



AAAS National Conference

on

Transformative Approaches and Smart Technology in Plant & Animal Health for Sustainable & Climate-Ready Agriculture

September 18-19, 2025

Organized by

Department of Plant Pathology, Palli Siksha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati Academy for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (AAAS), Kalyani



Venue: Palli Siksha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati

ABOUT SRINIKETAN

The Institute of Rural Reconstruction was founded in 1922 at Surul at a distance of about three kilometers from Santiniketan. It was formally inaugurated on February 6, 1922 with Leonard Elmhirst as its first Director. Thus, the second but contiguous campus of Visva-Bharati came to be located in 1923 at a site which assumed the name of Sriniketan. The chief object was to help villagers and people to solve their own problems instead of a solution being imposed on them from outside.

In consonance with the ideas about reconstruction of village life, a new type of school meant mainly for the children of neighboring villages who would eventually bring the offering of their acquired knowledge for the welfare of the village community was also conceived. This school, Siksha-Satra, was started in Santiniketan in 1924 but was shifted to Sriniketan in 1927. The Lok-Siksha Samsad, an organization for the propagation of nonformal education amongst those who had no access to usual educational opportunities, was started in 1936. Siksha-Charcha for training village school teachers followed next year.

ABOUT PALLI SIKSHA BHAVANA, VISVA-BHARATI

Visva-Bharati, founded by the first non-European Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Thākur (popularly known as Tagore) in 1921, in Santiniketan, is a renowned center of learning that blends the best of Eastern and Western educational traditions. In May 1951, Visva-Bharati was declared to be a Central University and "An Institution of National Importance" by an Act of Parliament. It was granted the status of a unitary, teaching and residential university. The President of India is the Paridarsaka (Visitor) of the University, the Governor of West Bengal is the Pradhana (Rector), and the Prime Minister of India acts as the Acharya (Chancellor). The President of India appoints the Upacharya (Vice-chancellor) of the University. In 2023, it was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site (Living Heritage), recognizing its unique cultural, historical, and educational significance. The university emphasizes holistic education, creativity, and a close connection with nature. Its open-air classes, art schools, and festivals reflect Tagore's vision of learning beyond conventional boundaries. Visva-Bharati continues to be a symbol of India's intellectual and artistic heritage. Palli Siksha Bhavana (Institute of Agriculture) is one of the premier institutes under Visva-Bharati University, founded on Rabindranath Tagore's vision of rural reconstruction and sustainable development. Established in 1963 at Sriniketan, it offers undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs in various agricultural sciences. The institute integrates academic excellence with field-based learning, promoting eco-friendly and socially relevant agricultural practices. With a focus on rural upliftment, Palli Siksha Bhavana plays a key role in advancing agricultural education and innovation in eastern India.

ABOUT THE ACADEMY FOR ADVANCEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES (AAAS)

The Academy for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (AAAS) was founded on January 12, 2022 with HQ at Kalyani registered under the West Bengal Societies Registration Act (Reg. No. S0030438-2022-2023). AAAS is a common platform for the biologists to interact with each other for mutual benefit and to further the knowledge on areas of the advancement in agricultural sciences in India with special emphasis given to the economy in marginal

farmers in Eastern India with the following mission: To promote and cultivate the recent advances in applied biological sciences; Agriculture, Animal sciences, Aquaculture, Forestry and other disciplines in Agricultural Sciences; facilitate interaction between agricultural scientists for mutual benefits in research, education and transfer of technology to enhance the rural economy, especially for the marginal farmers; promote scientific and technological research related to the problems of societal and agro-industrial welfare; address the important issues like conservation of soil, water, animals, forest, and climate change and environment; To focus more on Biotechnology for enhancement of agricultural improvement; make easy to technology transfer to the marginal farmers and other clients of benefactors, industries performing improvement in agriculture; organize meetings, hold discussions on scientific and technological problems; co-operate with other Indian and International organizations having similar objects by appointing representatives of the Academy to act on.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

In last three decades the education and research on Plant Pathology have undergone several changes and also with the elaborate extension systems. The farming community can easily communicate their problems to the scientists but the economical measures are still beyond the expectations of the growers. The new and emerging dimensions of technologies in different field of agriculture, Plant disease management have also compelled the extension personnel to make a striking balance between traditional technology, indigenous technology and use of agrochemicals. Despite many achievements in Indian agriculture the plights of farmers are not over and farmers' suicide is now reached the alarming proportion to the technology driven yet cash-starved, debt-ridden farmers. The integration of all agricultural advanced technologies, plant pathological research with the main focus of developing suitable eco-friendly, sustainable packages for maximize the crop production followed by proper disease management is the ultimate goal for which other disciplines is thus imminent. Under this background and shift in paradigms of production technology, the present conference is thus devoted to "Transformative Approaches and Smart Technology in Plant & Animal Health for Sustainable & Climate-Ready Agriculture".

