

ICAR-CCRI hosted National Conference on Plant Pathology

Three days National Conference on "Emerging Issues and Sustainable Strategies in Plant Health Management: A Global Perspective," jointly organized by the Indian Phytopathological Society (IPS), New Delhi and ICAR-Central Citrus Research Institute (ICAR-CCRI), Nagpur, was successfully conducted during 19-21 January in Nagpur.

The inaugural program marked the start of this momentous event with the gracious presence of Hon'ble Shri Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Government of India, who was the Chief Guest for the occasion. Shri Gadkari delivered an inspiring speech, emphasizing the importance of sustainable agricultural practices and the role of plant health management in ensuring food security and environmental stability. He appreciated the efforts ICAR-CCRI for importing exotic citrus from USA. The event was presided over by Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary (DARE) and Director General (ICAR), who underscored the significance of innovative approaches in plant health management, highlighting the need for integrated strategies that address global challenges. He emphasized the importance of international cooperation, cutting-edge research, and industry-academia partnerships in tackling the challenges posed by plant diseases. He also received S.P. Raychaudhuri Memorial Award during programme and delivered the memorial award lecture.

Dr. Dilip Ghosh, President (IPS) and Director of ICAR-CCRI, offered the welcome address as Convenor, setting the tone for the conference. His remarks emphasized the critical role of research and collaboration in overcoming emerging plant health issues and achieving sustainable solutions. Dr. Ghosh extended a warm welcome to the distinguished speakers, participants, and delegates, reaffirming the importance of this conference in the global context of plant health management. Esteemed dignitaries Dr. C.D. Mayee, Former Chairman (ASRB), Dr. Ravi Khetarpal, Executive Director, APARI, Thailand; Dr. K.V. Subbarao, Distinguished Professor, University of California, USA, and Dr. R.G. Aggarwal, Founder Chairman of Dhanuka Group of Companies, also graced the event with their addresses. Each of these luminaries brought valuable insights from their respective areas of expertise.

The conference, with its theme focusing on sustainable plant health management, witnessed participation of over 300 national and international delegates, including renowned scientists, researchers, policymakers, and industry leaders. It is designed to facilitate engaging discussions on critical challenges, innovative strategies, and the role of new technologies in safeguarding global plant health. In addition to the Technical Sessions, the event also featured Synergy (Industry-Academia Interface), exploring the collaboration between research institutions and agro-industries, as well as Prospects (Career Opportunities for Students) to provide career guidance and inspire the next generation of plant health professionals. The conference also hosted Exhibition Stalls, showcasing cutting-edge technologies by various ICAR Institutes and agro-industries, further enhancing the scope and impact of the event.

This event is a significant milestone in advancing plant health management research and practices on a global scale, with a focus on sustainability and the need for collective action to ensure the resilience of crops and ecosystems worldwide.



Sh. Nitin Gadkari-ji, Dr. Himanshu Pathak & Dr. Dilip Ghosh in the Inauguration event



Release of Publication by Sh. Nitin Gadkariji, Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Dr. Dilip Ghosh & others