



IIPM



भारतीय बागान प्रबन्ध संस्थान बेंगलुरु

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PLANTATION MANAGEMENT BENGALURU

(An Autonomous Organization of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India)



IIPM-PULSE



VOLUME - 3

JAN-MAR 2026

ISSUE - 2



HIGHLIGHTS :

- NIRVAH 2026
- BRIDGING ACADEMIA AND INDUSTRY
- EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING IN ACTION
- MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
- INDUSTRY INTERACTION
- E - PCP
- CORPORATE APPRECIATION
- CELEBRATIONS
- SPORTS FELICITATION
- CORPORATE TALK
- CAMPUS VISIT
- ACADEMIC SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
- FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS
- ADMISSION NOTIFICATION
- UPCOMING EVENTS...

NIRVAH 2026: Kurukshetra – A Celebration of Strategy, Spirit, and Cultural Excellence :

On 27th February 2026, the Indian Institute of Plantation Management, Bengaluru, formally inaugurated NIRVAH 2026, the Institute's annual cultural fest, with great enthusiasm and dignity. Inspired by the theme "Kurukshetra," the fest symbolically reflected the timeless values of strategy, courage, and righteous action, drawing parallels between the epic battlefield and the challenges of modern-day leadership and decision-making.

The programme commenced with the traditional lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the Director, Dr. Senthil Vinayagam, signifying the auspicious beginning of the celebrations and the spirit of knowledge and unity.



The Institute was honoured by the gracious presence of the Chief Guest, Dr. Subhash Sharma, Founder Director of IIPMB. In his address, he encouraged students to actively engage in co-curricular activities, highlighting the importance of confidence, leadership, and holistic development alongside academic excellence.

The inaugural ceremony set the tone for a vibrant series of cultural performances and activities, showcasing the diverse talents and creativity of the student community. NIRVAH 2026 serves as a dynamic platform for cultural expression, teamwork, and institutional spirit, bringing together students and faculty in a shared celebration of art, tradition, and excellence.

On 28th February 2026, the Indian Institute of Plantation Management, Bengaluru, gracefully concluded NIRVAH 2026, its annual cultural fest, with a valedictory ceremony marking the culmination of vibrant student participation, creativity, and cultural expression.

The ceremony was graced by the Chief Guest, Dr. Ravi S., whose address appreciated the enthusiasm and dedication displayed by students and emphasized the role of cultural activities in fostering confidence, leadership, creativity, and teamwork.

IIPM – PULSE

NIRVAH 2026 : MANAGEMENT FESTIVAL AT IIPMB

JAN-MAR 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2

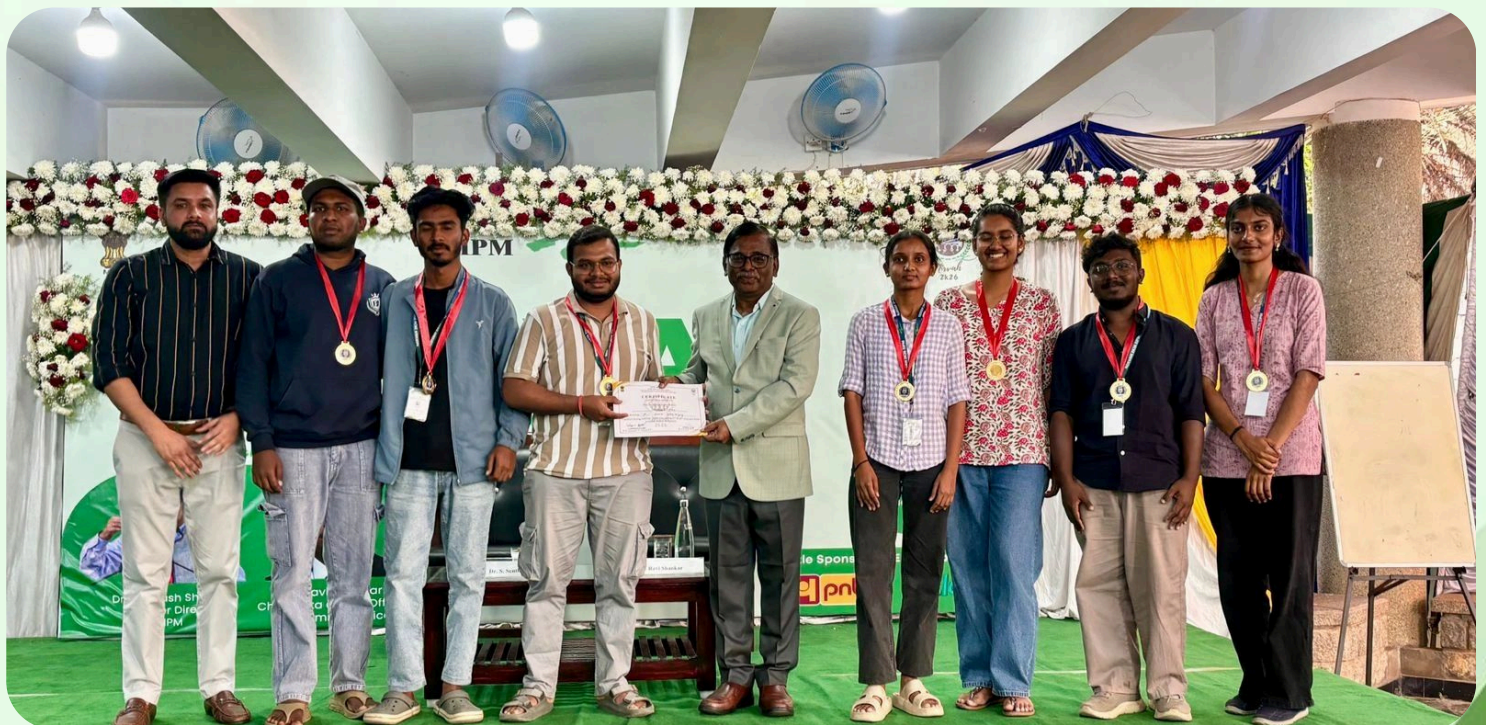


The Institute extends its sincere gratitude to the Director, Dr. Senthil Vinayagam, for his constant encouragement and support. Appreciation is also extended to the faculty members who served as judges for their valuable insights and guidance, as well as to the faculty coordinators, Dr. Prakash K C and Dr. Bandaru Venugopal, for their dedicated efforts in ensuring the smooth execution of the event.

