. Jat)
President

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1. ABOUT THE ACADEMY

Inspired by the vision of late Prof B.P. Pal, FRS, the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS) was established in 1990 to provide an interactive platform for agricultural scientists from different disciplines – crop husbandry, animal husbandry, fisheries, forestry, engineering and social sciences to deliberate on important issues related to agriculture and rural development; agricultural research, education and extension; and facilitate the provision of evidence-based inputs to policymakers and other stakeholders at different levels of governance. The Academy organizes and supports national and international congresses, conferences, seminars, symposia, workshops and brainstorming sessions on the contemporary issues in agricultural sciences and articulates the role of agricultural research, education and extension in economic development.

The Academy has emerged as a think tank to import policy inputs in the agriculture and allied sectors. The Fellows of the Academy, recognized for their contributions to science, include distinguished personalities in agriculture and allied sciences from India and abroad.

OBJECTIVES

- Promote ecologically sustainable, economically viable and environment friendly agriculture
- Recognize and support excellence in scientific research in the field of agriculture
- Promote interactions among the researchers in different national and international organizations
- Secure and manage funds and endowments for the promotion of agricultural sciences
- Publish journals, policy papers and other documents for advancement of agricultural research, education and development
- Conduct other activities relevant to the accomplishment of the above goals, in public interest

Management Bodies

- **The General Body:** This is comprised of its Fellows.
- **The Executive Council (EC):** This is the main policy and decision making body (Annexure I).
- **Statuary Committees:** These have been constituted to deal with various aspects of governance of the Academy.

2. SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

2.1 Brainstorming Sessions

During the year, following brainstorming sessions were organized:

Sl. No.	Title	Convener/Co-Convener	Date
1.	Preparing Future Ready Youths for Entrepreneurship Development in Agriculture	Dr R.C. Agrawal and Dr. (Ms.) Seema Jaggi	April 22, 2025
2.	Managing Emerging Environmental Contaminants in Aquaculture and Fisheries	Dr. B.K. Das and Dr. Kishore K. Krishnani	July 18, 2025
3.	Marine Nutraceuticals for Boosting Bio-Economy in India	Dr. R. Jeya Shakila and Dr. Kajal Chakraborty	July 28, 2025
4.	Precision Irrigation System Using AI and IoT	Dr. T.B.S. Rajput and Dr. D.K. Singh	August 22, 2025
5.	Innovative Approaches for Sustainable Crop Residue Management	Dr. Rajbir Singh and Dr. H.S. Sidhu	September 21, 2025
6.	Harnessing the Functional Plant Microbiome for Next-Generation Plant Health Management	Dr. M.S. Saharan and Dr. Aundy Kumar	September 26, 2025
7.	Enhancing Efficiency and Sustainability of Farmer Producer Organizations: Challenges and Strategies	Dr. Pratap Birthal and Dr. Vinayak Nikam	October 17, 2025
8.	Semiochemicals-Driven Strategies for Sustainable Pest Management in Indian Agriculture	Dr. (Ms.) P.D. Kamala Jayanthi	November 21, 2025
9.	Horticultural Innovations to Enhance Export from India	Dr. Sudhakar Pandey and Dr. Sant Kumar	November 28, 2025

Sl. No.	Title	Convener/Co-Convener	Date
10.	Artificial Intelligence and Its Applications in Agriculture and Agricultural Research	Dr. B.M. Prasanna, Dr. Rajender Parsad and Dr. Rabi N. Sahoo	December 12, 2025
11.	Fisheries Research and Development Priorities for Partnership in South Asia	Dr. W.S. Lakra and Dr. B.K. Das	December 27, 2025

“Preparing Future Ready Youths for Entrepreneurship Development in Agriculture” (Convener: Dr R.C. Agrawal, DDG, Education; Co-convener: Dr. (Ms.) Seema Jaggi, ADG, ICAR)

A brainstorming session (BSS) on “Preparing Future-Ready Youths for Entrepreneurship Development in Agriculture” was organized on April 22, 2025. The session was chaired and co-chaired by Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President) & Dr. P.K. Joshi (Vice- President) respectively. Following welcome address by Dr. W.S. Lakra (Secretary), Dr. Agrawal presented ICAR initiatives to align agricultural education with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, along with key challenges and a roadmap for strengthening entrepreneurship development among youth in agriculture. Dr. Pathak emphasized the need for a systems-based approach to agricultural education that integrates skill development, vocational training, and covers the entire agri-food value chain—from pre-production to post-production. He called for actionable, transformative reforms to foster innovation and entrepreneurship in the agricultural sector. Dr. Joshi reinforced the critical need to reform agricultural education and provided strategic inputs on enhancing institutional capacity, outreach, and relevance.

The deliberations focused on transforming agricultural education in India in alignment with NEP 2020. Key themes included fostering entrepreneurship, integrating technology, promoting interdisciplinary learning, and addressing the challenges of preparing future-ready youth for the agricultural sector.



The panel representing a diverse range of institutions from academia, government, and private sectors highlighted the significance of hands-on training, industry-academia partnerships, and the early cultivation of entrepreneurial mindsets. Recommendations included the introduction of foundation courses to shift perspectives and specialized elective courses for skill enhancement and capacity building.

“Managing Emerging Environmental Contaminants in Aquaculture and Fisheries” (Conveners: Dr. B.K. Das, Director, ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore and Dr. Kishore K. Krishnani, Joint Director (Academics), ICAR-Indian Institute of Agricultural Biotechnology, Ranchi)

The Academy organized a BSS on *“Managing Emerging Environmental Contaminants in Aquaculture and Fisheries”* on July 18, 2025, in hybrid mode. The session was chaired by Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President), and co-chaired by Dr. B.S. Dhillon (Vice-President). Dr. W.S. Lakra (Secretary), in his welcome address, emphasized India’s leading role in global fish production and the urgent need for policies to manage emerging environmental contaminants in aquaculture systems. In his opening remarks, Dr. Pathak underscored aquaculture and fisheries as sunrise sectors and highlighted the critical need for monitoring, regulation, and mitigation strategies to address contaminants of emerging concerns (CEC). Subsequently, the Conveners delivered key presentations on *“Managing CECs in Culture-based Reservoir Fisheries”* and *“Managing CECs in Freshwater, Brackish Water, Coastal Water and Inland Saline Aquaculture.”*

The event featured panel discussions and expert insights from national and international participants, including representatives from ICAR Institutes; Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA); Export Inspection Council of India (EIC); State fisheries departments; industry; academic institutions; and international organizations such as United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and Commonwealth Scientific



and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). The discussion focused on sources, impacts, and management strategies for chemical and microbial contaminants, as well as policy development, risk assessment, monitoring systems, and sustainable aquaculture practices.

“Marine Nutraceuticals for Boosting Bio-Economy in India” (Convener: Dr. R. Jeya Shakila, Director, Directorate of Incubation and Vocational Training in Fisheries, Ramanathapuram; Co-convener: Dr. Kajal Chakraborty, Director, ICAR-National Bureau of Fisheries Genetic Resources, Lucknow)

A BSS on “*Marine Nutraceuticals for Boosting Bio-Economy in India*” was organized on July 28, 2025 in hybrid mode to deliberate on the immense potential of marine-derived nutraceuticals in enhancing the bio-economy of India. The session was chaired by Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President).



The session began with welcome address by the Secretaries (Dr. W.S. Lakra and Dr. A.K. Singh), who emphasized India’s leading role in integrated efforts in research, policy, and industry to realize India’s potential as a global hub for marine nutraceuticals. Subsequently,

the Conveners delivered key presentations on “*Marine Nutraceuticals in India: Scientific Innovations, Regulatory Frameworks, and Policy Strategies*” and “*Marine Natural Products: Exploring Chemical Diversity for Nutraceuticals and Therapeutics in Human Health*”.

The program also featured keynote presentations highlighting the scientific innovations, chemical diversity, and regulatory frameworks surrounding marine nutraceuticals in India. A focused panel discussion followed, engaging technical experts from institutions, such as ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT), CSIR-Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Institute (CSMCRI), NITTE University, ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE), and international academia. Key topics covered included seaweed-based products, carotenoids from marine algae, fish by-product utilization, marine proteins, and export prospects. Government agencies including Export Inspection Council and the Ministry

of Fisheries provided critical insights into regulatory, quality assurance, and promotional strategies. Industry participation brought in a commercial perspective, emphasizing innovation and market potential.

Actionable Recommendations

- Establishing a dedicated desk for marine nutraceuticals in the Ministry of Fisheries, reducing GST from 18% to 5%, and setting up regional incubation centers
- Updating regulations by FSSAI to include seaweed and seaweed-derived products and introducing third-party verification
- Launching of a national mission for marine nutraceuticals with a single nodal agency and harmonizing HSN codes
- Supporting research initiatives like a marine nutraceuticals network project by the Ministry of Science and Technology
- Focusing on branding, marketing, and good manufacturing practices by the industry
- Advancing research on seaweed products, bioactive compounds, and safety evaluations by ICAR and CSIR; and promoting the commercialization of marine nutraceuticals and coastal entrepreneurship by state governments.

“Precision Irrigation System Using AI and IoT” (Convener: Dr. T.B.S. Rajput, Former Principal Scientist, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI); Co-Convener: Dr. D.K. Singh, Professor, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi)

The academy organised a BSS on “*Precision Irrigation System Using AI and IoT*” on August 22, 2025 in hybrid mode. The session was chaired by Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President), and co-chaired by Dr. P.K. Joshi (Vice-President).



Dr. A. K. Singh (Secretary), in his welcome address, emphasized the need for cutting-edge technologies in agriculture and particularly in irrigation management. He was of the view that the application of AI (Artificial Intelligence) and IoT (Internet of Things) could

provide superior solutions for optimizing the use of scarce water resources, thus helping to achieve sustainability in farming systems.

A focused panel discussion engaged technical experts, including Dr. P.K. Singh, (Agriculture Commissioner, Government of India); Dr. S.K. Ambast (Chairman, CGWB); Dr. K.N. Tiwari (former Head, Department of Agricultural Engineering, IIT Kharagpur); Prof. Jaspal Singh (CDAC, Mohali) and Mr. Surender Makhija (Strategic Advisor and Vice- President, Jain Irrigation Systems Limited). The session concluded with a discussion on the need to promote sustainable farming practices, pilot projects demonstrating AI and IoT-based irrigation systems, and greater public-private partnerships to ensure successful technology transfer.

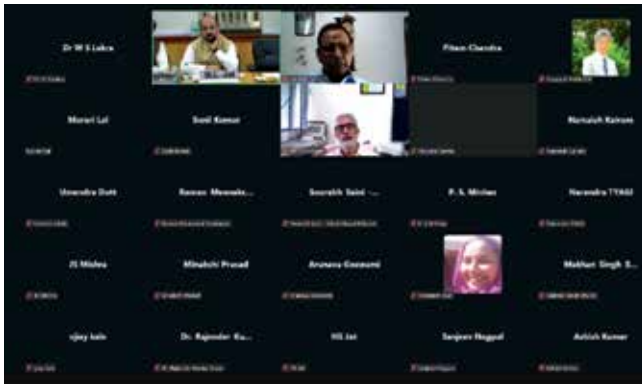
Actionable Recommendations

- Developing a comprehensive policy document by the Academy on harnessing AI and IoT for precision irrigation.
- Encourage State Agricultural Universities to create data storage and processing infrastructure for AI and machine learning applications.
- Strengthening of faculty capacity in AI and IoT within agricultural institutions to receive priority.
- CDAC, Mohali may develop affordable sensors and IoT systems suited for Indian farms through industry-research collaboration.
- Initiating sustained awareness and demonstration programs for farmers to facilitate adoption of these emerging technologies, in a cluster-based approach.

“Innovative Approaches for Sustainable Crop Residue Management” (Convener: Dr. Rajbir Singh, Deputy Director General (Agricultural Extension), ICAR; Co-Convener: Dr. H.S. Sidhu, Former Dean, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana)

A brainstorming session on “*Innovative Approaches for Sustainable Crop Residue Management*” was organized on September 15, 2025 in hybrid mode. The session was co-chaired by Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President) & Dr. M.L. Jat (Secretary, DARE and Director General, ICAR).

Experts deliberated on strengthening institutional mechanisms, deploying remote sensing technologies for monitoring crop residue burning, and scaling up the use



of bio-decomposers for paddy straw management. Industry representatives presented innovative approaches to converting crop residues into bioenergy, biochar, and other value-added products, while highlighting opportunities for circular economy solutions in agriculture. Farmers

representatives contributed valuable ground-level perspectives, stressing the need for affordable machinery, more efficient use of farm-machinery available at Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs), and the urgent need of capacity building at the grassroots level.

