



**April to June
2026**

MANAGE-CIA

Center for Innovation and Agripreneurship

Quarterly News Letter



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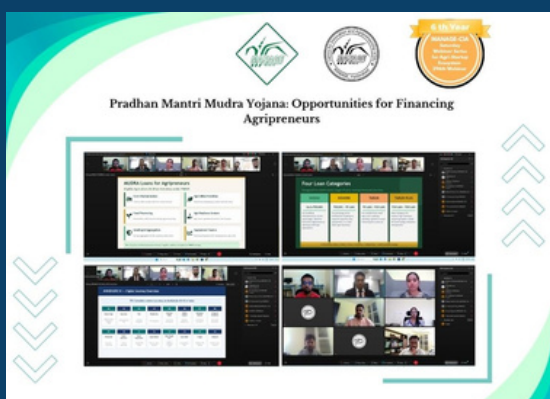
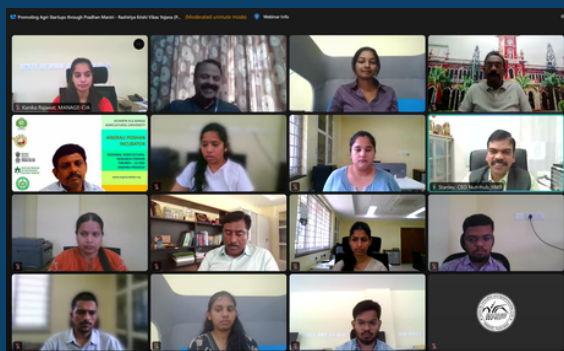
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The MANAGE-CIA Saturday Webinar Series continues to serve as a flagship knowledge-sharing platform, bringing together experts, policymakers, academicians, industry professionals, startups and aspiring agripreneurs from across the country. Conducted every Saturday, the series focused on creating awareness about government initiatives, startup support mechanisms, innovation, incubation, and entrepreneurship opportunities in the agricultural sector.

During the quarter, a series of expert-led webinars covered diverse themes related to agripreneurship, government schemes, innovation, startup funding, incubation support, technology commercialization, and entrepreneurship development. These sessions provided participants with practical insights into various government initiatives and support mechanisms while strengthening awareness of the national startup ecosystem and encouraging aspiring entrepreneurs to explore opportunities in the agricultural sector.

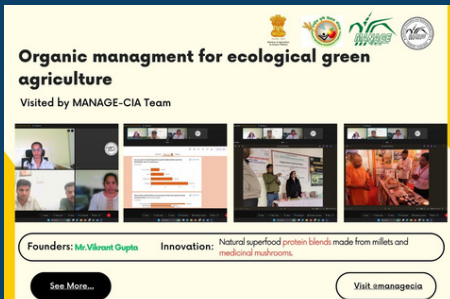
s.no	Dates	Topics	Youtube Link
1	04 April 2026	Promoting Agri-Startups through PM-RKVY	https://www.youtube.com/live/MI8ngE3VUpo?si=1pH077OM2jIPMpTd
2	11 April 2026	Role of Agricultural Incubation Centres in Mentoring Agri-Startups and Rural Entrepreneurship Development	https://www.youtube.com/live/40ZQB0pGm54?si=ZGpY5NHot00CUdBc
3	18 April 2026	Strengthening Post-Harvest Management and Market Linkage through Agriculture Infrastructure Fund	https://www.youtube.com/live/oLcqDi19KVU?si=yBxdSLHWJpc32kmN
4	25 April 2026	Export-Oriented Agro-Processing and Value Addition	https://www.youtube.com/live/3-5Yt2tB1bM?si=8eeEJqlfJlCME5S4
5	02 May 2026	Institutional Incubation as a Catalyst for Agritech Innovation: Opportunities under Startup India Seed Fund Scheme	https://www.youtube.com/live/i3wjF8P6qTY?si=3ijlOmHb56Y3b_zB
6	09 May 2026	MeitY Startup Hub: Fostering Innovation and Growth for Next-Gen Startups	https://www.youtube.com/live/dxhplwSSlF4?si=JUY-j6A3lhkrufbk
7	16 May 2026	Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF)	https://www.youtube.com/live/FJdsw_yRXvw?si=uuSEUmZaKNnu8wG0
8	23 May 2026	Innovation Grants and Opportunities under Smart India Hackathon for Students and Others.	https://www.youtube.com/live/FHRHB9KU8iE?si=HL3DU8eTHHQ9clIS