As NIRVAH 2026 drew to close, it left behind cherished memories of collaboration, creativity, and spirited participation

, reflecting IIPMB's continued commitment to holistic student development

As NIRVAH 2026 drew to a close, it left behind cherished memories of collaboration, creativity, and spirited participation, reflecting IIPMB's continued commitment to holistic student development. The event not only celebrated talent but also strengthened the sense of unity and belonging among students across diverse backgrounds. It served as a platform for individuals to discover their potential, build confidence, and create lasting connections beyond the classroom. The enthusiasm and energy witnessed throughout the fest will continue to inspire future editions, making NIRVAH a hallmark of cultural vibrancy and student excellence at IIPMB.



Bridging Academia and Industry: Experiential Learning Through Industrial Visits

Students gained extensive industrial exposure across a wide range of sectors including agribusiness, food processing, plantations, finance, and innovation-driven enterprises. These visits enabled them to connect academic concepts with real-world industry practices.

Organizations such as Suguna Foods, Adani Wilmar Limited, Britannia, Parisons Food Pvt. Ltd., and Campco Chocolate Factory provided insights into large-scale food processing, quality standards, value addition, and efficient supply chain systems



Visits to plantation and agro-based enterprises including Kannan Devan Hills Plantations (KDHP), HML (Harrison Malayalam Ltd.), Kelachandra Coffee, Mercara Gold Estates, Panikulangara Estate, and T. Stanes exposed students to crop cultivation, processing techniques, sustainability practices, and quality management in tea, coffee, and spice sectors. Exposure to High Range Fertilizers further enhanced understanding of input management in agriculture.

At Kerafed and MPEDA, students explored the functioning of cooperative and export-oriented organizations, gaining knowledge on rural development, value chains, global standards, and market competitiveness.

Corporate and service sector visits to Fuselage Innovation Pvt. Ltd., Gopinath Syndicate (Ferrero Distribution), South Indian Bank, and Federal Bank provided practical insights into innovation, financial services, digital systems, and distribution management.

IIPM – PULSE

BRIDGING ACADEMIA AND INDUSTRY

JAN-MAR 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2



Additionally, exposure to Akshayakalpa highlighted sustainable and integrated farming practices in the dairy sector.

Overall, these industrial visits significantly enriched students' understanding of operations, quality systems, sustainability, and market-oriented approaches, preparing them for dynamic roles in the agribusiness ecosystem.



Experiential Learning in Action: IIPMB Students Explore Farmer Collectives at Sahaja Samrudha



On 16th March 2026, students of the PGDM-ABPM, PGDM-FPBM, and PGDM-AEBM programmes at the Indian Institute of Plantation Management, Bengaluru, visited Sahaja Samrudha Organic Producer Company Ltd. as part of the Managing Farmer Collectives course.

The field visit provided valuable exposure to the functioning of a Farmer Producer Organization (FPO), where students gained insights into its formation, growth, and farmer-centric business model. Interactions with the organization's team enabled students to understand how collective action strengthens market linkages, supports sustainable organic farming, and enhances farmer livelihoods.

A walkthrough of the processing unit further offered practical understanding of aggregation, grading, and packaging processes, highlighting the importance of quality control, value addition, and traceability in organic produce supply chains.

The institute expresses its sincere gratitude to the Director, Dr. Senthil Vinayagam, for his continued encouragement in promoting experiential learning. Special appreciation is extended to Dr. Lavanya B T, Faculty Coordinator, for organizing and guiding the visit as part of the course.

The visit served as a meaningful platform for bridging academic concepts with real-world practices in farmer collectives and sustainable agribusiness.

IIPM – PULSE

MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

JAN - MARCH 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2



The Capacity Building Program on Plantation Sector:

Current Scenario, Opportunities and Way Forward, sponsored by the Directorate of Plantations, Government of Kerala, stands as a significant initiative aimed at strengthening institutional capacity and enhancing strategic capabilities within the plantation sector. The program focused on equipping senior officials with contemporary insights, policy perspectives, and practical tools to address evolving challenges and opportunities in the industry.

Conducted from 5th–8th January 2026, the four-day Management Development Program (MDP) brought together General Managers and Registrars of the Directorate Of Plantations, fostering a platform for focused learning, knowledge sharing, and professional exchange. The sessions covered key areas such as market dynamics, sustainability, governance, and innovation in plantation management, enabling participants to align their institutional strategies with current sectoral trends.

The program was coordinated by Dr. Archana Thulaseedharan, Faculty – OB & HR, whose guidance ensured a well-structured and engaging learning experience, blending academic rigor with practical relevance. The initiative also encouraged interactive discussions, case-based learning, and experience sharing among participants, enriching the overall learning environment. It provided valuable exposure to best practices and emerging trends, enabling officials to adopt more informed and forward-looking approaches in their roles. Furthermore, the program strengthened institutional networks and collaboration, contributing to more effective policy implementation and sustainable development within the plantation sector.

IIPM – PULSE

INDUSTRY INTERACTION

JAN-MAR 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2

Insights on the Evolving Coffee Plantation Sector



Indian Institute of Plantation Management is pleased to share key insights from a session delivered by Prof. John Mano Raj S at the CPA Annual Conference, where he discussed the changing dynamics of the coffee plantation sector. The session highlighted how challenges such as climate change, labour shortages, and shifting consumer preferences are prompting the sector to move beyond traditional commodity markets.

There is a growing emphasis on branding, differentiation, and value addition through specialty coffee, single-estate offerings, and strong regional identities, with examples like Coorg coffee showcasing the power of heritage and storytelling in creating a competitive edge.

A key takeaway from the session was the importance of maintaining consistent quality, which remains central to building credibility and ensuring sustainable growth in the evolving coffee landscape.

The discussion also emphasized adopting innovative practices, improving supply chains, and fostering collaboration among stakeholders to enhance resilience and competitiveness.

The session further highlighted the importance of sustainability and exploring new market linkages, offering a forward-looking perspective to navigate the evolving coffee industry.

IIPM – PULSE

E-PCP PROGRAMME

JAN - MARCH 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2



Advancing Strategic Insights in Plantation Family Business Management :

Participants of IIPMB's Executive Postgraduate Certificate Program (ePCP) on Managing Family Business in Plantations (MFPB) recently completed their campus immersion held on 19th–20th January 2026, marking an important milestone in their learning journey. The immersion began with a warm welcome by Prof. John Mano Raj S, Program Coordinator of MFPB, who conducted insightful sessions on branding of plantation products, offering strategic perspectives particularly relevant to family-owned enterprises. This was followed by an engaging interaction with the Director of IIPMB, Dr. Senthil Vinayagam, who shared valuable insights on business model innovation and emerging trends in value creation. Participants also had the opportunity to connect in person with faculty members they had previously interacted with in virtual sessions, strengthening academic engagement.