Actionable Recommendations

- Identification of stubble-burning hotspots and preparation of localized action plans
- Incentivization of Gram Panchayats for excellence in residue management,
- Development of sustainable business models for CHCs
- Mechanisms to monetize ecosystem services and link them to carbon markets, while stressing the need for intensified Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaigns in high-risk regions

“Harnessing the Functional Plant Microbiome for Next-Generation Plant Health Management” (Convener: Dr. M.S. Saharan, Head, Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi; Co-convener: Dr. Aundy Kumar, Professor, Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi)

The Academy organised a BSS on *“Harnessing the Functional Plant Microbiome for Next-Generation Plant Health Management”* on September 26, 2025 in hybrid mode. The session was chaired by Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President) along with Dr. B.S. Dhillon (Vice-President) and Prof. Anupam Varma (INSA Emeritus Scientist) as co-chairs. Dr. Pathak in his introductory remarks emphasized the plant microbiome as a frontier area and a sunrise sector for plant health management. He further underlined

the crucial role of the private sector and start-up ecosystem in translating microbiome research into scalable innovations for agriculture.

Dr. A.K. Singh (Secretary), with a brief welcome address, underscored India's pivotal role in fostering integrated research,



policy, and industry linkages to harness the potential of plant microbiome-based solutions for sustainable agriculture. Dr. Saharan set the tone for the brainstorming through his presentation on *"Harnessing the Functional Plant Microbiome for Next-Generation Plant Health Management"*. This was followed by another presentation from Dr. Kumar on *"Functional Plant Microbiome for Next-Generation Plant Health"* along with a panel discussion with contributions from academic, research, and industry experts on the translational potential of microbiome research. Prof. Jos Raaijmakers from the Netherlands in his online presentation on *"Microbiomes of Wild Plants: A Way Forward to Restore the Lost Microbial Diversity in Agricultural Settings"* introduced the innovative concept of rebuilding modern agriculture by exploring the lost microbiomes in the centres of origin of crops. These deliberations collectively highlighted the potential of microbiome-based approaches for advancing sustainable crop management, enhancing resilience to climate change, and creating pathways for commercialization in next-generation agricultural technologies.

Actionable Recommendations

- Exploration of wild plant microbiome in key biodiversity hot spot in India
- Establishing dedicated research and network centres for plant microbiome innovations
- Crop breeding for agriculturally important microbiome
- Guidelines for inclusion of microbiome and metabolome-based products for commercialization

“Enhancing Efficiency and Sustainability of Farmer Producer Organizations: Challenges and Strategies” (Conveners: Dr. Pratap S. Birthal, Director, and Dr. Vinayak Nikam, Senior Scientist, National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research, New Delhi)

The Academy organised a BSS in hybrid mode on *“Enhancing Efficiency and Sustainability of Farmer Producer Organisations: Challenges and Strategies”* on October 17, 2025 under the chairmanship of Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President).



Dr. W.S. Lakra (Secretary), while welcoming the audience, emphasized the significance of FPOs in India. Dr. Pratap Birthal, highlighted various issues pertinent to the viability of FPOs. Dr. Vinayak Nikam presented the evolution of FPOs, their present status, activities, impact, viability factors, and constraints. Dr. Pathak suggested linking FPOs with research and development institutions. The session also featured a panel discussion highlighting various policy issues.

“Semiochemicals-Driven Strategies for Sustainable Pest Management in Indian Agriculture” (Convener: Dr. P.D. Kamala Jayanthi, ICAR-National Professor, ICAR- Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bengaluru)

The Academy organised a BSS on *“Semiochemicals-Driven Strategies for Sustainable Pest Management in Indian Agriculture”* in hybrid mode on November 21, 2025. The session was chaired by Dr. Ashok K. Singh (Secretary). In his welcome



address, Dr. Singh highlighted the growing importance of semiochemicals in developing long-term, sustainable pest management strategies. Dr. Jayanthi then delivered a thematic presentation, followed by a panel discussion featuring national and international

experts from academia, government, and industry. Participants shared their perspectives on current challenges, emerging opportunities, and the way forward for mainstreaming semiochemicals in Indian agriculture. The deliberations aimed at developing the roadmap for strengthening semiochemicals-based pest management in the context of Indian agriculture.

The discussion covered a wide range of issues, including advances in semiochemical discovery and development, field deployment strategies, integration with agro-ecological practices, synthesis and formulation technologies, and the regulatory and policy landscape. Participants also highlighted the need for intensive research to identify new behaviour-modifying cues; addressing commercialization barriers; strengthening public-private partnerships; and enhancing farmer awareness. The importance of upscaling production, ensuring quality control, resolving procedural hurdles during CIB&RC registration, securing strong regulatory support, aligning with global guidelines, improving cost-effectiveness and field efficacy, exploring dedicated funding opportunities, and establishing efficient traceability systems was also underscored.

“Horticultural Innovations to Enhance Export from India” (Convener: Dr. Sudhakar Pandey, ADG, ICAR, New Delhi; Co-convener: Dr. Sant Kumar Principal Scientist, ICAR-NIAP, New Delhi)

The Academy organized a BSS on *“Horticultural Innovations to Enhance Export from India”* under the chairmanship of Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President) and co-chairmanship of Dr. Sanjay Kumar Singh (DDG, ICAR, New Delhi) in hybrid mode on November 28, 2025.

Dr. Ashok K. Singh (Secretary) in his welcome address highlighted the significance of the Indian horticulture sector and its contribution to global horticulture production, and emphasized the need for a policy framework to strengthen strategies aimed at boosting India’s horticulture exports. He also suggested the need for more



investment in research and development. Both conveners, Dr. Sudhakar Pandey and Dr. Sant Kumar, made presentations on *“Horticulture sector in India: present status, challenges, and research roadmap”* and *“Horticulture in India: growth, export performance and issues”* respectively. Subsequently, two panel discussions were held, during which National and International experts shared their views.

The primary objective of the programme was to collectively depict the challenges, issues and opportunities and way forward to harness the potential of the horticulture sector and boost export. National experts from ICAR, and other organizations, NITI Aayog, APEDA, BARC, NHB, NMPB (Ayush Ministry), FFDC, Private sector, Spices Board, and others including international experts from IFPRI, NAAS Fellows and scientists from different horticultural institutions and Universities participated and expressed their valuable views. Deliberations focused on addressing required production technologies to meet the emerging demand, infrastructure and logistics, quality and regulatory standards and other issues covering lack of farmers’ awareness and access to information. Discussions covered research needs, policy development, regulatory measures, and need for research and market intelligence to make the sector more vibrant.

“Artificial Intelligence and Its Applications in Agriculture and Agricultural Research” (Convener: Dr. B.M. Prasanna, CIMMYT Distinguished Scientist & Regional Director for Asia; Managing Director, Borlaug Institute of South Asia, New Delhi; Co-Conveners: Dr. Rajender Parsad (Former Director), ICAR-IASRI, New Delhi, and Dr. Rabi N. Sahoo, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi)

The Academy organised a BSS on *“Artificial Intelligence and Its Applications in Agriculture and Agricultural Research”* on December 12, 2025, in hybrid mode. The session was jointly chaired by Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President), and Dr. M.L. Jat (Secretary, DARE & Director General, ICAR). The session brought together distinguished Fellows of the Academy, Scientists from ICAR and CGIAR Institutions, representatives from international research



organisations, industry experts, and digital agriculture practitioners to deliberate on emerging opportunities and challenges of AI in the agricultural sector. Dr. Ashok K. Singh (Secretary) in his welcome address underscored the transformative potential of artificial intelligence in enhancing agricultural productivity, sustainability, and resilience. In the lead presentation, Dr. Prasanna highlighted the growing importance of AI-driven approaches in crop improvement, particularly in accelerating breeding cycles, managing large-scale phenotypic and genotypic data, and addressing climate-induced stresses. The open discussion session, moderated by Dr. Parsad, featured inputs from distinguished Fellows and invited experts, who emphasized the critical importance of high-quality and standardized data, capacity building in AI and data science, ethical deployment of AI, and the need for coordinated national efforts to avoid duplication and fragmentation. The session also highlighted the necessity of aligning AI initiatives with national digital agriculture programmes and developing indigenous, affordable AI solutions tailored to Indian agriculture.

“Fisheries Research and Development Priorities for Partnership in South Asia” (Convener: Dr. W.S. Lakra, Former Director, ICAR-CIFE; Co-Conveners: Dr. B.K. Das, ICAR-CIFRI and Dr. Grinson George, ICAR-CMFRI)

The Academy organised a BSS on *“Fisheries Research and Development Priorities for Partnership in South Asia”* in virtual mode on December 27, 2025. The session was chaired by Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President), and co-chaired by Dr. P. K. Joshi (Vice-President). In his welcome address, Dr. Lakra highlighted the growing importance of fisheries and aquaculture in South Asia for food and nutrition security, livelihoods, and inclusive growth, and underscored the need for coordinated regional research efforts in view of climate change, environmental degradation, and governance challenges. The BSS provided a high-level and action-oriented platform to identify priority research areas and strengthen regional cooperation for sustainable and resilient fisheries systems across South Asia.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Pathak emphasised strengthening Global South cooperation involving NAAS, National Agricultural Research and Education System (NARES),



and CGIAR Centres, and highlighted the need to expand such partnerships in the fisheries sector. This was followed by three lead presentations on inland fisheries, marine fisheries, and ocean research and development by Dr. B. K. Das, Dr. Grinson George (co-conveners), and Dr. P. Krishnan, Director, Bay of Bengal Programme (BOBP). The session included panel discussions and country perspectives with participation from experts representing ICAR fisheries institutes, BoBP-IGO, and South Asian countries, including Bangladesh, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, and Nepal. The deliberations focused on key regional concerns such as Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, maritime security, climate vulnerability of small-scale fisheries, transboundary water and shared stock management, post-harvest losses, data and capacity gaps, and issues of social and gender equity. Participants emphasised the importance of harmonised management of shared resources, joint capacity building, technology transfer, regional data-sharing mechanisms, and inclusive development approaches.

The session also highlighted key initiatives undertaken by the Government of India and partner agencies, and the role of global expertise in advancing knowledge exchange and supporting scalable solutions beyond national boundaries. The BSS reaffirmed that regional partnership is critical in fisheries research



and development, as shared ecosystems demand shared solutions. The participants recommended pooling knowledge and best practices, developing collective responses to climate and disaster risks, harmonising policies and trade frameworks, and

strengthening regional capacity building and knowledge sharing to ensure sustainable fisheries in South Asia.



2.2 Special Programs

Felicitation Function

The Academy arranged a special felicitation function on June 05, 2025 to recognize and celebrate

the remarkable contributions of Individuals and Institutions to Indian agriculture and allied sciences. The Academy honoured 37 senior NAAS Fellows (aged 80 and above) for their lifelong service and outstanding achievements across various domains of agricultural research and development.

The Academy also felicitated Padma awardees including Dr. S.K. Vasal (NAAS Fellow) and two exemplary farmers, Shri Hangthing and Shri Hariman Sharma, whose innovations and field-level efforts have made a significant impact on farming communities. In addition, Mr. Ajit Jain from Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd. was felicitated for his contributions to agribusiness, while senior journalists Shri Prabhudatta Mishra and Shri Harvir Singh were recognized for their outstanding contributions to agricultural media.



Additionally, eight promising researchers were conferred NAAS Young Scientist Awards for their path breaking work across diverse agricultural disciplines, underscoring the Academy's commitment to fostering young scientific talent in the country.



Presentations by Newly Elected Fellows

A dedicated scientific session was organized on June 4, 2025, as part of the Annual General Meeting of the Academy, wherein the newly elected Fellows presented their significant research contributions across diverse domains of agricultural science.

The forenoon session was chaired by Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President) and co-chaired by Dr. B.S. Dhillon (Vice-President). The Session included presentations

by Foreign Fellows Dr. Om Parkash Dhankher and Dr. Zora Singh, followed by presentations from Fellows in the field of crop sciences focusing on rice bio-fortification, stress-resilient pulses and cereals, and advanced genomic tools for varietal development. Horticultural sciences were represented through talks on medicinal plant biodiversity, genetic enhancement of vegetable crops, and innovations in tissue culture and breeding. The session on animal sciences covered molecular epidemiology, diagnostics for zoonotic diseases, and novel technologies for enhancing livestock productivity.

The scientific discussion continued in the afternoon session under the chairmanship of Dr. Himanshu Pathak and co-chairmanship of Dr. P.K. Joshi, (Vice-President) with Dr. Ashok K. Singh, (Secretary) delivering the welcome address. Fellows from fisheries sciences shared innovative approaches for enhancing omega-3 fatty acid delivery and stress mitigation in aquaculture. Presentations from the natural resource management group addressed sustainable farming practices, nutrient-use strategies, and the role of microbes in developing a circular bio-based economy. Plant protection experts discussed molecular diagnostics and management of emerging plant pathogens. The agricultural engineering and technology segment introduced micro and nano-scale delivery systems, while social sciences contributions explored the intersection of climate, water, agriculture, and nutrition. The session concluded with insightful presentations by Pravasi and Foreign Fellows on global plant genetic resources and advanced processing technologies. The Scientific Session provided a vibrant platform for knowledge exchange, showcasing cutting-edge research with high relevance to sustainability, innovation, and the future transformation of Indian agriculture.



