



## Global Conference on Women in Agri-Food Systems (GCWAS-2026)

*Driving Progress, Attaining New Heights*

**Date: 12-14 March 2026**

**Venue: Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Convention Hall, National Agriculture Science Complex (NASC), Pusa Campus, New Delhi**

### Tentative Program

#### Registration and Collection of Kit

**Venue: Foyer (Front Area) of AP Shinde Symposium Hall, NASC, New Delhi**

**11 March 2026 (Wednesday) from 10:00-21:00**

**12 March 2026 (Thursday) from 8:00-9:30 AM**

#### Day 1: 12 March 2026 (Thursday)

11.00-12:15	Inaugural Session
11:00-11:05	National Anthem and Lightening the Lamp
11:05-11:10	Welcome address by Renu Swarup, Former Secretary, Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Conference Chair
11:10-11:15	Address by T. Mohapatra, Chairperson, Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Authority and Patron
11:15-11:20	Address by Agnes Kalibata, Founder and Chair, Connect4Impact Advisory Group, Special Invitee
11:20-11:25	Address by ML Jat, Secretary, DARE and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Patron
11:25-11:30	Address by RS Paroda, Chairman, Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Science (TAAS) and Chief Patron
11:30-11.40	Address by Guest of Honour Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW), Government of India

11:40-11:47	Release of Publications and Felicitation
11:47-12:07	Inaugural Address by Chief Guest Smt. Droupadi Murmu, Hon'ble President of India
12:07-12:12	Vote of Thanks by Dr Rajbir Singh, DDG (Ag. Extension), ICAR and Conference Co-Chair
12:12-12:15	National Anthem

12:15-12:45	<b>Tea/Coffee</b>
12:45-13:45	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Technical Session I</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Interface with Global Women Trailblazers</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Purvi Mehta</b>, Senior Advisor, Global Center on Adaptation, New Delhi</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Anuradha Agrawal, Project Director, ICAR-DKMA, New Delhi</p> <p><b>Rapporteur:</b> Ruchi Bansal, Senior Scientist, Div. of Plant Physiology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi</p>
	Agnes Kalibata, Founder and Chair, Connect4Impact Advisory Group (C4Impact), Kigali, Rwanda
	Soumya Swaminathan, Chairperson, MSSRF, Chennai, India
	Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted, World Food Laureate, WorldFish, Penang, Malaysia
	Julie Borlaug, President Borlaug Foundation and Advisor, World Food Prize Foundation, USA
	Renu Swarup, Former Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, New Delhi
	Concluding Remarks by Chair
13:45-14:30	<b>Lunch</b>

14:30-16:20	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Technical Session II</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Driving Progress, Attaining New Heights</b></p> <p><b>Co-Chairs: T Mohapatra</b>, Chairperson, PPV&amp;FRA, New Delhi <b>Soumya Swaminathan</b>, Chairperson, MSSRF, Chennai</p> <p><b>Convener:</b> Seema Jaggi, ADG (Agricultural Education), ICAR, New Delhi</p> <p><b>Rapporteur:</b> Reshma Gill, Senior Scientist, ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad</p>
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<b>Lead Lecture</b>		
14:30-14:45	Recognizing and Empowering Women through Aquatic Food Systems	Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted, World Food Laureate, WorldFish, Penang, Malaysia
<b>Invited Lectures</b>		
14:45-14:55	Two Million Women in Agriculture (including 5 min Video)	Subroto Geed, President, South Asia, Corteva Agriscience, Hyderabad
14:55-15:05	Gender-Transformative Strategies for Inclusive Innovation in Agri-Food Resilience	Maureen Miruka, Director, Gender Equity, Youth & Social Inclusion (GEYSI), CIMMYT, Mexico
15:05-15:15	Steering <i>ShreeAnna</i> for Food, Nutrition and Livelihood Security of Small and Marginal Farmers - A Success Saga	C Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad
15:15-15:25	Building a Socially Responsible Enterprise in Emerging Markets - Role of Women	Josephine Okot, Vice Chair, IFDC and MD, Victoria Seeds Ltd., Uganda
15:25-15:35	A Woman Entrepreneur's Success in Innovative Agriculture Technology	Renuka Diwan, CEO, Bioprime Agrisolutions, Pvt Ltd, Pune
15:35-16:10	6 Rapid Oral Presentations (5 Min each)	
	Empowerment of Rural Women as Agri-Entrepreneurs through Seed Production Intervention in West Bengal	Sudeshna Panja, Sasya Shyamala Krishi Vigyan Kendra, RKMVERI, West Bengal
	Socio-Economic Empowerment of Rural Women through Lavender Cultivation under the CSIR-Aroma Mission	Suphla Gupta, CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine, Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir, India
	The Dairy Dynamo-Celebrating a Woman's Livestock Legacy	Sudharani N, ICAR- Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Shivamogga
	Women as Catalysts of Change in Agri-Food Systems: Insights from Value Addition Enterprises in Thrissur, Kerala	Smitha KP, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur

	Exploring Wholistic Empowerment of Women Beyond Income through Rural-enterprises: Insights from Women Group	Priti Priyadarshni, Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour, Bihar
	Synergistic Integration of Farm Enterprises: A Catalyst for Circular Bio-economy	Maina Kumari, ICAR- National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana
16:10-16:20	Concluding Remarks by Co Chairs	
16:20-16:45	<b>Tea/Coffee</b>	

16:45-18:50	<b>Technical Session III</b> <b>Mainstreaming Gender Equality and Social Inclusion</b>	
	<b>Chair: Renu Swarup</b> , Former Secretary, Department of Biotechnology (DBT) New Delhi	
	<b>Moderator:</b> Malavika Dadlani, Former Joint Director, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi	
	<b>Rapporteur:</b> Monika Dalal, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NIPB, New Delhi	
<b>Lead Lecture</b>		
16:45-17:00	Policy as a Catalyst for Gender Equality in Agri-Food Systems	Nitya Rao, Professor, Gender and Development, UEA and, Director, NISD, Norwich, UK
<b>Panel Discussion</b>		
17:00-18:00 (6-7 min each)	Srivalli Krishnan, Deputy Director, Agriculture Development - Asia, Gates Foundation	
	Arabinda K Padhee, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar	
	Alessandra Galiè, Team Leader-Gender, International Livestock Research Institute, Nairobi, Kenya	
	Pratibha Singh, Regional Manager, South Asia, ACIAR, New Delhi	

	Kajal Gulati, DAFRE, Michigan State University, East Lansing, USA	
18:00-18:30	6 Rapid Oral Presentations (5 min each)	
	Women-Led Mission Navshakti - Hub & Spoke Cluster for Ornamental Fisheries (Mn-Hscof): A Un-Fao Globally Recognized Technical Model for Transformative, Sustainable and Innovative Livelihood Opportunities	Poonam Jayant Singh, ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources, Lucknow, UP
	Youth Aspirations and Aquaculture Livelihoods: Implications for Ghana's Agrifood System	Sarah Appiah, International Water Management Institute, Accra, Ghana
	State-Led Natural Farming and Women's Reproductive Labour: Exploratory Insights from Andhra Pradesh, India	Sandhya Kumari V, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad
	Making Gender Visible in Agri-Food Adaptation: A Political Economy Analysis from Coastal Bangladesh	Sharmin Afroz, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), Dhaka, Bangladesh
	Gendered Dimensions of Groundwater Governance and Their Implications for Inclusive Agri-Food Systems	Manulaxmi Yadav, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay
	Gender based Barriers in Access to Crop Seed Certification System: Implications for Resilient Seed Systems in the Haor Ecosystem of Bangladesh	Rehana Noor, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Bangladesh
18:30-18:40	<b>Concluding Remarks by Chair</b>	
18:40-19:30	<b>Exhibition, Posters and Networking</b>	
19:30-20:30	<b>Cultural Program</b>	
20:30 onwards	<b>Reception Dinner</b>	Sponsored by SM Sehgal Foundation

**Day 2: 13 March 2026 (Friday)**

9:00-10:00	<b>Plenary Lecture</b> <b>Co-Chairs:</b> RS Paroda, Chairman, TAAS, New Delhi <b>Nicoline de Haan</b> , Gender and Youth Accelerator Director of CGIAR Platform, ILRI, Kenya  <b>Convener:</b> RR Burman, ADG (Ag. Extension), ICAR, New Delhi <b>Rapporteur:</b> Kapila Shekhawat, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi	
9:00-9:05	Brief Introduction of the Speakers and Co-Chairs	Kapila Shekhawat, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
9:05-9:25	Gender Equality and Equity for a Sustainable Agri- Food Future	Agnes Kalibata, Founder and Chair, Connect4Impact Advisory Group (C4Impact), Kigali, Rwanda
9:25-9:45	Did the Self-help Group (SHG) Movement Help Promote Rural Women's Empowerment and Market Participation?	Prabhu Pingali, Director, Tata Cornell Institute, Ithaca, USA
9:45-10:00	Felicitation and Concluding Remarks by Co-Chairs	