A key experiential highlight of the immersion was the tea tasting session at IIPMB's TTM Lab, conducted by Mr. K.G. Nanda, Professor of Practice. This hands-on session enriched participants' understanding of quality assessment and sensory evaluation in plantation products. On the second day, Dr. Dinesh Jain led sessions on business model development, which were further complemented by outdoor activities focused on risk assessment. Overall, the campus immersion provided a well-rounded blend of academic learning, practical exposure, and interactive experiences.



IIPM – PULSE

CORPORATE APPRECIATION

JAN - MARCH 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 1



Corporate Appreciation: Strengthening Industry–Academia Collaboration at IIPM :

The visit of the management team from M/s. Kanti Sweets Private Limited to the Indian Institute of Plantation Management for the Internship Recruitment Drive marked a significant moment of industry–academia collaboration. The team appreciated the seamless organization, professional interview environment, and exceptional hospitality extended during their visit, reflecting the institute's high standards. Student interactions were highly encouraging, reinforcing IIPM's reputation as a strong talent pool. With the interview process successfully completed, the organization is currently evaluating candidates and will soon announce the selected interns. This engagement further strengthens the partnership and opens avenues for future collaboration.

Corporate Appreciation: IIPM Talent Shines at Kaveri Exports

Kaveri Exports, one of India's top five cotton bale exporters and the second-largest manufacturer in the sector, has extended its appreciation for the exceptional performance of IIPM alumni within the organization. With an annual production capacity exceeding four lakh bales, the company provides a dynamic platform where young professionals can thrive. Ms. K. Hemabindu, who began her journey as an intern, has now completed over a year with the organization and holds a crucial role, making a significant impact through her professionalism, adaptability, and commitment. Mr. Lokesh Kumar, who has completed three months, has also demonstrated strong focus, quick learning ability, and a responsible approach to his work. The management at Kaveri Exports commended IIPM for nurturing such capable talent and expressed confidence in the continued growth and success of these students, further strengthening the bond between the institution and the industry.

IIPM – PULSE

CELEBRATIONS AT IIPMB

JAN-MAR 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2

Harvesting Happiness: Pongal Celebrations Light Up IIPM Bengaluru

On 23rd January, IIPM Bengaluru came alive with the vibrant spirit of Pongal, celebrating the harvest festival with enthusiasm, tradition, and a strong sense of community. The campus transformed into a lively cultural space as students and faculty gathered to mark this joyous occasion.



The celebration commenced with traditional rituals symbolizing gratitude towards nature for a bountiful harvest. The festive energy continued with a variety of cultural games and engaging activities that brought everyone together, fostering a sense of camaraderie and joy across the campus. Students and faculty actively participated with great enthusiasm, creating an atmosphere filled with laughter, vibrant traditions, and collective celebration that truly reflected the spirit of Pongal.

Rooted in the values of gratitude and renewal, the event went beyond festivity—it reflected the essence of unity and cultural pride within the academic community. It served as a reminder of the importance of staying connected to our traditions while building meaningful relationships in a diverse learning environment. The celebration also provided a platform for students from different backgrounds to appreciate and embrace cultural diversity, strengthening mutual respect and inclusivity.

The Pongal celebration at IIPM Bengaluru was not just an event, but an experience that strengthened bonds, celebrated heritage, and left the campus filled with warmth, positivity, and lasting memories. It inspired everyone to carry forward the values of togetherness and cultural appreciation, making it a truly enriching and unforgettable occasion for all who were a part of it.

IIPM – PULSE

CELEBRATIONS AT IIPMB

JAN-MAR 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2

Vision for Tomorrow

The 77th Republic Day of India was celebrated with immense pride and patriotic fervor at the Indian Institute of Plantation Management Bengaluru on 26th January. The campus resonated with the spirit of unity and national pride as students, faculty, and staff came together to honor this significant day in India's history.



The celebration began with the ceremonial flag hoisting, symbolizing the nation's sovereignty and democratic strength. This was followed by an inspiring address by the Director, who shared insights on the vision of Viksit Bharat and emphasized the pivotal role of educational institutions, youth, and the agribusiness sector in driving India towards a developed and self-reliant future.

The occasion served as a powerful reminder of the values enshrined in our Constitution: justice, equality, and liberty. It reinforced the collective responsibility of the academic community to contribute meaningfully to sustainable growth, inclusive development, and nation-building through excellence in agriculture and management.

The celebration concluded on a note of pride and reflection, leaving everyone inspired to uphold the ideals of the nation and work towards a brighter, stronger India.

The celebration concluded on a note of pride and reflection, leaving everyone inspired to uphold the ideals of the nation and work towards a brighter, stronger India. It also rekindled a sense of responsibility among students to contribute to the country's progress through innovation, integrity, and dedication. The event fostered a deeper appreciation for India's democratic values and cultural unity, strengthening the collective vision of a progressive nation.

IIPM – PULSE

CELEBRATIONS AT IIPMB

JAN-MAR 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2

Chhatrapati Shivaji Jayanti at IIPMB

On the proud occasion of 19th February, the Indian Institute of Plantation Management, Bengaluru , pays heartfelt tribute to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, a symbol of valor, visionary leadership, and unwavering commitment to justice.

His legacy continues to inspire generations, reflecting the values of courage, strategic thinking, and people-centric governance. As we remember his remarkable contributions, we are reminded of the importance of resilience, unity, and excellence in shaping a progressive and self-reliant society.



IIPMB extends its respectful wishes to everyone on the occasion of Chhatrapati Shivaji Jayanti, encouraging all to draw inspiration from his life and ideals in their personal and professional journeys.