NAAS-Dhanuka Awards for Excellence in Agricultural Extension (New Initiative)

A new collaboration with M/s Dhanuka Agritech Ltd. led to the establishment of “NAAS–Dhanuka Awards for Excellence in Agricultural Extension,” recognizing top performing KVKs, ATARIs, and Extension Scientists. 14 awards were

conferred to outstanding Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) for their exemplary extension services across various zones. Awardees included KVK-Baramati, KVK-Buxar, KVK-Dhakrani, KVK-Dhalai, KVK-Dhaura, KVK-Govindnagar, KVK-Kamrup, KVK-Khordha, KVK-Kota, KVK-Lakshadweep and KVK-Theni. In addition, KVK-Lakshadweep was also awarded the Best KVK Nationwide award; ATARI Zone I, Ludhiana was conferred the Best ATARI award; and Dr. Jigmet Yangchan was honoured as the Best Extension Scientist.

2.3 Other Activities

Smt. Kanak Aggarwal NAAS Girls Scholarship

The Academy in collaboration with Crystal Crop Protection Limited instituted *Smt. Kanak Aggarwal NAAS Girls Scholarship*, which was launched on May 09, 2024 in hybrid mode. In continuation, the Academy disbursed ₹33 lakhs to 84 meritorious girl students in 2026.

An interactive session with the recipients of the “Smt. Kanak Aggarwal NAAS Girls Scholarship” was held in virtual mode on March 31, 2026 to connect meritorious girl students pursuing agricultural education with the sponsor M/s Crystal Crop Protection Ltd (CCPL), and provide them guidance on future career pathways.



The session was chaired by Dr. B.S. Dwivedi (Secretary), He underlined the current challenges before Indian agriculture and role of the younger generation in their redressal. Mr. Ankur Aggarwal (CEO, CCPL), along with HR leadership interacted with the students and shared valuable insights on emerging career opportunities in agriculture, including roles in corporate sectors, startups, research, and civil services. Discussions also covered contemporary themes such as digital agriculture, artificial intelligence, precision farming, and climate-smart practices.

International Workshop

“Best Practices in Agricultural Cooperatives in the Global Arena: Empowering Cooperatives in India for Sustainable Economic Growth and Rural Transformation”

The Academy and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) jointly organized an international workshop on *“Best Practices in Agricultural Cooperatives in the Global Arena: Empowering Cooperatives in India for Sustainable Economic Growth and Rural Transformation”* on December 15–16, 2025 at NASC Complex, New Delhi.

During the inaugural programme on December 15, 2025, welcome address by Dr. W.S. Lakra (Secretary) was followed by an overview of the workshop by Prof. K.M. Maredia (Foreign Secretary). Dr. P.K. Joshi (Vice-President), underscored the transformative role of agricultural cooperatives in enhancing farmers’ income, inclusiveness, and market access.

While delivering the inaugural address as Chief Guest, Dr. M.L. Jat (Secretary, DARE & Director General, ICAR), emphasized that the cooperatives were pivotal to achieving sustainable agricultural growth, rural prosperity, and food security. He highlighted the need for innovation-driven, market-oriented, and technology-enabled cooperatives, aligned with global best practices, climate resilience, and value-chain integration. Dr. Jat also stressed the importance of capacity building, digitalization, and strong institutional linkages to empower farmer collectives and realize India’s vision of a resilient and inclusive rural economy.

International perspectives were shared by Mr. Peter Lemmer (USA), Mr. Douglas Dwight Chapin (USA), Mr. Binay Agarwal (France), Dr. Honest Kessy (Tanzania), Ms. Maria Victoria S. Anahaw (Philippines), Mr. Klever José Coral (Brazil), Dr. Romi Novriadi (Indonesia), Mr. J.L. Chaminda (Sri Lanka), and Ms. Sunita Nhemaphuki



(Nepal). They highlighted successful cooperative models, innovations in governance, financing, digitalization, and market integration.

Indian experiences were presented by experts from diverse cooperative sectors, including National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), Horticulture, Sugar Cooperatives, Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED), Mulkanoor Cooperative, and Integrated Rural and Agricultural Development Agency (IRADA), showcasing the role of cooperatives in enhancing farmers’ income, livelihoods, and rural development. The workshop also featured experience sharing by Professional Associations of Agricultural Sciences (PAAS) and breakout group discussions, followed by a panel discussion on the way forward for strengthening agricultural cooperatives.

The entire deliberations underscored the need for innovation-driven, market-oriented, and technology-enabled cooperatives, supported by strong institutional linkages, capacity building, and policy support, to strengthen India’s cooperative ecosystem and advance sustainable rural transformation.

3. REGIONAL CHAPTERS

Regional Chapters organized the following events addressing food and nutritional issues of national and regional importance:

Activities at a Glance	
Barapani	
BSS on “Livestock for Livelihoods: Confronting Challenges and Crafting Strategies for Northeast India”	April 24, 2025
Launched an initiative for the holistic development of Jagra village in Nalbari district, Assam	August 11, 2025
Workshop on “Livestock Disease Control Strategies in Northeast India”	March 23, 2026
Bengaluru	
Organized Rabies Prevention and Awareness Day	September 28, 2025
Workshop on “Future-Ready Dairying: Innovative Reproductive Technologies for Profitable Dairy Farming”	March 24, 2026

Activities at a Glance

Coimbatore

Lecture on “Reviving Sugar Industry in Tamil Nadu – Challenges and Opportunities”	April 15, 2025
A field demonstration at ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute	May 14, 2025
An interaction meeting involving farmers and sugar industry officials	June 18, 2025
An Awareness-cum-Sensitization Workshop	November 25, 2025

Hyderabad

International Yoga Day: Yoga for One Earth, One Health	June 21, 2025
Workshop on “Application of Bioinformatics in Accelerating Biological Research”	January 20-21, 2026
Lecture on “Bio Economy and One Health in Indian Agriculture”	February 13, 2026
National seminar-cum-exhibition on “Organic and Natural Farming”	February 27-28, 2026
Celebrated National Science Day	February 28, 2026

Karnal

Interactive session with students and faculty members from Medicaps University, Indore	April 08, 2025
Celebrated International Biodiversity Day	May 22, 2025
Designed an awareness poster to mark World Environment Day	June 05, 2025
A seminar on “Climate Smart Agriculture Practices for Farmers’ Welfare and Safe Environment”	August 10, 2025
An interactive visit for small, marginal, and landless farmers	August 13, 2025
Arranged New Year Get-Together	January 13, 2026
Celebrated National Science Day	February 28, 2026
National Conference on "Climate Smart Regenerative Agriculture"	March 20-21, 2026

Activities at a Glance

Kolkata

Workshop on "Inland Fisheries Management"	July 22, 2025
Awareness programme on "Backyard Pond Fish Culture"	August 23, 2025
Organized awareness camps to promote community-managed fish farming and to enhance livelihood opportunities and nutritional security in drought-prone regions	October 25, 2025
Farmer-Scientist interaction session	November 19, 2025
Mahila Matasyajibi Sammelan 3.0	November 22, 2025
Awareness programme on "Act Now: Protect Our Present, Secure Our Future"	November 24, 2025
BSS on "Transboundary Hilsa Fisheries Management"	December 02, 2025

Lucknow

BSS on "Regional Priorities in Agriculture and Allied Sciences in the context of Viksit Krishi"	October 17, 2025
Awareness programme on "Innovation to Impact: Inspiring Youth Careers in Agriculture and Allied Sectors through Intellectual Property Awareness"	December 11, 2025
Awareness programme on "Life Below Water (SDG-14)"	February 28, 2026

Ludhiana

Awareness Programme on "The Benefits of Mindful Eating"	April 07, 2025
Awareness programme on "Significance of Soil Testing"	May 29, 2025
Awareness programme on "Critical Importance of Water Conservation at Agricultural Level"	June 02, 2025
Lecture on "Applications of Modern Tools of Biotechnology for Pest Management and Food Security"	June 20, 2025
Awareness programme on "Career Opportunities in Agriculture and Adolescent Nutrition"	July 10, 2025

Activities at a Glance	
Awareness programmes on “Dairy Farming as a Subsidiary Occupation and Scope & importance of agro-processing of different agricultural produce”	July 30, 2025
Awareness programme on “Paddy Residue Management”	August 29, 2025
Awareness Programmes on “Mushroom Cultivation as a Subsidiary Occupation and Career Opportunities in Agriculture, Veterinary Science and Allied Agricultural Vocations”	September 09, 2025
Seminar on “Water-Saving Techniques in Paddy-Wheat Cropping System”	September 11, 2025
Lecture on “Flower Power and Biotechnology”	September 12, 2025
Lecture on “Food Processing: Catalysing Upliftment of Rural Livelihood”	September 19, 2025
Lecture on “Genomics by Dr. Rajdeep Khangura”	November 28, 2025
Awareness program on “Poultry Farming as a Subsidiary Occupation”	January 15, 2026
Awareness program on “Career Opportunities in the Agriculture Sector”	January 20, 2026
Awareness program on “Integrated Nutrition Gardening”	February 12, 2026
Celebrated National Science Day	February 27, 2026
Lecture on “Interfacing Single Gene Characterization with Genomic Variation for Nitrogen Use Efficiency and Grain Quality”	March 06, 2026
Awareness program on “Benefits of Consuming Safe and Healthy Food”	March 24, 2026
Palampur	
Inaugural meeting	September 24, 2025
Exposure visit-cum-hands-on training program	November 07, 2025
An educational visit-cum- hands-on training program	November 11 and December 10, 2025

Activities at a Glance	
Outreach and awareness program	January 06 & 21 and February 05, 2026
Exposure visits for students	February 02 and March 02, 2026
Hands-on training programs	February 17, 2026
Pune	
Workshop on “Droplet Deposition and Sprayer Calibration for Efficient Pesticide Application”	February 23, 2026
Celebrated National Science Day	February 28, 2026
Program on “Precision Plant Protection and Efficient Pesticide Application Technologies”	March 24, 2026
Varanasi	
Seminar on “Social-Ecological Resilience: Strengthening Bio-cultural Resource-Based Livelihoods in the Face of Multiple Stressors”	May 11, 2025
Poster presentation competition	July 26, 2025
Lecture on “Transforming the Agricultural Landscape of Uttar Pradesh”	August 02, 2025
BSS to help farmers become self-sufficient by growing vegetables using PPP Model	October 06, 2025
An educational tour for high school students	October 09, 2025
Special lecture on “Waste to Value”	November 29, 2025
Celebrated National Science Day	February 27, 2026
Workshop on “Water and Livelihood Security for ST Farmers in the Dryland Region of Sonbhadra”	March 22, 2026

Barapani Chapter

- Organized a BSS on April 24, 2025, on “Livestock for Livelihoods: Confronting Challenges and Crafting Strategies for Northeast India” in collaboration with ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam. The event focused on

identifying region-specific challenges and strategic opportunities to strengthen livestock-based livelihoods in Northeast India. Key priorities identified included strategic planning for dairy enhancement, improving livestock productivity through localized approaches, and preserving indigenous genetic resources.

- Launched an initiative for the holistic development of Jagra village in Nalbari district, Assam in collaboration with Bharat Vikash Parisad (Assam Prant) and



Spread NE on August 11, 2025. The programme was supported by the active involvement of eminent experts and stakeholders. Their collective expertise and commitment would help in shaping the Jagra Model Village into a replicable model of sustainable rural

transformation, demonstrating how science, technology, and community participation can converge to uplift livelihoods in rural Assam.

- Organized a regional workshop on “Livestock Disease Control Strategies in Northeast India” on March 23, 2026 at ICAR–National Research Centre on Mithun, Nagaland in collaboration with ICAR Institutes. The workshop focused on major livestock diseases including PPR, FMD, LSD, and pig and poultry diseases, covering epidemiology, diagnostics, and control strategies. Around 100 stakeholders participated, and deliberations led to the formulation of strategic recommendations & development of a comprehensive document.



Bengaluru Chapter

- Organized Rabies Prevention and Awareness Day on the occasion of World Rabies Day (September 28, 2025) in association with State Animal Husbandry Department. Professionals from Veterinary and Medical colleges & Bangalore City Corporation & more than 250 veterinary doctors & students participated in this event. Recent developments in rabies control & its prevention were discussed and deliberated. Technical leaflets on this topic were distributed and free rabies vaccination program was conducted.
- Organized a workshop on “Future-Ready Dairying: Innovative Reproductive Technologies for Profitable Dairy Farming” on March 24, 2026 in collaboration with ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute (Southern Regional Stations). The program focused on advanced reproductive technologies, fertility evaluation, and nutritional strategies for improving dairy productivity. 73 field veterinarians participated and gained practical insights for field-level applications.



Coimbatore Chapter

- Organized an invited lecture on April 15, 2025 on “Reviving Sugar Industry in Tamil Nadu – Challenges and Opportunities”, which was delivered by Dr. R. Viswanathan (Director, ICAR-Indian Sugarcane Research Institute, Lucknow), to address challenges and explore growth opportunities for the sugar industry in Tamil Nadu.
- A field demonstration was conducted on May 14, 2025 in collaboration with ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore. The demonstration focused on the mechanized sett treatment device for efficient delivery of Trichoderma, fungicides, and micronutrients in sugarcane, banana, and turmeric rhizomes, aimed at enhancing farmers’ awareness and adoption of improved practices.
- An interaction meeting involving farmers and sugar industry officials was organized on June 18, 2025 in collaboration with ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding

Institute and the South Indian Sugar Millers Association. The meeting focused on ongoing varietal evaluation trials and strategies for pest and disease management in sugarcane.