10:00-11:30	<b>Technical Session IV</b> <b>Emerging and disruptive Technologies for Gender-Transformative Change</b>  <b>Co-Chairs:</b> Anil K Gupta, Founder, Honey Bee Network, SRISTI, GIAN & NIF, Visiting Faculty, IIM & Academy Professor, AcSIR, Ahmadabad <b>Nitya Rao</b> , Professor, Gender and Development, UEA and, Director, NISD, Norwich, UK  <b>Convener:</b> G Taru Sharma, Principal Scientist and O/C, Office of International Relations, ICAR-IVRI, Bareilly <b>Rapporteur:</b> Karuna Irungbam, Senior Scientist, ICAR IVRI, Izatnagar, Bareilly	
<b>Lead Lecture</b>		
10:00-10:15	Role of Women-Centric Technologies in Transforming Agricultural Productivity and Livelihoods	Shireen Kamal Assem Abdelhalim, Vice President, Agricultural Research Center (ARC), Giza, Egypt

<b>Invited Lectures</b>		
10:15-10:25	The Role of Women in No-Till Farming and Soil Health	Paola Mariela Diaz, Agronomist and Member Aapresid & Rural Women Network, Buenos Aires, Argentina
10:25-10:35	Flipping Agricultural Extension with AI: Designing Digital Systems for Women Farmers	Nidhi Bhasin, CEO, Digital Green India
10:35-10:45	How Drones, AI, and Genomic Speed-Breeding are Useful to Bring in a Transformational Change for Women Farmers?	Mamta Sharma, Principal Scientist, ICRIAT, Hyderabad
10:45-11:20	6 Rapid Oral Presentations (5 min each)	
	Women Transforming Agriculture: Inspiring Journeys of Success and Empowerment	Tusar Ranjan Sahoo, ICAR-ATARI, Zone X, Hyderabad
	Economic Empowerment of Women Through Diversification of Agricultural Enterprises - Case Studies from ICAR-KVK, Gadag, Karnataka	Sudha V Mankani, ICAR-K.H.Patil Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hulkoti, Gadag, Karnataka
	Privacy Concerns in Phone Surveys: How Speakerphone Use Affects Response Bias in Gender-Sensitive Questions	Vartika Singh, IFPRI, New Delhi
	Turning Fish into Fortune: A Saga of Rural Women Empowerment	S Sumathi, ICAR- Krishi Vigyan Kendra, SCAD Thoothukudi, TN
	Making Space based Technologies relevant in Changing Indian Agriculture Landscape	Kavya Kamepalli, AST Advanced Space Technologies GmbH, Germany
	Green Matriarchs: Women Farmers of Northeast India Pioneering Climate-Smart Agriculture through Perennial Carbon Farming	Divya Parisa, ICAR-ATARI Zone VII Umiam, Meghalaya
11:20-11:30	<b>Concluding Remarks by Co-Chairs</b>	
11:30-12:00	<b>Tea/Coffee</b>	

12:00-13:50	<b>Technical Session V</b> <b>Building Women Leadership in the Agri-Food Sector</b> <b>Co-Chairs: Bram Govaerts</b> , Director General, CIMMYT-BISA, Mexico <b>Anjali Makhija</b> , CEO, SMSF, New Delhi  <b>Convener: Bimlesh Mann</b> , Former ADG (Agricultural Education), ICAR, New Delhi  <b>Rapporteur: Anu Rahal</b> , Principal Scientist, ICAR-DKMA, New Delhi	
<b>Lead Lecture</b>		
12:00-12:15	Mentoring the Next Generation: Nurturing Young Women Leaders in Agri-Food Systems	Nicoline de Haan, Gender and Youth Accelerator Director of CGIAR Platform, ILRI, Kenya
<b>Invited Lectures</b>		
12:15-12:25	Reshaping Gender Dynamics and Leadership Roles to Transform Asian Food Systems	Tamara Jackson, University of Adelaide, Urrbrae, Australia
12:25-12:35	Planting the Pipeline: Women Who Will Shape Agri-Food Systems?	Shilpa Divekar Nirula, Partner at AgVaya LLP and Former MD of Monsanto India
12:35-12:45	Gender-Responsive Agricultural Research & Extension: Pathways for Equity and Equality	Mridula Devi, Director, ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneshwar
12:45-12:55	Advancing Women's Leadership in Agrifood Systems in India – A Compilation of Strategies	Meghajit Shijagurumayum, PDF, Multifunctional Landscape, Alliance BI-CIAT – India Office, New Delhi
12:55-13:05	The Strong, Robust Start up Ecosystem for Innovations in the Agrifood Systems in India: A Compilation of Strategies	Akriti Sharma, CEO, ZTM & BPD Unit, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
13:05-13:40	6 Rapid Oral Presentations (5 Min each)	
	Reconfiguring Drudgery: Gender, Technology, and Lived Labour Burdens in the Eastern Gangetic Plains	Gunjan Rana, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)-India, New Delhi
	Guardians of Agrobiodiversity: Decoding the Role of Women in Farmer-Led Conservation of Landraces in Odisha and Uttarakhand	Preeti Yadav, ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Zone III, Kanpur, UP
	Synthesis of Agripreneurial Excellence: A Thematic Analysis of Women-Led Agricultural Enterprises	Sajesh VK, ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research, Kozhikode, Keralam

