



M.S. SWAMINATHAN CENTENARY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2025

Evergreen Revolution -
The Pathway to Biohappiness



Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium
NASC, New Delhi, India



August 7 - 9, 2025



कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण विभाग
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE



**Celebrating the Life and Legacy of
Prof. M.S. Swaminathan**

Padma Shri



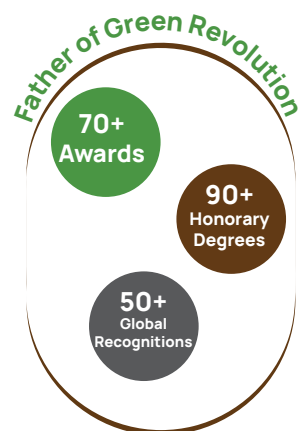
Padma Bhushan



Padma Vibhushan



Bharat Ratna



Jointly organised by the M S Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF),

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR),

Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Government of India,

National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS)

www.mssrf.org/mss100

Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Centenary International Conference: Evergreen Revolution: The Pathway to Biohappiness

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INTRODUCTION

An icon of science, development, and policy, Professor M.S. Swaminathan was a globally recognized leader in agricultural science and a champion of food security. To mark his birth centenary on August 7 2025, the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) is organising a series of key events to commemorate this momentous occasion. This includes hosting an international conference, **Evergreen Revolution: The Pathway to Biohappiness** (Prof. M.S. Swaminathan's Vision for Sustainable and Equitable Development). This conference will serve as a platform to celebrate his legacy, in an era marked by existential challenges - climate change, energy crises, and deepening inequalities. His life's work underscores an urgency to transform global systems through the fusion of scientific innovation and social justice. Celebrating his centenary is not merely a tribute to his monumental achievements but a call to action, reaffirming a global commitment to sustainable agriculture, food and nutrition, and a hunger-free world. His vision of cooperation among individuals, institutions, and nations continues to guide us in addressing the complex challenges of our time and to reflect on the current state of global food security, and chart a course for a sustainable and equitable food future – an era of Biohappiness.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The conference theme, Evergreen Revolution- The Pathway to Biohappiness - reflects Professor Swaminathan's lifelong dedication to ensuring food for all. It will focus on exploring cutting-edge solutions and fostering collaboration to address the complex challenges of global food systems.

The objective of this conference is to pay tribute to Prof. M.S. Swaminathan's legacy by fostering discussions and collaborations that advance the principles of an Evergreen Revolution, by investing more on conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity and natural resources, sustainable agriculture for food and nutrition security, strengthening climate resilience by adapting to climate change, utilizing appropriate technologies for sustainable and equitable livelihoods and engaging youth, women and marginalized communities in developmental discourses.



OUTLINE OF THE PROGRAMME

August 7 - 9, 2025

Grand Inauguration and Felicitation,

3 Plenary Sessions, 15 Parallel Sessions, 10 Keynote Lectures

- **Celebrating Legacy:** Honoring Professor Swaminathan's contributions to agricultural science, policy, and global food security.
- **Leaders Panel:** Thought leaders will convene for a special panel discussion. The leaders will pay tribute to Prof. M.S. Swaminathan and share their views in advancing Prof. M.S. Swaminathan vision for Evergreen revolution.
- **International Panel:** would include invited speakers representing international organisations and Presidents of Agricultural Academies of the World.
- **Assessing Current Challenges:** Analyzing the interconnected challenges of climate change, population growth, resource scarcity, and dietary shifts impacting food systems, sustainable natural resource management, livelihood and knowledge management.
- **Exploring Innovations:** Showcasing innovative approaches in agriculture, technology, policy, and social science to enhance food production, distribution, and access.
- **Promoting Sustainability:** Highlighting sustainable practices that minimize environmental impact and build resilient food systems.
- **Fostering Collaboration:** Bringing together researchers, policymakers, farmers, industry leaders, and civil society organizations to forge partnerships and accelerate progress towards food security for all.
- **Inspiring Future Generations:** Engaging young scientists and professionals in the field of food systems and inspiring them to carry forward Professor Swaminathan's vision.
- **Inclusive growth – Empowering Women:** Providing women Farmers, Fishers and Tribals with resources and opportunities that fosters economic participation, driving societal progress.



STRUCTURE OF THE CONFERENCE

The conference will be a three days event incorporating a variety of modes to maximize engagement and knowledge sharing.

Grand Inauguration

Plenary Lectures

Delivered by eminent global leaders, scientists, and policymakers.

Thematic Sessions

Featuring panel discussions on critical issues related to sustainable food systems

Parallel Sessions

Dedicated to specific themes and sub-topics, allowing for in-depth discussions and presentations of research findings by students.

Interactive Workshops

Facilitating knowledge exchange and collaboration among participants

Poster Presentations

Providing opportunities for young researchers to showcase their work.

Policymakers Forum

Advancing agricultural policies for a sustainable future

Side Events

Including exhibitions, film screenings, and cultural performances

Farmers Gallery

Farmers displaying their agriculture produces and other innovations



AUDIENCE

This conference has been carefully curated for

- Policymakers and government officials involved in food and agriculture Ministers from different states.
- Researchers and scientists in agriculture, food science, and related fields.
- Farmers, Fishers and Producers and agricultural producers
- Representatives from civil society organizations.
- Agro-tech industry leaders and representatives from agribusinesses.
- Students and young professionals working on sustainable development and allied themes.
- Media and the general public.



CONFERENCE VENUE AND DATES

The conference date: August 7 - 9, 2025.

Venue: Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium (NASC), Pusa, New Delhi, India - 110 012.

August 7 2025 marks the Centenary birthday of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan.



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

A distinguished organizing committee, comprising leading international and national experts in agriculture, food systems, and related fields. The committee will be responsible for overseeing all aspects of the conference, including programme development, logistics, fundraising, and outreach. Collaboration with relevant national and international organizations will be crucial for the success of the conference.



EXPECTED OUTCOMES

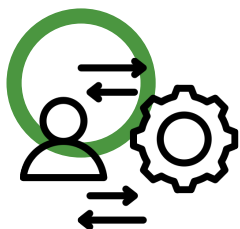
The conference is expected to:

- Generate new knowledge and insights on related to the conference theme.
- Catalyze innovative solutions to address Evergreen Revolution.
- Strengthen collaborations and partnerships among stakeholders.
- Raise public awareness about the importance of Evergreen Revolution.
- Inspire future generations to engage in the field of food and agriculture.
- Leave a lasting legacy in honor of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan's contributions.



SUPPORT THE M.S. SWAMINATHAN BIRTH CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

All contributions to the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) are eligible for income tax exemptions under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act, 1961. Additionally, MSSRF is authorised to receive foreign contributions under Section 11 of the Foreign Contributions Regulation Act, 2010 (FCRA).



REACH OUT TO CONTRIBUTE

- **Dr. R. A. Mashelkar**, Chairperson, M.S. Swaminathan Centenary Celebration Committee
- **Dr. Soumya Swaminathan**, Chairperson, MSSRF
- **Dr. E D Israel Oliver King**, Director, Biodiversity, Conference Member Secretary

Email: mss100ac@mssrf.res.in

Your support will help to commemorate the legacy of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan and advance the vision of sustainable agriculture, food and nutrition security, and rural development.