9	30 May 2026	ASPIRE Scheme: Promoting Rural Innovation and Livelihood Entrepreneurship	https://www.youtube.com/live/bg8NYCa-FxM?si=Q3ZvFias8o86HjZR
10	6 June 2026	Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana: Opportunities for Financing Agripreneurs	https://www.youtube.com/live/qOaUr3xHNtA?si=t_-R1TMFIKNThuG-
11	13 June 2026	Government Initiatives for Young Agri-Graduates: Promoting Agripreneurship	https://www.youtube.com/live/f66qHpuJgOE?si=Qg0RgOBpVLau8ms9
12	20 June 2026	NIDHI PRAYAS and NIDHI EIR Grants: Supporting Innovation through the Department of Science & Technology	https://www.youtube.com/live/aqu6bpvPPck?si=qnc4CKL_KtOsF65L
13	27 June 2026	Government Support for Startups under the Startup India Initiative	https://www.youtube.com/live/Pf2Ue5tCPgs?si=sLtYt2PbmOyv7jox



Startup Due Diligence & Assessment Visits: Ensuring Accountability and Supporting Startup Growth

During April-June 2026, MANAGE-CIA conducted Startup Due Diligence and Assessment Visits under the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) Scheme through physical and virtual modes to monitor startup progress, assess milestone achievements, and review the utilization of grant support.



The MANAGE-CIA team visited incubated startups across different cohorts, from Cohort 2 to Cohort 14, as part of the continued incubation and mentoring support under MANAGE-CIA. These visits focused on understanding the progress of startups, reviewing their business and product development activities, identifying challenges, and providing necessary guidance.



Startup founders showcased their facilities, product development progress, and operational activities, while the MANAGE-CIA team reviewed supporting documents, grant utilization, and project milestones to ensure compliance with programme guidelines.



These interactions helped assess the utilization of grant support and identify areas where additional mentoring and technical assistance were required. Overall, the visits reinforced MANAGE-CIA's commitment to supporting startups through continuous monitoring, mentoring and handholding, ensuring the effective implementation of innovative agribusiness ventures.

Interaction with the Director General, MANAGE

On 20 April 2026, Team MANAGE-CIA had an inspiring interaction with Shri Sanjay K. Agarwal, IAS, Joint Secretary (Extension), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, and Director General, MANAGE. During the interaction, the interns presented their work and shared their learning experiences gained through the internship program.

The Director General appreciated the interns for their contributions and encouraged them to continue pursuing innovation, research, and excellence in the agricultural sector. The interaction served as a source of guidance and motivation for the interns.



Experience Sharing Session on Startup Visits

To strengthen institutional learning and knowledge sharing, MANAGE-CIA organized an Experience Sharing Session following startup visits conducted across different states



During the session, team members shared their observations and experiences from the Startup-visit, highlighting the innovative technologies, business models, operational practices, and entrepreneurial journeys of the startups visited.

The session provided an opportunity to exchange key learnings and discuss best practices that could further strengthen incubation and mentoring activities. Such knowledge-sharing initiatives enable the team to gain practical insights into the evolving agri-startup ecosystem while promoting continuous learning and collaborative engagement.

MANAGE-CIA Podcast Series

The MANAGE-CIA Podcast Series continued to serve as an effective digital platform for promoting innovation, entrepreneurship, and knowledge sharing within the agri-startup ecosystem. Through insightful conversations with Agri-entrepreneurs, innovators, mentors, and ecosystem stakeholders, the podcast series highlighted inspiring startup journeys, innovative solutions, business experiences, and valuable lessons from the field.