- Organized “An Awareness-cum-Sensitization Workshop” on November 25, 2025, to motivate sugarcane farmers engaged exclusively in jaggery production. Farmers known for their traditional innovative cultivation practices and holders of the GI tag for Maraiyur Jaggery participated in this programme. A training on ‘Maximizing Sugarcane Productivity’ (TMSP-25) was also conducted for the farmers (50) from Kottayam, (Kerala).

Hyderabad Chapter

- Celebrated the International Day of Yoga on June 21, 2025 in collaboration with ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research (IIRR). The event was held under the global theme “Yoga for One Earth, One Health,” emphasizing the interconnectedness of individual well-being and planetary health. The program commenced with opening remarks by Dr. R.M. Sundaram (Director, IIRR). The event featured a guided one-hour yoga and meditation session led by Ms. Deepthi Mantri, founder of YOGASHALA – The Path of Transformation. She explained the techniques, benefits, and significance of various yoga postures and breathing exercises, making the session both enriching and informative.
- Participated in Sankalp 10.0 in association with ICAR-National Academy for Agricultural Research Management (NAARM), Hyderabad, which ignites the entrepreneurial spirit among graduates. Of 13,759 registrations from 1,867 Institutions across India, competing for ten business challenges, 70 finalists reached the final round. Students from premier Institutions, including IIMs, NITs, IRMA, and MANAGE, won cash awards. During the valedictory programme, Dr. Bijay Kumar Behera, Chief Executive, NFDB, Hyderabad, distributed prizes to the winners and he urged graduates to become job creators and highlighted the Government of India schemes in the fisheries sector that support budding entrepreneurs. He emphasized that the future lies in the ability to innovate and build sustainable enterprises.



- Organized a webinar on “One-Line Hybrid Crops by Apomixis” at the ICAR–Indian Institute of Rice Research, Hyderabad with Dr. Venkatesan Sundaresan (Professor) and his colleagues from University of California (UC), Davis (USA) and others from Innovative Genomics Institute (IGI), UC, Berkeley.



- Organized a workshop on “Application of Bioinformatics in Accelerating Biological Research” during January 20-21, 2026 at ICAR–National Academy for Agricultural Research Management (NAARM), Hyderabad emphasizing computational tools and genomic data analysis.



- Arranged a lecture on “Bio Economy and One Health in Indian Agriculture” on February 13, 2026 at ICAR–Indian Institute of Rice Research (IIRR), Hyderabad in association with the Society for Advancement of Rice Research, highlighting sustainable and integrated agricultural approaches.

- Arranged a national seminar-cum-exhibition on “Organic and Natural Farming” during February 27-28, 2026 in Hyderabad in collaboration with Agri-Horticultural Society and National Centre for Organic & Natural Farming along with ICAR Institutes, focusing on eco-friendly agricultural practices.



- Celebrated National Science Day was on February 28, 2026 at ICAR-IIRR, Hyderabad, engaging around 200 students through interactive sessions and awareness programmes on science and agriculture.

Karnal Chapter

- Organized an interactive session on April 08, 2025, with students (35) and faculty members from Medicaps University, Indore. Dr. Gurbachan Singh (Convener) interacted with the students on various topics including soil and water conservation, natural farming practices, integrated farming systems for doubling farmers' income, crop diversification, crop residue management, and climate-smart agriculture.

- Celebrated International Biodiversity Day on May 22, 2025 in collaboration with ICAR-National Bureau of Animal Genetics Resources (NABGR), Karnal. The event saw enthusiastic participation from school students, farmers, scientists, and NAAS Fellows. Dr. Gurbachan Singh (Chief Guest) delivered the keynote address, highlighting the status of biodiversity in India, challenges related to natural resource degradation, and the need for strategic conservation for sustainable development.



- To mark World Environment Day on June 05, 2025, Dr. Gurbachan Singh (Convener), a poster was highlighting the importance of environmental conservation. Which was widely circulated through social media platforms including Facebook, WhatsApp, and Instagram to reach larger audience and promote environmental stewardship.

- Organized a seminar on “Climate Smart Agriculture Practices for Farmers’ Welfare and Safe Environment” on August 10, 2025, in collaboration with Dr. Gurbachan Singh Foundation for Research, Education and Development (GSFRED) and Kisan Chamber of Commerce at GSFRED, Karnal. About

Kolkata Chapter

- Organized a workshop on “*Inland Fisheries Management*” in collaboration with ICAR-CIFRI on July 22, 2025 to educate undergraduate students of Serampur College to the scientific, ecological, and practical aspects of managing inland fishery resources. Dr. B. K. Das (Convener) highlighted



the significance of inland fisheries resources such as rivers, reservoirs, lakes, and wetlands in supporting fish biodiversity and rural livelihoods along with importance of fish taxonomy for accurate identification of fish species,

- Organized a mass awareness programme on backyard pond fish culture along with ICAR-CIFRI and Sasya Shyamala Krishi Vigyan Kendra, RKMVERI, South



24 Parganas on August 23, 2025. About 350 villagers from eleven villages of Sonarpur Block were present. Dr. B. K. Das (Convener) sensitized the gathering on inland open water fisheries and emphasized the long-term benefits of backyard pond culture in enhancing livelihoods and nutritional security.

- Organized awareness camps along with ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI), Barrackpore at Pancha and Govindopur Primary School, Purulia on October 25, 2025 to promote community-managed fish farming and to enhance livelihood opportunities and nutritional security in drought-prone regions.
- A Farmer-Scientist interaction session was organized on November 19, 2025, at ICAR-CIFRI for fish farmers (220) from Khalsi, Sindrani, Kumili, Chamta,

Chamardaha and Akaipur beel. The session facilitated knowledge sharing and discussion on inland fisheries practices.

- Mahila Matasyajibi Sammelan 3.0 (Women Fishers' meet) was organised on November 22, 2025 at Kultali, Sundarbans along with ICAR-CIFRI in collaboration with the Kultali Milan Tirth Society to mark World Fisheries Day. The event drew over 4,500 women fishers, celebrating their contribution to fisheries-based livelihoods
- Organised an awareness programme on November 24, 2025 in association with ICAR-CIFRI, as part of World Antimicrobial Awareness Week 2025, themed "Act Now: Protect Our Present, Secure Our Future."
- A BSS on Transboundary Hilsa Fisheries Management was organized on December 02, 2025 at ICAR-CIFRI, Barrackpore in association with BOBP-IGO, Chennai under the BOBP BIMReN Project. A total of 40 participants, including fishermen from Kakdwip Hilsa Fishers Association, NGO representatives from South 24 Parganas, and international scientists from Bangladesh and Myanmar attended the session.

Lucknow Chapter

- Organized a BSS on "Regional Priorities in Agriculture and Allied Sciences in the context of Viksit Krishi," which was hosted at ICAR-National Bureau of Fisheries Genetic Resources (NBFGR), Lucknow, on October 17, 2025 in order to identify and outline strategies to accelerate agricultural production and productivity in line with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision for Viksit Bharat 2047.
- Organized an awareness programme on "Innovation to Impact: Inspiring Youth Careers in Agriculture and Allied Sectors through Intellectual Property Awareness", in collaboration with ICAR-NBFGR and Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation Society on December 11, 2025.



- Organized an awareness programme on “*Life Below Water (SDG-14)*” on February 28, 2026 in collaboration with ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources (NBFGR), Lucknow. The program included expert lectures on sustainable agriculture, water



resource management, and ecological conservation. Over 100 students and stakeholders participated, enhancing awareness on biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.

Ludhiana Chapter

- NAAS-Ludhiana Chapter, under the patronage of Dr. A.S. Dhatt, organized an Awareness Programme on “*The Benefits of Mindful Eating*” on April 7, 2025, at Government Primary School, Nangal Chorani (Hoshiarpur) in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bahawal (Hoshiarpur). Dr. Sukhdeep Kaur delivered a lecture aimed at cultivating healthy eating habits among young children. She explained how mindful practices—such as eating slowly, recognizing hunger and fullness cues, and avoiding distractions during meals—can improve digestion, prevent overeating, and foster a healthier relationship with food. About 34 school children participated in the session.
- An awareness programme on “*Significance of Soil Testing*” was organized on May 29, 2025, at Village Chaggran (Hoshiarpur) in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bahawal. Dr. Maninder Singh Bons led the session, highlighting the



critical role of soil testing enabling precise and balanced fertilizer application, thereby enhancing crop yields and preserving long-term soil health. Around 161 farmers and farm women participated and appreciated the guidance provided on interpreting soil test reports and implementing site-specific nutrient recommendations.

- An awareness programme on *“Critical Importance of Water Conservation at Agricultural Level”* was organized on June 02, 2025 at Village Bisso Chak (Hoshiarpur) in association with Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bahawal. Dr. Ajaib Singh addressed the gathering on the urgent need for irrigation water conservation and shared best practices such as drip irrigation, mulching, and rainwater harvesting.



- Organized a Special Lecture on *“Applications of Modern Tools of Biotechnology for Pest Management and Food Security”* on June 20, 2025, in association with the Indian Society for the Advancement of Insect Science (INSAIS), Ludhiana. Dr. H.C. Sharma (Former Vice-Chancellor, YSPUHF, Solan) in his lecture emphasized the application of genetic engineering technologies such as Bt crops and RNA interference in achieving effective and eco-friendly pest control.

- Organized an awareness programme on *‘Career Opportunities in Agriculture and Adolescent Nutrition’* at Government Senior Secondary Smart School, Channo in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra



(KVK), Sangrur on July 10, 2025 to inspire students and equip them with vital knowledge about career avenues in agriculture and the importance of proper nutrition during adolescence.

- Organized awareness programmes on *'Dairy Farming as a Subsidiary Occupation'* and *'Scope and importance of agro-processing of different agricultural produce'* at Village Jaijon (District Hoshiarpur) in association with Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bahawal, Hoshiarpur on July 30, 2025. On this occasion, Dr. Parminder Singh delivered a lecture to farmers and farm women, educating them about different breeds of milch animals, their nutritional requirements, seasonal management practices, and the importance of timely vaccination to prevent infectious diseases.



- An Awareness Programme on *'Paddy Residue Management'* was organized at Village Moranwali, Block Garhshankar (District Hoshiarpur) in association with Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bahawal, Hoshiarpur on August 29, 2025. On this occasion, Dr Maninder Singh Bons highlighted the harmful effects of burning of paddy stubble and discussed various technological options for its management in detail.
- Organized Awareness Programmes on *'Mushroom Cultivation as a Subsidiary Occupation'* and *'Career Opportunities in Agriculture, Veterinary Science and Allied Agricultural Vocations'* at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bahawal, District Hoshiarpur on September 9, 2025. On this occasion, Dr Karmvir Singh Garcha delivered a talk on mushroom farming as an extra source of income. Besides, Dr Maninder Singh Bons gave an impactful talk on career opportunities in agriculture, veterinary science and allied agricultural vocations.



- Organized an awareness seminar on '*Water-Saving Techniques in Paddy-Wheat Cropping System*' at KVK Sangrur on September 11, 2025. The seminar brought together a large gathering of progressive farmers and agriculture enthusiasts from across the district.
- Organized a special lecture on '*Flower Power and Biotechnology*' on September 12, 2025. Dr. Rajinder Singh Ranu (Professor Emeritus, Colorado State University, USA) was the Guest Speaker and the event was chaired by Dr. Ajmer Singh Dhatt (Convener).
- Organized another special lecture on '*Food Processing: Catalysing Upliftment of Rural Livelihood*' on September 19, 2025. Dr Bhupinder Singh Katkar (Former National President, Association of Food Scientists and Technologists of India



and Dean, Faculty of Environmental and Biosciences and Technology, Guru Jambheshwar University of Science and Technology, Hisar) was the Guest Speaker and the event was chaired by Dr. Mahesh Kumar (Additional Director of Research, Agricultural Engineering, PAU).

- Conducted an awareness programme on "*Poultry Farming as a Subsidiary Occupation*" on January 15, 2026 at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bahawal, Hoshiarpur, focusing on scientific poultry management and income generation for farmers.
- Conducted an awareness program on "*Integrated Nutrition Gardening*" on February 12, 2026 at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bahawal, Hoshiarpur, for promoting household nutritional security and sustainable gardening practices.
- Celebrated National Science Day on February 27, 2026 at Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana in association with the Indian Society of Agronomy, featuring a special lecture on "*Advancing Sustainable*



Crop Production through International Graduate Student Training and Collaboration" and a poster competition on "Conservation Agriculture" with participation of PG students.

- Organized a lecture on *"Interfacing Single Gene Characterization with Genomic Variation for Nitrogen Use Efficiency and Grain Quality"* on March 6, 2026 at G.S. Khush Institute of Genetics, Plant Breeding and Biotechnology, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana.
- Organized an awareness program on *"Career Opportunities in the Agriculture Sector"* on January 20, 2026 at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sangrur, with participation of school students to promote agricultural education and awareness of KVK activities.
- Organized an awareness program on *"Benefits of Consuming Safe and Healthy Food"* on March 24, 2026 at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bahawal, Hoshiarpur, focusing on food safety, detection of adulterants, and healthy dietary practices.