PROGRAMME

M.S. SWAMINATHAN CENTENARY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2025

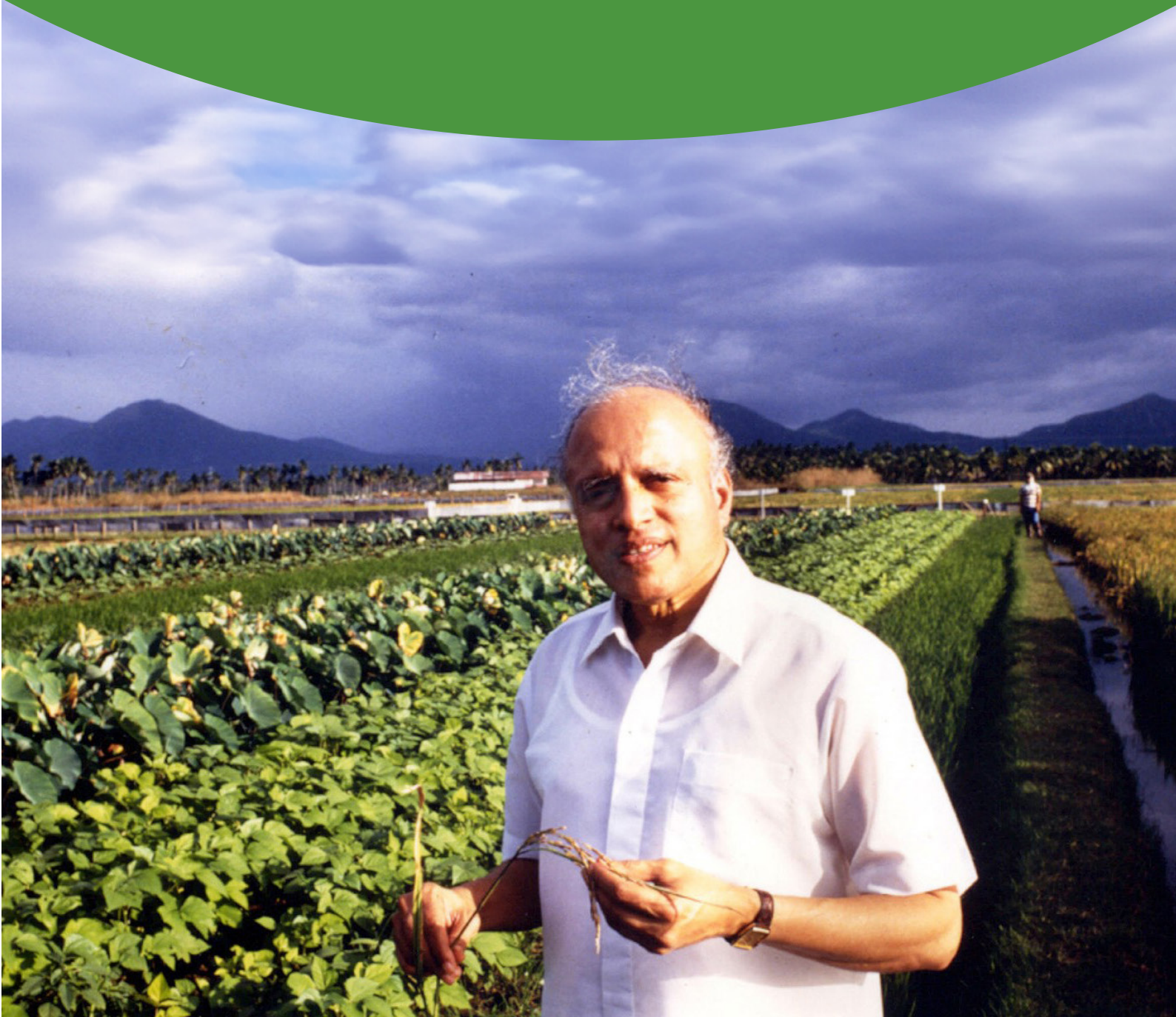
Evergreen Revolution
The Pathway to Biohappiness



August 7 - 9, 2025



Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium
NASC, New Delhi, India



DAY 1  August 7, 2025 – Thursday

M.S. SWAMINATHAN CENTENARY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2025:
Evergreen Revolution: The Pathway to Biohappiness

INAUGURAL SESSION

09.15 - 10.15 am		Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium
Welcome	Dr. Soumya Swaminathan Chairperson, M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation	
	Dr. Soumya Swaminathan will honour the Prime Minister and Dignitaries	
	Dr. Ramesh Chand Member, NITI Aayog, Government of India	
	Dr. Jitendra Singh Hon'ble Minister of State for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, Government of India	
Presidential Address	Shri. Shivraj Singh Chouhan Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India	
	Short film on Prof. M.S. Swaminathan	
Release of the Commemorative Coin	Shri. Narendra Modi Hon'ble Prime Minister, Government of India	
Release of the Commemorative Stamp		
TWAS - M.S. Swaminathan Award for Food and Peace will be presented by Shri. Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India in the presence of Prof. Quarraisha Abdool Karim, President of The World Academy of Science		
Inaugural Address	Shri. Narendra Modi Hon'ble Prime Minister, Government of India	

High Tea: 10.15 – 11.00 hrs

10.30 - 11.00 hrs
Inauguration of Biohappiness Gallery curated by MSSRF – Lexicon by Hon'ble Dr. Jitendra Singh Hon'ble Minister of State for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, Government of India
Inauguration of Exhibition - Sustainable Food Systems for a Climate-Resilient, Nutrition-Responsive, and Healthy Future A Showcase by Small Farmers, Fishers, Indigenous Communities and Key Stakeholders by Hon'ble Shri. Shivraj Singh Chouhan Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India



DAY 1

August 7, 2025 – Thursday

PLENARY SESSION I: ACHIEVING AN EVERGREEN REVOLUTION – VISION FROM LEADERS

11:00 – 12:00 hrs		Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium
This special session brings together to pay tribute to the legacy of Prof. M. S. Swaminathan, the architect of India's Green Revolution. His visionary work laid the foundation for a self-reliant and food-secure nation. The session will focus on advancing Prof. Swaminathan's enduring vision—empowering smallholder farmers, promoting ecological sustainability, and ensuring food and nutrition security for all. Panelists will share insights and policy perspectives aimed at realizing an “Evergreen Revolution” across India, one that harmonizes productivity with environmental and social equity.		
Moderator: Prof. Ramesh Chand , Member, Niti Aayog, Government of India		
Plenary Session I 11:00 – 12:00 hrs Welcome & Honouring dignitaries Release of M.S. Swaminathan Tribute book & Biohappiness book Session Coordinators: Dr. N. Parasuraman, Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao Rapporteurs: Ms. Anbuvahini, Dr. Anamika Ajay	• Hon'ble Thiru. Thangam Thennarasu, Minister for Finance and Environment & Climate Change, Government of Tamil Nadu • Prof. Ademola A. Adenle, Senior Special Adviser on Agricultural Innovation Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Nigeria • Dr. Kent Nnadozie, Secretary, International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources • Mr. Toko Tatung, Member of the Legislative Assembly, Government of Arunachal Pradesh • Hon'ble Dattatray Vithoba Bharne, Minister of Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra • Shri. Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Government of Odisha (TBC) • Shri. Surya Pratap Shahi, Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Agriculture Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh (TBC) • Shri. Kinjarapu Atchannaidu, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Co-operation, Marketing, AHDD & Fisheries, Government of Andhra Pradesh (TBC)	

