About the Program

The **Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship (CIA)** at the **National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad**, a recognized *Centre of Excellence in Agribusiness Incubation*, continues to uphold its mandate of fostering innovation and promoting agripreneurship in India.

In alignment with this vision, MANAGE-CIA launched the **third edition of its flagship initiative, the Agri Eureka Program, in 2024**. This program is strategically designed to identify and nurture innovative ideas in the agricultural sector, particularly from aspiring agripreneurs and early-stage startup founders across the country.

Agri Eureka serves as a national platform to scout high-potential agri-innovations and support their transformation into sustainable and impactful enterprises. Through structured mentorship, access to a conducive startup ecosystem, and relevant growth opportunities, the program aims to bridge the gap between ideation and successful enterprise development.

Participants of the Program

The **Agri Eureka Program 2024**, organized by MANAGE-CIA, received an overwhelming response from across the country, with a total of **242 applications** submitted by aspiring agripreneurs and agricultural innovators.

A **rigorous multi-stage selection process** was undertaken to identify the most promising ventures. Based on the evaluation of innovation potential, feasibility, and alignment with the program's objectives, **74 high-potential startups** were shortlisted to participate in the program.

These selected participants underwent a **structured mentoring phase**, during which they received strategic guidance and technical insights from seasoned mentors and domain experts within the agri-startup ecosystem.

Following this intensive mentoring journey, **26 startups successfully completed the entire program**. A final evaluation was then conducted to assess the overall progress, scalability, and innovation demonstrated by each venture.

Based on these assessments, the **top 8 participants were identified as finalists**, and subsequently, **4 winners emerged**, each exemplifying exceptional innovation, entrepreneurial acumen, and potential for real-world impact in the agricultural sector.

Winners of the Program

The program concluded on a commendable note, celebrating innovation and entrepreneurial excellence i by recognizing exceptional startups for their pioneering ideas and impactful solutions.

The first winner position was awarded to **Mr. Hari Ramraju B.** from the team "**Seaweeds Energy Pvt. Ltd.**" for the startup idea about "Tides of Tomorrow: IMTA Seaweed Cultivation in Shrimp Aquaculture." The innovation focuses on the evolution and upscaling of Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture (IMTA) systems, aiming to commercialize sustainable seaweed cultivation in shrimp farming.

The **First Runner-Up** position was jointly awarded to **Mr. Sai Hemanth** of **Palak Harvestor** and **Mr. Debtanu Barman** of **Aqua Doctor Solutions**. Mr. Hemanth's startup focuses on developing a low-cost harvesting machine tailored for small and marginal farmers, aiming to reduce the burden of labor-intensive harvesting processes, which often consume a significant portion of farmers' profits. His solution offers a simplified, affordable, and efficient mechanism that can ease harvesting operations.

Mr. Barman's innovation, on the other hand, introduces a digital platform for fisheries and aquaculture, designed to enhance the accessibility of technical services, improve decision-making, and support sustainable practices within the aquaculture ecosystem. Both startups demonstrated strong potential for practical impact and scalability, earning them the shared recognition.

The **Second Runner-Up** position was secured by **Mr. Naveen Kumar** from the team **Cordeps Millitaries (Dr. Cordycare)**. His startup focuses on bridging the gap between limited supply and growing demand for Cordyceps militaris by developing a sustainable and scalable production model for commercial cultivation.

Grant-in-Aid Recommended Participants

As part of the post-event incubation support, the following participants have been recommended for **Grant-in-Aid assistance** under **Cohort 11** of the MANAGE-CIA Incubation Program. These recommendations have been made following a thorough assessment of each startup's innovation potential and the anticipated impact of their solutions on the agricultural sector.

Agri Eureka Program 2024 — Fostering Innovation & Agripreneurship

MANAGE – Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship

Sl. No.	Participant	Startup	E-mail
1.	Mr. Hari Ramraju B.	Seaweeds Energy Pvt. Ltd.	hariramaraju@seaweez.blue
2.	Mr. Sai Hemanth	Palak Harvestor	sai.hemanth109@gmail.com
3.	Mr. Naveen Kumar	Cordeps Millitaries (Dr. Cordycare)	Naveenverma825@gmail.com
4.	Mr. Adrij Kanti Roy	Farmitron	adrijkantiroy@gmail.com
5.	Ms. Pendyala Padma Ragan	Nutri Herb	nutriherb.hyd@gmail.com

These startups have demonstrated significant potential in innovation, market relevance, and scalability within the agri-business sector, making them well-suited for further incubation and support under the Agri Eureka initiative.