ICAR-IARI INDUSTRY MEET

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS IN CROP AND HORTICULTURAL SECTORS

DATE

30 JANUARY 2026

09:00 AM - 5:30 PM

VENUE

Dr BP Pal Auditorium

ICAR-IARI, NEW DELHI

Organised by

ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi - 110012

Objective

The brainstorming seeks to convene interaction among experts, policymakers, researchers and industry leaders for collectively exploring the following goals:

Industry Needs of Research, Education & Extension

CSR Funding Opportunities with Industry

Placement Opportunities for IARI Students with Industry

Background

ICAR–Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), popularly known as the "Seat of the Green Revolution," is India's premier institute for agricultural research, education, extension and innovation. The Institute envisions providing leadership for science-led, sustainable, and globally competitive agriculture to ensure food, nutrition, and livelihood security. Research programmes at IARI are carried out in a school-wise mode, covering crop improvement, horticultural science, basic sciences, plant protection, natural resource management and social sciences.

IARI has two off-campuses located at **IARI–Jharkhand** and **IARI–Assam**, in addition to **eight regional stations, two off-season nurseries**, and **one Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK)**. The Institute is a national leader in agricultural education, with approximately 313 UG, 296 PG and 1385 PhD students currently pursuing their studies at IARI.

IARI–Industry partnerships are critical enablers for translating cutting-edge research in crop improvement, horticulture, and basic science into scalable, commercially viable, and impact-oriented technologies. With a strong foundation in both fundamental and applied agricultural research, IARI generates a continuous pipeline of innovations, including high-yielding, climate-resilient, and biofortified crop varieties, as well as post-harvest technologies. Effective large-scale deployment of these innovations requires active collaboration with industry partners, who contribute expertise in product development, manufacturing, quality assurance, regulatory compliance, marketing, and distribution.

Overall, IARI–Industry partnerships play a vital role in transforming agricultural research into market-ready technologies. These collaborations accelerate innovation, strengthen infrastructure and funding, enhance technology commercialization and employability, and support sustainable agriculture, food and nutritional security, and national competitiveness.

School of Crop Improvement

Division of Genetics

The Division of Genetics, ICAR–IARI, New Delhi, the “Seat of the Green Revolution” in India, has made outstanding contributions to basic, strategic, and applied research in genetics and plant breeding. Since its inception, a total of 434 cultivars comprising 357 varieties and 77 hybrids have been developed and released. These cultivars span major food, fodder, and oilseed crops, including wheat, rice, barley, oats, maize, pearl millet, chickpea, pigeonpea, mungbean, lentil, Indian mustard, and soybean.

The division is a national leader in development and deployment of innovative tools, and 36 cultivars have been developed through molecular breeding, while 65 cultivars are biofortified, contributing significantly to nutritional security. A total of 1165 scholars including 668 PhD and 497 MSc students have graduated in Genetics and Plant Breeding contributing immensely to the human resources in crop improvement across the world.

Division of Seed Science & Technology

Recognizing the pivotal role of seed in agriculture, ICAR–IARI established the Division of Seed Technology in 1968 (renamed as Division of Seed Science and Technology in 1984). Since its inception, the Division has provided national leadership in maintenance breeding; seed production; seed quality evaluation; storage; seed physiology and pathology; variety identification; genetic purity testing; and DUS testing for plant variety protection, along with the development of standardised seed quality assessment procedures and human resource development.

Its innovative research has led to the development of several cutting-edge technologies, including SpeedySeed, Uniprime Technology, BruchGuard, SeedliMorphX, and Grain-Ex, among others, which have significantly advanced the field of seed science. These innovations enable precise, non-destructive evaluation of seed quality, thereby improving the efficiency, reliability, and competitiveness of seed production and trade.

School of Horticultural Science

Division of Fruits & Horticultural Technology

The Division of Fruits and Horticultural Technology has contributed immensely to the enhanced fruit production scenario in the country by its outstanding contributions made in basic, strategic and applied research. Since its inception, the Division has released 35 varieties of different fruit crops which comprises of mango (10), mango rootstocks (02), citrus (06) grape (08), papaya (06) and guava (03).

For mitigating abiotic stress, suitable rootstocks have been identified and recommended for diverse agro-ecological regions, and suitable rootstocks have been developed in mango and citrus suited for High Density Orcharding (HDO). During the past five years, more than 1.20 lakh fruit saplings of IARI-released fruit varieties have been sold, thus covering an additional area of 372.35 ha. Besides research and extension, the Division offers MSc and PhD programmes to develop skilled human resources.