	Women as Custodians of Indigenous Food Systems: A Socio-Ecological Analysis of Tribal Communities in Nagaland, India	Amrutha T, ICAR-ATARI, Zone VII, Umiam, Meghalaya
	Krishi Sakhi–Led Promotion of Natural Farming for Women Empowerment in North East Hills	Mandira Chakraborti, ICAR- Krishi Vigyan Kendra, West Tripura
	Nutritional Vulnerabilities of Female Agricultural Workers in India’s Unorganised Sector: Pathways, Occupational Risks, Seasonal Stressors and Policy Gaps	Divya Jain, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ferozepur
13:40-13:50	<b>Concluding Remarks by Co-Chairs</b>	
13:50-14:30	<b>Lunch</b>	

# Side Event led by ICRISAT at GCWAS 2026

## Concept to Commitment to Co-Creation: South–South Collaboration for Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

13 March 2026; 12.00 – 13.50 pm

Agni Hall, ICAR Convention Hall, NASC, New Delhi

**Co-Chairs:** Himanshu Pathak, Director General, ICRISAT  
Mridula Devi, Director ICAR-CIWA

**Convenor:** Padmaja Ravula, ICRISAT; Seema Jagi, ICAR (TBC)

**Rapporteurs:** Kavitha Kasala, ICRISAT and Anamika Dey, CEO-GAIN

1. Opening and Strategic Framing (10 minutes)		
12:00-12:10	Welcome	Padmaja Ravula ICRISAT
	Keynote Address: <i>Why South–South collaboration is a game-changer for gender-responsive systems transformation</i>	Himanshu Pathak Director General, ICRISAT
2. High-Level Executive Dialogue (40 minutes)		
<b>Theme:</b> Power of the Global South for Gender Responsiveness - Moderated panel		
Moderator: Dr Nidhi Bhasin/Dr Nitya Rao – TBC		
12:10 – 12:50	Indian Council of Agricultural Research	ML Jat (TBC)
	Senior GESI architects from CGIAR center, International organizations, academia, regional institutions	Nicoline de Haan – GEI Agnes Kalibata Nitya Rao Shireen Aseem
	Borlaug Institute for South Asia	Prasanna Bodupalli
	CGIAR center	Dina Najjar ICARDA
	Private Sector	Josephine Okot
3. Spotlight Sessions: From Evidence to Action (20 minutes) Four rapid case showcases		
12:55-13:00	Women-led agri-enterprises	Sowmini Sunkara – India / Churetto (Kenya) – CEO Tavi Fresh / SERP Project entrepreneur
13:00-13:05	South–South training alumni impact	Linda Dari (Ghana) Entrepreneur who attended ITEC training in 2024 at ICRISAT
13:05-13:10	Technology access models for rural women	Drone Didi / Women farmer from Bundelkhand Region
13:10-13:15	Youth-inclusive agribusiness innovations	Phiri
13:15-13:35	<b>Interactive Executive Exchange (20 minutes)</b> Structured audience engagement framed around: <b>“What would it take to scale this?”</b> Focus areas: Policy alignment; Institutional incentives; Financing mechanisms; Accountability systems	
13:35-13:45	Synthesis and 3–4 clear calls to action	Padmaja Ravula