IIPM – PULSE

CELEBRATIONS AT IIPMB

JAN-MAR 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2

Celebrating Colors of Unity, Joy, and New Beginnings

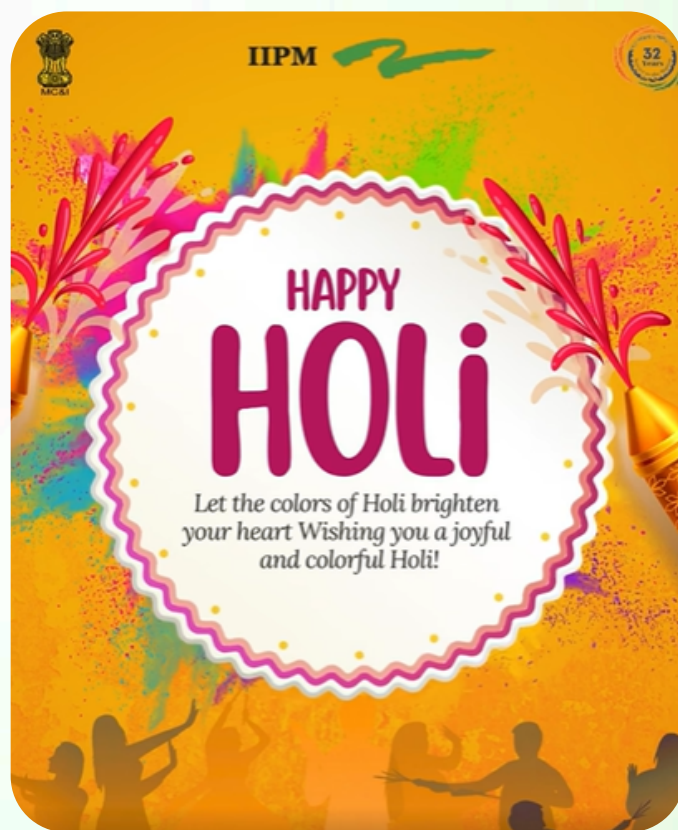
On 4th March 2026, the Indian Institute of Plantation Management Bengaluru family came together to celebrate the vibrant festival of Holi with great enthusiasm, joy, and warmth.

The celebration beautifully reflected the Institute's core values of togetherness, inclusivity, and cultural harmony. As colors filled the air and smiles lit up every face, the occasion became a symbol of positivity, renewal, and the strengthening of bonds among students, faculty, and staff. It was not just a festival, but a moment of shared happiness and unity that brought the entire IIPMB community closer.

The event also served as a reminder of embracing diversity, spreading joy, and fostering a sense of belonging within the campus. Such celebrations play a vital role in creating a lively and connected learning environment.

IIPMB extends its heartfelt wishes to everyone on this auspicious festival. May the vibrant colors of Holi bring renewed energy, happiness, harmony, and continued success in all your endeavours, inspiring each one towards new beginnings and brighter opportunities ahead.

IIPMB extends its heartfelt wishes to everyone on this auspicious festival. May the vibrant colors of Holi bring renewed energy, happiness, harmony, and continued success in all your endeavours, inspiring each one towards new beginnings and brighter opportunities ahead. The celebration also reinforced the importance of joy and positivity in fostering a balanced academic life. It encouraged the community to cherish moments of togetherness while embracing cultural richness.



IIPM – PULSE

SPORTS FELICITATION

JAN-MAR 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2

A Celebration of Grit, Glory, and Sportsmanship at IIPMB

On 6th March 2026, the Indian Institute of Plantation Management, Bengaluru, organized its Annual Sports Prize Distribution Ceremony, celebrating the remarkable achievements and commendable sportsmanship of its students.



The event was graced by the distinguished Chief Guest, Dr. Tusar Kanti Behera, Director of the ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research. His presence added great significance to the occasion and inspired the students. In his address, he appreciated the enthusiasm and commitment displayed by the participants and emphasized the crucial role of sports in nurturing leadership, discipline, teamwork, and a balanced lifestyle among young professionals.

The institute expresses its sincere gratitude to the Director of IIPMB, Dr. Senthil Vinayagam, for his continuous encouragement and support. Special appreciation is extended to the Sports Faculty Coordinators, Dr. Bandaru Venugopal and Dr. Parvathi Jayaprakash, for their dedicated efforts in successfully organizing the event.

The ceremony stood as a proud reflection of IIPMB's commitment to holistic development, fostering excellence in both academics and sports while celebrating the spirit of perseverance and achievement.

IIPM – PULSE

CORPORATE TALKS & GUEST LECTURES

JAN - MARCH 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2

Mr. Mukesh Gupta
GM & CFO – Enterprise Applications, Wipro
Topic: Cash Budget Preparation using MS Excel as part of Cost & Management



Mrs. Savitha Rao
Business Consultant and Educator
Topic: Business Communication (Written)

Mr. Sandeep Hegde
Assistant Vice President, Nykaa,
Topic: Business Communication (Written)



Mrs. Anusuya Saha ,
DVP B2B Sales - TransUnion CIBIL, Bengaluru
Topic: Go-To-Market (GTM) Strategies



Mr. Anand Minj,
Chief Manager, Central Bank of India
Topic: Crucial role of financial institutions in supporting agribusiness and agricultural development.



IIPM – PULSE

CORPORATE TALKS & GUEST LECTURES

JA- MARCH 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2



Dr. Anurag Priyadarshi ,
Non-Executive Director at the Rainforest Alliance
Topic: Global perspective on sustainability in
plantation sectors

Prof. Diganta Saikia
(Fellow, Financial Engineering)
Topic: Python, agri price analytics, MSP/APMC,
trends, volatility, market intelligence.



Mr. Praveen Andrews
Technical Director of Parikshan FSS Private Limited,
Topic: Enhance students' understanding of food
safety and hygiene practices



Ms. Suvrata Mudambi
Social Entrepreneur at Skill Green Global, Bengaluru
Topic: Ecosystem and Process of Tapping Rural
Entrepreneurship Opportunities

Ms. Soni Kumari, CAIA
Commodity Strategist at ANZ, Bengaluru
Topic: insights into the practical dimensions of
agri-finance and commodity markets



IIPM – PULSE

CAMPUS VISITS

JAN - MARCH 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2



A series of enriching academic visits to IIPM Bangalore were organized for students from leading agricultural institutions, aimed at bridging the gap between theoretical learning and real-world agribusiness practices. The visit schedule began with students from Imayam Institute of Agriculture and Technology, Tamil Nadu, who participated on 9th February 2026, followed closely by Anbil Dharmalingam Agriculture College, Tamil Nadu on 11th February 2026. Students from the College of Horticulture, Rajendranagar, SKLTGHU, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh visited on 23rd February 2026, bringing diverse regional perspectives to the learning environment. The series of visits concluded with Adhiyamaan College of Agriculture and Research, Tamil Nadu on 2nd March 2026. During these visits, students were warmly welcomed and engaged in interactive sessions that introduced them to key concepts in agribusiness management, supply chain systems, market linkages, and emerging trends in the agricultural sector. The exposure helped them understand how academic knowledge is applied in practical scenarios, especially in areas such as value addition, agriprenurship, and sustainable business models. The sessions also encouraged students to think critically, ask questions, and explore career opportunities within the agribusiness domain. Overall, these visits created a meaningful learning experience, allowing students to gain firsthand insights into industry operations while also inspiring them to become future-ready professionals in agriculture and allied sectors.