During April-June 2026, the MANAGE-CIA Podcast Series featured Agri-entrepreneurs, MANAGE-CIA incubatees, startup enablers who shared their perspectives on agricultural innovation, entrepreneurship, funding, and business growth. The series served as a platform for knowledge dissemination, facilitating the exchange of ideas and promoting innovation and entrepreneurship within the agri-startup ecosystem.



<https://www.youtube.com/@MANAGECIA/podcasts>

National Workshop Report on “Reimagining India's Agri-Incubation Ecosystem

MANAGE-CIA released the Report of the National Workshop on “Reimagining India's Agri-Incubation Ecosystem: Innovations, Good Practices and Future Pathways,” held on 02–03 March 2026 at MANAGE, Hyderabad. The report captures the key discussions, recommendations, and best practices shared by representatives from incubation centres, government organizations, academic institutions, startups, and ecosystem stakeholders from across the country.



The publication serves as a comprehensive knowledge resource, highlighting innovative approaches, collaborative opportunities, policy recommendations, and successful incubation practices for strengthening India's agri-incubation ecosystem. It reflects the collective insights of experts and practitioners, providing strategic directions to foster innovation-driven agricultural entrepreneurship, enhance institutional collaboration, and promote a resilient and future-ready agri-innovation ecosystem in the country.

https://www.manage.gov.in/publications/proceedings/Proceedings_National%20workshop%20on%20Reimagining%20Indias

Publication of Cohort 14 Compendium

In April, MANAGE-CIA released the Agri-Startups@MANAGE: Transforming Vision into Reality – Cohort 14 Compendium, featuring startups incubated under the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) Scheme. The compendium highlights the entrepreneurial journeys of Cohort 14 startups, their innovative technologies, sustainable business models, and contributions to addressing key challenges in the agriculture and allied sectors.

The publication serves as a valuable resource showcasing detailed profiles of MANAGE-CIA incubatees, including their founders, agri-startups, and innovative ideas. It highlights the entrepreneurial journeys and innovative solutions developed by incubatees to address challenges in the agricultural sector.



https://www.manage.gov.in/managecia/Cohort_14_Agri_Startups@MANAGE_Innovating_Today_Transforming.pdf



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Launch of PM-RKVY Cohort-15 Applications

In April 2026, MANAGE-CIA invited applications for PM-RKVY Cohort-15 under the Student Orientation Program (SOP), Agripreneurship Orientation Program (AOP), and Startup Agri-Business Incubation Program (SAIP) under the PM-RKVY (Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana) program. The call for applications was open to students, agripreneurs, innovators, researchers, and startups from across the country.

Join With India's Largest Agri-Startup Eco-system
"Be the Change Maker in Agriculture"

MANAGE-CIA
Inviting applications from
Students, Agripreneurs & Startups
across India

RKVY-RAFTAAR Programs "Cohort-15"

Student Orientation Program (SOP)	Agripreneurship Orientation Program (AOP)	Startup Agribusiness Incubation Program (SAIP)
Grant in Aid up to ₹4 lakh	Grant in Aid up to ₹5 lakh	Grant in Aid up to ₹25 lakh
One-Month Comprehensive Mentoring	One-Month Comprehensive Mentoring	One-month Comprehensive Mentoring
Technical and Business Mentoring	Technical and business Mentoring	Technical and Business Mentoring
15 days Incubation Workshop	15 days Incubation Workshop	Networking and Market Linkages

Link to apply: <https://www.manage.gov.in/>
<https://www.manage.gov.in/managecia>

Last date for registration: April 15, 2026

Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship (CIA)
National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE)
(An Organisation of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India)
<https://www.manage.gov.in/> <https://www.manage.gov.in/managecia>

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The initiative aimed to identify, nurture, and support innovative agri-business ideas through mentoring, incubation, and financial assistance. Selected participants will receive technical and business mentoring, incubation support, expert guidance, networking opportunities, and grant-in-aid under the program to facilitate the development and scaling of innovative agri-business ventures. The program aims to strengthen participants' entrepreneurial and technical capabilities, support product and business development, and enhance market readiness through structured incubation support. By nurturing innovative ideas into sustainable agri-enterprises, the initiative is expected to promote innovation, entrepreneurship, technology commercialization, and employment generation, thereby contributing to the growth and competitiveness of the agricultural sector.