13:45-13:50	Wrap-up and close. Felicitations	
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14:30-16:10	<b>Technical Session VI</b> <b>Empowering Women through Economic Inclusion</b>  <b>Co-Chairs: Sanjay Kumar</b> , Chairman, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board (ASRB), New Delhi <b>Purnima Menon</b> , Senior Director, IFPRI, South Asia Office, New Delhi  <b>Convener: Gurinderjit Randhawa</b> , Former Head, ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi <b>Rapporteur: Jasdeep Padaria</b> , Professor, ICAR-NIPB, New Delhi	
<b>Invited Lectures</b>		
14:30-14:40	Entrepreneurship Support for Women: Value Added Agriculture and Food Production	Mollie Woods, Director, MSU Product Center, MSU, USA
14:40-14:50	Fostering Gender-Transformative Institutions for Women's Economic Power in Climate-Stressed Agri-food Systems	Dina Najjar, Senior Gender Scientist, ICARDA, Rabat, Morocco
14:50-15:00	From Beneficiaries to Economic Leaders: Reimagining Women's Role in Agriculture through Women-led FPOs	Shweta Singh, Community Partnership & Sustainability Lead, South Asia, Corteva, New Delhi
15:00-15:10	Solar Access Enabling Gender-Responsive Pathways in Agri-Food systems	Darshini Ravindranath, Project Lead, SoLAR, Research Group Leader - CFPF, IWMI, Sri Lanka
15:10-15:20	Unlocking the Potential of Value Addition and Market-led Agribusiness for Women Farmers.	Padmaja Ravula, Principal Scientist (Sociologist), ICRISAT, Hyderabad
15:20-15:30	Leveraging Abundant and Abandoned Bioresources for Promoting Innovative and Inclusive Bioentrepreneurship	Anamika Dey, CEO, GIAN and Visiting Faculty, IIM and AcSIR, Ahmadabad
15:30-16:00	6 Rapid Presentations (5 Min each)	
	Emerging Entrepreneurship Opportunities to Empower and Enrich Women Farmers	Alison Laing, CIMMYT-India, New Delhi
	Leading Change from Within: Strengthening Women's Agency and Institutional Power in Agri-Food Systems	Kavitha Kasala, ICRISAT, Hyderabad

	Beyond Credit: How Women's Collectives Enable Market Participation in Rural Agri-Food Systems	Asmita Naik Africawala, Ambuja Foundation, Ahmadabad, Gujarat
	Who Benefits from SDG Synergies? Intersectional Insights from Kenya's Dairy Sector	Rachel Gitundu, International Live Research Institute (ILRI), Nairobi, Kenya
	What Enables Women's Economic Empowerment in Agri-food Systems? Emerging Evidence from South Asia and Australia	Vanita Yadav, Western Sydney University, Australia
	From Vulnerability to Viability: Climate-Resilient Agri-Food Futures for marginalized women in Eastern India	Deepa Joshi, IWMI-India, New Delhi
16:00-16:10	Concluding Remarks by Co-Chairs	
16:10-16:30	<b>Tea/Coffee</b>	

16:30-18:30	<b>Technical Session VII</b> <b>Gender Dynamics in Policy and Market Access</b> <b>Chair: RB Singh</b> , Former President, NAAS, New Delhi <b>Moderator: Smita Sirohi</b> , Prof. Swaminathan Chair, ICAR National Professor, ICAR-NIAP, New Delhi Rapporteur: Pavithra Srinivasmurthy, Senior Scientist, ICAR-NIAP, New Delhi	
<b>Lead Lecture</b>		
16:30-16:45	Women-led Agricultural Cooperatives for Improving Market Access and Income Opportunities for Women Farmers: Challenges and Opportunities	CP Devanand, Managing Director, NDDB Dairy Services, Ahmadabad
<b>Panel Discussion</b>		
16:45-17:45 (6-7 min each)	Timothy J Krupnik, Director, CGIAR Scaling for Impact Program, CGIAR System Organization, Bangladesh	
	Nutan Kaushik, Director General, Amity Food & Agriculture Foundation, Amity University, Noida	
	Swati Nayak, Lead - Seed System & Product Management, IRRI South Asia, New Delhi	
	Vinny Madhuri Gnadham, Direct Seeded Rice Lead, Asia DSO Catalyst, Bayer Crop Science, Bangalore	
	Neema Joshi, Associate Director, Partnerships and Fundraising, SMSF, Gurugram	
	Surya Rathore, Principal scientists, (Extension Information Systems), NAARM, Hyderabad	
17:45-18:20	6 Rapid Oral Presentations (5 Min each)	
	Empowering Women through Plant-Based Milk Analogue Production Technologies	Khwairakpam Bembem, ICAR-Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology, Ludhiana
	Challenges and Prospects of Farm Women in the Cold Arid Ladakh	Jigmet Yangchan, School of Agriculture Science and Technology, University of Ladakh, J&K
	Gender Gaps in Crop Commercialization: Evidence from the Eastern Gangetic Plains	Ezaboo, International Food Policy Research Institute, New Delhi