KEYNOTE LECTURES I

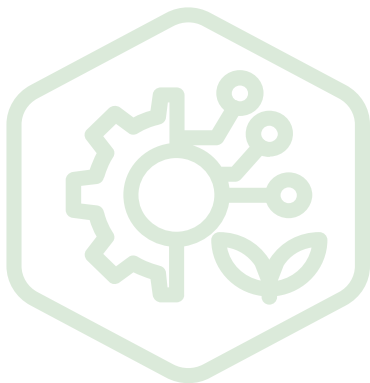
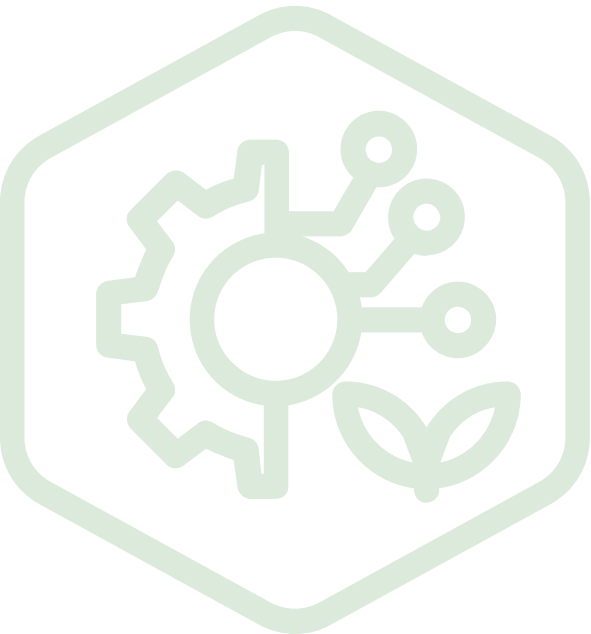
12:00 – 13:00 hrs		Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium
Keynote Lecture - Chair: Dr Madhura Swaminathan , Professor, Indian Statistical Institute, Bengaluru Dr. Shivakumar Kalyanaraman , CEO, Anusandhan National Research Foundation		
12:00 – 12:30 hrs	Prof. Lindiwe Sibanda , Co- Chair, Curt Bergfors Food Planet Prize & Extra-Ordinary Professor, University of Pretoria, South Africa	
12:30 – 13:00 hrs	Dr. Quarraisha Abdool Karim , President, The World Academy of Sciences, Italy	
Session Coordinator: Dr. Gayatri Venkataraman; Rapporteurs: Dr. Sivan Kalyani Velu, Dr. C.M. Pratheepa		
13:00 – 14:00 hrs	Lunch	Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium - Basement

DAY 1

August 7, 2025 – Thursday

PLENARY SESSION II: TRANSFORMING AGRI - FOOD SYSTEM
FOR BETTER NUTRITION: EVERGREEN REVOLUTION 2.0

14:15 – 15:30 hrs		Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium	
The Green Revolution enhanced crop yields using modern technologies such as high-yielding varieties, fertilisers, and irrigation. However, in the face of climate change, there is an urgent need to shift from yield maximisation to sustainable productivity without compromising ecological integrity. Professor M.S. Swaminathan’s concept of the ‘Evergreen Revolution’ embraces ecology, economics, and equity—both social and gender—moving from a commodity-centred approach to a holistic, systems-based model. This includes conserving biodiversity, promoting locally adapted crops such as millets, pulses, and oilseeds, improving soil health, harvesting rainwater, using renewable energy, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This panel will explore strategies for transforming agri-food systems to ensure a climate-resilient, nutrition-secure future for all.			
Chair: Dr. Mangi Lal Jat, Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research & Secretary, DARE, Government of India, Dr. Shobha Shetty, Global Director, Agriculture and Food, World Bank			
Plenary Session II 14:15 - 15:30 hrs Session Coordinators: Dr. Andrew Goodland, Dr. E.D. Israel Oliver King Rapporteurs: Dr. D. J. Nithya, Mr. Girigan Gopi	• Dr. Rajiv Bahl, Secretary, Department of Health Research & Director General, DHR & ICMR, New Delhi • Dr. Simeon Kacou Ehui, Regional Director, Continental Africa, CGIAR, and DG (IITA), Nigeria • Dr. Purnima Menon, Senior Director, Food and Nutrition Policy Acting Senior Director, Transformation Strategies, IFPRI, USA • Mr. Ajay Vir Jakhhar, Chairman, Bharat Krishak Samaj, New Delhi • Dr. George Smith, Director of AgBio Research and Senior Associate Dean of Research College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Michigan State University, MI, USA • Dr. Shalander Kumar, Deputy Global Research Programme Director, Enabling Systems Transformation Program, ICRSAT • Mr. Sudarshan Suchi, Chief Development Officer, Reliance Foundation, Mumbai		
15:30 – 16:00 hrs		Tea Break	



DAY 1**August 7, 2025 – Thursday**

PARALLEL SESSION I: WORKSHOP ON FARMERS' VOICES: MOVING TOWARDS BIOHAPPINESS

16:00 – 18:30 hrs		AP Shinde Hall
Prof. M.S. Swaminathan envisioned a future where science and social equity empower farmers, especially women and indigenous communities —as stewards of biodiversity and innovation. Rooted in biodiversity-based development, biohappiness promotes well-being through the sustainable and equitable use of biological resources. This session will provide a platform for farmers across India to share experiences and explore pathways for blending traditional knowledge with modern technologies. Emphasising farmer-to-farmer learning, the workshop will celebrate Prof. Swaminathan's legacy and advocate a shift from resource exploitation to resilience and sustainability ensuring productivity without ecological harm, and livelihoods grounded in bio-cultural heritage.		
Parallel Session I A) Group Discussion 16:00 – 17:15 hrs	Facilitators: MSSRF: Dr. Gopinath, Mr. M. Devaraj, Dr. S. Velvizhi, Ms. C.S. Dhanya, Mr. Prashant Parida, Mr. Akshaykumar ICAR-IARI: Dr. Nafees Ahmad, Dr. Sitaram Bishnoi, Dr. S. Chakravorthy, Dr. P. Punitha, Dr. Pratheeba Singh, Dr Utkarsh Tiwari and Dr. Rashmi Singh Rapporteurs: MSSRF: Ms. Girija, Dr. Anamika Ajay, Dr. Kartik Lenka, Mr. Meherram Gadekar ICAR-IARI: Dr. Subashree Sahoo, Dr. Misha Madhavan, Dr. Pratibha Joshi, Dr. N.V. Kumbhare	
B) Plenary 17:15 – 18:30 hrs	Chair: Dr. Rajbir Singh, DDG (Agricultural Extension), ICAR, New delhi, ICAR, Dr. Sukanta Kumar Sarangi, Head, Division of Agricultural Technologies for Women, Indian Council of Agricultural Research -CIWA, Bhubaneswar, Dr. Rabindra Nath Padaria, JD (Agrl Ext.), Division of Agricultural Extension, Dr. R. Rengalakshmi, Executive Director, Area Operations, MSSRF, Chennai Farmer representatives: Ms. Angel Isabella Rani, Tamil Nadu, Mr. Sridhar, Andhra Pradesh, Mr. Sooraj Purushottam, Kerala, Ms. Rukmani Khilo, Odisha, Mr. Vijay Jawandhiya, Maharashtra, Mr. Patel Motibai Joitabhai, Gujarat, Mr. Kanwal Singh Chauhan and Dr Neelam Tyagi, Uttara Pradesh	

DAY 1

August 7, 2025 – Thursday

PARALLEL SESSION II: NEW TECHNOLOGIES FOR AGRICULTURE

16:00 – 17:30 hrs

Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium (C1)

This session highlights how emerging technologies are revolutionising agriculture. Advances in genomics and modern plant breeding are accelerating the development of crops with improved resilience and nutritional quality. Genome editing provides precise and efficient tools to create climate-resilient crops with traits such as drought and heat tolerance, and better nutrient-use efficiency—essential for adapting to climate change. These innovations, when integrated with precision agriculture practices, enable more sustainable, resource-efficient farming. Such technologies not only boost productivity but also contribute to long-term ecological balance. As agriculture faces increasing pressures from climate and population growth, these tools offer promising pathways to achieve global food and nutrition security while safeguarding natural resources.

