

FROM THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION MANAGEMENT (MANAGE)
(An Autonomous Organization of Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India)

The 30th Meeting of the Academic Committee of MANAGE



The 30th Meeting of the Academic Committee of MANAGE was held on 17th March at MANAGE, Hyderabad in hybrid mode. Dr. Sagar Hanuman Singh, IPoS, Director General, MANAGE and Chairman of the Academic Committee chaired the Meeting. A total of 22 Members attended the meeting. Members from MANAGE Faculty have participated physically whereas Dr. Avinash Lavania, Director (Extension), from Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India and other distinguished external members from NITI Aayog, IIM, SAU, EEI and other eminent academicians attended the Meeting virtually.

Dr. Sagar Hanuman Singh, IPoS, Director General, MANAGE and Chairman of the Academic Committee, in his welcome remarks, appreciated the participation of the members and highlighted the progress made by MANAGE. He noted that the Institute conducted 300 training programs covering 30,775 participants against the target of 374 programs as on 28 February 2026. He also mentioned that MANAGE successfully organized five ITEC programs, training 122 participants from more than 30 countries. The Chairman emphasized the need to enhance the quality and

impact of physical training programs and to align training initiatives with Government policies and national priorities. He thanked the members and Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, GoI for their support to MANAGE.

The Committee has adopted the proceeding of the 29th Meeting of the Academic Committee of MANAGE held on 11th March 2025 at MANAGE and approved the action taken report. The Academic Committee, after a review of the proposed training programs and research studies, approved a total of 283 training programs and three research studies for the year 2026-27. The members provided several valuable suggestions, including cluster-based planning for improved outreach, introduction of Management Development Programs (MDPs), strengthening impact assessment mechanisms, promoting digital agriculture and AI-based advisory systems, and enhancing collaboration with national institutions. Dr. Shalendra, Director (AM) coordinated the meeting as a member secretary.

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MANAGE organized a two-day National Workshop on Reimagining India's Agri-Incubation Ecosystem: Innovations, Good Practices and Future Pathways



MANAGE organized a two-day **National Workshop on Reimagining India's Agri-Incubation Ecosystem: Innovations, Good Practices and Future Pathways** during 02–03 March 2026.

Led by Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship (MANAGE-CIA), the workshop brings together 60 representatives from RKVY-RAFTAAR Agri Business Incubators and key Agri-Startup ecosystem enablers from across the country.

The sessions focus on strengthening India's agri-incubation ecosystem through: Sharing best practices in incubation, Building stronger industry & investor linkages, Developing performance assessment frameworks, Creating a future-ready roadmap for sustainable Agri-Startup growth and Build sustainable, impact-driven incubation models

Together, we are shaping the next phase of innovation-driven agricultural transformation in India.

A Capacity Building Programme for Incubation Teams will be conducted to enhance managerial, technical, and mentoring competencies—ensuring that incubators are better equipped to support agri-startups in a dynamic and competitive environment.



A National Workshop will be organized annually to connect agribusiness incubators across the country, fostering collaboration, experience sharing, partnerships, and a stronger national incubation network and concludes with a valedictory session and certificate distribution.

Program Coordinator: Dr. Saravanan Raj Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE & CEO, Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship, MANAGE. With support from his team.



The valedictory session was graced Dr.Saravanan Raj Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE & CEO, Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship, MANAGE. In his Valedictory address, A Compendium of Good Practices of Agribusiness Incubators will be prepared and shared with incubators to document successful models, innovative approaches, and actionable insights. This collective knowledge resource will support learning, replication, and continuous improvement across incubation centres.



MANAGE participated in the Post Budget Webinar on “Agriculture and Rural Transformation” organized by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, GoI



National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad, participated in the **Post Budget Webinar on “Agriculture and Rural Transformation”** organized by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India on 6th March 2026.

Faculty, officers, staff, contractual Staff, project teams and students of MANAGE attended the webinar, which commenced with the virtual inaugural address by the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India, followed by discussions on different themes.