	Tracing Gender Integration Across Agricultural Policies supporting Diversification in the Eastern Gangetic Plains	Aditi Pradhan, School of Agriculture, Food and Wine, Adelaide University, Australia
	An Assessment Study on the Use of Spring Brake Rake for Drudgery Reduction Amongst Women Dairy Farmers of Uttarakhand	Deepti Kothari, Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Chamoli, GBPUA&T, Pantnagar, Uttarakhand
	Women-Led Ornamental Plant Nurseries for Income Generation and Employment Creation	Rishika Choudhary, MPUAT, Udaipur
18:20-18:30	<b>Concluding Remarks by Chair</b>	

### Evening Lecture

**Co-Chair: Himanshu Pathak**, Director General, ICRISAT, Hyderabad

**Raju Barwale**, Managing Director, Mahyco, Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai

**Convener:** Sonal Dsouza, Associate Manager, Partnerships for South Asia, Alliance Bioversity-CIAT, India Office, New Delhi

18:30-18:35	Introduction of the Co-Chairs	Sonal Dsouza, Alliance Bioversity-CIAT, India Office, New Delhi
18:35-18:40	Introduction of the Speaker	Raju Barwale, Managing Director, Mahyco, Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
18:40-19:05	National Initiatives on Women Empowerment	ML Jat, Secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR, New Delhi
19:05-19:10	Remarks by Co-Chair	Himanshu Pathak, Director General, ICRISAT, Hyderabad
19:10-19:15	Vote of Thanks	Rishi Tyagi, Conference Convener and Senior Consultant, TAAS, New Delhi
19:30-20:15	<b>Presentation of TAAS Award</b>	
20:00 onwards	<b>Dinner</b>	Sponsored by Mahyco Grow Pvt Ltd

### Day 3: 14 March 2026 (Saturday)

9:00-11:00	<b>Technical Session VIII</b> <b>Women Farmers Forum - Breaking the Stereotypes</b> <b>Co-Chairs: Rajbir Singh</b> , DDG (Ag. Extension), ICAR, New Delhi <b>Ajay Vir Jakhar</b> , Chairman, Bhartiya Krishak Samaj, New Delhi  <b>Moderator: Mridula Devi</b> , Director, ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar <b>Rapporteurs:</b> Anita Rani, Professor, GBPUAT, Pantnagar, UK Lipi das, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar, Odisha	
09:00-09:05	<b>Welcome and introduction of Co-Chairs</b>	Mridula Devi, Director, ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneswar
<b>Panel Discussion</b> (2 rounds of 5 min. each))		
09:05-10:50	Rikki Foss, CEO, Grower Group Alliance (GGA), Perth, Australia	
	Sabarmatee Tikki (Padma Shri Awardee), Sambhav (NGO), Nayagarh, Odisha	
	Lahari Bai, 'Plant Genome Patron Kisan Samman' Awardee, Dindori, Madhya Pradesh	
	Amelia Moreira, Project Director, Triple Resilience Program, IFDC, Mozambique	
	Neelam Tyagi, Secretary, LJKSS, Muradnagar, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh	
	Nikki Pilonia Chaudhary, CEO, Mango Dairies, Pilibhit, Uttar Pradesh	
	Savita Malik, Innovative IPM Practitioner, Jind, Haryana	
	Savitri Gaur, Chairperson, Samridhi Mahila FPC, Bundi, Rajasthan	
	Raimati Ghuria (Mandia rani), Koraput, Odisha	
	Rubina Tabassum, Lavender farmer, Budgam, Jammu and Kashmir	
Tongbram Bijiyashanti Devi, Thanga Tongbram, Bishnupur, Manipur		
10:50-11:00	Concluding Remarks by Co-Chairs	
11:00-11:30	<b>Tea/ Coffee</b>	