Session on Agri-Startup Ecosystem.

As part of the online training program on "Strategies to Strengthen Agricultural Supply Chains and Markets," organized by MANAGE, Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE & CEO, MANAGE-CIA, delivered an insightful session on the functioning and initiatives of MANAGE-CIA. The session highlighted the Centre's role in supporting agripreneurs through incubation, mentoring, technical guidance, funding linkages, and market access.

The session also provided an overview of the various programs and initiatives undertaken by MANAGE-CIA. It concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session, offering participants valuable insights into agripreneurship, startup incubation, and the support ecosystem provided by the Centre.

Session On
Start-up Ecosystem Facilitating Agri-Supply Chains in India

Resource Persons:

- Dr. Saravanan Raj
Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE & CEO, MANAGE-CIA
- Ms. V. Usha Sree
Manager
MANAGE-CIA

Organized by: National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management
Session Date: 29 April 2026



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Institutional Visits and Interactions:

Shri. N. V. Kameshwar Rao, Client Manager, British Standards Institution{BSI}, BSI Group India Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad visited MANAGE and interacted with the teams of MANAGE-CIA, MANAGE FISHub, and MANAGE-CAEIRA.



During the visit, he appreciated the various initiatives and programmes undertaken by the Centres and acknowledged their efforts in promoting innovation, entrepreneurship, skill development, and capacity building in the agricultural sector. The interaction provided an opportunity to discuss the activities and achievements of the Centres, exchange ideas on emerging opportunities, and explore potential areas of collaboration for strengthening the agricultural innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem.

Dr. Sangeeta Dawar Mendiratta, Head-Business Sustainability & Corporate Affairs, Syngenta, visited MANAGE and interacted with the MANAGE team. During the interaction, she shared her perspectives on sustainability, innovation, and the importance of fostering a diverse and collaborative work environment.

The session provided participants with valuable insights into emerging trends, sustainable practices, and collaborative approaches in the agricultural sector. It facilitated knowledge exchange and meaningful discussions, encouraging collaborative learning and professional development while reinforcing the importance of innovation, sustainability, and institutional collaboration in addressing contemporary challenges and strengthening the culture of excellence at MANAGE.



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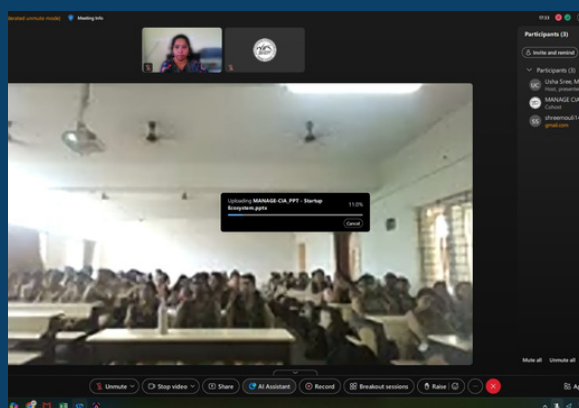


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Online Outreach Session for Aspiring Agripreneurs: Creating Awareness on Innovation, Incubation and Startup Opportunities



MANAGE-CIA organised an Online Outreach Session for aspiring Agripreneurs at the College of Agriculture, Vijayapur, Karnataka, to create awareness about the PM-RKVY Scheme and opportunities available within the agri-startup ecosystem. The session introduced participants to the incubation process, funding opportunities, mentoring support, and business development services available through MANAGE-CIA, encouraging students and aspiring entrepreneurs to explore agribusiness opportunities and transform innovative ideas into viable enterprises. Participants gained insights into innovation-driven entrepreneurship, startup registration, intellectual property, market access, and government support schemes through interactive discussions with experts. The initiative encouraged students, researchers, innovators, and aspiring entrepreneurs to develop technology-based solutions for agriculture while strengthening awareness of the incubation support available to transform innovative ideas into successful enterprises.