Chair: Dr. Krishna Ella, Executive Chairman, Bharat Biotech, Dr. K.K. Narayanan, Bengaluru

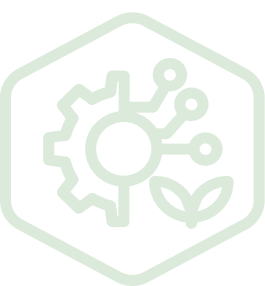
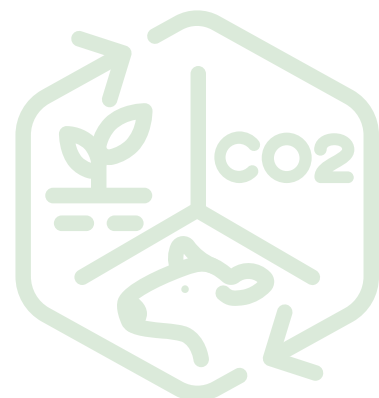
Parallel Session II

16:00 – 17:30 hrs

Session Coordinator:
Dr. Gayatri Venkataraman

Rapporteurs:
Dr. Sivan Kalyani Velu,
Dr. Archana Bhatt

- **Dr. Rajeev Varshney**, Professor, Food Futures Institute, Murdoch University
- **Prof. K.C. Bansal**, Trustee, MSSRF, & Former Director, ICAR – NBPGR, New Delhi
- **Dr. B.M. Prasanna**, Managing Director, Distinguished Scientist & Regional Director for Asia, CIMMYT – BISA, New Delhi
- **Prof. Raj Khosla**, Head & Professor, Department of Agronomy, Kansas State University, USA (Online)
- **Dr. Gayatri Venkataraman**, Principal Scientist, Biotechnology, MSSRF, Chennai
- **Dr. C. Viswanathan**, Joint Director (Research) ICAR – IARI, New Delhi



DAY 1

August 7, 2025 – Thursday

PARALLEL SESSION III: ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR EVERGREEN REVOLUTION: GLOBAL AND NATIONAL POLICIES

16:00 – 17:30 hrs

Akash Hall

This session examines the essential policy frameworks and governance mechanisms required to support an Evergreen Revolution. It will explore how global and national policies can be harmonised to promote sustainable, inclusive, and climate-resilient agricultural systems. Emphasis will be placed on creating enabling environments that support smallholder farmers, protect natural resources, and encourage the adoption of agroecological and innovative practices. The discussion will highlight the role of public investment, institutional reforms, research, and multi-stakeholder engagement in shaping resilient food systems. By aligning environmental sustainability with economic viability, the session will offer insights into how long-term food and nutrition security can be achieved through coherent and forward-looking policy action.

Chair: **Dr. Andrew Goodland**, Program Leader, Africa, AFR, World Bank, **Prof. Rudy Rabbinge**, Professor-Emeritus, Wageningen University & Research, Wageningen University (Online)

Parallel Session III

16:00 – 17:30 hrs

Session Coordinator:

Dr. R. Gopinath

Rapporteurs:

Ms. Meera Sundararajan,
Dr. Prathibha Ganesan

- **Prof. Pratap Singh Birthal**, Director, Indian Council of Agricultural Research - National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research (NIAP), New Delhi
- **Dr. Arabinda Kumar Padhee, IAS**, Principal Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment, Government of Odisha
- **Dr. Shambu Prasad**, Professor, Strategic Management, IRMA, Anand, Gujarat
- **Dr. Jiju P. Alex**, Trustee, MSSRF & Member, Kerala State Planning Board
- **Dr. Shubhada Deshmukh**, Mahila Kisan Adhikaar Manch (Forum For Women Farmers' Rights) – MAKAAAM, New Delhi
- **Ms. Nabam Piju**, Zill Parishan, Chuliyu Village, Arunachal Pradesh



DAY 1

 August 7, 2025 – Thursday

PARALLEL SESSION IV: BUILDING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

16:00 – 17:30 hrs		Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium (C2)	
This session focuses on empowering the next generation of scientific and agricultural leaders to drive the transition towards sustainable and resilient food systems. By fostering education, mentorship, and inclusive opportunities, young professionals can champion innovations that balance productivity with environmental sustainability and social equity. The session will explore strategies to nurture youth leadership in research, policy, and practice, ensuring they are equipped to address the complex challenges of climate change, nutrition, and livelihoods. It will also highlight the importance of creating enabling ecosystems that attract and retain youth in agriculture—through supportive policies, access to resources, and recognition of their role as change-makers in shaping a food-secure and equitable future.			
Chair: Shri. K. V. Shaji, Chairman, NABARD, Mumbai, Dr. Joykrushna Jena, DDG (Agricultural Education), ICAR			
Parallel Session IV 16:00 – 17:30 hrs Session Coordinator: Dr. V. R. Prabavathy Rapporteurs: Dr. Jegan Sekhar, Mr. Girigan Gopi	• Dr. Eric Danquah, Professor, Plant Genetics, University of Ghana, ACCRA, Ghana • Prof. Karim Maredia, Professor and Director of International Programs, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Michigan State University, USA • Dr. Bidyut Chandan Deka, Vice Chancellor, Assam Agricultural University, Assam • Dr. C. Tara Satyavathy, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad • Ms. Mekala Muthu, Former Panchayat Union Chairman, Arimalam Panchayat Union, Pudukkottai District, Tamil Nadu • Dr. A.K. Singh, VC, Central Agricultural University, Jhansi • Dr. Agnes Kalibata, Former President, AGRA, Nairobi		



DAY 1

August 7, 2025 – Thursday

PARALLEL SESSION V: SUSTAINING DEVELOPMENT IN A WARMING WORLD

16:00 – 17:30 hrs

Prithvi Hall

This session focusses on the over-riding significance of climate adaptation to the global South, home to 85 per cent of the world's population, for whom the impact of warming can erode the development gains achieved and are an emerging barrier to achieving sustainable development. It will take note of both global and national initiatives for climate adaptation while emphasizing the need to link these with the living concerns of the grassroots, vulnerable groups and communities and the small producers of the global South.

Chair: **Ms. Supriya Sahu**, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Department of Environment, Climate Change & Forests, Government of Tamil Nadu, **Dr. Jagdish Krishnaswamy**, Trustees, MSSRF, Dean – School of Environment and Sustainability, IIHS, Bengaluru

Parallel Session V

16:00 – 17:30 hrs

Session Coordinator:
Dr. T. Jayaraman

Rapporteurs:
Mr. R. Goutham,
Mr. Peeyush Priya

- **Dr. Kirit Parikh**, Chairman, Integrated Research and Action for Development, New Delhi
- **Dr. A.K. Nayak**, DDG, Natural Resource Management, ICAR, New Delhi
- **Dr. T. Jayaraman**, Senior Fellow, MSSRF, Chennai
- **Mr. Harjeet Singh**, Founding Director, Satat Sampada Climate Foundation, Uttar Pradesh
- **Dr. S. Naresh Kumar**, Head, Division of Environment Science, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
- **Ms. Ruchika Drall**, Deputy Secretary, MoEFCC, GoI



DAY 1

 August 7, 2025 – Thursday

POSTER SESSION I

18:00 – 18:30 hrs	Convention Centre Reception Lobby Area
Session Coordinators: Dr. Jegan Sekar, Dr. V.R. Prabavathy, Dr. B. Selvamukilan	

