

Newsletter

“Center for Gender in Agriculture, Nutritional Security and Urban Agriculture”

(CGANSUA Insights)



Highlights

- Community Engagement activities at the second edition of Udyan Utsav in Rashtrapati Nilayam, Secunderabad
- International Workshop on “Accelerating Dialogue for Impactful Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture (NSA) Ecosystem: Building Resilient”
- Training on “Gender Sensitization for Gender Thematic Champions: Towards Women Empowerment”
- National Consultation on Gender, Climate and Agriculture: Building Sustainable Agri Value Chains for Empowering Women
- Participation in the 1st National Workshop on Sustainable Agriculture & Agribusiness Development
- Exploring the Role of AI in Advancing Sustainable Development
- Celebrating International Women’s Day 2026: “Give to Gain”
- Awareness Session on POSH Act, 2013
- Internship
- Training Programs
- Webinar





Community Engagement activities at the second edition of Udyan Utsav in Rashtrapati Nilayam, Bolarum, Secunderabad (January 3 to January 11, 2026)

The Centre for Gender in Agriculture organised a series of community engagement activities for school-going children, youth, and visitors during Udyan Utsav 2.0 at Rashtrapati Nilayam, held from January 3 to January 11, 2026. The event showcased the enchanting beauty of blossoms and the vibrant spirit of lush greenery.

A variety of interactive and creative activities were conducted, including a Green Wall Pledge, seed ball preparation demonstrations, soya wax and candle-making, pottery wheel sessions, flower arrangement, knitting, vegetable carving, quiz competitions, games, extempore speeches, poem recitation, and a fancy dress competition themed around vegetables and flowers. The initiative encouraged environmental awareness, creativity, and active community participation among visitors of all age groups.

International Workshop on “Accelerating Dialogue for Impactful Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture (NSA) Ecosystem: Building Resilient”

The National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management successfully organized an International Workshop on “Accelerating Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture through Institutional Capacities and Partnerships” in collaboration with renowned global organizations, including Food and Agriculture Organization, International Rice Research Institute, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition, and International Food Policy Research Institute.

The workshop served as a vibrant platform for knowledge exchange and collaborative dialogue, bringing together policymakers, researchers, development practitioners, and institutional leaders from across sectors. Through engaging panel discussions and technical presentations, participating organizations showcased innovative initiatives and best practices aimed at advancing nutrition-sensitive agriculture.

A key theme that emerged throughout the workshop was the importance of adopting integrated and systems-based approaches to improve nutrition outcomes. Speakers emphasized the need to move beyond traditional sectoral boundaries and strengthen linkages among agriculture, nutrition, health, and social systems to create sustainable and scalable impact.



The workshop highlighted the significance of multi-sectoral collaboration and collective action in translating knowledge into meaningful practices. It provided valuable opportunities for stakeholders to move from dialogue to action, contributing towards resilient, inclusive, and nutrition-secure food systems for sustainable development.

Capacity Building of “Gender Champions for Effective Gender-Focused Interventions”

Capacity building of Gender Champions and Field Facilitators is a critical prerequisite for successfully implementing gender-focused interventions and projects. Strengthening their knowledge and skills ensures that gender considerations are effectively integrated into program design and execution.

The National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE) organized a three-day intensive training program for Thematic Gender Champions associated with the Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) from various states across India. The training aimed to equip participants with practical, hands-on experience in applying relevant gender tools and techniques.

Key areas covered during the training included:

- Identification of gender-based barriers and enablers
- Development of measurable gender indicators
- Use of participatory-monitoring tools
- Contextualization of gender indicators at the grassroots level
- Strategies for engaging men in gender interventions
- Designing gender-responsive interventions

The program also provided a valuable platform for cross-learning and knowledge exchange, enabling participants to share field experiences and gain deeper insights into grassroots gender issues in cotton farming systems.

Continuous capacity building of field functionaries and project teams remains central to driving meaningful and sustainable impact in gender-focused initiatives. Strengthening these capacities not only enhances program effectiveness but also contributes to more inclusive and equitable agricultural development.



National Consultation on Gender, Climate and Agriculture: Building Sustainable Agri Value Chains for Empowering Women, New Delhi

Dr Veenita Kumari participated in the National Consultation on “Gender, Climate and Agriculture: Building Sustainable Agri Value Chains for Empowering Women,” organized by the Foundation for World-Wide Cooperation (FWWB) on 12 February 2026 at New Delhi. The consultation focused on strengthening gender-responsive and climate-resilient agricultural value chains, innovative financing mechanisms, and women’s empowerment in agriculture, providing valuable insights into emerging policies and sustainable agricultural development.