IIPM – PULSE

ACADEMIC SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

JAN - MARCH 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2



**Sri Kinjara Puyyerna Naidu
College of Agricultural Sciences,
Srikakulam , AP
Dr D Nabirasool and Dr
Venugopal
06-01-2026**



**College of Fisheries (OUAT),
Rangailunda, Berhampur – 760007
Odisha
Dr Naveen BR
07-01-2026**



**Dr Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi
Vidyapeeth (PDKV), Akola,
Maharashtra
Dr K Venkateshwaran and Dr
Lavanya B T
09-01-2026**



**DBCA, Ranipet
Tamil Nadu
Dr Prakash K. C and Dr
Venugopal
08-01-2026**



**Group of Students
North States
Ranjit Singh
09-01-2026**



**CoPHT&FP, SVPUAT, Meerut
Uttar Pradesh
Dr Anukritika and Dr Lavanya
13-01-2026**



**Kerala Agriculture University,
Thrissur
Kerala
Dr K Venkateshwaran
20-01-2026**



**Kerala University of Fisheries &
Ocean Studies, Kochi, Kerala
Dr K Venkateshwaran
21-01-2026**



**The Gandhigram Rural Institute
Tamil Nadu
Dr. K. Narendran
20-01-2026**

IIPM – PULSE

ACADEMIC SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

JAN - MARCH 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2



**VNMKV
Maharashtra
Dr. Shilpa & Dr. Parvathi
21-01-2026**



**Institute of Agriculture and
Natural Sciences
Uttar Pradesh
Dr. Manmohan & Dr. Parvathi
21-01-2026**



**Punjab Agriculture University
Punjab
Dr Dinesh Jain
21-01-2026**



**Group of colleges
Dr. Dinesh Jain
21-01-2026**



**Anand Agricultural Universities ,
Gujarat
Dr Venugopal, Dr Naveen & Dr
Anukiruthika
23-01-2026**



**College of Agriculture, Mandhya
Karnataka
Dr. Lavanya B T
23-01-2026**



**College of Agricultural Engineering
Karnataka
Dr. Shilpa
23-01-2026**



**College of Agriculture, Shimogga
Karnataka
Dr. Lavanya B T
28-01-2026**



**Techno India
West Bengal
Dr Shreya Pal
27-01-2026**

IIPM – PULSE

ACADEMIC SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

JAN - MARCH 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2



BCKV
West Bengal
Dr Shreya Pal
28-01-2026



Brainware University
West Bengal
Dr Shreya Pal
29-01-2026



TNU
West Bengal
Dr. Shreya Pal
20-01-2026

an University Andhra Prad



Vignan University
Andra Pradesh
Dr Nanrendran & Dr Nabirasool
30-01-2026



**Amaravathi Institute of
Agricultural Science, JKC
College, JKC Main Road,
Dr Nanrendran & Dr Nabirasool
30-01-2026**



**Sri Karan Narendra Agriculture
University, Jobner
Rajasthan
Dr Manmohan
04-02-2026**



**College of Agriculture, Junagadh
Agricultural University
Gujarat
Dr Dinesh Jain
05-02-2026**



**College of Horticulture, Mysore
Karnataka
Dr Lavanya B T
07-02-2026**



**College of Agriculture, Kerala
Agricultural University (KAU),
Wayanad
Dr. Dinesh Jain
09-02-2026**

IIPM – PULSE

ACADEMIC SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

JAN - MARCH 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2



**Iaxmibai central agricultural
University Jhansi Uttar Pradesh**
Dr. Dinesh Jain
17-02-2026



**Agriculture engineering College ,
Telangana**
**Dr Venugopal B & Dr Prakash K
C**
09 to 11-02 -2026



Anurag University, Telangana
**• Department of Food Technology,
Osmania University Telangana**
**Dr Venugopal B & Dr Prakash K
C**
12 to 13 -02-2026



**P B Siddhartha College of Arts
and Science**
Andhra Pradesh
Dr Nabirasool
24-02-2026



ANGRAU
Andhra Pradesh
**Dr Nabirasool, Dr Lavanya BT &
Dr Anukiruthika**
07-03-2026



**Kristu Jayanti University,
Bengaluru**
Karnataka
Dr. Naveen B R
11-03-2026



Annamalai University
Tamil Nadu
Dr. K Venkateshwaran
26-03-2026



**Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru College
of Agriculture and Research
Institute ,Tamil Nadu**
Dr. K Venkateshwaran
25- 03-2026



**Dr YSR Horticulture University
College, Venkataramannagudem,
West Godavari**
Andhra Pradesh
Dr Nabirasool
24-03-2026

IIPM – PULSE

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

JAN - MARCH 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2



Dr . S Senthil Vinayagam

Dr. S Senthil contributed to the following publications :

- Participated at 2nd Meeting of Research Advisory Committee on Agriculture & Rural Development on “Prospects and Challenges of GI tagged Agriculture Commodities”, organized by NABARD Karnataka Regional Chapter on 24th March 2026 at NABARD Regional Office, Bengaluru.
- Expert for Panel Discussion at "Roundtable on Strengthening of FPO Training Ecosystems" on the topic “Framework for future training needs and development of new training modules to bridge the gap in FPO training ecosystem- What is required?”, organized by Bankers Institute of Rural Development (BIRD) on 23rd March 2026 at Lucknow.
- Guest of Honour at the "Horticulture Fair 2026 (Virtual)”, organized by ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research on 17th March 2026 at Bengaluru.
- Chief Guest and Resource Person for the Training Programme “Applied Statistical Analysis for Social Science Researchers”, organized by College of Agriculture, University of Agricultural Sciences on 16th March 2026 at Dept of Agricultural Extension, GKVK.
- Guest of Honour at the National Industry Meet "Seri-Setu Sericulture Stakeholders Engagement for Technology Upgradation", organized by Central Silk Board on 20th February 2026 at Lalit Ashok Hotel, Bengaluru. Also invited as Panel Head for the Concluding Session.
- Guest of Honour for National Conference on “Transforming Rural Livelihood Landscape in India: Empowering Rural Communities through Investing in People, Planet, and Prosperity (3Ps)” organized by ICAR-NAARM between 19th & 20th February 2026 at Hyderabad (Dr. SSV attended on 19th Feb)
- Delivered Lecture as Subject Expert on "Convergence of KVKs with other Central Sector Schemes: A Holistic Approach" at the ICAR-NAARM XIth Management Development Program for newly recruited senior scientists & heads of KVKs, organized by NAARM on 7th February 2026 at Hyderabad.
- Delivered a Power Talk on “Agri Startup Ecosystem” and “Opportunities in Planation Ecosystem & Value Chain", at the Capacity Building Program for the senior bankers, rural development professionals and agri-ecosystem stakeholders, organized by SBIRD on 6th February 2026 at Hyderabad.
- Invited Guest for the Inaugural function of National Seminar “Pepper -An Intercrop in Arecanut for Prosperity”, organized by Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural & Horticultural