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Abstract submission & Registration (opening date) : July 15, 2025

Abstract submission (closing date) : September 05, 2025

Early-Bird Registration (closing date) : August 31, 2025



THEMES OF THE CONFERENCE

- 1. Natural Resource Management (NRM): Agro-meteorology, Crop Production, Organic & Natural Farming, Conservation & Organic Agriculture, Farming System, Weed Management, Nutrient Management, Soil & Water Conservation, Environmental Science, Fertilizer Chemistry, Soil Fertility, Micro & Macro Nutrient, Climate-Resilient Strategies for Sustainable Crop
- 2. Crop Science and Crop Production (CSCP): Genetics & Genomics, Plant Breeding, Plant Genetic Resources, Crop Production, Plant Physiology & Biochemistry, Seed Technology and Post-Harvest Technologies, Agro-Biodiversity, Biological Natural Resource Engineering, Molecular Biology & Biotechnology, Climate Change, Next-Generation Biocontrol and Biosecurity Measures, Climate-Smart Pest and Disease Forecasting Models, Role of Microbiome and Probiotics in Enhancing Resilience of Crops
- 3. Crop Protection (CP): Organic & In Organic Chemicals, Pesticide, Bio-pesticide, Biological Control, Crop Health Management, Bio-Chemistry in relation to Crop Health, Integrated Pest & Disease Management (IPDM), Genetic Resistance & Nutrition, Climate Change Resilience, Climate-Resilient Strategies for Sustainable Crop Production, Innovations in Precision Agriculture and Digital Livestock Farming, Role of Microbiome and Probiotics in Crop Disease Management
- 4. Social Science, Agriculture Economics, Extension and Rural Development (SAERD): Farmer Centered Extension, Extension Practices, ITK & its use in Agricultural Development, Rural Economy, Economy in Crop Production & Crop Management, Agricultural Policies, Agricultural Business and Marketing., AI, IoT, and Remote Sensing Applications in Agroecosystem Health Monitoring
- 5. Veterinary, Poultry and Animal Sciences (VPAS): Diagnosis, Prevention, Treatment, and Control of Diseases in Animals, Animal Genetics & Breeding, Animal Nutrition, Animal Physiology, Animal Biochemistry and Biotechnology, Animal Production, Animal Reproduction, Animal Health, Animal Products Technology, Plant-Microbe-Animal Interactions in Climate Adaptation
- **6. Dairy Science, Nutrition and Home Science (DNHS):** Dairy Production and Management, Dairy Processing Technology, Quality Assurance and Food Safety, Dairy Product Development and Innovation, Market and Economic Trends, Trade Agreements, and Food Safety Regulations, Nutrition and Dietetics, Food Safety and Quality Assurance, Community Nutrition and Public Health, Human Development, Textile and Apparel Sciences.
- 7. Fisheries and Allied Sciences (FAS): Fish Genetics & Breeding, Fish Nutrition, Fish Pathology, Fish Biotechnology, Fish Biosystematics, Fish Processing &Technology, Fisheries Resource Management and Aquaculture, Livestock Production & Management, Poultry, Sericulture.
- 8. Horticultural Science (HS): Advances in Scientific Cultivation of Fruits, Vegetables, Flowers, Ornamentals, Spices & Plantation, Medicinal & Aromatic Plants, Tea-Husbandry & its impact on agricultural economy, Post-Harvest Management & Value Addition, Genetics and Plant Breeding, Plant Genetic Resources, Plant Biotechnology, Plant Physiology & Biochemistry, Seed Technology and Post-Harvest Technologies for all Horticultural Crops.
- 9. Forestry and Forest Management (FFM): Management, Ecology and Biodiversity, Conservation and Restoration, Policy, Governance, Economics and Resource Valuation in Forestry; Forest Health and Pest Management, Forest Technology, Climate Change and its Impact in Forestry, Emerging Issues in Forestry, Genetics and Tree Breeding & Management, Forest Protection, Agro forestry, Environment, Soil and Water Relations.
- **10.** Agricultural Engineering and Technology (AET): Farm Machinery & Power, Green Technologies in Sustainable Agriculture, Soil and Water Engineering, Agricultural Process Engineering, Value Addition and Post-Harvest Technology, Food Technology, Textile Technology and Computer Application in Agriculture.
- 11. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in Agriculture: Safeguarding agricultural innovations, including plant varieties, biotechnology, and indigenous knowledge. Creation of awareness about legal frameworks, farmers' rights, and the role of IPR in fostering innovation and sustainable growth in the agricultural sector.