Batch-10 Pre-Incubation Mentoring Program

MANAGE-CIA launched the 10th Batch of the Pre-Incubation Mentoring Program to support aspiring agripreneurs, innovators, students, researchers, and startup founders in transforming innovative ideas into successful enterprises.

The program aims to provide structured mentoring, expert guidance, and capacity-building support under the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) Scheme. The program features one-on-one mentoring and pitch desk sessions, providing participants with personalized guidance from experienced mentors and experts. These interactions help startups refine their business models, strengthen their value propositions, address key challenges, and enhance their pitching skills through focused feedback and strategic insights. The sessions support participants in building confidence and preparing their ventures for successful incubation and sustainable growth.

Batch-X
"Pre-Incubation Mentoring Program"
Last date for submitting the application: 30th June, 2026

For whom?

- Agri-Startups
- Idea Stage/Pre-Idea Stage Entrepreneurs & Aspiring Agripreneurs
- Students & Youth interested in Agripreneurship
- Professionals in Startup Ecosystem
- Agricultural Extension Professionals

Program Content

- Agri-Startup Eco-System
- Agri-Startup Opportunities Identification and Validation
- Agri-Startup Support System
- Real-time Pitching
- Government Schemes
- Fundraising Strategies
- Innovative Marketing Strategies
- Business Model Canvas

Salient Features

- 22-Day Online Mentoring Program (15 days Online Sessions and 7 days Mentoring/Demo Presentation One-on-One Sessions).
- Individual Mentorship from the Incubation Team and Industry Experts
- One-on-One Handholding Support
- Learning from a Community of Entrepreneurs & Agri-Startups

Program Fee : ₹5,000/- (For Indian Participants)
(Rupees Five Thousand only)
USD \$60 (For International Participants)

MANAGE-Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship (CIA)
National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE)
(An Organisation of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India)
Kajandranagar, Hyderabad-500030, Telangana, India
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Preliminary Evaluation Meeting for Cohort-15

As part of the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) Scheme, MANAGE-CIA successfully conducted the Preliminary Evaluation Meeting for Cohort-15 to identify promising agri-startups with innovative solutions for agriculture and allied sectors



A total of 619 startup applications were received under the PM-RKVY incubation program, comprising 350 applications under the Startup Agri-Business Incubation Program (SAIP), 164 under the Agripreneurship Orientation Program (AOP), and 130 under the Student Orientation Program (SOP). The applications covered diverse domains, including precision agriculture, farm mechanization, food processing, agri-biotechnology, digital agriculture, climate-smart farming, livestock, fisheries, and post-harvest management.

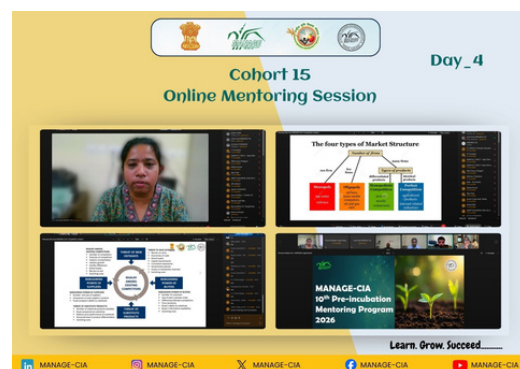
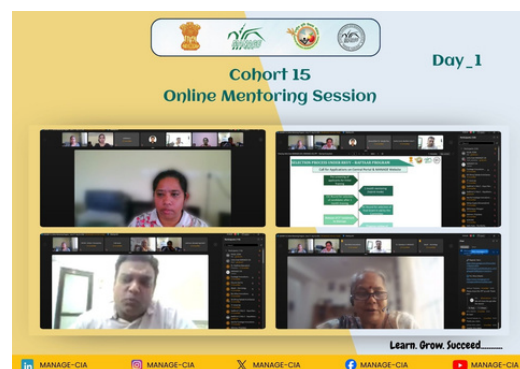
An expert committee from academia, research institutions, industry, and the startup ecosystem evaluated the proposals based on innovation, technical feasibility, market potential, scalability, business viability, and socio-economic impact. Entrepreneurs presented their ideas and received valuable feedback to strengthen their business models, commercialization strategies, and market readiness.