11:30-13:30	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Technical Session IX</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Youth Forum: Nurturing Next Generation of Agri-Food Leaders</b></p> <p><b>Co-Chairs:</b> Ch Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi  Shireen Kamal Assem Abdelhalim, Vice President, Agricultural Research Center (ARC), Giza, Egypt</p> <p><b>Convener:</b> Anupama Singh, Joint Director (Education) and Dean, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi</p> <p><b>Rapporteurs:</b> Monika A. Joshi, Professor-cum-Principal Scientist, Division of Seed science and Technology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi  Akriti Sharma, Senior Scientist-cum-Chief Executive Officer, Pusa Krishi</p>
11:30-11:51	Presentation by TWO Winners of Bachelor Students Elocution Contest First position: Devanshi Saini, ICAR-IVRI, Izatnagar, UP Second position: Isha Shreyasi, Bihar Animal Sciences University, Patna, Bihar
11:51-12:17	Presentation by TWO Winners of Masters/PhD Students Elocution Contest First position: Kaustabh Mohanty, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi Second position: Keerthana Nayak N, UAS, Bangalore
12:17-12:38	Presentation by FOUR Winner Teams of Ingenious Innovation Idea Contest 1. Fathima Shima N A, Team Sheshroom, ICAR -IARI, New Delhi 2. Emily Bwalei, Team LOWI, Kenya 3. Kripa Mary Spencer, Team Zelbytes, KAU, Keralam 4. Nishi Gandha, Team Ecovion, IIT, Roorkee
12:38-13:00	Presentation by successful Start-up and innovative women/farmer 1. Himani Kaushik (Co-Founder Director), Compute Genomics Private Limited (Start-up) 2. Bharti Bhoria, Innovative Farmer Awardee, PKVM 2026 3. Pooja Gaur, Innovative Farmer Awardee, PKVM 2026
13:00-13:30	<b>Concluding Remarks by Co-Chairs</b>
13:30-14:30	<b>Lunch</b>

### Parallel Sessions on Rapid-Oral Presentations

<b>Session A (Agni Hall)</b>			<b>Session B (Prithvi Hall)</b>		
<p><b>Co-Chairs:</b> AK Singh, Vice Chancellor, Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University (RLBCAU), Jhansi</p> <p><b>Mywish K Maredia</b>, Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics (AFRE), Michigan State University, USA</p> <p><b>Convener:</b> Radha Prasanna, Head, Division of Microbiology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi</p> <p><b>Rapporteur:</b> Veda Krishnan, Senior Scientist, Division of Biochemistry, ICAR-IARI, New</p>			<p><b>Co-Chairs:</b> JL Karihaloo, Trustee, TAAS, New Delhi TBD</p> <p><b>Convener:</b> Anjali Anand, Professor, Division of Plant Physiology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi</p> <p><b>Rapporteur:</b> Aditi Kundu, Senior Scientist, Division of Agricultural Chemicals, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi</p>		
<b>11:30-13:20 (5 Min each)</b>			<b>11:30-13:20 (5 Min each)</b>		
	Challenges and Prospects of Farm Women in the Cold Arid Ladakh	Jigmet Yangchan, University of Ladakh, J&K		Strengthening Entrepreneurship through Mental well-being of Farm Women	Rajinder Kaur, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Langroya, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar, Punjab
	Training for Skill Development of Farm Women and their Children	Vaishavi Bhardwaj, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kaimur, Bihar		Decentralised Renewable Energy Technologies and Gendered Livelihood Pathways in Agriculture	Arundhita Bhanjdeo, WRI India
	Unlocking Women's Entrepreneurship through Indigenous Food Systems in Northeast India	Amrutha T, ICAR-ATARI, Zone VII, Umiam, Meghalaya		A Study on the Potential of IoT and Smart Logistics in Leveraging Women Mushroom Growers in Muzaffarpur to Reclaim Market Capitalization	BC Anu, Dr Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa, Samastipur, Bihar
	Gendered decision-making and household dietary quality in South Asia: Evidence from Eastern Gangetic Plains	Bhuvana Narayana Rao, International Maize and Wheat Improvement		Leveraging Gender Responsive Technologies for Women Empowerment and Climate	Sukanta Kumar Sarangi, ICAR-Central Institute for Women in

		Center (CIMMYT)-India, New Delhi		Resilience in Rice-based Cropping Systems	Agriculture, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
	Tradable-Return Model of Net-Zero Regenerative Agriculture Focussing Voluntary Carbon Market through Enhanced Crop Productivity and Improvement in Farmers' Livelihood	Malabika Debnath, Nadia Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Gayeshpur, Nadia, WB		Gender-Friendly Technologies for Drudgery Reduction in Banana & Cassava Farming	Chithra G, ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mitraniketan PO, Vellanad, Karalam
	Participation and Time Contribution of Women in Agriculture Who are not Counted as Worker	Anil Kumar, ICAR-National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research, New Delhi		Design and Development of an Energy-Efficient Humidification System to Reduce Post-harvest Losses in Fruits and Vegetables	Naveenkumar GM, UAS(B), GKVK, Bengaluru
	Techno-Socio Orientation of Farm Women And Role of Mountain Women in Sustaining Hill Dairy Farming	Bindia Dutt, CSK HPKV, PALAMPUR		Building Women-Led Rural Enterprises for Agricultural Transformation: An Approach Rooted in Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI)	Parvathy Prasad, WELL Labs, IFMR, Bengaluru, Karnataka
	Women in India's Agri-Food Systems: Thematic Trends and Research Directions	Jaya Jumrani, ICAR-National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research, New Delhi		Strategic Development of a Vegan Field Pea-Derived Probiotic Frozen Dessert as a Functional Dairy Alternative	Aditi Choudhary, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana
	Inclusive Leadership in Agri-Food: Integrating Women Farmers into Bihar's Agricultural Governance through JEEViKA and FPOs	Bineeta Satpathy, Dr Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa, Bihar		Leadership Development through Community Based Food Processing Venture	Y Prabhabati Devi, KVK, Imphal East, CAU, Imphal
	Clinical Examination of Foxtail Millet-Based Food Products and their Implications on Biochemical	Aditi Sewak, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana		Climate Resilient Farming System for Enhancing Income	VK Marwalikar, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tuljapur, Maharashtra