IIPM – PULSE

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

JAN - MARCH 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2

- E Sciences, Shivamoga in collaboration with Directorate of Arecanut & Spices Development-Kozhikode, ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research-Kozhikode, Karnataka State Agricultural Produce Processing & Export Corporation Ltd. (KAPPEC)-Bengaluru, Malnad Arecanut Co-operative Marketing Society Ltd., Shivamogga, Tota Utpannagala Marata Sahakara Sangha Niyamita-Channagiri and Indian Society of Spices-Kozhikode on 28th January 2026 in Shimoga.
- Guest of Honour at the Valedictory Program of 21 days “ICAR sponsored Winter School”, organized by ICAR-National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology, Department of Agricultural Research & Education, GoI on 27th January 2026 in Bengaluru.
- Special Invitee for the Inaugural Meeting and Expert Panelist for the Panel Discussion on “Empowering the Rubber Industry: Building Future-ready skills, Embracing Technology, and Sustainable Growth” organized by National Institute of for Rubber Training as part of Silver Jubilee Celebrations at Rubber Board, Kottayam on 9th January 2026.
- Keynote Speaker on the topic “Institutional Framework Governing the Plantation Sector” at the Capacity Building Program on “Plantation Sector: Current Scenario, Opportunities and Way Forward”, organized for the senior level officials including directors/joint directors from the Directorate of Plantations, Government of Kerala between 4th & 8th January 2026 at IIPM
- Member of Programme Steering and Monitoring Committee of DBT Biotech Krishi Innovation Science Application Network (Biotech-KISAN) Programme
- Project Review and Monitoring Committee (PRMC), Office of PSA, GoI under Industry-Academia Ecosystem Development for furthering Research and Innovation in India.
- Technical Committee of Directorate of Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Start-Ups at the Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad
- Navyasree Ponnaganti, Senthil S. Vinayagam, N. Sivaramane, Nobin Chandra Paul, K. Sammi Reddy and Dhananjay D. Nagare (2026). Assessing the effectiveness of AGRI UDAAN accelerator program on agri-startups in India: an integrated PCA and machine learning approach, *Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems*. Volume 10, February 04, 2026 [1](#)



Dr . Naveen B R

Dr. Naveen B R conducted a session on :

The session on “The Role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Decision-Making Under Uncertainty” was held on 11 March 2026 at Kristu Jayanti University for 2nd Year M.Com students of the Commerce Department. Conducted offline on campus, the session highlighted how AI tools like predictive analytics and machine learning support better decision-making in uncertain business situations, making it an insightful and engaging learning experience.



Dr . Narendran K

• **Dr. Narendran K contributed to the following publications :**

- Narendran, K. (Eds), (2025). Organic Agribusiness and Management. CRC Press Taylor & Francis Group , 486pp. Hard ISBN: 9781779643315E- ISBN: 9781003637608. SCOPUS INDEXED BOOK.
- Narendran, K. (2026). Organic Agribusiness and Management : An Overview. In Narendran K, (Eds.), Organic Agribusiness and Management (pp.3 -24). CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group, 486pp.
- Narendran, K. (2026). Organic Production Systems and Certification Approaches for Organic Foods. In Narendran K, (Eds.), Organic Agribusiness and Management (pp.81-102). CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group, 486pp. Hard ISBN: 9781779643315E-Book ISBN: 9781003637608, SCOPUS INDEXED BOOK.
- Mukherjee, Sarbani (2026). Sustainable and Climate-Friendly Organic Business : Scopes and Challenges. In Narendran, K. (Eds.), Organic Agribusiness and Management (pp.3 -24). CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group, 486pp. Hard ISBN: 9781779643315E-Book ISBN: 9781003637608, SCOPUS INDEXED BOOK.



Dr . Shilpa S K

Dr. Shilpa S K contributed to the following publications :

Shilpa, S.K. (2026). Retailing and Management of Organic Products. In Narendran K, (Eds.), Organic Agribusiness and Management (pp.219 -238). CRC Press , Taylor & Francis Group, 486pp. Hard ISBN: 9781779643315E-Book ISBN: 9781003637608, SCOPUS INDEXED BOOK.

Dr. Maneka Goyal contributed to the following publications :

“How Do Organic Food Firms Build Relationships? A Qualitative Analysis” has been published in the Journal of International Food and Agribusiness Marketing (Scopus-indexed,10.1080/08974438.2026.2634674, ISSN: 0897-4438 (Print) 1528-6983 (Online), Scopus-indexed, ABDC–B category ABDC–B category).



Dr . Maneka



Dr . Lavanya B T

Dr. Lavanya B T was invited for

The programme on Nurturing Future Leadership Training Program held from 9 - 13 February 2026 at Anand, Gujarat, organized by the Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA), gaining insights into leadership and rural management practices.

IIPM – PULSE

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

JAN - MARCH 2026

VOLUME 3

ISSUE 2

Dr. Shreya Pal contributed to the following publications :



Dr . Shreya Pal

- Pal, S., & Villanthenkodath, M. A. (2026). The Role of Digitization in Shaping Financial Development: Insights from Emerging Asia. *Millennial Asia*, 09763996261427272.
- Lu, Z., Gozgor, G., Pal, S., Panda, H. S., & Mahalik, M. K. (2026). The Divergent Effects of Geopolitical Risk on Market Openness. *Finance Research Letters*, 109501.
- Pal, S., Mahalik, M. K., Mallick, H., & Patel, G. (2026). Does environmental regulation restrict the level of carbon emissions? Evidence from the OECD countries. *Journal of Environmental Economics and Policy*, 1-22.

Book Chapter: Panda, H., Pal, S., & Mahalik, M. K. (2026). Credit to the power sector and its implications on sustainable development in India: Exploring the role of digitalisation. In S. Patra (Ed.), *Institutional finance, digital banking and sustainable development* (pp. 146–166). NEX GEN Publications. ISBN: 978-81-194.

Sponsored Project : Awarded a Major Research Project by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi, under the 2025–26 funding cycle. The project, titled “Pricing Mechanisms, Value Chain Transparency, and Livelihood Vulnerability among Small Tea Growers in India: A Multiregional Study.



Dr . Nabirasool

Dr. Nabirasool D was invited for:

Guest Talk to the FPOs, Progressive Farmers at Buyer and Seller Meet, Organized by the Department of Horticulture, Government of Andhra Pradesh, on the 10th March 2026.

Participated in the Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting for KVK, Garikapadu, Annual meeting, on the 18th March 2026.