Palampur Chapter

- The inaugural meeting of the Palampur Chapter was organized on September 24, 2025 at CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT), Palampur



in hybrid mode. In his opening remarks, Dr. Ram Kumar Sharma (Convenor) provided a comprehensive overview of NAAS's mission and outlined a strategic roadmap for the newly formed Chapter, focusing on impactful academic and outreach activities. Dr. Sudesh Kumar Yadav (Director, CSIR-IHBT) emphasized enhanced collaboration and knowledge sharing among NAAS Fellows to deepen the impact of the Academy's outreach and advisory initiatives.

- Organized an exposure visit-cum-hands-on training programme in the field of Biotechnology in collaboration with Anusandhan National Research Foundation-Scientific and Social Responsibility (ANRF-SSR) and under the umbrella of ViksitBharat@2047 on November 7, 2025. The programme was designed to provide practical exposure and skill-oriented training to graduate students and faculty members (26) from Government College Dhaliara, District Kangra (Himachal Pradesh).
- An educational visit-cum- hands-on training programme was organized for students and faculty member from Sardar Patel University, Mandi (Himachal Pradesh) (November 11, 2025) and Shaheed Captain Vikram Batra Government College, Palampur (December 10. 2025) under the CSIR-Integrated Skill Initiative. The participants visited various state-of-the-art research facilities of CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (CSIR-IHBT), Palampur. The students were exposed to advanced research infrastructure and ongoing scientific activities, thus providing them practical insights into modern research methodologies and applications.
- Conducted outreach and awareness programs for students and farmers on January 6 & 21, 2026 and February 5, 2026, for promoting scientific learning, medicinal plant cultivation, and sustainable agricultural practices.



- Arranged exposure visits for students on February 2, 2026 and March 2, 2026, focusing on Himalayan ecosystems, biodiversity, and climate change impacts.
- Arranged hands-on training programs, including herbarium preparation on February 17, 2026 and biotechnology skill development programme during February 5-10, 2026 to strengthen technical competencies of students.



Pune Chapter

- Organized a workshop on *“Droplet Deposition and Sprayer Calibration for Efficient Pesticide Application”* in collaboration with ICAR-National Research Centre for Grapes (ICAR-NRCG), Pune on February 23, 2026 focusing on improving pesticide use efficiency through proper sprayer calibration, droplet size optimization, and uniform deposition techniques for sustainable viticulture.



- Celebrated National Science Day on February 28, 2026.
- Arranged a program on precision plant protection and efficient pesticide application technologies on March 24, 2026, emphasizing



adoption of improved spraying techniques, resource-use efficiency, and awareness among farmers and stakeholders for environmentally safe crop protection practices.

Varanasi Chapter

- Organized a seminar on “*Social-Ecological Resilience: Strengthening Bio-cultural Resource-Based Livelihoods in the Face of Multiple Stressors*” in collaboration with the Division of Agricultural Extension, ICAR New Delhi; ICAR-National Institute of Secondary Agriculture (NISA), Ranchi; and ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI), Zone-IV, Patna on May 11, 2025, at NISA,



Ranchi. Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President) and Dr. S.C. Dubey, (Vice-Chancellor, Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi) were Chief Guest and Guest of Honour respectively during the seminar. The event aimed at understanding the attributes of bio-cultural resource-based resilience among tribal communities, identifying key environmental stressors affecting livelihoods, and exploring the adaptive strategies based on traditional knowledge and nature-based solutions such as crop diversification.

- Organized A poster presentation competition for students on the theme “*Indian Agriculture by 2047: Innovation & Sustainable Strategies*” on July 26, 2025 in collaboration with the Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Banaras Hindu University. Students from various disciplines, including Agriculture, Environment, Botany, Zoology, Biochemistry, & Biotechnology participated and winners were awarded.

- Organized A special lecture on “*Transforming the Agricultural Landscape of Uttar Pradesh.*” by Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President, NAAS) on August 02, 2025.



- Organized a BSS in partnership with the ICAR-Indian Institute of Vegetable Research (IIVR), Varanasi on October 6, 2025 to help farmers become self-sufficient by growing vegetables using PPP Model.



- An educational tour for high school students from the Government Girls High School, Bhadohi (Uttar Pradesh) at the Indian Institute of Vegetable Research, Varanasi was arranged on October 9, 2025 to create interest in science among rural students.

- A special lecture on ‘*From Waste to Value: Circular Economy Case Studies in Developing Cities*’ was organized on November 29, 2025 for students. Dr. Edza Aria Wikurendra (Associate Professor, Universitas Nahdlatul Ulama Surabaya, Indonesia) delivered the lecture at Rajiv Gandhi South Campus, Banaras Hindu University, Barkacha, Mirzapur and emphasized the importance of circularity principles for converting municipal solid waste from developing cities into value-added products, and for their role in low-input, sustainable urban and peri-urban agriculture.
- Celebrated National Science Day under the inspiring tagline “*Aao Hath Badhayen, Vigyan Ko Vistar Dilayen.*” on February 27, 2026 at Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, engaging school and undergraduate students

through interactive scientific demonstrations and activities to promote scientific awareness.

- Organized an awareness workshop on “*Water and Livelihood Security for ST Farmers in the Dryland*



Region of Sonebhadra” on March 22, 2026 at Myorpur, Sonebhadra, under a DST-sponsored program, focusing on climate-resilient agricultural practices, water conservation, and distribution of quality seeds to farmers.

4. NAAS-YUVA

4.1 Webinars

- A webinar by NAAS-YUVA in collaboration with Amity Foundation for Food and Agriculture was organised on April 04, 2025 on “*Beyond Short-term Gains: Soil Conservation for Sustainable Agriculture*”. Professor Gerardo Rubio (University of Buenos Aires, Argentina) delivered a lecture on comparative soil conservation practices and sustainable agriculture in Argentina and India.
- Organized an inspiring webinar on “*Empowering Young Minds: Lessons from the COVAXIN Journey*” on January 9, 2026 featuring Dr. Pragya D. Yadav (Director, National Institute for One Health, Nagpur and Scientist ‘F’, ICMR National Institute of Virology, Pune). Drawing from her frontline experience in the rapid isolation of SARSCoV2—an achievement that enabled the development of COVAXIN, she highlighted the importance of biosafety, indigenous vaccine development, teamwork, and pandemic preparedness under the One Health framework. Her talk strongly motivated young researchers to pursue

translational science with integrity and national commitment. The session saw enthusiastic participation of over 50 students, researchers, and faculty members across the country. The webinar was moderated by Dr. S.K. Sharma (Member) and Dr. Haritha Bollinedi (Convenor) appraised the audience and speaker on various activities of NAAS-YUVA.

4.2 Interactive workshops

- A Youth Parliament Session and Agri-Idea Pitching were held on August 09, 2025 to engage young agricultural professionals in policy-oriented discussions and innovative solutions. The programme successfully demonstrated how young, informed and science-aware leaders can help in shaping agricultural policy and innovation. It provided a unique platform to bridge research, policy, and grassroots realities, empowering the next generation to lead Indian agriculture towards a sustainable and resilient future.
- Organized an interactive workshop on “*NextGen Agri Leaders: Career Pathways in Agriculture & Allied Sciences*” on February 3, 2026 in collaboration with INSA–INYAS, and ICAR–CMFRI. The event engaged students from Classes X–XII, offering them a comprehensive overview of emerging opportunities across agricultural and allied sectors.

4.3 Other Activities

- Six high school students delegation for the first time participated in the Global Youth Institute (GYI) conference held in Des Moines, USA during October 21-24, 2025 (see box), accompanied by Dr. Haritha Bollinedi as Chaperone. Senior NAAS leadership, including Dr. Himanshu Pathak, (President) and Dr. W. S. Lakra & Dr. A. K. Singh (Secretaries) also attended the event and encouraged the students. During the conference, plenary lectures by eminent global leaders, policy makers, World Food Prize Laureates, and renowned scientists provided insights on global food systems, agricultural innovation, climate resilience, and sustainable development. Besides, a wide range of thematic breakout sessions covering critical areas such as addressing rural food insecurity, advancing climate-smart agriculture, translating agricultural policy into action, supporting small-scale farmers, seed science and innovation, and the role of veterinary science in modern agriculture were arranged. Through sessions on the Borlaug-Ruan International Internship (BRI) exploration programme, students were introduced to pathways for pursuing international research internships, mentorship

opportunities, and long-term engagement with global agricultural institutions and networks associated with the World Food Prize Foundation. In addition, participation in the Borlaug Dialogue, innovation showcases, and the Innovate for Impact Awards Ceremony enabled students to interact with entrepreneurs, researchers, and youth innovators working on transformative agri-food solutions. Overall, participation in GYI 2025 provided the NAAS-YUVA students valuable international exposure, academic enrichment, networking opportunities, and inspiration to pursue future careers in agricultural science, policy, and innovation.

5. LINKAGES

5.1 National

The Academy implements most of its programmes through the ICAR Institutes, State Agricultural Universities, and other research organizations/NGOs with whom it has strong linkages. These linkages are nurtured and strengthened by its Fellows working in these organizations. The Academy also joined the initiative to establish linkages among the Science Academies of India, such as the Indian National Science Academy; Indian Academy of Sciences; Indian National Academy of Engineering; National Academy of Sciences, India; and National Academy of Medical Sciences to address issues concerning (a) better public understanding of science in the country,

Name and Affiliation	
	Shruthi K. (XII) PM Shri Kendriya Vidyalaya, Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)
	Tanuja P. Karne (XII) PM Shri Kendriya Vidyalaya, Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar (Maharashtra)
	Sanyukta Dalal (XII) PM Shri Kendriya Vidyalaya, Nagpur (Maharashtra)
	Roshan Godara (XII) Rajdhani Educational Group, Jaipur (Rajasthan)
	Dev Karan (XII) Delhi Public School, Noida (Uttar Pradesh)
	Rajeev (XII) PM Shri Kendriya Vidyalaya, Karnal (Haryana)

and (b) identification of frontline issues facing the country in which science and scientists have a stake.

5.2 International

NAAS Participation in World Food Prize 2025 Event

The Academy participated in the World Food Prize 2025 event held during October 21-23, 2025 at Des Moines, Iowa, (USA). A special Roundtable meeting on “Empowering Youth for Enhanced Engagement in Agriculture and Food Systems in India” was held, which was chaired by Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President) and attended

by Dr. W.S. Lakra and Dr. Ashok K. Singh (Secretaries); Prof. K.M. Maredia (Foreign Secretary), and Dr. Haritha Bollinedi, (Convener, NAAS-YUVA), along with several NAAS Foreign and Pravasi Fellows. The Roundtable brought together international experts and academicians to deliberate on enhancing youth engagement and innovation in agriculture and food systems. In addition,



six school students from India participated in the World Food Prize-2025 event, representing the country on a global platform and interacting with international experts and peers. The Academy also showcased India’s achievements in agricultural research, innovation, and policy through its exhibition booth, reaffirming the nation’s commitment to global food and nutritional security.

Virtual Interaction Meetings with NAAS Foreign and Pravasi Fellows

Two virtual interactive meetings were held with NAAS Foreign and Pravasi Fellows on July 18, 2025 and August 19, 2025 under the chairmanship of Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President). In his introductory address, he emphasized during both the meetings: (i) Greater need for the Academy to harness global expertise and diverse viewpoints to advance India’s research, education, and extension; (ii) Active engagement of

Pravasi/Foreign Fellows in order to expand the Academy's global outreach; and (iii) Highlighted Academy's existing MoUs (11) with foreign academies, including the African Academy of Sciences.

Suggestions emanated during the interaction Meeting

- Greater need for networking and mentoring of students and early career researchers
- Joint Ph.D. programs with foreign universities
- Webinar series and workshops with international experts on Artificial Intelligence (AI) applications in agriculture, Global Trade and Tariffs, Genome editing, etc.
- Establish at least two International Chapters of the Academy for better facilitation, coordination and greater engagement of Pravasi and Foreign Fellows
- Creation of online repository of fellowships/scholarships on Academy's website with email alerts
- Utilize existing MoUs to co-organize symposia and joint programs
- Encouraging South-South collaborations, particularly India-Africa partnerships
- Showcase India at the 2026 International Horticulture Congress (Japan)
- Use of GIAN & SPARC programs to invite foreign experts for short courses in India



5.3 Institutional Membership

The Institutions, which are involved in activities aligned to the objectives of the Academy, are eligible to become an Institutional Member of the Academy by contributing Rs10 lakh towards the NAAS Corpus Fund for its sustained long-term support of different activities. As on March 31, 2025, 43 Institutional Members have been inducted.