REGISTRATION AND ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The registration and abstract submission is to be submitted through online mode only on the AAAS website https://www.aaasindia.org/conference.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Abstract (250 words excluding, title, name and affiliation) should be prepared in MS Word, Times New Roman, 12 font size, 1.5 spacing and to be submitted through online mode only (https://www.aaasindia.org/conference). Please contact the Conference Secretariat (academyaaas@gmail.com) if you don't receive confirmation about the receipt of your abstract within 10 days. Abstracts will be printed only after receiving the registration fee. Please underline the name of the presenter and mention the email ID of the presenting author.

REGISTRATION FEE

The seminar will be open for registered delegates. The details of the registration fee are given below. The online Registration Form is available on the AAAS website (https://www.aaasindia.org/conference) for registration and abstract(s) submission.

Delegate Type	Early Bird Registration (July 15-Aug. 31, 2025)	Late Registration (Sept. 01-18, 2025)
Scientist / Faculty / Govt. officials & AAAS member	INR 3000.00	INR 3500.00
Research Scholar	INR 1500.00	INR 1800.00
Student	INR 1000.00	INR 1200.00
Corporate	INR 4000.00	INR 4500.00
Combo offer (Life member of AAAS & Registration fee)	INR 4500.00	INR 5000.00



The registration fee can be made via net banking (NEFT) as well through UPI (QR Code given below):

Account Information - 1:

Name of the Account Holder : Academy for Advancement of

Agricultural Sciences

Name of the Bank : Bank of India

Branch Name : Kalyani, West Bengal-741235

Account Number : 422210210000010

RTGS/NEFT/IFS Code : BKID0004222



Account Information - 2:

The registration fee, sponsorship and other payments can also be made **online through SBI Collect Module under State Bank of India.**

Guidelines to send money through SBI Collect Module:

Step 1: Please type https://www.onlinesbi.sbi/sbicollect/icollecthome.htm

Step 2: Select Category as "Educational Institutions"

Step 3: Search and select "VISVA BHARATI UNIVERSITY"

Step 4: Select Payment Category "Misc Receipt"

Step 5: Fill up all details in CAPITAL and Select Purpose of Deposit "Other"

Step 6: Type at Remarks in CAPITAL "PLANT PATHOLOGY CONFERENCE ON TRANSFORMATIVE

APPROACHES AND SMART TECHNOLOGY AGRICULTURE"

Step 7: Take print out/save pdf of payment receipt and send us to plantpathologyvb@gmail.com

HOW TO REACH PALLI SIKSHA BHAVANA, VISVA-BHARATI

To reach the destination there are several travel options depending on your starting point.

By Air: The nearest airport to PSB, Visva-Bharati is Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport, Kolkata. The Airport (CCU), is about 162 kilometers away. You can hire a taxi or rent a car from the airport to PSB, Visva-Bharati, Sriniketan. The journey takes approximately 3 hours 30 minutes. You can use the alternative airport, Kaji Nazrul Islam Airport, Andal, is about 75 km from the venue and takes approx. 1 hr 30 min.

By Rail: Train from anywhere of India to Howrah/Sealdah/Bardhman/Durgapur to Bolpur-Santiniketan.

AAAS AWARDS

1. Life Time Achievement Award 2. AAAS Fellowship

3. Associate Fellowships 4. Best Woman Scientist Award

Best Scientist Award
 Young Scientist Award

7. Best Ph.D. and M.Sc. students-competitive award

For Award categories 1 to 6, the biodata should be sent to the Secretary, AAAS at at academyaaas@gmail.com or Mobile: 9868796694 or through EC nomination.

The competition (Award category 7) will be held during the AAAS National Conference at PSB, Visva-Bharati. Interested candidates should submit an abstract (should be mentioned for the award competition when submitted at top left of the abstract) of their M.Sc./Ph.D. thesis and contact the Secretary, AAAS at the same contact details.

TOURIST PLACES TO EXPLORE

Besides Visva-Bharati-the living heritage that includes Upasana Griha, Patha-Bhavana, Rabindra Bhavana (Museum and Archive), Amrakunja, Uttarayan Complex, Kala Bhavana, and Silpa-Sadana-there are numerous other tourist attractions in the area.