KEYNOTE LECTURES II

18:30 – 19:30 hrs	Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium
Keynote Lecture - Chair: Dr. Purvi Mehta, Senior Advisor and Head of Agriculture for Asia, Bill and Melinda. Gates Foundation, Dr. D.K. Yadava, DDG (Crop Science), ICAR	
18:30 – 19:00 hrs	Mr. Ranveer Chandra, Managing Director, Research for Industry, Microsoft, USA
19:00 – 19:30 hrs	Dr. Ashok Dalwai IAS (Retd.), Chairman, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bengaluru & Chairman, Karnataka Agriculture Price Commission, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru
Session Coordinator: Dr. S. Velvizhi; Rapporteurs: Mr. Girigan Gopi, Mr. R. Goutham	

19:30 - 20:30 hrs	Cultural Program Session Coordinators: Ms. Anbuvahini, Ms. Surajitha Kumari Turuk, Dr. Anupama Singh, Dr. Debashish Mandal, Dr. M. Jayanthi Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium
20:30 hrs	Dinner Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium - Basement



DAY 2 August 8, 2025 – Friday

KEYNOTE LECTURES III

09:00 – 10:30 hrs		Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium
Keynote Lecture - Chair: Dr. Balakrishna Pisupati , Country Director, United Nations Environment Programme, India, Mr. S. Mahalingam , Trustee, MSSRF		
09:00 – 09:30 hrs	Dr. Ismail Serageldin , Co-Chair of the Board of Nizami Ganjavi International Center, Emeritus Librarian of Alexandria, Alexandria, Egypt	
09:30 – 10:00 hrs	Dr. Mahendra Dev , Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, Government of India, New Delhi	
10:00 – 10:30 hrs	Dr. Sheila Obim , Executive Director, Alliance for Science, Nairobi, Kenya	
Session Coordinator: Dr. R. Rengalakshmi; Rapporteurs: Dr. Prathibha Ganesan, Dr. Archana Bhatt		
10:45 – 11:15 hrs	Tea Break	

PARALLEL SESSION VI: WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

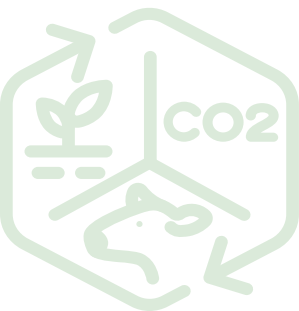
11:30 – 13:00 hrs		Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium (C1)
Women play an essential role in agriculture, contributing across the entire value chain—from planting and harvesting to post-harvest processing and marketing. However, their access to resources, knowledge, and decision-making remains limited. Strengthening women's roles in agriculture enhances food availability, access, and utilisation, while also contributing to household nutrition and social stability. Empowering women is therefore vital for achieving sustainable food and nutrition security. This session will explore the critical contributions of women in agriculture and highlight the need for inclusive policies and practices that recognise and support their central role in building resilient food systems.		
Chair: Dr. Nitya Rao, Trustee, MSSRF & Professor, Gender and Development, University of East Anglia, UK, Ms. Elisabeth Faure, Representative & Country Director, World Food Programme, India		
Parallel Session VI 11:30 – 13:00 hrs Session Coordinator: Dr. Anamika Ajay Rapporteurs: Dr. C.M. Pratheepa, Dr. Bharati Sahoo	• Dr. Renu Swarup, Former Secretary, DBT, Government of India, New Delhi • Ms. Irish P. Baguilat, Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development, Philippines • Dr. R. Rengalakshmi, Executive Director, Area Operations, MSSRF, Chennai • Dr Anupama Singh, Joint Director (Education) and Dean, PG School, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi • Dr. Essam Yassin Mohammed, DG, WorldFish & Senior Director Aquatic Food Systems, CGIAR (Online)	

DAY 2

August 8, 2025 – Friday

PARALLEL SESSION VII: REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE,
CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

11:30 – 13:00 hrs		Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium (C2)	
Achieving net-zero emissions in agriculture is vital in the face of escalating land and water degradation. Regenerative agriculture offers a pathway to restore ecosystem health through sustainable practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve soil fertility, and enhance water conservation. This session will explore the challenges in adopting regenerative approaches, including limited awareness, policy support, and resource access. It will also highlight key opportunities and innovations in farming techniques and resource management that can drive the transition towards a more climate-resilient, productive, and sustainable agricultural future, while also supporting rural livelihoods and environmental restoration.			
Chair: Mr. Takayuki Hagiwara, FAO Representative in India, New Delhi, Dr. Dennis Garrity, Chair of the Board, Global EverGreening Alliance, Kenya (Online)			
Parallel Session VII 11:30 – 13:00 hrs Session Coordinator: Dr. V. R. Prabavathy Rapporteurs: Dr. S. Jegan, Dr. R. Rajakumar	• Dr. Himanshu Pathak, President, NAAS & Director General, ICRISAT, Hyderabad • Dr. Rattan Lal, Founder and Director, Carbon Management and Sequestration Center, Ohio State University, USA (Online) • Prof. Chittaranjan Ray, Director, Nebraska Water Center, University of Nebraska, USA • Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director & Vice Chancellor, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi • Dr. V. R. Prabavathy, Former Director, Biotechnology, MSSRF, Chennai • Dr. Carlo Fadda, Director, Agrobiodiversity, Alliance Bioversity International & CIAT, Kenya		



DAY 2

August 8, 2025 – Friday

PARALLEL SESSION VIII: INNOVATION, VALUE CHAIN AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR

11:30 – 13:00 hrs		Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium (C3)
This session explores the transformative role of start-ups, farmers, Farmer Producer Organisations, and the private sector in reshaping agriculture. It will examine innovations across the agri-value chain, focusing on agri-tech solutions, climate-smart practices, and improved market linkages. The session will also address key challenges and the importance of collaboration among stakeholders to foster inclusive and sustainable growth. By bringing together diverse voices, it aims to identify practical strategies that enhance productivity, strengthen value chains, and build a resilient, future-ready agricultural ecosystem capable of meeting the evolving demands of climate, markets, and nutrition.		
Chair: Dr. C. Chandramouli, IAS (Retd.), Trustee, MSSRF, Prof. Pravat Kumar Roul, Vice Chancellor, Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Odisha		
Parallel Session VIII 11:30 – 13:00 hrs Session Coordinator: Mr. Prashant K. Parida Rapporteurs: Ms. Anbuvahini, Ms. P.M. Jennifer	• Mr. S. Sivakumar, Head, Agri & IT Business, ITC, Hyderabad • Dr. Meenesh Shah, Chairman & Managing Director, National Dairy Development Board, Anand, Gujarat • Mr. Manoj Kumar, Social Alpha, Bengaluru • Dr. C. Anandharamakrishnan, Director, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research - National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology • Dr. Shyam Narayan Jha, DDG, (Agricultural Engineering), Indian Council of Agricultural Research	

13:00 – 14:00 hrs	Lunch	Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium - Basement
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KEYNOTE LECTURES IV

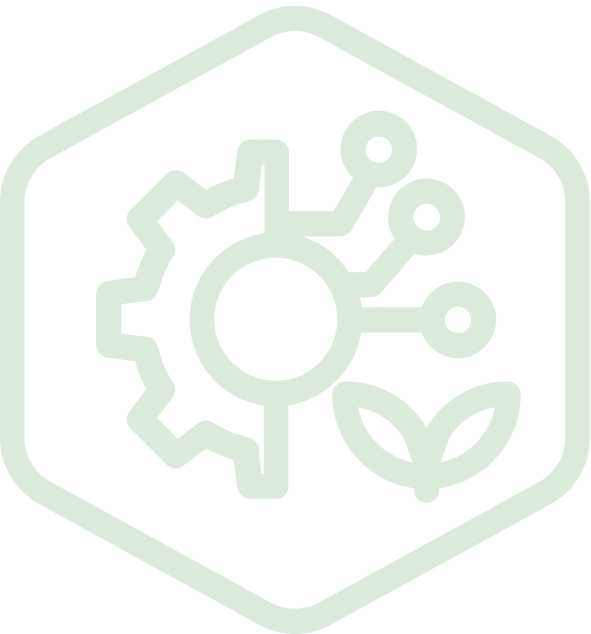
14:00 – 15:00 hrs		Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium
Keynote Lecture - Chair: Mr. Anand Raghavan , Trustee, MSSRF, Chennai, Dr. Himanshu Pathak , President, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, India & Director General, ICRISAT		
14:00 – 14:30 hrs	Mr. Maximo Torero , Chief Economist, Food and Agriculture Organisation, Rome (Online)	
14:30 – 15:00 hrs	Prof. Nitya Rao , Trustee, MSSRF & Professor, Gender and Development, University of East Anglia, UK	
Session Coordinator: Dr. Anamika Ajay; Rapporteurs: Mr. Prajeesh, Ms. C.S. Dhanya		
15:00 – 15:30 hrs	Tea Break	