Webinar Sessions:

- Bharat Vistaar – AI Powered Digital Public Infrastructure for Agriculture
- Coconut Promotion Scheme
- National Cashew & Cocoa Development Programme
- Future Strategies for Almond, Walnut & Pine Nut (Chilgoza)
- Agroforestry Promotion of Sandalwood & Agarwood

The event facilitated discussion with stakeholders to strengthen agriculture by effective implementation of policy provisions of the Government.



International Women's Day 2026 Celebration – “Give to Gain”



MANAGE and CABI–PlantwisePlus jointly organized the International Women's Day Celebration 2026 with the theme “Give to Gain” at Choller Village, Yadagirigutta Mandal, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District, Telangana in collaboration with Ageevee Farmers Producers Company Ltd.

A total of 65 women farmers from Choller village actively participated in the program, making the event vibrant and impactful.

The program began with introductory remarks by Dr. Veenita Kumari, Deputy Director – Centre for Gender Studies, MANAGE. In her address, she highlighted the importance of celebrating International Women's Day and emphasized that women should effectively utilize the resources and opportunities provided by the Government to empower themselves and improve their livelihoods.

Ms. Chinna Mamatha, President of Choller Village, attended the program as the Guest of Honour. In her speech, she encouraged women to actively benefit from various government schemes and initiatives, and to take steps towards self-reliance and empowerment.

Mrs Madhu Manjari, Agri-Digital Tools Coordinator (South Asia), PlantwisePlus – CABI, delivered an insightful session on Digital Literacy and skilling for Women Farmers, empowering participants with practical knowledge to improve their access to the right scientific information through gender-responsive digital advisory tools developed by CABI PlantwisePlus. She also shared the outcomes of work done in South Asian countries in this direction and plans to collaborate with the right partner to roll it out in India.

Dr. K. Naresh, Academic Associate (Gender Studies) created awareness on Bharat Vistara-AI – Digital Public Infrastructure for Agriculture, explaining how digital tools can support farmers with information, advisory services, and improved agricultural practices.

The program was attended by the entire team of the Centre for Gender in Agricultural, Nutritional Security & Urban Agriculture, MANAGE, along with Mrs. K. Aruna and Mr. K. Nimmaiah from the Peace Organization.

The event successfully promoted women's empowerment, digital awareness, and financial literacy, inspiring women farmers to “Give to Gain” and lead their communities towards sustainable development.



MANAGE organized a two-day “Fisheries Startup and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet” and National Policy Workshop on “Startups and Entrepreneurship in Fisheries”



The inaugural session was graced by Dr. Sagar Hanuman Singh, Director General, MANAGE, and Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE & CEO, MANAGE–MFish Hub.

In his inaugural address, Dr. Sagar Hanuman Singh, DG, MANAGE, he highlighted the export potential of fisheries and aquaculture products, noting India’s growing presence in the global seafood market. He emphasized the vast opportunities in the fisheries sector, the importance of sustainable development, and the need to encourage entrepreneurship and innovation to fully realize the sector’s potential.

Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE & CEO, MANAGE–MFish Hub. Welcomed the participants and provided an overview of MANAGE initiatives aimed at strengthening agricultural and fisheries extension systems through capacity building, policy support, and entrepreneurship development. He also highlighted the role of MANAGE–CIA (Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship) in supporting agribusiness startups and introduced MANAGE–FISHub, a specialized initiative promoting fisheries startups and aquapreneurship.

Program Director: Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE & CEO, MANAGE–MFish Hub, with the support of the his team.

MANAGE organized a two-day Workshop on “Fisheries Startup and Aquapreneurship Stakeholders Meet” and National Policy Workshop on “Startups and Entrepreneurship in Fisheries” during 16–17 March 2026.

The event serves as a national platform bringing together fisheries startups, aquapreneurs, policymakers, researchers, and ecosystem leaders to share entrepreneurial experiences, explore opportunities, and strengthen the fisheries startup ecosystem in India. The program includes a Stakeholders’ Meet, Startup Pitching Session, and a National Policy Workshop focused on promoting innovation and entrepreneurship in the fisheries sector.