30-Days Online Mentoring Program for Cohort-15

MANAGE-CIA conducted a 30-Day Online Mentoring Program for the shortlisted startups of Cohort-15 under the PM-RKVY Scheme.

The program provided structured mentoring on business model development, product validation, market strategy, financial planning, branding, intellectual property, and commercialization.

Through interactive sessions with industry experts and mentors, startups received personalized guidance to refine their business ideas, strengthen market readiness, and enhance growth strategies. The program also encouraged networking and peer learning, preparing entrepreneurs for the next stage of incubation while reinforcing MANAGE-CIA's commitment to nurturing sustainable agri-startups.



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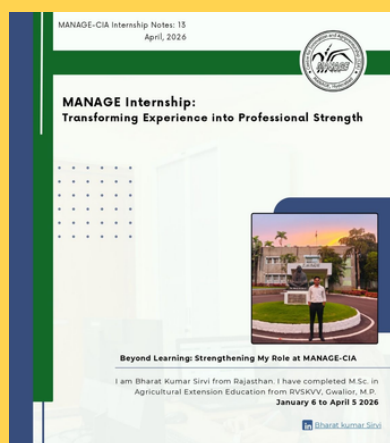
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MANAGE-CIA Internship Notes

The MANAGE-CIA Internship Program continued to provide students with valuable exposure to the functioning of an agri-business incubator while offering practical experience in innovation, entrepreneurship, startup incubation, and programme management.



<https://www.manage.gov.in/managecia/CiaInternships.aspx>

Interns actively contributed to program coordination, research documentation, startup outreach, digital communication, event management, and knowledge dissemination, gaining hands-on experience across diverse functional areas.

A key highlight during the April-June quarter was the publication of the MANAGE-CIA Internship Notes, a quarterly publication that showcases the learning journeys and professional experiences of interns. Released every three months, the Internship Notes highlight interns' key learnings, contributions, and hands-on exposure to incubation activities, stakeholder engagement, program implementation, and various initiatives supporting the agri-startup ecosystem.

The Internship Notes serve as a platform for interns to share their experiences, achievements, and professional growth while inspiring future participants. Through this initiative, MANAGE-CIA continues to promote experiential learning, capacity building, and the development of young professionals committed to strengthening India's agri-startup ecosystem.

RIC Screening of AOP & SOP Cohort 8 Applicants of ABIS, TBI-TNAU

Under the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (PM-RKVY) Scheme, MANAGE-CIA continued to facilitate the screening and evaluation of aspiring agri-startups through the RAFTAAR Agribusiness Incubation Committee (RIC).

The first RIC screening of AOP Cohort 8 applicants was conducted physically on 2nd June 2026 at TBI, TNAU, Coimbatore, in the presence of the RIC members, with 31 applicants participating. This was followed by the first RIC screening of SOP Cohort 8 applicants on 3rd June 2026 at the same venue, with 26 applicants participating. The screening process focused on evaluating innovative ideas and assessing their potential for further mentoring, incubation, and development into sustainable and scalable agribusiness ventures.