Participation in the 1st National Workshop on “Sustainable Agriculture & Agribusiness Development”



Dr. Veenita Kumari attended the 1st National Workshop on “Sustainable Agriculture & Agribusiness Development,” held at Dharamshala from 24–26 February 2026. Organized by the Department of Agriculture, Himachal Pradesh, in collaboration with JICA, the workshop focused on the Himachal Pradesh Crop Diversification Promotion Project Phase II, which supports sustainable agriculture and agribusiness development across the state.

Dr. Kumari delivered a keynote address on “Startup Ecosystem in Agriculture (Incubators and Accelerators),” emphasizing the role of innovation, entrepreneurship, and incubation support in advancing agribusiness growth. Her participation highlighted the importance of collaborative partnerships and institutional support in promoting agricultural transformation and improving farmers’ livelihoods.



Exploring the Role of AI in Advancing Sustainable Development

Dr. Veenita Kumari actively participated in key national platforms highlighting the transformative role of artificial intelligence (AI) across sectors.

The India AI Impact Summit, a flagship global gathering hosted in New Delhi on 21st February 2026, underscored how AI is increasingly shaping innovation, governance, and development outcomes. The summit brought together global experts, policymakers, and practitioners to deliberate on AI-driven solutions for inclusive growth.

Building on these insights, Dr. Kumari participated as a keynote speaker in the national seminar on “AI in Research: A Catalyst for Sustainable Development Goals and Innovation in Home Science, organized by SM Patel College of Home Science at Anand on 10th March. During the seminar, she delivered an insightful keynote on “Human-Centred AI in Home Science for



Accelerating Sustainable Development through Research, Innovation, and Ethical Responsibility.” Her address emphasized the importance of integrating AI with human values, ethical considerations, and domain-specific knowledge to achieve sustainable and inclusive development outcomes.

Her participation reflects the growing importance of AI-driven, human-centered approaches in advancing research, innovation, and sustainable development goals.

Celebrating International Women’s Day 2026: “Give to Gain”

Women’s Day 2026 was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Choller Village, highlighting the strength, resilience, and empowerment of rural women. Organized around the theme “Give to Gain,” the event emphasized the transformative power of shared knowledge, leadership, and collective action in building inclusive and sustainable communities.



- Dr. Veenita Kumari emphasised utilising opportunities and resources for women’s empowerment.
- Chinna Mamatha encouraged women to access government schemes and achieve self-reliance.
- Madhu Manjari shared insights on digital literacy and gender-responsive agricultural advisory tools.
- Dr. Naresh Kethavath and Ms. Lakshmi Kameswari created awareness about Bharat Vistaar-AI for strengthening agricultural services and outreach.

The celebration served as a meaningful reminder to continue embracing the spirit of “Give to Gain,” where empowerment grows stronger through sharing, collaboration, and collective progress



Awareness Session on POSH Act, 2013

Center for Gender Studies organised an awareness session on the Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal Act, 2013 (SH Act 2013) for faculty members, employees, and students. The session was conducted on March 18, 2026. The initiative aimed to create awareness about workplace safety, prevention of sexual harassment, and mechanisms for redressal. Directors and Centre Heads encouraged active participation from employees across various centres to promote a safe, respectful, and inclusive work environment.



Empowering Future Agricultural Leaders: Internship at the CGANSUA

The centre recently hosted four students from the College of Community Science, Central Agricultural University, Tura, Meghalaya, for a two-month internship program. The internship aimed to provide exposure and deepen understanding of key agricultural schemes and gender-inclusive development initiatives. During the internship, the students actively engaged in research, analysis, and awareness-building activities on the following themes:



- Gendered Impacts of Climate Variability on Agricultural Livelihoods: Assessing Differential Vulnerability and Adaptive Capacity of Women Farmers in India
- Gender disparity in agricultural wage rates and employment patterns
- Impact of women's control over income on child nutritional outcomes in India: Evidence from NFHS-5
- Digital Agriculture and Gender Divide



Training Program

The Centre for Gender Studies conducted the online training program on “Improving Nutrition through Home Gardening” March 25, 2026 to March 27, 2026.

Webinars

The Centre for Gender in Agriculture conducted the following webinar on ECHO platform:

1. Strategies for Promoting Biofortification and Biofortified Products on January 29, 2026.
2. Role of Women Para-Extension Workers in Agriculture on February 18, 2026.
3. Integrated Farming System: A Pathway to Ensuring Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture on March 03, 2026.

Editorial Team

Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Sagar Hanuman Singh, IPoS
Director General
MANAGE

Chief Editor

Dr Veenita Kumari,
Deputy Director
Centre for Gender Studies

Associate Editors

Ms. Pragati Shukla, Consultant
Dr. K Naresh, Academic Associate
Centre for Gender Studies