An Awareness Program on “Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal Act, 2013 (POSH Act 2013)

MANAGE successfully conducted an Awareness Program on “Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal Act, 2013 (PoSH Act 2013)” on 18th March 2026.

and mechanisms for prevention and redressal of sexual harassment



The session aimed to enhance awareness among faculty and staff (regular and contractual) about workplace safety, rights,

Faculty members, officers, and staff actively participated in the session, reaffirming MANAGE’s commitment to fostering a safe, inclusive, and respectful workplace environment.



MANAGE Saturday Webinars



The webinars, organized by Dr. Saravanan Raj, Director (Agricultural Extension), MANAGE with the assistance of Dr. Rahalya S, MANAGE Fellow

MANAGE organised Webinar on **“Securing Angel & Institutional Funding for Agri-Startups from an Angle Investors Perspective”** on Saturday, March 07, 2026, from 11.00 am to 12.00 noon. The session was conducted as part of the 6th Year of Collaborations and Partnerships initiative by the MANAGE–Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship (CIA). The webinar featured Mr. Emmanuel Murray, Investment Director, Caspian and Mr. Rathnakar, CEO&Invest ment ., as the key speakers.

To register/watch the webinar, click on the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bnjR2u7S7lo&list=PLMoIyYCsZp8RQ1o3qW4kLUBX_9Ygpkdn&index=5



MANAGE organised Webinar on **“How to Apply for Government Grants and Subsidies for Agri-Startups”** on Saturday, March 14, 2026, from 11.00 am to 12.00 noon. The session was conducted as part of the 6th Year of Collaborations and Partnerships initiative by the MANAGE–Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship (CIA). The webinar featured Mr. Amit Kale, Manager, IILM University and Mr. Ravi Verhwani, Associate, Startup India, DPIIT., as the key speakers. The discussion focused on Discover how agri-startups can access government grants, subsidies, and financial support schemes to scale their innovations. Learn about application processes, eligibility criteria, and strategies to successfully secure public funding.

To register/watch the webinar, click on the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2wMHZzW3kPY&list=PLMo-iyYCsZp8RQ1o3qW4kLUBX_9Ygpkdn&index=4



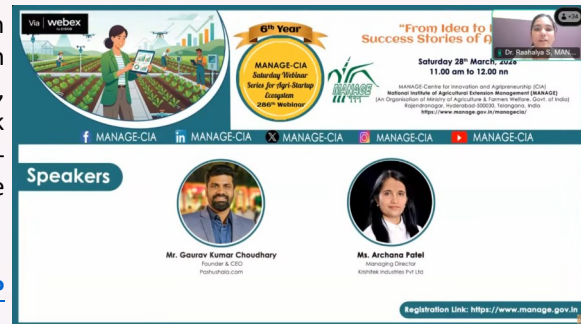
MANAGE organised Webinar on **“Government Policies and Programs Supporting Agri-Tech Growth ”** on Saturday, March 21, 2026, from 11.00 am to 12.00 noon. The session was conducted as part of the 6th Year of Collaborations and Partnerships initiative by the MANAGE–Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship (CIA). The webinar featured Mr. Subhash Kiran, Program Director, GAME and Mr. Yaseen Shareef Shaik, Advisor, Whitespaces.

To register/watch the webinar, click on the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pAHGdF-gC24&list=PLMo-iyYCsZp8RQ1o3qW4kLUBX_9Ygpkdn&index=3



MANAGE organised Webinar on **“From Idea to Impact: Success Stories of Agri-Startups”** on Saturday, March 28, 2026, from 11.00 am to 12.00 noon. The session was conducted as part of the 6th Year initiative by the MANAGE–Centre for Innovation and Agripreneurship (CIA). The webinar featured Mr. Gaurav Kumar Choudhary, Founder & CEO Pashushala.com and Ms. Archana Patel, Managing Director, Krishitek Industries Pvt. Ltd. as the key speakers. The discussion focused on Learn how entrepreneurs are leveraging technology, overcoming challenges, and creating sustainable solutions in agriculture.

To register/watch the webinar, click on the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DS0xEU73CaA&list=PLMo-iyYCsZp8RQ1o3qW4kLUBX_9Ygpkdn&index=2



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