6. RECOGNISING EXCELLENCE

6.1 New Fellowship 2026

Section I: Crop Sciences

Dr. Appunu Chinnaswamy
Dr. Satendra Kumar Mangrauthia
Dr. Raveendran Muthurajan
Dr. Vignesh Muthusamy
Dr. Ashok Kumar Parihar
Dr. Mohar Singh

Section II: Horticultural Sciences

Dr. Gopal Lal
Prof. Akhilesh Sharma
Dr. Binod Kumar Singh

Section III: Animal Sciences

Dr. Ashim Kumar Biswas
Dr. Gyanendra Kumar Gaur
Dr. Manishi Mukesh
Dr. Girish Patil Shivanagowda

Section IV: Fisheries Sciences

Dr. Martin Xavier
Dr. Ajit Kumar Verma

Section V: Natural Resource Management Sciences

Dr. (Ms.) Arti Bhatia
Dr. Shankar Lal Jat

Dr. Nagabovanalli Basavarajappa
Prakash

Dr. Parvender Sheoran
Dr. Naresh Kumar Soora

Section VI: Plant Protection Sciences

Dr. Amalendu Ghosh
Dr. Arup Kumar Mukherjee
Prof. Sengottayan Senthil-Nathan
Prof. Zaki Anwar Siddiqui

Section VII: Agricultural Engineering & Technology

Dr. Debabandya Mohapatra
Dr. Narayan Lal Panwar

Section VIII: Social Sciences

Dr. Mahesh Chander
Dr. Rajiv Pandey
Dr. A. Amarender Reddy

6.2 Foreign Fellows

Dr. Serge Savary

6.3 Pravasi Fellows

Prof. Channapatna Sundar Prakash
Dr. Vijay Singh
Prof. (Ms.) Mywish Karimbhai Maredia

6.4 Associateship

Section I: Crop Sciences

Dr. Hari Krishna

Dr. (Ms.) Niharika Mallick

Section II: Horticultural Sciences

Dr. (Ms.) Jyoti Devi

Section III: Animal Sciences

Dr. (Ms.) Rashmi H.M

Dr. (Ms.) Heena Sharma

Section IV: Fisheries Sciences

Dr. Niladri Sekhar Chatterjee

Section V: Natural Resource Management Sciences

Dr. Paramesha V

Dr. (Ms.) Venugopalan Visha Kumari

Section VI: Plant Protection Sciences

Dr. Nagendran Krishnan

Dr. Guru Pirasanna Pandi G

Section VII: Agricultural Engineering & Technology

Dr. Murali S

Section VIII: Social Sciences

Dr. Sujit Sarkar

6.5 Young Scientists' Award 2026

Award	Name of the Awardee
Crop Sciences	Dr. Neeraj Kumar Scientist (Senior Scale), IARI, New Delhi
Horticultural Sciences	Dr. (Ms.) Twahira Begum Scientist C, CSIR-North East Institute of Science and Technology, Jorhat
Natural Resource Management Sciences	Dr. Owais Ali Wani Scientist, SKUAST, Kashmir
Plant Protection Sciences	Dr. Shivaji Hausrao Thube Scientist, ICAR-Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur
Agricultural Engineering & Technology	Dr. Samarth Godara Scientist, IASRI, New Delhi
Social Sciences	Dr. Md Yeasin Scientist, IASRI, New Delhi

7. FOUNDATION DAY & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7.1 Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Foundation Day Lecture

The Foundation Day lecture to honor Professor M.S. Swaminathan was delivered by Dr. Soumya Swaminathan (Chairperson, MSSRF) on “*One Health: Guiding our Future.*” The lecture highlighted the importance of partnerships and collective action in addressing global health challenges, drawing from her father’s legacy in agriculture and her own experience as the first Chief Scientist at the World Health Organization.

In her Lecture, Dr. Soumya Swaminathan underscored the significance of the One Health Paradigm in addressing the growing interconnected challenges to public, animal, and environmental health. She explained how rapid urbanization, global travel, and deforestation are bringing humans and animals into closer contact, increasing the risk of zoonotic disease outbreaks. Citing World Health Organization (WHO) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) data, she pointed out that more than 60% of emerging infectious diseases are zoonotic in origin, with three out of four new infectious diseases in humans linked to animals. Climate change, she noted, is further expanding the geographical range of disease vectors, thereby intensifying the health burden across species. Dr. Swaminathan highlighted antimicrobial resistance (AMR) as a major global health threat, responsible for nearly 5 million deaths annually, fueled by overuse of antibiotics in both humans and livestock. She emphasized that AMR transcends human health and affects entire ecosystems through the contamination of soil and water. Environmental degradation alone accounts for nearly a quarter of global deaths, reflecting the deep interdependence between ecological health and human well-being. She called for urgent, integrated responses through stewardship, surveillance, regulatory frameworks, and public engagement.



Dr. Swaminathan stressed the critical role of community participation, particularly through local influencers, schools, and One Health clubs, in spreading

accurate information and encouraging healthy behaviors. Culturally rooted communication methods like folk performances, radio, and theatre can enhance outreach, especially in rural and marginalized areas. She advocated for early detection of unusual health events



by empowering villagers to act as “first informants,” which can trigger timely responses and prevent larger outbreaks. The revival of climate-resilient traditional practices, like the Pokkali rice-shrimp system in Kerala, was also highlighted as a model for integrating ecological sustainability with livelihood security. Her lecture called for an inclusive, integrated, and informed movement to build a healthier future aligned with the One Health approach.

7.2 Excerpts from the minutes of 32nd AGM

The 32nd Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) of the Academy was held in hybrid mode under the Chairmanship of Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President) on June 05, 2025. At the outset, a moment of silence was observed in remembrance of seventeen esteemed Fellows who passed away since the last AGM. After a brief welcome address by Dr. Ashok K. Singh (Secretary), Dr. W.S. Lakra (Secretary) presented a detailed report on the Academy’s activities during 2024–25, including successful organization of Brainstorming Sessions (8) and Strategy Workshops (4) along with major events such as the XVII Agricultural Science Congress held jointly with GBPUA&T, Pantnagar, and the National Conference on “*Digital Agriculture: Empowering Indian Farming*” in collaboration with ICAR and ICRISAT. The Academy continued its efforts to enhance scientific engagement and outreach through its Regional Chapters, which held regular meetings and programs



aligned with the annual theme, “*Agri-food Innovations for Rural Transformation.*” A total of 34 Fellows, including two Foreign Fellows and three Pravasi Fellows, along with 12 Associates were inducted during the year, bringing the Fellowship strength to 802 and Associates to 123 as on January 01, 2025.

The Academy released several key publications during the year, including NAAS Year Book 2025; Planner 2025; Advances in Agri-Food Systems Volumes I & II; Indian Agriculture by 2047: A Roadmap for Research, Education and Extension;



and the Annual Report 2024–25. The Pedagogy Development Programme (PDP) was also conducted, benefitting nearly 350 ICAR Scientists through eight training sessions. Under the newly launched NAAS–YUVA initiative, various youth-focused programs and webinars were organized, including participation

of Indian school students (6) in the World Food Prize Foundation event held in October 2025 in Des Moines, USA.

The Academy also launched the “*Smt. Kanak Aggarwal-NAAS Girls Scholarship*”, supported by M/s Crystal Crop Protection Ltd. and disbursed scholarships to 84 undergraduate girl students from agricultural universities. Besides, a new collaboration with M/s Dhanuka Agritech Ltd. led to the establishment of the “*NAAS–Dhanuka Awards for Excellence in Agricultural Extension,*” recognizing top-performing KVKs, ATARIs, and Extension Scientists and 14 such awards were conferred.

The Academy also approved the reorganization of NAAS Regional Chapters based on agro-ecological zones and identified new Conveners. To enhance further



collaboration, MoUs were signed with the African Academy of Sciences (AAS) and Trust for Advances of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS). Besides, M/s Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd. joined as a Corporate Member along with five ICAR Institutions and Universities as Institutional Members. The General Body adopted the Annual Report and Audited Accounts for 2024–25 and approved the appointment of M/s Garg Singla & Co. as auditors for 2025–26. The AGM concluded with the formal admission of the newly elected Fellows (34) and Associates (12).

7.3 Presidential Address

Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President) delivered his Presidential Lecture on the theme “Repurposing and Restructuring Agri-Extension for Aspiring India.” Emphasizing extension as the third critical pillar of Indian agriculture, he traced its historical



evolution from the post-1866 Odisha famine to pioneering initiatives like the Etawah Pilot Project (1948), National Extension Service (1953), and the establishment of the first Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) in 1974. Currently, India has a robust network of 731 KVKs supported by 11 ATARIs. But he cautioned against the overdependence on KVKs alone for extension functions. He underlined the crucial role that agricultural extension has played in India’s growth, contributing to massive increases in production across all agricultural commodities. However, with changing demographics, market demands, technological disruption, and environmental stressors, the current extension model is supply-driven and fragmented and needs urgent transformation.

Dr. Pathak concluded by urging the Academy and all stakeholders to act with ambition and collaborative resolve to create a modern, inclusive, and future-ready extension ecosystem, capable of supporting India’s journey towards a Viksit Bharat@2047.

8. PUBLICATIONS

8.1 Policy Papers (PP)

- 
- PP-134 : Cellular Fish Meat Production: Prospects and Challenges
- PP-135 : Accelerating Farm Mechanization to Achieve the Goal of Viksit Bharat
- PP-136 : Crop Grouping and Harmonization of Maximum Residue Limits: Solution to Off-Label Use of Pesticides
- PP-137 : Restoration and Improvement of Soil Health
- PP-138 : Climate Adaptive Conservation of Fisheries Resources
- PP-139 : dsRNA-Biopesticides for Crop Protection
- PP-140 : Underutilized Fruits and Vegetables for Nutritional and Health Security
- PP-141 : Preparing Youth for Agri-preneurship Development
- PP-142 : Enhancing India's Agricultural Exports: Prospects and Challenges



8.2 Strategy Papers (SP)

- SP 21 : Honeybees: Harbinger of Sweet Revolution
- SP 22 : Microplastics Pollution: Remediation Strategies for Sustainable Environmental Management

8.3 Newsletter (quarterly)

NAAS-News, Vol. 25, Nos 2 to 4 and Vol. 26, No.1



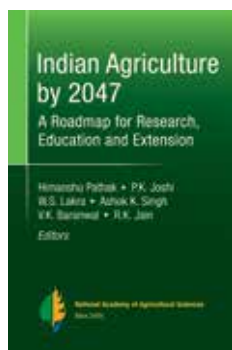


8.4 Year Book and Planner

NAAS Year Book 2026 and Planner 2026

8.5 Journal (Published by Springer India Pvt. Ltd) (quarterly)

NAAS Official Journal 'Agricultural Research'
Vol.14, Nos. 2 to 4 and Vol.15, No.1



8.6 Book

Indian Agriculture by 2047: A Roadmap for
Research, Education and Extension

9. EVENTS & MEETINGS

9.1 New Year Get-together

The Academy organised New Year Get-Together on January 01, 2026, bringing together Fellows and Associates to celebrate the achievements during 2025 and reflect on the Academy's vision for the future. Dr. A.K. Singh (Secretary) extended a warm welcome and introduced the newly elected office-bearers: Dr. M.L. Jat (President), Dr. B.S. Dwivedi (Secretary), Dr. R.K. Pal (Editor), and EC Members: Dr. Dilip Jain; Dr. D.L.N. Rao; Dr. K. Madhavi Reddy; and Dr. Rajarshi Roy Burman. Besides, the outgoing office bearers and EC members: Dr. Himanshu Pathak; Dr. W.S. Lakra; Dr. V.K. Baranwal; Dr. Anjani Kumar; Dr. A.S. Raghvendra; Dr. E.V.S. Prakasa Rao; and Dr. R.T. Patil were felicitated in recognition of their



service to the Academy. The event also featured the release of Academy's Year Book 2026 and Year Planner 2026.

The program was enriched with reflections and remarks by Past-Presidents, Dr. R.S. Paroda, Dr. R.B. Singh, Dr. T. Mohapatra and Dr. Himanshu Pathak. They highlighted the Academy's journey, scientific advancements, and the need for continued collaborative efforts to strengthen Indian agriculture. It was emphasized that agriculture remains central to economic development, livelihoods, & food security and Academy must continue to function as an independent science-based advisory body. Continuous introspection, inclusivity, and responsiveness are essential for institutional growth. Dr. M.L. Jat (President) delivered New Year address emphasising innovation, inclusiveness and forward-looking strategies for science-led agricultural transformation. The program concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. B.S. Dwivedi (Secretary).

9.2 Executive Council Meetings

During 2025-26, four EC meetings were held in hybrid mode. Major issues considered and actions taken during the meetings were as follows:

Excerpts from 141st meeting (June 04, 2025)

- The Academy's publication "*Indian Agriculture by 2047: A Roadmap for Agricultural Research, Education and Extension*" will be released during the 32nd Annual General Meeting on June 05, 2025.

- Academy's participation in the World Food Prize (WFP) Foundation event to be held in Iowa, (USA) in October 2025 was favourably considered. A booth showcasing Academy's initiatives, along with six high school students shall represent India, with sponsorship from Dr. Larry Walker (Michigan State University, USA).
- The inaugural "*NAAS–Dhanuka Awards for Excellence in Agricultural Extension*" (14) shall be conferred during the Annual General Meeting on June 05, 2025.
- The reorganization of NAAS Regional Chapters was approved, and new conveners, including Dr. Kajal Chakraborty (Lucknow Chapter); Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah (Barapani Chapter); and Dr. M. Mohanty (Bhopal Chapter) were identified.
- Sectional Committees for the election of the Fellows, Associates, and Young Scientist Awards for 2026 were constituted.
- The Academy received 402 nominations for the Fellowship, Associateship, and Academy Awards, including 15 for Pravasi and three for Foreign Fellowships, in addition to nominations carried forward from 2023 and 2024.
- Under "*Smt. Kanak Aggarwal NAAS Girls Scholarship*", 84 girl students pursuing undergraduate agricultural education received financial support during 2024-25. The selection process for the next batch of students has also been initiated.
- The Academy has taken significant steps toward developing India-specific indicators for the Global Hunger Index (GHI) and Human Development Index (HDI). A committee is working on finalizing the draft report.
- Academy further strengthened linkages by signing MoUs with the Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS) and the African Academy of Sciences (AAS).