DAY 2

 August 8, 2025 – Friday

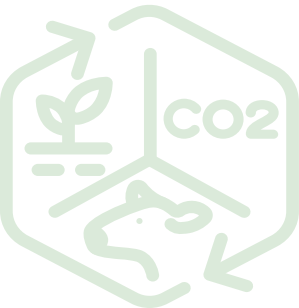
PARALLEL SESSION IX: DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN AGRICULTURE

15:30 – 17:00 hrs		Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium (C1)	
Digital technologies and Artificial Intelligence (AI) are revolutionising agriculture by enabling more efficient, sustainable, and productive farming systems. From real-time monitoring to data-driven decision-making and automation, these innovations enhance precision and resource use across the agricultural value chain. This session will explore the potential of digital and AI-based solutions in the Indian context, addressing both opportunities and challenges. It will examine how such technologies can support smallholder farmers, improve climate resilience, and foster inclusive, long-term sustainability—ultimately contributing to a more equitable and future-ready agricultural sector.			
Chair: Dr. Abhay Karandikar, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi, Shri. Abhishek Singh, IAS, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India, New Delhi Special Remarks: Mr. Shiv Sharma, Transformative Engineering Lead, India Development Centre (IDC), Microsoft			
Parallel Session IX 15:30 – 17:00 hrs Session Coordinator: Dr. R. Nagarajan Rapporteurs: Dr. R. Ramasubramanian, Dr. Murugan Ram	• Dr. Nidhi Bhasin, CEO, Digital Green Trust, New Delhi • Dr. S. Velvizhi, Area Director, Coastal Resources and Fisheries, MSSRF, Poompuhar • Dr. Pushpendra P. Singh, Associate Professor, Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology Ropar • Ms. N. Deepthi Reddy, Chief Women Empowerment, Reliance Foundation, Mumbai • Dr. Rabi Narayan Sahoo, Principal Scientist, Division of Agricultural Physics, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi • Mr. Swapnil Laxman Bhosale, Farmer, Agriculture Development Trust		



PARALLEL SESSION X: HARNESSING BIODIVERSITY FOR NUTRITION

15:30 – 17:00 hrs		Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium (C2)	
This session will explore the vital link between biodiversity and nutrition, emphasising the role of agrobiodiversity in creating resilient, sustainable, and nutritious food systems. It will highlight the importance of conserving plant genetic resources and protecting farmers’ rights as foundations of food security and cultural heritage. Particular focus will be given to smallholder farmers—the primary custodians of biodiversity—whose empowerment through inclusive policies, access to resources, and supportive institutions is essential. The session aims to promote sustainable agriculture that enhances dietary diversity and ensures improved nutrition for both current and future generations.		Chair: Dr. Ramesh V. Sonti, Director, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, New Delhi, Mr. James Marc de Sousa-Shields, Country Director, IFAD, Roma, Italy	
Parallel Session X 15:30 – 17:00 hrs Session Coordinator: Dr. E. D. Israel Oliver King Rapporteurs: Mr. Girigan Gopi, Dr. D. J. Nithya	• Dr. T. Mohapatra, Chairperson, Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers’ Rights Authority, New Delhi • Dr. V.B. Patel, Assistant Director General (F&PC), Horticultural Science, ICAR, New Delhi • Dr. Dindo Campilan, Regional Director for Asia, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Thailand • Dr. E.D. Israel Oliver King, Director, Biodiversity, MSSRF • Mr. Pius Rancee, Executive Director – North East Slow Food & Agrobiodiversity Society, Meghalaya • Dr. J.C. Rana, Senior Scientist and Country Representative for India, Alliance Bioversity & Center for Tropical Agriculture, CGIAR		



DAY 2

 August 8, 2025 – Friday

PARALLEL SESSION XI: SCIENCE-LED PATHWAYS TO SUSTAINABLE RICE AND WHEAT PRODUCTION

15:30 – 17:00 hrs		Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium (C3)	
Rice and wheat remain central to India’s food security and rural livelihoods. However, traditional cultivation methods face growing challenges from water scarcity, soil degradation, and climate change. This session will explore science-led solutions to enhance sustainability in rice and wheat systems, including Direct Seeded Rice, zero-tillage wheat, and precision technologies such as dual-purpose seed drills and laser levelling. Emphasis will be placed on crop nutrition, digital tools for farmer outreach, and stronger market linkages. Experts from diverse fields will share initiatives that support resilient, resource-efficient, and climate-smart cultivation of India’s two most critical staple crops.			
Chair: Dr. Usha Barwale, MAHYCO, Jalna, Dr. P.K. Singh, Agriculture Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, New Delhi			
Parallel Session XI 15:30 – 17:00 hrs Session Coordinator: Dr. Gayatri Venkataraman Rapporteur: Dr. Sivan Kalyani Velu		• Dr. D.K. Yadava, DDG (Crop Science), Indian Council of Agricultural Research • Dr. A.K. Singh, Former Director and Vice-Chancellor, ICAR - IARI • Dr. Sudhanshu Singh, Director – IRRI South Asia Regional Centre, Varanasi • Dr. Bharat Char, Team Lead – Mahyco, Jalna • Mr. Ajai Rana, Chairman, Federation of Seed Industry of India	

POSTER SESSION II

17:15 – 17:45 hrs	Convention Centre Reception Lobby Area
Session Coordinators: Dr. Jegan Sekar, Dr. V.R. Prabavathy, Dr. Kartik Charan Lenka	



DAY 2 August 8, 2025 – Friday

FARMERS' EVENING FORUM

17:45 – 20:00 hrs		Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium
Listening to Farmers		
In this session, the farmers reflect and showcase their leadership on the following themes and their impacts are intricately connected with Biohappiness. They will share their achievements, contribution to the sustainable production practices, biodiversity conservation, and promote peer learning and farmers’ networks.		
Chair: Dr. T. Mohapatra , Chairperson, Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers’ Rights Authority, New Delhi, Dr. Shubhada Deshmukh , Mahila Kisan Adhikaar Manch (Forum for Women Farmers’ Rights) – MAKAAAM, New Delhi		
Session Coordinators: Dr Archana Bhatt, Dr. Sandeep Lal, Dr. Nafees Ahmad; Rapporteurs: MSSRF: Mr. Jibin Thomas, Dr. Kartik Lenka, Dr. P. Manikandan, Ms. Swetha, IARI: Dr Rajeev Kumar, Dr. M.C. Meena, Dr. Praloy Bhowmike		
18.00 – 18.05 hrs	Welcome & setting the stage	Dr. Velvizhi, MSSRF
18.05 – 19.00 hrs	Reflections - Farmer Leaders	
Conservators / Tech innovators Genome Saviour Awardee FPO leader Conservation stewardship Natural Farming Nutrition Champion Technology Innovator Digital Tech Leader Plant Doctor IFS Farmer Fisheries Expert		Name of the Farmer Mr Sunil Kumar, Kerala Ms Vennila, Tamil Nadu Ms Rukmini Khillo, Odisha Mr Bharat Bhushan Tyagi Ms Asmathi Pujari, Odisha Ms Sharmila, Tamil Nadu Mr Swapnil Laxman Bhosale Ms Muthulakshmi, Tamil Nadu Mr Setpal Singh Mr Sultan Singh
19.00 - 19.15 hrs	Remarks - Chairs	
Cultural programme		
In the evening, a cultural programme will be organised. Each participating group will be given 15 minutes, and farmers are encouraged to perform in traditional attire.		
Facilitators: Ms Preeti Sekhar and Ms Anbuwahini		
- Tribal Folk dance, Jeypore, Odisha team - Tribal folk songs - Servai attam, Kollihills, Tamil Nadu - Ambapattu, Fishers, Poompuhar, Tamil Nadu - Kummi Pattu, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry		
20:15 hrs	Curated Dinner	Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium - Basement