सत्यमेव जयते
Ministry of Commerce & Industry
Department of Commerce
Government of India

IIPM

भारतीय बागान प्रबन्ध संस्थान बेंगलुरु
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PLANTATION MANAGEMENT
(An Autonomous Organization of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry – Govt of India.)



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AGRI-TECH & PLANTATION 5.0

*Innovations, Sustainability & Value Chain-Driven Business
Strategies Shaping the Future of Agribusiness*

3rd - 4th July 2026

Venue: IIPM Bengaluru, Mallathahalli, Bengaluru, Karnataka



JOINTLY ORGANIZED BY



ICAR- Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI)
ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR)
ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR)

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



Director's Message

It is a pleasure to invite you to the International Conference on Agri-Tech & Plantation 5.0, scheduled on 3rd & 4th July 2026 at IIPM Bengaluru. IIPM Bengaluru, a premier institute in agribusiness and plantation management is organising this conference aims to bring together leading academicians, researchers, industry experts, policymakers, FPOs and scholars to deliberate on emerging challenges and opportunities in agribusiness and plantation sectors.

The theme highlights the growing importance of technological innovations such as AI, IoT, digital platforms, and data-driven decision-making, alongside sustainability and climate-resilient practices, in transforming agribusiness systems. It also emphasizes the role of efficient value chains, market linkages, and innovative business strategies in enhancing productivity, transparency, and global competitiveness in agribusiness and plantation industries.

The conference will serve as a platform to exchange research insights, innovative practices, and industry perspectives that contribute to building a more resilient, sustainable, and technology-enabled agribusiness ecosystem.

We look forward to your valuable participation in this international forum.

Dr. S. Senthil Vinayagam

Director, IIPM Bengaluru

About IIPM Bengaluru

IIPMB was established in November 1993 by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, as an autonomous institute of higher learning. The institute works closely with the plantation industry and Commodity Boards of India to support the development of the agri-plantation sector and conducts industry-focused capacity-building and training programs for stakeholders such as planters, corporate managers, entrepreneurs, and government officials. IIPM offers AICTE-approved PGDM programs, executive training, and research support for industry and policymakers. The institute is recognized as a Centre of Excellence, focusing on sustainability, value chains, digital innovation, and entrepreneurship, and maintains strong collaborations with industry, government, and international partners.

About ICAR-Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI), Kasaragod, Kerala:

The institute is headquartered at Kasaragod, the site of the former Coconut Research Station established in 1916 by the Presidency of Madras. The institute focuses on research in coconut, arecanut, palmyra and cocoa, and has played a key role in advancing technologies that contributed to India becoming a global leader in coconut and arecanut production.

About ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR), Bengaluru:

The ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR), Bengaluru, was established in 1967 in Hesaraghatta, Bangalore. It conducts research on horticultural crops covering fruits, vegetables, ornamental, medicinal and aromatic plants and mushrooms in India.

About ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR),Kozhikode, Kerala:

The ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR), was established in 1975 in Kozhikode, Kerala, is a premier national organization under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) dedicated to spice research. It focuses on crop improvement, production, and protection of major spice crops.

About the Conference

The agribusiness and plantation sectors are experiencing a rapid transformation driven by technological advancements, sustainability imperatives, and evolving global market dynamics. These changes are influencing every stage of the value chain—from production and farm management to processing, logistics, trade, and consumer markets. The emergence of Agri-Tech & Plantation 5.0 reflects the integration of artificial intelligence, Internet of Things (IoT), automation, data analytics, and digital platforms with climate-resilient and regenerative agricultural practices. Such innovations are enabling smarter farm management, improved traceability, enhanced productivity, and more efficient value chains.

At the same time, the sector faces increasing pressures related to climate change, resource constraints, sustainability standards, and changing consumer preferences. Addressing these challenges requires innovative business models, sustainable production systems, and stronger market linkages. By combining technological innovation with sustainability-focused and value-chain-driven strategies, Agri-Tech & Plantation 5.0 aims to create a more resilient, efficient, and globally competitive agribusiness ecosystem.

This conference provides a platform for academicians, researchers, policymakers, industry leaders, FPOs, Startups, entrepreneurs, and development practitioners to exchange ideas, share research findings, and explore collaborative solutions that can shape the future of agribusiness and plantation industries.

The conference will bring together stakeholders from diverse sectors including:

- Plantation crops (tea, coffee, rubber, spices, coconut, cocoa, arecanut, etc)
- Agriculture and agribusiness enterprises
- Food processing and value chain industries.
- Smart agriculture platforms and Agri-Tech startups
- Export and international trade organizations
- Sustainability, climate, and environmental organizations
- Government agencies, commodity boards, and development institutions
- Academic and research institutions

Objectives of the Conference

- To explore technological innovations such as AI, IoT, automation, and digital platforms that are transforming agribusiness and plantation systems.
- To promote sustainable and climate-resilient practices that enhance productivity while conserving natural resources.
- To examine value-chain-driven business strategies that improve market access, traceability, and competitiveness in domestic and global markets.
- To foster collaboration among academia, industry, policymakers, and entrepreneurs for knowledge exchange, innovation, and policy development in the agribusiness and plantation sectors.

Important Dates

| Activity | Date | |
|---|------------------|--|
| Last date for Abstract/Full Paper Submission | May 31, 2026 | *To consider the papers for British Food Journals kindly submit before May 01, 2026 |
| Notification of Decision on acceptance of the paper * | On Rolling Basis | |
| Last Date to Register for the Conference | June 29, 2026 | |
| Conference Dates | July 3-4, 2026 | |

Conference Tracks

TRACK - 1

Sustainability in Agribusiness & Plantation

- Climate Change and Resilience
- Environmental Protection
- Water Conservation Management
- Resource Management
- Soil & Plant Health Management.
- Bio-innovation
- Sustainability Imperatives
- Crop Cultivation & Management Practices
- Sustainability Certification: Fair Trade, Organic Products, Labelling and Branding

TRACK - 2

Innovations in Agribusiness Value Chain

- Precision Farming
- Leveraging Technology for Efficiency (AI, ML, IoT, Robotics, Automation Etc)
- Traceability and Transparency
- Innovative Financial Mechanisms
- E-commerce and Digital Platforms
- Value Chain Transformation
- Collaboration Among Value Chain Partners
- Global Value Chains

TRACK - 3

Evolving Agri-Food Markets

- Consumer Demand Trends in Buyers' Consumption Patterns
- Global Competition
- Market Access
- High-Value Food Markets
- Quality Assessment for Export & Domestic Markets
- Food Safety
- Food Loss
- Food Waste
- Healthy Foods

TRACK - 4

Emerging Agribusiness Models & Market Transformation

- Global Consumers
- Sustainable Business
- Market intelligence
- Financial Inclusion
- Agri Trade and Exports
- Tariff Policies
- Trade Wars and Policy Shocks

Note: The tracks outlined serve as overarching thematic domains. The sub-themes are indicative rather than exhaustive, and contributions addressing additional, contextually relevant aspects within these domains are equally encouraged.