Excerpts from 142nd meeting (September 16, 2025)

- Recommendations of the Sectional Committees and the Joint Conveners' Group for the election of Fellows, Associates, and Young Scientist Awardees for 2026 were approved for inclusion in the ballot paper.
- Establishing two international chapters of the Academy, one for North America, Europe, Africa and Latin America, and another for Asia-Pacific regions to strengthen global outreach and engagement of Pravasi Fellows was proposed by Prof. K. M. Maredia and a committee to be chaired by Dr. P. K. Joshi (Vice-President) was constituted to prepare a detailed proposal for consideration in the next EC meeting.

- The Council approved in principle the proposal for organizing an International Conference on “*Best Practices in Agricultural Cooperatives in the Global Arena*” to be held in New Delhi on December 15-16, 2025, aligned with the 2025 NAAS theme “*Agri-Food Innovations for Rural Transformation.*” A committee to be chaired by Dr. P. K. Joshi (Vice-President) was constituted to finalize the conference roadmap, funding, and partnerships.
- After due deliberation, nominations for filling up various positions were finalised by the EC for the initiation of balloting process.
- The Council welcomed Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao (Director, IARI) as ICAR Nominee to the EC for a term of three years from July 1, 2025.
- Two virtual round-table meetings were held for the Foreign and Pravasi Fellows in July and August 2025. Besides, two Brainstorming Sessions on “*Trade-related Challenges*” and “*Artificial Intelligence in Agriculture*” were identified.

Excerpts from 143rd meeting (November 8, 2025)

- Felicitated the outgoing office bearers, which included Dr. Himanshu Pathak (President), Dr. W.S. Lakra (Secretary), Dr. V.K. Baranwal (Editor), and Dr. Anjani Kumar, Dr. A.S. Raghvendra, Dr. E.V.S. Prakasa Rao and Dr. R.T. Patil (Members). In addition, ratified the election of Office Bearers/EC Members/Fellowships and Associates from January 2026 (see box).
- Identified “*Agri-food Innovations for Rural Transformation*” as the NAAS 2025 theme.
- Reviewed the progress of the Committee constituted to revise the Bye-laws, Rules and Regulations of the Academy. It was agreed to expand the Committee by including Dr. Anupam Varma, Dr. J.C. Katyal and Dr. P.K. Joshi and the revised Committee was asked to submit its report by January 15, 2026.
- Approved the establishment of two International Chapters to enhance the global engagement and academic outreach of the Academy. The Global West Chapter will cover North America, Europe, Africa and Latin America with Dr. P.V. Vara Prasad (USA) as the Convener. Global East Chapter will cover Australia, New Zealand, South-East Asia, East Asia, South Asia and Central Asia with Dr. Harbans Singh Bariana (Australia) as the Convener. Each chapter will have a Co-Convener, and will be co-ordinated by the Foreign Secretary (NAAS).
- Identified “*Women and Youth-led Agri-Innovations and Enterprises*” as the theme for NAAS 2026. All PAAS Societies will be encouraged to align events with the

annual theme and present consolidated recommendations during the annual National conference.

- Prof. Anupam Varma’s suggestion to include the NAAS journal “*Agricultural Research*” as a regular EC agenda item was considered and Dr. N.K. Singh was appointed as the additional Chief Editor.

Elected Office Bearers and Members of the EC from January 01, 2026

1.	President	Dr. Mangi Lal Jat
2.	Secretary	Dr. Brahma Swaroop Dwivedi
3.	Editor	Dr. Ram Krishna Pal
4.	Members (4)	Dr. Dilip Jain Dr. (Ms.) Kambham Madhavi Reddy Dr. D.L.N. Rao Dr. Rajarshi Roy Burman

Excerpts from 144th meeting (February 20, 2026)

- The status of Academy’s International Chapters (Western and Eastern), launched in 2025, was reviewed. Further strengthening of global outreach and diaspora engagement were emphasized.
- It was decided that the Agricultural Science Congress (ASC) will be organized once in three years instead of two years, aligning with the tenure of office bearers. However, the matter will be placed before the AGM for approval. Further, Academy will organize focused workshops and for 2026, a workshop focusing on infrastructure systems, data integration, and emerging national priorities was proposed.
- The program for 33rd AGM and Foundation Day (June 4–5, 2026) was finalized. It was decided to organize Section-wise group presentations by newly elected Fellows and also to hold an “*AI Summit for the National Agricultural Research System (NARS)*” during AGM.
- It was decided to felicitate newly elected NAAS Fellows as well as Padma Awardees (2026) during AGM. In addition, exemplary farmers along with distinguished industry leaders and media personnel were identified for felicitation. It was also decided to obtain brief profiles from awardees for inclusion in the NAAS News.

- Programs for 2026 including brainstorming session/strategy workshops were finalized.
- The proposal to resume printing of 200 hard copies of Academy’s publications was approved for wider dissemination, However, NAAS News will be published in electronic format only.
- The Academy’s participation in the World Food Prize Foundation Event 2026 (October 20–22, Des Moines, Iowa) was approved. EC supported student participation, booth establishment, and youth-focused initiatives, including the theme “Women Farmers in Agriculture.”
- Academy’s theme for 2026, “Women and Youth-led Agri-Food System Innovations and Enterprises” was finalized and activities to be conducted in collaboration with PAAS.
- A Committee for Journal Scoring (2027–2029) was constituted and criteria for evaluation of non-impact factor journals were finalized.

9.3 Programs Planned for 2026

Topic	Conveners/ Co-conveners
Brainstorming Sessions	
Enhancing India’s Agricultural Competitiveness in Changing Global Trade Dynamics	Dr. P.S. Birthal
Roadmap for Atmanirbharta in Fertilizers	Dr. A.K. Nayak & Dr. B.S. Dwivedi
Nutraceuticals and Functional Foods: Potential, Policy Challenges and Regulatory Framework	Dr. H.S. Oberoi
Climate Resilient Aquaculture Systems and Practices: Policy Perspective	Dr. B.K. Behera & Dr. W.S. Lakra
Enhancing Oilseed Production: Policies and R&D Initiatives	Dr. D.K. Yadava
Preventing the Use of Spurious Pesticides in Agriculture	Prof. Anupam Varma

Topic	Conveners/ Co-conveners
Future of Next Generation Small Farms: Ensuring Profitability and Viability	Dr. Ashok K. Singh
Cross-cutting Conversations for Diet Diversity: Harnessing Agriculture for Nutritional Wellness of the Nation	Dr. K. Madhavan Nair
Strategy Workshops	
Reimagining Climate Resilience in Rainfed Agriculture Landscapes	Dr. V.K. Singh & Dr P.V. Vara Prasad
Harnessing Global Wisdom in Innovations and Education Domains to Develop Strategies for Higher Agricultural Education Institutions towards Viksit Bharat 2047	Dr. Anupama Singh; Dr. Karim M Meridia & Dr. Anil Dahuja
Strategies for Enhancing Rainfed Maize Systems: A Roadmap for Sustainable Productivity and Prosperity	Dr. H.S. Jat
Organic Fruits and Vegetables: Profitability and Certification Challenges	Dr. Sanjay Kumar Singh
Leveraging Bioproducts Processing for Livestock and Poultry Sector Waste towards Circular Bioeconomy	Dr. B.M. Naveena
Deep Sea Fisheries: Prospects, Challenges and Policy for Commercial Exploitation	Dr. A Gopalakrishnan & Dr. Grinson George

10. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Auditor's Report and a brief Audited Statement of Accounts for 2025-26 are annexed as Annexure II & III.

11. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Academy gratefully acknowledges the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for their continued logistics support in organizing international workshop. The Academy also places on record the cooperation and support in terms of logistics provided by other organizations. Academy's publication activities are largely due to the voluntary and honorary services of its Editor-in-Chief, Editors, Associate Editors, Advisory Board, NAAS Office Bearers & EC Members, and Reviewers. The esteemed Fellows also lend their services for various activities of the Academy such as Annual General Body Meeting, scoring of Research Journals, critically examining nominations for new Fellowship and Academy Awards, Brainstorming Sessions, Interaction Meetings, etc. The Academy gratefully acknowledges the services of the Fellowship and NAAS Secretariat staff (Annexure IV) involved in the above activities during the year.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Position	2025	2026
President	Dr. Himanshu Pathak	Dr. M. L. Jat
Immediate Past-President	Dr. T. Mohapatra	Dr. Himanshu Pathak
Vice-President	Dr. P.K. Joshi	Dr. P.K. Joshi
Vice-President	Dr. B. S. Dhillon	Dr. B.S. Dhillon
Secretary	Dr. W. S. Lakra	Dr. Ashok K. Singh
Secretary	Dr. Ashok K. Singh	Dr. B.S. Dwivedi
Foreign Secretary	Prof. Karimbhai M. Maredia	Prof. Karimbhai M. Maredia
Editor	Dr. V. K. Baranwal	Dr. R. K. Jain
Editor	Dr. R. K. Jain	Dr. R.K. Pal
Treasurer	Dr. Rajender Parsad	Dr. Rajender Parsad
Member	Prof. A. S. Raghavendra	Dr. Dilip Jain
Member	Dr. Anjani Kumar	Dr. D.L.N. Rao
Member	Dr. P. S. Minhas	Dr. P. S. Minhas
Member	Prof. Bishwanath Chakraborty	Prof. Bishwanath Chakraborty
Member	Dr. A. Gopalakrishnan	Dr. A. Gopalakrishnan
Member	Dr. D. K. Yadava	Dr. D. K. Yadava
Member	Dr. E. V. S. Prakasa Rao	Dr. (Ms.) K. Madhavi Reddy
Member	Dr. (Ms.) Minakshi Prasad	Dr. (Ms.) Minakshi Prasad
Member	Dr. O.P. Yadav	Dr. O.P. Yadav
Member	Dr. (Ms.) P. D. Kamala Jayanthi	Dr. (Ms.) P. D. Kamala Jayanthi
Member	Dr. Rambhau Tumadu Patil	Dr. Rajarshi Roy Burman
Member	Dr. Suman K. Pandey	Dr. Suman K. Pandey
ICAR Nominee	Shri Sanjay Garg	Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao

AUDITOR'S REPORT

GARG SINGLA & CO.
Chartered Accountants
(Peer Reviewed Firm)



Independent Auditor's Report

TO,

THE MEMBERS,
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
NASC COMPLEX, DPS MARG, PUSA
NEW DELHI-110012

We have audited the attached Balance Sheet of **National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (hereinafter "Academy")**, New Delhi as on 31st March 2026, the Income and Expenditure Account, the receipt and payment accounts and notes annexed for the year ended on that date (hereinafter "Financial Statements").

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements. This responsibility includes maintenance of adequate accounting records for safeguarding of assets of the Academy and for preventing and detecting frauds and other irregularities; selection and application of appropriate policies; maintenance of adequate internal control for ensuring the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Academy's preparation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

AUDIT | COMPLIANCE | CONSULTING | OUTSOURCING

✉ gargsinglaandco@gmail.com

🌐 www.gsac.in

📍 A-658, Sector - 19, Noida
Gautam Budh Nagar - 201 301 (U.P.)



II. Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

- A. We have sought and obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit
- B. The Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account dealt with by this Report are in agreement with the relevant books of account.
- C. According to the information and explanations provided by the Management, the Property, Plant and Equipment amounting to Rs. 1,56,30,663.49/- have been physically verified and reconciled with the books of account by the Management during the year. We have relied upon the management confirmation.
- D. During the year, Input GST amounting to Rs. 2,39,039.64/- has been transferred to the Capital Fund by the Management. The accounting treatment and its appropriateness have been considered based on the information and explanations provided by the Management and the relevant accounting policies followed by the entity.
- E. As per the books of account and information provided by the Management, the balance of Input GST Credit Ledger amounting to Rs. 21,31,082.68/- has been transferred to the Capital Fund during the year.
- F. Closing balances of sundry debtors, sundry creditors and loans and advances, as independent balance confirmations were not obtained. Accordingly, we have relied upon the books of account and representations provided by the Management in respect of such balances.
- G. The opening balances of all assets, liabilities, and fund balances have been carried forward from the audited financial statements of the preceding year. We have relied upon the audited financial statements of the previous year and the confirmations and representations provided by the Management regarding the correctness of such opening balances.

Opinion

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the said statements of accounts are read together with notes thereon and documents annexed there to give a true and fair view:

- a. In the case of balance sheet, of the state of affairs as at 31st March 2026.
- b. In the case of Income and Expenditure Account, of the excess of Income over Expenditure for the year ended on that date.