Division of Vegetable Science

The Division of Vegetable Science has made remarkable contributions to basic, strategic, and applied research in vegetable crop improvement. Since its inception, the division has developed and released 268 cultivars, including 227 varieties and 41 hybrids, addressing major biotic and abiotic stresses, including trait-specific lines/ genetic stocks. Notable achievements include okra variety Pusa Bhindi-5 resistant to YVMV, tomato variety Pusa Shakti for heat tolerance, Pusa Tomato Hybrid-6 resistant to ToLCV, muskmelon Pusa Kazri resistant to fusarium wilt, and Pusa Sponge Gourd-29 resistant to leaf curl disease. Specific varieties for protected cultivation and also with higher nutritional value have been developed. A total of 966 scholars, including 522 PhD and 444 MSc students, have graduated in the discipline of Vegetable Science contributing immensely to the human resources across the world.

Division of Floriculture and Landscaping

The Division of Floriculture and Landscaping, established in 1983, has made outstanding contributions to basic, strategic, and applied research on flower crops. The roots of floriculture research at IARI date back to the early 1970s with the launch of the AICRP on Floriculture, which marked the beginning of organised research on ornamental crops in India. Since its inception, the Division has developed into a national centre of excellence dedicated to research in flower crop breeding, tissue culture of flowers, crop production, post-harvest management, value addition, turf grass management and protected cultivation. The division has developed a total of 267 varieties of commercially important flower crops such as rose, marigold, gladiolus, chrysanthemum, bougainvillea, etc. Additionally, the division functions as the international authority for the registration of bougainvillea, maintaining and documenting hundreds of cultivars of both national and international significance.

Division of Food Science and Post-Harvest Technology

Established 22 years ago, the Division of Food Science and Post-Harvest Technology addresses post-harvest losses, value addition, and agro-industrial waste valorisation. It has developed innovative technologies to extend shelf life, process waste, horticultural and millet-based food products, leading to 21 MoUs for commercialisation. Key achievements include zero-energy cool chambers, edible coatings, functional foods, vacuum-fried crisps, black garlic ageing technology,

stabilised bio-colourants, gluten-free pasta, and millet-based beverages. Key achievements include zero-energy cool chambers, edible coatings, functional foods, vacuum-fried crisps, black garlic ageing technology, stabilised bio-colourants, gluten-free pasta, and millet-based beverages. Six patents have been granted for functional food process. The Division also offers MSc and PhD programs, and 100 MSc and 101 PhD students have graduated in the discipline.

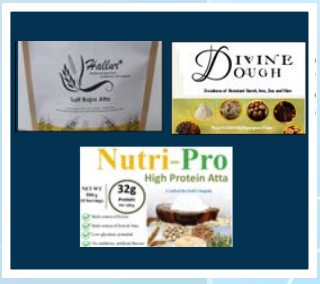
School of Basic Sciences

Division of Plant Physiology

The Division of Plant Physiology was established in 1966, with a legacy that traces back to 1941. Today, the Division serves as a premier research and training hub, focusing on the physiological, biochemical, and molecular aspects of plant function. The Division is committed to enhancing climate resilience, nutrient use efficiency, and improving yield and quality in crop plants through the application of cutting-edge technologies. The Division has emerged as a national focal point for research, teaching and training in the

The Division has established the Nanaji Deshmukh Plant Phenomics Centre, which is a state-of-the-art facility for plant phenomics in South Asia. Recently, the division pioneered the development of the world's first genome-edited rice variety. A total of 186 MSc and 238 PhD students have graduated in plant physiology from the division since its inception.

Division of Biochemistry



Recognising the importance of biochemical studies in crop improvement, the Division of Biochemistry was created in 1966 as a separate division with major emphasis on molecular biology, plant biochemistry, and nutrition. Since its inception, the division has acquired the best research, teaching and training facilities and has taken legitimate pride in being recognised as the Centre of Advanced Faculty Training (CAFT) by ICAR ever since 1995. Dynamic leadership and vision of the Heads of the Division contributed to developing this division as an excellent centre for research and teaching in plant biochemistry and molecular biology. Currently, the division is conducting basic/applied research with major emphasis in the areas of abiotic stress tolerance and nutritional quality improvement in cereals, pulses, and oilseed crops. The division has played a very important role in human resource development in the field of plant biochemistry.

CONTACT US

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ORGANISING SECRETARIES

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