	Markers in Adults with Impaired Fasting Glucose			and Nutrition Security among Farm Families	
	Enhancing Women's Participation in Decision Making and Leadership of Urban Agricultural Cooperative in Kitwe	Mwaka Luguru, Kitwe City Council, Ghana		Invisible Farm Women: Shaping the Future of Weed Management	Yogita Gharde, ICAR-Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur, MP
	Designing Women Friendly Shrimp Peeling Solution through Participatory Approach	Pradip Tulshiram Lanjile, ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai		Microenterprise Development in Eastern India for Income Stability	Moumita Dey Gupta, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, WBCADC, Bankura, West Bengal
	Women-Led Climate-Smart Agriculture for Sustainable Livelihoods in Plateau Region of Odisha	Praveen Jakhar, ICAR-Central Institute For Women In Agriculture, Bhubaneswar		Mapping Gender-Based Disparities in Agricultural Labour across Punjab's Agro-Geographical Regions	Parminder Kaur, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Moga, Punjab
	Development of Ergonomic Protective Garments and Devices for Pesticide Applicators and Device to Reduce Work Pressure among Farm Women in Chilli Destalking	Rachuri Prabhavathi, Dr KL Rao Krishi Vigyan Kendra Garikapadu ANGRAU, AP		Invisible Labor, Unequal Gains: Gendered Disparities and the Promise of Women-Led Collectives in the Sundarbans	Kousik Mallick, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute, Narendrapur, WB
	Bio-functional Cotton Fabric: An Eco-friendly Innovation	Anita Rani, Gobind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, Uttarakhand		Women-Led Agripreneurship and Inclusive Innovation: Evidence from MANAGE-CIA Incubated Startups in India	Sandipamu Raahalya, National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad, Telangana
	Gender-inclusive Pathways for Nurturing Agricultural Advancement and Resilient Innovations (NAARI)	Lipi Das, ICAR- Central Institute for Women in Agriculture, Bhubaneswar, Odisha		Fostering She-entrepreneurship vis-à-vis Marketing Linkage in MKSP and Non-MKSP Regions of Bihar: Feed forward Neural Network Architecture	Sudhanand Prasad Lal, Dr Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa, Bihar

13:20-13:30	Concluding Remarks by Co-Chairs		13:20-13:30	Concluding Remarks by Co-Chairs	
<b>13:30-14:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>		<b>13:30-14:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	

14:30-16:10	<b>Valedictory Session</b>	
	<p><b>Co-Chairs:</b> <b>RS Paroda</b>, Chairman TAAS, New Delhi  <b>ML Jat</b>, Secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR, New Delhi</p> <p><b>Chief Guest:</b> Smt. Annpurna Devi, Hon'ble Minister for Women and Child Development, Government of India, New Delhi</p> <p><b>Anchor:</b> Sonal Dsouza, Associate Manager, Partnerships for South Asia, Alliance Bioversity-CIAT, India Office, New Delhi</p> <p><b>Rapporteur:</b> Sherry Rachel, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi</p>	
14:30-14:40	Welcome Address	Rajbir Singh, Conference Co-Chair and DDG (Agric. Extension), ICAR, New Delhi
14:40-15:00	Summary of Major Recommendations and Adoption of Delhi Declaration	Renu Swarup, Conference Chair and Former Secretary, DBT, New Delhi
15:00-15:30	Remarks by Co-Chairs	
15:30-15:50	Valedictory Address by Chief Guest	Smt. Annpurna Devi, Hon'ble Minister for Women and Child Development, Government of India, New Delhi
15:50-16:00	Vote of Thanks	Rishi Tyagi, Conference Convener, TAAS, New Delhi