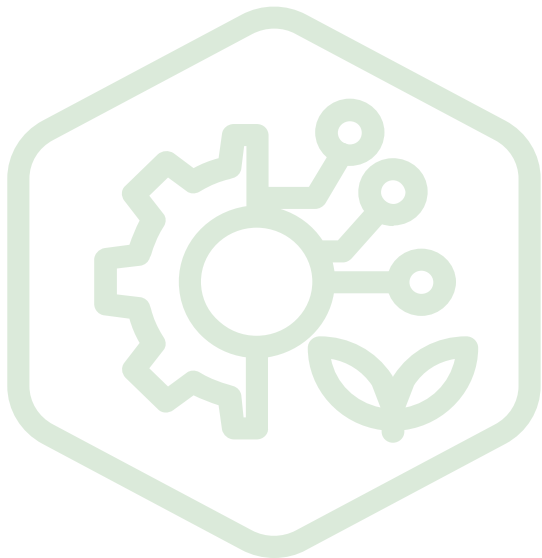
DAY 3

August 9, 2025 – Saturday

KEYNOTE LECTURES V

09:00 – 10:00 hrs		Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium
Keynote Lecture - Chair: Dr. Kezevino Aram , President, Shanti Ashram, Coimbatore		
09:00 – 09:30 hrs	Dr. Dennis Garrity , Chair of the Board, Global EverGreening Alliance, Kenya (Online)	
09:30 – 10:00 hrs	Dr. Arunabha Ghosh , Chief Executive Officer, Council on Energy, Environment and Water, New Delhi	
Session Coordinator: Dr. R. Ramasubramanian; Rapporteurs: Dr. S. Velvizhi, Ms. C.S. Dhanya		

10:00 – 10:30 hrs	Tea Break
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August 9, 2025 – Saturday

PARALLEL SESSION XII: MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS FORUM: REFLECTION TO FARMERS VOICES IN BUILDING BIOHAPPINESS ERA IN INDIA

10:30 – 13:00 hrs		Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium (C1)	
Biohappiness envisions a prosperous and sustainable future by harnessing India’s rich biodiversity—particularly traditional crops like millets—to ensure food security, resilient livelihoods, and environmental health. Rooted in harmony with nature, it promotes well-being through biodiversity conservation, regenerative agriculture, nature-positive solutions, and equitable access to resources. This session will provide a platform for farmers from diverse regions to share their experiences and perspectives, showcasing community-led efforts that align with the principles of biohappiness. Their voices will help shape a more inclusive and sustainable pathway for India’s agri-food systems in the era of ecological and social transformation. In response to their voices, stakeholders from science, development and policy will share their reflections which will culminate in contributing to Call to Action.			
Chair: Dr. Ajay Vir Jarkar, Chairman of Bharat Krishak Samaj, New Delhi, Ms. Irish P. Baguilat, Asian Farmers’ Association for Sustainable Rural Development, Philippines			
Parallel Session XII 10:30 – 13:00 hrs Session Coordinators: Mr. Prashant K. Parida, Dr. R. Gopinath Rapporteurs: Mr. Kartik Charan Lenka, Dr. Archana Bhatt, Mr. P. Yuvaraj, Ms. Sathyajothi	Farmers Perspectives • Mr. Vijay Jawandhiya, Maharashtra, • Dr. Neelam Tyagi, Uttara Pradesh. • Ms. Angel Isabella Rani, Tamil Nadu, • Mr. Sridhar, Andhra Pradesh, • Mr. Sooraj Purushottam, Kerala, • Ms. Rukmani Khilo, Odisha • Mr. Patel Motibai Joitabhai, Gujarat		
	Reflections of Multi-stakeholders Chair: Dr. Rajbir Singh, DDG (Agricultural Extension), ICAR, New delhi, Dr. Rabindra Nath Padaria, JD (Agrl Ext.), Division of Agricultural Extension		
	• Dr. A.K. Singh, Vice Chancellor, Central Agricultural University, Jhansi • Dr. J.C. Rana, Senior Scientist and Country Representative for India, Alliance Bioversity & CIAT, CGIAR • Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi • Prof. Nitya Rao, Trustee, MSSRF & Professor, Gender and Development, University of East Anglia, UK • Dr. Narayan G. Hegde, Trustee, Bharatiya Agro Industries Foundation (BAIF) • Dr. Sittikantha Pattanaik, Chief Economist, NABARD • Dr. T.M. Balakrishnan Nair, Director, Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services, Hyderabad		
	Closing remarks: Mr. Ajay Vir Jakhar & Dr. Rajbir Singh		

DAY 3



August 9, 2025 – Saturday

PARALLEL SESSION XIII A: CLIMATE AND HEALTH: THE POWER OF DATA

10:30- 11:45 hrs		Prithvi Hall
This session will explore the transformative potential of data in addressing the intricate and growing link between climate change and human health. It will highlight how data-driven tools—ranging from early warning systems and climate-health surveillance to AI-powered analytics—can inform timely and effective responses. Emphasis will be placed on integrating scientific data with community-level insights to build resilience, guide public health strategies, and support vulnerable populations. The session underscores the urgent need for coordinated, data-informed action to tackle the dual crises of climate and health in a rapidly changing world.		
Chair: Prof. Srinath Reddy, Honorary Distinguished Professor and Goodwill Ambassador for Public Health Partnerships, PHFI New Delhi, Dr. Sanghamitra Pati, Additional Director General, ICMR		
Parallel Session XIII A 10:30 – 11:45 hrs Session Coordinator: Dr. R. Aarth Rapporteurs: Mr. R. Goutham, Mr. Sandeep Mahato	• Mr. Krishna S. Vatsa, National Disaster Management Authority, Government of India, New Delhi • Dr. Vijay Chandru, Executive Advisor ART PARK-Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru • Ms. Marina Romanello, Institute for Global Health, University College London, London (online) • Dr. Roxy Mathew Koll, Climate Scientist, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune • Dr. Sagnik Dey, Centre for Atmospheric Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi	



DAY 3



August 9, 2025 – Saturday

PARALLEL SESSION XIII B: CLIMATE AND HEALTH: PREPARING HEALTH SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITIES FOR CLIMATE STRESSORS