Certificate of Excellence

To recognize and encourage outstanding scholarly contributions, Best Paper Awards will be given for each track and Best poster presentations are also awarded.

Publication Opportunities

1. All abstracts will be published as compendium (Hardcopy) of the conference.
2. All Papers presented in the conference will be published as conference proceedings (in soft copy)
3. Selected papers will be published in peer-reviewed journals, as per the journal policy.

- **British Food Journal (ABDC B | Scopus | IF 4.2 | Cite Score 8.3)**
- **Association of Management Development Institutions in South Asia (AMDISA), (ABDC C | UGC Care)**
- **International Journal of Agribusiness and Plantation Management from IIPMB**
- **Journals of ICAR-CPCRI/ICAR-IIHR/ICAR-IISR.**

Submission Guidelines

- Complete, unpublished papers must be submitted online.
- Manuscripts should be anonymized, removing author names, affiliations, acknowledgments, self-citations & any identifying URLs.
- The paper should begin with the title, abstract, keywords, followed by the main text.
- Papers with plagiarism above 20% will be rejected.
- Authors of accepted papers may be invited to act as discussants for other presentations.
- Abstract (200–250 words) with 3–5 keywords in MS Word format.
- Times New Roman, 12pt (regular text), 1.5 line spacing,
- APA 7th edition referencing.
- Maximum 5000 words (6–8 pages including tables, figures, and references).
- Each submission will undergo a double-blind peer review process.

Review Process

- **Plagiarism Check:** Every paper will be screened using advanced plagiarism detection tools (e.g., DrillBit plagiarism Software) to maintain ethical publication practices.
- **Evaluation Panel:** Full Papers will be reviewed by a panel of experienced national and international academicians, subject matter experts, and journal reviewers.
- **High Acceptance Standards:** Only papers demonstrating strong academic/research/conceptual/ empirical rigor and innovation will be forwarded to the desk level of the identified peer – review journal.

Mode of Conference:

- Offline for Indian Participants
- Hybrid for International Participants

Conference Registration Fees

| Delegate Category | Early Bird Amount (₹) Excluding 18% GST [before 29.06.26] | On Spot (₹) Excluding 18% GST [after 29.06.2026] | Bank Payment Details |
|--|---|--|---|
| Research Scholars & Students | 1500 | 2500 | Beneficiary: Indian Institute of Plantation Management Bank Name: Punjab National Bank Bank branch: IIPM Campus Branch, Bangalore A/C No: 1586050000611 IFSC Code: PUNB0158620 (Fifth character "0" read as Zero) MICR No: 560024073 |
| Academicians, Scientists & Independent Research Scholars * | 2500 | 3500 | |
| Industry Professionals & Policy Makers | 3500 | 4500 | |
| Accompanying Persons | 1000 | 2000 | |
| International Participants | \$ 200 | \$ 250 | |

*** Participants from collaborating institutes are exempted from registration fees**

For the convenience of participants, accommodation shall be arranged on campus on a sharing basis/single occupancy basis, based on the availability of student Hostels, on a payment and first come-first serve basis.

Please note that the accommodation charges will be borne by the participants and are not included in the registration fee.

Accommodation options near IIPMB:
(Delegates are requested to contact the respective hotel directly for bookings)

| Sr. No | Hotel Name | Distance From IIPMB | Contact Details | Approx Cost / Day – excl. food charges & taxes (₹) |
|--------|-----------------------|---------------------|--|--|
| 1 | Sri Nandi Comforts | 850 Meter | Email:srinidhicomforts@gmail.com Phone: 98861 82823 | 2000 (All AC double-bed rooms) |
| 2 | MySpace Dhruva Inn | 1.6 KM | Email:reservations@dhruvainn.com Phone No. : 87924 89070 | 2800 (Twin bed AC With br); 2600 (Double bed Non-AC) |
| 3 | Hotel Vijaya Grand | 1.2 KM | Email: hotelvijayagrand@gmail.com Phone No.: 9844106414 | 2000 (AC double bed); 1800 (Non-AC double bed) |
| 4 | Hotel Platinum Palace | 3.6 KM | Email : platinumpalace999@gmail.com Phone No.: 9986687604 | 1500 + GST (Non AC single bed) 1800 + GST (AC single Bed) |

Delegates are advised to register with the given link along with requisite fee at the earliest. Registration fee is non-refundable. The registration fee includes a conference kit. Working lunch and certificate of presentation/participation.

Registration link: [CLICK HERE](#)

QR Code



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For more information about the conference, please contact:
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Indian Institute of Plantation Management (IIPM) established in 1993 is a institute with expertise in managing the entire value chain right from cultivation, processing to domestic & international marketing of vast range of plantation crops that include tea, coffee, rubber, spices, coconut, cotton, sugarcane, forestry plantation, horticulture, fodder plantations, herbal & medicinal plantations, nuts, apiary (bee-keeping) etc. IIPM Bengaluru is an autonomous organization of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, engaged in management education, research, training and consultancy with Centers in Assam and Andhra Pradesh. IIPM is one of the few management institutes in the country that works in close collaboration with industry stakeholders providing high quality training, research and long-duration programme for participants from India and foreign countries.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- ◆ **PGDM-ABPM & AEBM:** Any Bachelor's Degree preferably in Agriculture & Allied Sciences and other related disciplines from a recognized University or Institution.
- ◆ **PGDM-FPBM:** Any Bachelor's Degree preferably in Food & Allied Sciences, Food Tech and other related disciplines from a recognized University or Institution.
 - At least 50% marks or equivalent CGPA (45% in case of SC, ST and Persons with Disability) in the UG degree.
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 - Selection Process - IIPM's Professional Aptitude Test (IPAT) Group Discussion & Personal Interview.
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- ◆ **EPCP-ABPM:** UG degree/diploma with minimum of 3 to 5 years of work experience / related professional entrepreneurs. (online)
- ◆ **EPCP-MFBP:** The minimum education qualification is any UG degree. (online)

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| | |
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| E P C P | EXECUTIVE PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME : MANAGING FAMILY BUSINESS IN PLANTATION (EPCP-MFBP) 2026 (6 Month) 2 nd Batch |

For more details, please contact

To Apply Scan Here



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