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Agri-Startup Stakeholders Connect | Fostering Collaboration & Partnerships

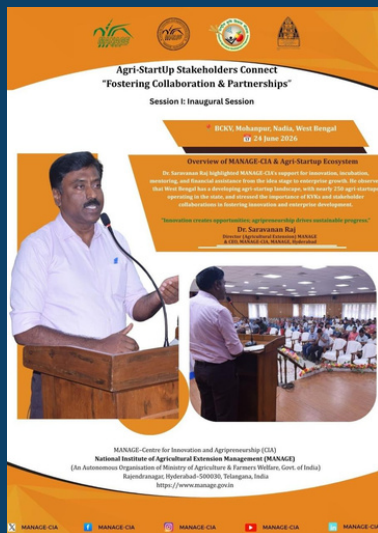
During June 2026, MANAGE-CIA organised the Agri-Startup Stakeholders Connect –“Fostering Collaboration & Partnerships” at BCKV, Mohanpur, Nadia, West Bengal, on 24 June 2026.



The programme brought together agri-startups, academia, financial institutions, extension agencies, entrepreneurs, and other stakeholders to facilitate knowledge exchange and collaboration for strengthening the agricultural innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem.

The inaugural session featured Dr. Kalyan Chakraborti, Hon'ble Minister, Government of West Bengal, who highlighted the importance of innovation, value addition, branding, and market positioning in transforming agriculture. He encouraged agri-startups to develop locally relevant and sustainable solutions to address rural challenges, strengthen livelihoods, and create new opportunities for farmers. He also emphasized stronger collaboration among government, academia, and startups and assured continued support for promoting agri-innovation and rural development.

The program featured startup pitching, an exhibition, networking sessions, and stakeholder interactions, providing participating startups with an opportunity to present their innovative products, technologies, and business solutions. The showcased innovations covered diverse areas of the agricultural and allied sectors, including precision agriculture, sustainable farming, circular bioeconomy, agri-processing, quality seed production, farm-to-market solutions, regenerative agriculture, cold-chain management, digital agriculture, and AI- and IoT-enabled technologies.