Deer Park (Ballavpur Wildlife Sanctuary): Located a few kilometers from the university, this sanctuary is home to spotted deer, blackbucks, jackals, and numerous bird species. It's a peaceful retreat for nature lovers and bird watchers. Walking trails and watch towers make it ideal for eco-tourism. Early mornings and late afternoons are the best times to visit.

Srijani Shilpagram: This regional cultural center showcases traditional houses, crafts, and performances from eastern Indian states. Each tribal hut reflects the architecture and lifestyle of its native community. Visitors can buy handmade items, attend workshops, and enjoy folk performances. It's both educational and entertaining, especially during festivals.

Amar Kutir: Once a hub for freedom fighters, Amar Kutir is now a cooperative society promoting rural arts and crafts. Visitors can see artisans at work making leather goods, batik textiles, and kantha embroidery. The showroom offers a variety of handmade products. It supports local artisans and preserves traditional skills.

Saturday Haat (Khowai Mela): Held every Saturday afternoon under the shade of the Sonajhuri forest, this tribal market is a unique cultural experience. Local artisans sell jewelry, crafts, handloom, and organic produce. Baul singers and tribal dancers often perform, creating a vibrant, earthy atmosphere. It's an ideal spot to experience rural Bengal's charm.

Amkhoi Fossil Park: Located near Bolpur, Amkhoi Fossil Park showcases a rare collection of fossilized wood dating back 15–20 million years. The park provides an educational glimpse into the prehistoric vegetation of the region. Visitors can explore the open-air display and learn about ancient biodiversity. It is a unique geological heritage site in West Bengal.

Joydev-Kenduli: Joydev-Kenduli is a sacred village on the banks of the Ajay River, known as the birthplace of the 12th-century poet Jayadeva, composer of *Gita Govinda*. The village hosts the famous Kenduli Mela every January, celebrating Baul and Vaishnav musical traditions. It is a vibrant center of devotional and folk culture.

Kankalitala: Kankalitala is one of the Shakti Peethas, located about 9 km from Santiniketan. It is believed that the waist (kankal) of Goddess Sati fell here. Devotees visit the temple to offer prayers and take a holy dip in the adjoining river. The spiritual aura of the place draws pilgrims throughout the year.

Fullaratala: Situated in Labhpur, Fullaratala Temple is associated with the local deity Fullara, a manifestation of Goddess Durga. It is also considered a Shakti Peetha where Sati's lips are believed to have fallen. The temple is steeped in folk beliefs and is visited for blessings and spiritual solace.

Sruteswar Sibtala: Situated in Bolpur is a revered Shiva temple known for its historical connection with the Durga Puja initiated by the Surat Raja (King of Surat). The royal family traditionally organized the grand Durga Puja here, which remains a significant cultural and religious event in the region.

Tarasankar Bandyopadhyay-Hansuli Bank: Hansuli Bank, immortalized in Tarasankar Bandyopadhyay's novel *Hansuli Banker Upakatha*, lies by the Kopai River. The area reflects rural Bengal's life and struggle, as depicted in the author's literary works. A visit here connects literature lovers with the physical setting of iconic Bengali fiction.

Birthplace of Nityananda Mahaprabhu: Located in Ekachakra village in Birbhum, this is the revered birthplace of Nityananda Prabhu, a major figure in Gaudiya Vaishnavism and associate of Chaitanya Mahaprabhu. Pilgrims visit the ancient temple and sacred spots associated with his early life. The place radiates devotional energy and cultural richness.

Tarapith: Tarapith is one of the most prominent Shakti Peethas, dedicated to Goddess Tara, a fierce form of Kali. Located near Rampurhat, it is famous for tantric worship and the cremation ground rituals. The temple draws lakhs of devotees annually, especially during Kali Puja and Amavasya nights.

Bakreswar: Bakreswar is a famous pilgrimage and hot spring site located in Birbhum district. It is known for the ancient Bakreswar Temple dedicated to Lord Shiva, believed to be one of the 51 Shakti Peethas. The area features several natural hot springs, such as Agni Kunda and Surya Kunda, known for their therapeutic properties. Bakreswar attracts both devotees and tourists seeking spiritual solace and healing experiences.

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For further details, please contact:

Organizing Secretaries

Dr. Mohan Kumar Biswas (+91 9434191899), Dr. Kajal Kumar Biswas (+91 9868796694), and
Dr. Bholanath Mondal (+91 9475847310)

PSB, Visva-Bharati

Email: academyaaas@gmail.com website: https://www.aaasindia.org



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