- c. In the case of Receipts and Payments Accounts, of the receipts and payments for the year ended on that date.

For M/s Garg Singla & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg. No. 004340N



(CA Pradeep Kumar Verma, FCA)

Partner

Membership No. 523250

UDIN: 26523250FDLTNG8487

Place: Noida

Date: 25/05/2026



National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS)
NASC Complex, DPS Marg, New Delhi-110012

Note-1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

1. Brief about the Entity :

The **National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS)**, established in 1990, is among the youngest of the Science Academies in India. It owes its origin to the vision of the late Dr. B.P. Pal, FRS. The Academy focuses on the broad field of agricultural sciences, including crop husbandry, animal husbandry, fisheries, agroforestry and the interface between agriculture and agro-industry. The Academy's role is to provide a forum to Agricultural Scientists to deliberate on important issues of agricultural research, education and extension, and present views of the scientific community as policy inputs to planners, decision/opinion-makers at various levels.

The Academy is having various registrations with different departments as given below:

S. NO.	Name of Department	Registration No	Effective date
1	Registrar of Societies, New Delhi	S-21054 of 1990	5 th June 1990
2	IT Department U/s Section 12A	DIT/Exemption/92-93/348/91/925	23-02-1993
	Renewed	AAATN0400H25DL01	03-02-2026
	IT Department Section 80G Renewed	AAATN0400H25DL02	03-02-2026
3	Ministry of Home Affairs (FCRA)	231650753	01-10-2023
4	NITI Ayog-Darpan Portal	DL/2021/0275999	26-03-2021
5	Ministry of Company Affairs (CSR)	CSR00086469	13-02-2025
7	GST Registration	07AAATN0400H1Z6	21-03-2018
8	GST TDS Registration	07AAATN0400H1DF	22-11-2021

2. Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, ongoing concern basis in accordance with the generally accepted accounting principles and in accordance with the mandatory accounting standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India.

3. Recognition of Income and Expenditure

- i. Accounts are prepared on historical cost basis on going concern assumption.
- ii. Revenues/Income is generally accounted on accrual as and when they are earned in accordance with the generally accepted accounting principles.
- iii. Cost/Expenditures are accounted on accrual as and when they are incurred in accordance with the generally accepted accounting principles. The expenditure heads include expenses incurred directly for the program related activities and are reported/classified under the natural heads of accounts. 'Other Program Implementation Expenses' includes expenses in the nature of community awareness programs on water and sanitation, seminars/workshops, trainings, repairs of community toilets/rain-water harvesting tanks, etc. which cannot be classified under other natural heads of accounts.

4. Voluntary Contributions:

- i. Any voluntary contribution received by the Society, with the specific direction that they shall form part of the Corpus Fund of the Society are recognized and credited to Corpus Fund.
- ii. The Other voluntary contributions received by the Society are recognized as revenue receipt and credited to the Income and Expenditure Account.
- iii. Any specific contribution received by the Society is recognized as capital Receipts under appropriate head, signifying the purpose for which such contribution received.
- iv. Voluntary contribution received in kind is not recognized in these accounts, but same is entered in the fixed assets register, if applicable.

5. Property, Plant and Equipments, Depreciation:

- i. Fixed assets are stated at written down value.
- ii. Depreciation on Fixed Assets is provided at the rates and method provided under the Income Tax Act, 1961.
- iii. Assets purchased out of Donor's funds are charged to Income & Expenditure Account.

6. Taxation

Since the objects of the Societies are public charitable which is duly recognized by the Income Tax Authorities, the income of the Society is exempt, subject to fulfillment of specific obligation under section 11-13 of the Income Tax Act., therefore, no provision of tax is made in these accounts. However, in case of any tax demand arising to the Society or as raised by the tax authorities, shall be recognized, as and when the same is crystallized.

7. Foreign Currency Transaction

Foreign currency transactions during the year are recorded at rates of exchange prevailing on the date of transaction. Current assets and current liabilities are translated at using the year end exchange rate. Exchange gains and losses are duly recognized in the Income and Expenditure Account.

8. INVESTMENTS:

Investments are valued at cost. Investments are made in the specified securities as provided in section 11(5) of the Income Tax Act. 1961.

For Garg Singla & Co.
Chartered Accountants
FRN : 004340N



(CA Pradeep Kumar Verma)
M.No.523250
UID No.: 26523250FDLTNG8487

Place: New Delhi
Date: 25/05/2026

For National Academy of Agricultural Sciences


(Dr Ashok K Singh)
Secretary


(Dr Rajender Parsad)
Treasurer

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH, 2026

National Academy of Agricultural Sciences NASC Complex, DPS Marg, New Delhi-110012 Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2026				
Amount in Rupees				
	Particulars	Note	31st March 2026	31st March 2025
I	EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
1	Corpus & Other Funds			
(a)	Corpus & Other Funds	2	35,90,27,672	35,77,88,540
(b)	Reserves and surplus	3	2,08,41,144	1,72,38,133
			37,98,68,816	37,50,26,673
2	Non-current liabilities			
(a)	Long-term borrowings		-	-
(b)	Deferred tax liabilities (Net)		-	-
(c)	Other long-term liabilities		-	-
(d)	Long-term provisions		-	-
			-	-
3	Current liabilities			
(a)	Short-term borrowings		-	-
(b)	Trade payables	4	25,960	1,02,929
(c)	Other current liabilities	5	1,49,100	21,36,418
(d)	Short-term provisions	6	-	-
			1,75,060	22,39,347
	Total		38,00,43,876	37,72,66,020
II	ASSETS			
1	Non-current assets			
(a)	Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangible assets			
(i)	Property, Plant and Equipment	7	1,56,30,662	1,77,90,555
(ii)	Intangible assets		-	-
(iii)	Capital work in progress		-	-
(iv)	Intangible asset under development		-	-
(b)	Non-current investments		-	-
(c)	Deferred tax assets (Net)		-	-
(d)	Long Term Loans and Advances		-	-
(e)	Other non-current assets		-	-
			1,56,30,662	1,77,90,555
2	Current assets			
(a)	Current investments		-	-
(b)	Inventories		-	-
(c)	Trade receivables	8	16,92,939	-
(d)	Cash and bank balances	9	33,61,63,679	32,12,20,712
(e)	Short Term Loans and Advances	10	1,19,56,774	1,88,07,650
(f)	Other current assets	11	1,45,99,822	1,94,47,103
			36,44,13,214	35,94,75,465
	Total		38,00,43,876	37,72,66,020
	Summary of significant accounting policies	1		
	The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements			

AS PER OUR REPORT EVEN DATE ATTACHED

For Garg Singla & Co

Chartered Accountants

FRN: 004340N

CA Pradeep Kumar Verma

M.No. 523250

Date: 25-05-2026

Place: New Delhi

UDIN: 26523250FDLTNG8487




For National Academy of Agricultural Sciences

Dr Ashok K Singh
SecretaryDr Rajender Parsad
Treasurer

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED ON
31st MARCH, 2026

National Academy of Agricultural Sciences			
NASC Complex, DPS Marg, New Delhi-110012			
Statement of Income & Expenditure for the year ended on 31st March 2026			
		Amount in Rupees	
Particulars	Note	31st March 2026	31st March 2025
Revenue from operations:			
I Revenue from operations	12	1,33,52,171	5,95,46,550
II Other Income	13	2,38,12,426	2,33,69,446
III Total Income (I+II)		3,71,64,596	8,29,15,996
IV Expenses:			
(a) Programs organised Expenses	14	1,39,14,912	3,06,52,082
(b) Employee benefits expenses	15	1,20,48,009	1,12,51,414
(c) Finance costs		-	-
(d) Depreciation and amortization expenses	7	23,96,826	28,36,227
(e) Other expenses	16	52,01,839	1,22,02,007
Total expenses		3,35,61,586	5,69,41,730
V Suplus/ (Deficit) before tax (III- IV)		36,03,010.52	2,59,74,266
VI Tax expense:			
(a) Current tax		-	-
(b) Excess/ Short provision of tax relating to earlier years		-	-
VII Suplus/ (Deficit) after Tax (V-VI)		36,03,011	2,59,74,266
Summary of significant accounting policies The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements	1		

As per our report even date attached:

<p>For Garg Singla & Co Chartered Accountants FRN: 004340N</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>CA Pradeep Kumar Verma M.No. 523250</p> <p>Date: 25-05-2026 Place: New Delhi</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">For National Academy Of Agricultural Sciences</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Dr Ashok K Singh Secretary</p> <p style="text-align: right;"> Dr Rajender Parsad Treasurer</p>
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SECRETARIAT

1. Ms. Deeksha Gupta, Executive Director
2. Mr. S.K. Sharma, Budget & Accounts Executive
3. Ms. Minu Tiwari, Chief Programme Executive
4. Mr. P. Krishna, Programme Executive
5. Dr. Manoj Kumar Singh, Editorial Manager
6. Ms. Rashmi Singh, Editorial Manager
7. Mr. Jai Singh, Office Management Jr. Executive
8. Mr. Chitesh Kaushik, Computer Operator
9. Mr. Banwari Lal Yadav, Driver cum Office Assistant
10. Mr. Kamal Singh, General Office Assistant
11. Mr. Shiv Dev Yadav, Supporting Staff

LIST OF ACRONYMS

Acronyms	Full Forms
AAS	African Academy of Sciences
ADG	Assistant Director General
AI	Artificial Intelligence
AMR	Antimicrobial Resistance
ANRF-SSR	Anusandhan National Research Foundation-Scientific and Social Responsibility
APEDA	Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority
ASC	Agricultural Science Congress
ATARI	Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute
BARC	Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
BISA	Borlaug Institute for South Asia
BoBP-IGO	Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organization
BSS	Brainstorming Session
CCPL	Crystal Crop Protection Limited
CDAC	Centre for Development of Advanced Computing
CECs	Contaminants of Emerging Concerns
CGIAR	The Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
CGWB	Central Ground Water Board
CHC	Custom Hiring Centre
CIFE	Central Institute of Fisheries Education
CIFRI	Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute
CIFT	Central Institute of Fisheries Technology
CIMMYT	International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center
CIP	International Potato Center
CMFRI	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute
CRM	Crop Residue Management
CSIR	Council of Scientific & Industrial Research
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization

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CSMCRI	Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Institute
DARE	Department of Agricultural Research and Education
DDG	Deputy Director General
EC	Executive Council
EIC	Export Inspection Council of India
FFDC	Fragrance & Flavour Development Centre
FPO	Farmer Producer Organization
FSSAI	Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
GBPUA&T	Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture & Technology
GHI	Global Hunger Index
GIAN	Global Initiative of Academic Networks
GSFRED	GS Foundation for Research, Education and Development
GST	Goods and Services Tax
GYI	Global youth Institute
HDI	Human Development Index
IARI	Indian Agricultural Research Institute
IASRI	Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute
ICAR	Indian Council of Agricultural Research
ICRISAT	International Crop Research Institute for Semi-Arid and Tropics
IFFCO	Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
IHBT	Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology
IIAB	Indian Institute of Agricultural Biotechnology
IIHR	Indian Institute of Horticultural Research
IIM	Indian Institute of Management
IIRR	Indian Institute of Rice Research
IIVR	Indian Institute of Vegetable Research
INSA	Indian National Science Academy
INSAIS	Indian Society for the Advancement of Insect Science
INYAS	Indian National Young Academy of Science
IoT	Internet of Things

Contd...

IRADA	Indian Resource and Development Association
IRMA	Institute of Rural Management Anand
IUU	Illegal Unreported and Unregulated
KVK	Krishi Vigyan Kendra
MPEDA	Marine Products Export Development Authority
NAARM	National Academy of Agricultural Research Management
NAAS	National Academy of Agricultural Sciences
NAFED	National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd.
NARES	National Agricultural Research and Education System
NBAGR	National Bureau of Animal Genetics Resources
NDDB	National Dairy Development Board
NEP	National Education Policy
NHB	National Horticulture Board
NIAP	National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research
NISA	National Institute of Secondary Agriculture
NIT	National Institute of Technology
NMPB	National Medicinal Plants Board
PAAS	Professional Association of Agricultural Societies
PAU	Punjab Agricultural University
PDP	Pedagogy Development Programme
PPP	Public-Private Partnerships
RNA	Ribose Nucleic Acid
SARS-CoV-2	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SKUAST	Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology
SPARC	Scheme for Promotion of Academic & Research Collaboration
TAAS	Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences
USA	United States of America
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
WFP	World Food Prize
YSPUHF	Dr. Yashwant Singh Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry
YUVA	Youth United for Visionary Agriculture

NAAS DOCUMENTS ON POLICY ISSUES*

Policy Papers

1.	Agricultural Scientist's Perceptions on National Water Policy	1995
2.	Fertilizer Policy Issues (2000-2025)	1997
3.	Harnessing and Management of Water Resources for Enhancing Agricultural Production in the Eastern Region	1998
4.	Conservation, Management and use of Agro-biodiversity	1998
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15.	Prioritization of Agricultural Research	2001
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54.	Integration of Millets in Fortified Foods	2012
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58.	Management of Crop Residues in the Context of Conservation Agriculture	2012
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Continued on inside cover

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