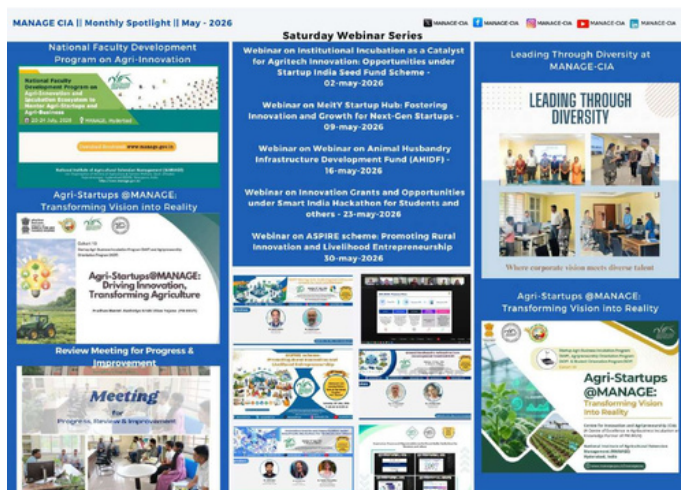
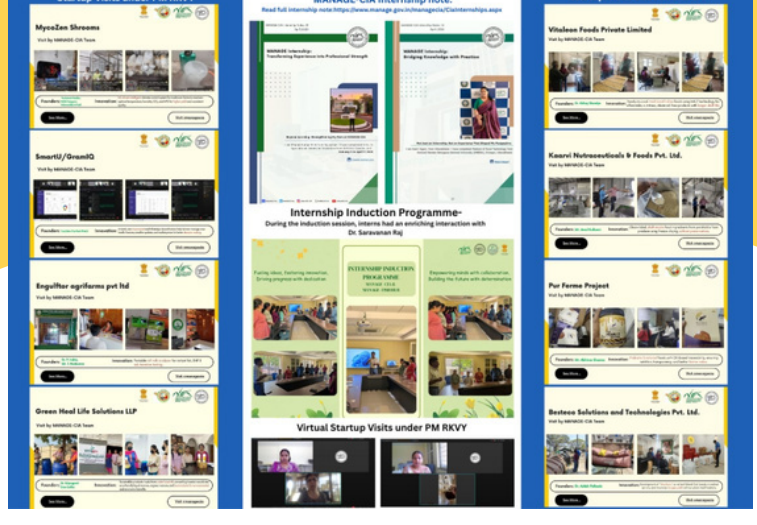
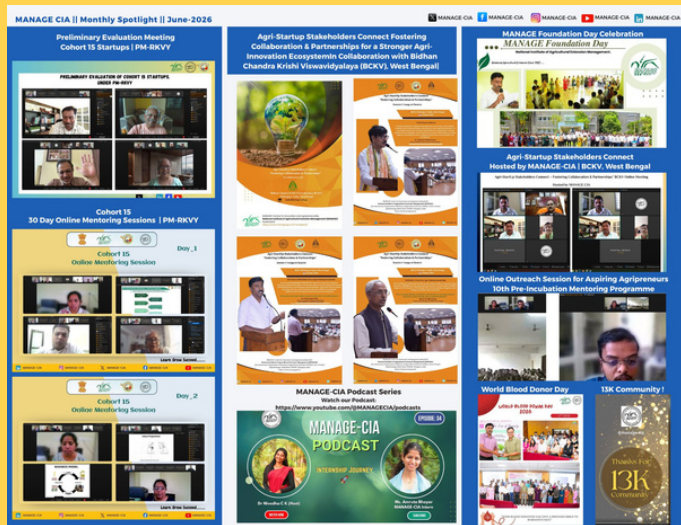
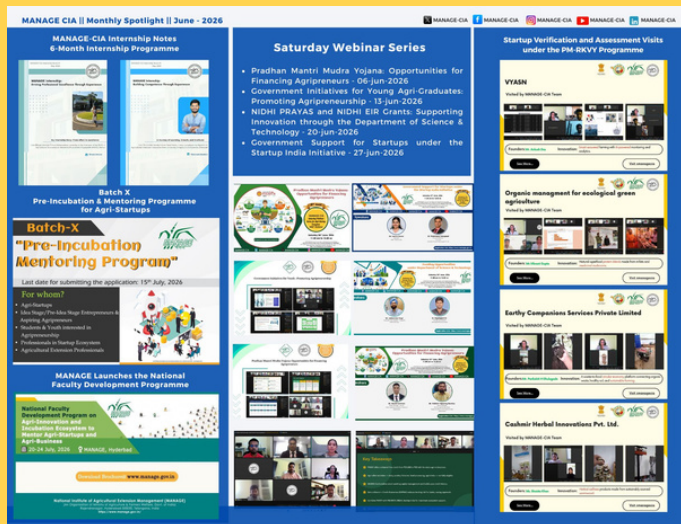


The Startups Exhibition and Networking Session provided a valuable platform for startups and stakeholders to showcase innovative solutions, exchange knowledge, explore business opportunities, and develop potential partnerships. The interactions focused on strengthening linkages across the agricultural value chain and highlighted the role of agri-startups in addressing key challenges related to sustainable agriculture, climate resilience, technology adoption, market access, post-harvest management, and rural development. The session also encouraged greater collaboration among startups, academia, government institutions, financial organisations, extension agencies, and farmers.

<https://www.manage.gov.in/managecia/AgriStartupSH.aspx>



A Snapshot of Key Achievements



MANAGE-CIA continued publishing its Monthly Spotlight for April, May, and June 2026, showcasing key programmes, webinars, startup activities, stakeholder engagements, and institutional achievements. Released every month, the publication highlighted the Centre's ongoing initiatives and served as an effective platform for sharing updates, success stories, and developments within the agri-startup ecosystem. The April, May, and June editions collectively captured the major milestones and accomplishments of MANAGE-CIA during the quarter.

<https://www.manage.gov.in/managecia/MonthlySpotlights.aspx>

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