11:45- 13:00 hrs		Prithvi Hall
As the impacts of climate change intensify, it is vital to enhance the capacity of health systems and communities to manage climate-related risks. This session will explore community-led adaptation efforts, policy and governance innovations, and financing mechanisms that promote resilience. Drawing on global research and local experiences, the discussion will emphasise inclusive, multisectoral approaches to protect vulnerable populations and support frontline health workers. The session will highlight actionable strategies for building climate-resilient health systems and fostering equitable, sustainable responses to climate stressors in an increasingly unpredictable and challenging environment.		
Chair: Dr. Vinod Paul, Member, NITI Aayog, Government of India, New Delhi, Ms. Nitya Khemka, Trustee, Nand and Jeet Khemka Foundation, New Delhi		
Parallel Session XIII B 11:45 – 13:00 hrs Session Coordinator: Dr. R. Aarthy Rapporteurs: Dr. K.V. Sabu, Dr. Asit Mansingh	• Ms. Puniya Salila Srivastava, Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Govt of India (TBC) • Mr. Sampath Kumar, Principal Secretary for Health & Family Welfare in the Government of Meghalaya • Prof. T. Sundararaman, Independent Consultant, Puducherry • Dr. Dileep Mavalankar, Honorary Distinguished Professor, Indian Institute of Public Health, Gandhinagar • Ms. Megha Desai, Self Employed Women’s Association, Gujarat • Dr. Ragavendra Bhatta, DDG, (Animal Science), Indian Council of Agricultural Research	



DAY 3

August 9, 2025 – Saturday

PARALLEL SESSION XIV: NAAS-YUVA YOUTH SESSION

10:30 – 13:00 hrs	NAAS Training Hall
The NAAS-YUVA Session invites passionate and forward-thinking students to engage in a dynamic platform dedicated to youth in agriculture. The session will feature: • Youth Parliament – A simulated parliamentary debate where students will deliberate on pressing issues related to agriculture, food security, and sustainability. • Agri-Idea Pitching – A fast-paced segment where participants will present innovative, three-minute pitches showcasing transformative ideas to shape the future of Indian agriculture. This session aims to inspire, empower, and give voice to the next generation of agricultural leaders and change-makers.	
Session Coordinators: Dr. Haritha Bollinedi, Dr. Jegan Sekar Rapporteurs: Mr. Akshaya Panda, Mr. Peeyush Priya, Mr. Jibin Thomas	

PARALLEL SESSION XV: SCHOOL CORNER

10:30 – 13:00 hrs	Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium (C2)
‘School Corner’- Organised by Genetics Congress Trust As part of the Birth Centenary celebrations of the legendary scientist and visionary Prof. M.S. Swaminathan, the XV Genetics Congress Trust is delighted to present a special session titled ‘School Corner’ for higher secondary students (Years 11 and 12). This unique initiative aims to inspire and engage young minds, encouraging critical thinking through a debate on the theme: “Genetically Modified Crops are Essential for Food Security”. It also seeks to honour Prof. Swaminathan’s legacy by fostering a spirit of enquiry, knowledge-sharing, and informed dialogue. Session Highlights: • Debate and Discussion: Students will engage in thought-provoking debates on the scientific, ethical, and practical implications of genetically modified crops, encouraging diverse perspectives and deeper understanding. • Address by an Eminent Personality: A distinguished expert from the fields of science, technology, or education will deliver an inspiring talk, offering insights to motivate and guide the young participants. This session aspires to nurture future innovators and thinkers, while celebrating the enduring legacy of a true scientific pioneer.	
Session Coordinators: Dr. Akshay Talukdar Rapporteurs: Mr. Meher Gadekar	

13:00 – 14:00 hrs	Lunch	Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium - Basement
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DAY 3

August 9, 2025 – Saturday

PLENARY SESSION III: EVERGREEN REVOLUTION – THE PATHWAY TO BIOHAPPINESS: GLOBAL CALL TO ACTION

14:00 – 15:15 hrs		Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium
This session will synthesise key insights from across the conference, with session coordinators presenting highlights from their respective discussions. A distinguished panel of experts will then deliberate on the various dimensions of the Evergreen Revolution and its role in advancing biohappiness—a state of well-being rooted in ecological sustainability, social equity, and food and nutrition security. The session will culminate in a set of actionable recommendations, reflecting the collective wisdom of the conference, which will be formally presented during the valedictory session as a global call to action for a more sustainable and inclusive future.		
Moderator: Prof. Nitya Rao, Trustee, MSSRF & Professor, Gender and Development, University of East Anglia, UK, Dr. Angela Lusigi, Resident Representative, UNDP, New Delhi		
Plenary Session III 14:00 – 15:15 hrs Session Coordinators: Dr. E. D. Israel Oliver King, Dr. Gayatri Venkataraman, Dr. Vishwanathan C Collators & Rapporteurs: Dr. D.J. Nithya, Mr. P. Prajeesh, Dr. Anamika Ajay, Mr. Girigan Gopi	Presentation of salient points emerged from all sessions: Dr. Gayatri Venkataraman, Principal Scientist, Biotechnology, MSSRF, Chennai • Dr. Himanshu Pathak, President, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, India & Director General, ICRISAT • Prof. Lindiwe Sibanda, Co- Chair, Curt Bergfors Food Planet Prize & Extra-Ordinary Professor, University of Pretoria, South Africa • Dr. Kent Nnadozie, Secretary, International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resource, FAO • Dr. Monteksingh Ahluwalia, Former Deputy Chairman Planning Commission, Government of India • Dr. Sunita Narain, Director General, Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi • Dr. Narayan G Hegde, Trustee, Bharatiya Agro Industries Foundation, Pune	
15:15 – 15:45 hrs	High Tea	



DAY 3

August 9, 2025 – Saturday

VALEDICTORY SESSION - EVERGREEN REVOLUTION – THE PATHWAY TO BIOHAPPINESS: GLOBAL CALL TO ACTION

15:45 – 17:15 hrs

Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium

The Valedictory Session marks the conclusion of the International Conference on the Evergreen Revolution. It will feature the presentation of the Delhi Declaration on Biohappiness, which reflects Professor M.S. Swaminathan's visionary framework for sustainable agriculture, ecological integrity, and social equity. Reaffirming global commitments to environmental stewardship and inclusive development, the declaration advocates policies that harmonise agricultural progress with nature. The session will also present key insights from across the conference and conclude with actionable recommendations—issuing a global call to build resilient, equitable, and nature-positive food systems that embody the principles of the Evergreen Revolution.

	National Anthem
Welcome & Honouring dignitaries with a Memento	Dr. Soumya Swaminathan , Chairperson, MSSRF, Chennai
Reading the Global Call to Action	Dr. E.D. Israel Oliver King , Director, Biodiversity, MSSRF
Remarks	Dr. Raimati Ghiuria , 'Queen of Millet', a tribal farmer from Odisha
Special Remarks	Dr. Himanshu Pathak , President, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, India & Director General, ICRISAT
Special Remarks	Dr. Mangi Lal Jat , Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research & Secretary, DARE, Government of India
Special Remarks	Mr. Devesh Chaturvedi , Secretary, Agriculture, Government of India
Guest of Honor & Keynote Address	Dr. Suresh Prabhu , Former Union Minister, Government of India
Guest of Honor & Keynote Address	Shri. Nitin Jairam Gadkari , Hon'ble Minister of Road Transport and Highways Government of India (TBC)
Guest of Honor & Presidential Address	Shri. Shivraj Singh Chouhan , Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India
M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation - Grow Further Award will be presented by Hon'ble Shri. Venkaiah Naidu, Former Vice President of India in the presence of Dr. Peter Kelly, Founder, Grow Further, USA and Dr. Venkat Pegadaraju, Vice President Grow Further, USA	
Chief Guest & Valedictory Address	Hon'ble Shri. Venkaiah Naidu Former Vice President of India
Recognising Custodian and Innovative Farmers, NAAS Yuva Students, Genetic Congress Students, Best Poster Recipients	
Vote of Thanks	Prof. Nitya Rao , Trustee, MSSRF
	National Anthem

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