



NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

Makhana: Unlocking India's Aquatic Superfood for Rural Prosperity

20 May 2025 | 09:30 – 17:30
Lemon Tree Premium, Patna, Bihar

AGENDA

09:00 – 09:30	Registration & Tea
09:30 – 10:20	INAUGURAL SESSION Chief Guest: Hon'ble Shri Vijay Kumar Sinha, Deputy Chief Minister, Government of Bihar Chairperson: Dr. Mangala Rai, Former Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) & Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
09:30 – 09:35	Welcome Address Dr. Anjani Kumar <i>Senior Research Fellow, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)</i>
09:35 – 09:45	Context Setting Dr. Shyam Narayan Jha <i>Founding President, Bihar Agricultural Science Academy (BASA)</i>
09:45 – 09:55	Remarks by Guest of Honor Dr. P K Joshi <i>President, Agricultural Economics Research Association (AERA), India</i>
09:55 – 10:05	Remarks by Guest of Honor Shri Sanjay Jha <i>Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha</i>
10:05 – 10:15	Remarks by Chief Guest Hon'ble Shri Vijay Kumar Sinha <i>Deputy Chief Minister, Government of Bihar</i>
10:15 – 10:25	Remarks by Chairperson Dr. Mangala Rai <i>Former Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) & Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)</i>
10:25 – 11:00	Group Photo & High-Tea



11:00 – 12:00	SESSION 1: MODERN PRODUCTION PRACTICES Co-Chairs: Dr. Dilip Kumar, Former Director & Vice Chancellor ICAR- Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE) Shri Anil Jha, Joint Secretary, Government of Bihar
11:00 – 11:10	Historical Perspective of Makhana Production and Consumption in India Dr. Vidya Nath Jha <i>Former Professor of Botany, Lalit Narayan Mithila University (LNMU)</i>
11:10 – 11:20	Makhana Production Practices Dr. Manoj Kumar <i>Senior Scientist, ICAR- National Research Centre for Makhana</i>
11:20 – 11:30	Discussants: Shri Rajeev Ranjan Jha <i>Chairman, Manigachimidas Farmer Producer Co. Ltd</i>
11:30 – 11:40	Dr. Archana Sinha <i>Head and Principal Scientist, ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (ICAR-CIFRI)</i>
11:40 – 11:50	Q & A Session
11:50 – 12:00	Remarks by the Chairs
12:00 – 13:00	SESSION 2: MAKHANA PROCESSING AND VALUE ADDITION Co-Chairs: Dr. D. C. Rai, Vice Chancellor, Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University Dr. Nachiket Kotwaliwale, Director, ICAR-Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana
12:00 – 12:10	Mechanization and Automation Dr. R K Vishwakarma <i>Principal Scientist, ICAR-Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology, Ludhiana</i>
12:10 – 12:20	Evolution of value-added products and health benefits of Makhana Dr. Mahesh Kumar Mummadi <i>Scientist-D, Clinical Epidemiology, Indian Council of Medical Research-National Institute of Nutrition (ICMR-NIN), Hyderabad</i>



12:20 – 12:40	Discussants Smt. Kavita Kannan Chandra <i>Freelance Journalist</i> Smt. Sonia Verma <i>Associate Professor, Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Dairy Technology (SGIDT)</i> Dr. Manesh Choubey <i>Head, Agricultural Economics, Sikkim University</i>
12:40 – 12:50	Q & A Session
12:50 – 13:00	Remarks by the Chairs
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00 – 15:00	SESSION 3: MARKETING, TRADE AND BRANDING Co-Chairs: Dr. Punyavrat Suvimalendu Pandey, Vice Chancellor, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University (RPCAU) Shri Sanjay Kumar Singh, Joint Secretary, Government of Bihar
14:00 – 14:10	From Bihar to World Markets: Creating the Ecosystem to Boost Makhana Exports Dr. Smita Sirohi <i>Principal Scientist, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)</i>
14:10 – 14:20	Traders' Perspectives on Makhana Exports Shri Manish Anand <i>Chief Executive Officer, Mithila Naturals, Madhubani</i>
14:20 – 14:40	Discussants Dr. Alka Singh <i>Head, Division of Agricultural Economics, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-IARI)</i> Dr. Nalini Ranjan Kumar <i>Principal Scientist, ICAR-National Institute of Agricultural Economics & Policy Research</i> Dr. Avinash Kishore <i>Senior Research Fellow, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)</i>
14:40 – 14:50	Q & A Session
14:50 – 15:00	Remarks by the Chairs
15:00 – 15:30	Tea Break



15:30 – 16:40	PANEL DISCUSSION: EXPERTS’ PERSPECTIVES ON THE PROPOSED MAKHANA BOARD Chairperson: Dr. P K Joshi, President, Agricultural Economics Research Association (AERA), India
15:30 – 16:20	Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. R M Joshi <i>Director & Vice Chancellor, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT)</i>• Shri Abhishek Dev <i>Chairman, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)</i>• Dr. P. K. Singh <i>Agriculture Commissioner, Department of Agriculture & Farmers’ Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers’ Welfare, Government of India</i>• Shri K.P.S. Kesari <i>President, Bihar Industry Association</i>• Smt. Anamika Panda <i>General Manager, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)</i>• Shri Abhishek Kumar <i>Director, Horticulture cum Managing Director, Bihar State Horticulture Mission/Bihar Fruit & Vegetable Development Corporation</i>• Shri Kaushalendra <i>Founder and Managing Trustee, Kaushalya Foundation</i>• Shri Binod Anand <i>Executive President, World Cooperative Economic Forum</i>
16:20 – 16:30	Q & A Session
16:30 – 16:40	Remarks by the Chair



16:40 – 17:00	CONCLUDING SESSION Co-Chairs: Dr. B. Rajender, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Bihar Shri Sanjay Agarwal, Principal Secretary, Agriculture, Government of Bihar
16:40 – 16:50	Key Takeaways from the Presentations Dr. Anjani Kumar <i>Senior Research Fellow, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)</i>
16:50 – 17:00	Closing Remarks by the Chairs
17:00 – 17:10	Vote of Thanks Dr. Girish Jha <i>Head, Division of Agricultural Bioinformatics, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (ICAR-IASRI)</i>
17:10 – 17:30	Evening Tea