



KALINGA INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY
Deemed to be University U/S 3 of the UGC Act, 1956
SCHOOL OF RURAL MANAGEMENT

7TH NATIONAL AGRIBUSINESS KONCLAVE

**Nourishing Bharat: Sustainable Agribusiness
for Food & Nutrition Security.**

Cultivating climate-smart value chains —
from healthy farms to nourished plates.



5th September 2026



www.ksrm.ac.in





About the Konclave

The National Agribusiness Konclave is India's premier forum, bringing together policymakers, agripreneurs, researchers, industry leaders and students to deliberate on agriculture's pressing challenges and opportunities. In an era marked by climate change, this year's theme is "Nourishing Bharat: Sustainable Agribusiness for Food & Nutrition Security". The idea is simple: every solution should help farmers earn well, protect the planet and improve nutrition at the same time. It represents a single journey from healthy farms to nourished plates. The Konclave is a dynamic platform for knowledge-sharing, sparking vibrant dialogue and shaping future-ready policy pathways. It also offers inquisitive minds a valuable opportunity to interact with and be inspired by industry leaders.

The Theme

The world produces more than enough calories to feed everyone, yet hunger and poor nutrition persist. India reflects the same paradox: surplus foodgrain and sufficient calories, but diets that remain nutritionally poor. Further, India's agriculture is constrained by three hard limits already in force: a changing climate, degrading soils and shrinking water resources. The next leap is not merely to produce more, but to produce better sustainably and in ways that put nutritious food on every plate towards a Viksit, well-nourished Bharat by 2047.

Why this Conversation Matters

673 M

people faced hunger worldwide in 2024 (FAO SOFI 2025)



~30%

of all food produced is lost or wasted between farm and fork globally (FAO).



512 M

people globally may still be undernourished by 2030 on current trends (FAO/SOFI 2025)



35.5%

of under-five children in India are stunted, and about

57% of women are anaemic (NFHS-5).



₹1.53L Cr

of food is lost to post-harvest losses in India every year (NABCONS, 2022).



29.7%

of India's land is degraded (ISRO Atlas); agriculture uses about

80% of India's water and India is the world's largest groundwater user.



Conclave Structure

Keynote Address



The keynote address will be delivered by a top industry leader on the central theme. The entire School will participate and draw wisdom from the speaker. The address will set the stage for the panel discussion that follows.

A Single Panel of Six



One moderated panel of six senior industry thought leaders will discuss the sector's pressing issues across the six pillars through a single, connected dialogue rather than parallel sessions.

Key Areas for Discussion- The Six Pillars

A single moderated panel of six leaders will engage across six interlinked pillars—from healthy farms to nourished plates.

Pillar 1: Climate-Smart & Regenerative Production Systems

- Scaling farming through business models that reward farmers for soil health
 - Climate-resilient crops, water and energy-efficient practices for a warming Bharat
 - Measuring & monetising sustainability — carbon credits and soil-health metrics
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Pillar 2: Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture & Biofortification

- Mainstreaming millets and pulses for dietary diversity
 - Biofortified staples (iron, zinc, Vitamin-A) to combat hidden hunger
 - Making nutritious food affordable, accessible and aspirational
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Pillar 3: Smart & Sustainable Agri-Inputs

- Biologicals, biofertilisers, biostimulants and integrated nutrient & pest management
 - Quality seeds and regionally adapted varieties for specific agro-climatic zones
 - Sustainable crop protection and responsible input management to minimise chemical use
 - Smart tools—drones, sensors, soil tests and digital advisories for farmers
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Pillar 4: Food Processing, Safety, Value Addition and Supply Chains

- Cold chains, modern storage and post-harvest loss reduction
 - Efficient supply chain management
 - Nutrition-retaining processing, fortification and clean-label foods
 - Food safety, traceability and standards for domestic and export markets
 - Value-added and ready-to-eat products that lift farmer incomes
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Pillar 5: Inclusive & Resilient Value Chains

- Strengthening FPOs — aggregation, bargaining power, branding and finance
 - Smallholder integration, contract farming and fair price discovery
 - Digital agri-platforms, market linkages and direct-to-consumer models
 - Building transparent and disaster-resilient supply-chain networks
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Pillar 6: Policy, Finance, ESG & Partnerships for a Nutrition-Secure Bharat

- Bringing government schemes and private capital together for bigger impact
- Easy loans, shared-risk funding and investment for agri-businesses
- Embedding ESG — environmental, social & governance standards, sustainability reporting and carbon markets
- Universities, government and industry working together as partners
- A roadmap to Viksit Bharat 2047 — sustainable and profitable agribusiness

Speakers at Previous Agribusiness Management Konclaves



Mr. Gyanendra Shukla
President & Director (CEO)
JK Agri Genetics



Mr. Sachin Nandwana
Co Founder
BigHaat



Mr. Ajeet Chahal
Commercial Lead-Central &
Community Lead - Smallholder Initiatives
(India, Bangladesh & Sri Lanka),
Bayer Crop Science



Mr. Jayen Mehta
Chief General Manager
(Planning & Marketing)
Amul (GCMF)



Mr. Pradeep K Kulkarni
National Head - Product Development
ADAMA



Mr. Dushyant K Tyagi
CEO
Farmgate Technologies



Mr. Apoorva Kumar
Vice President &
Business Head (Nutraceuticals)
Patanjali Foods



Mr. Rameshmoorthy Sarangam
Sr. Vice President
Reliance Retail



Mr. Vipul Mittal
Head - Procurement
BigBasket



About KIIT

Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) has established itself as one of India's leading universities, known for its academic excellence, international outlook and rapid growth. Founded in 1992-93 by Dr. Achyuta Samanta. KIIT has transformed in just 25 years into a globally recognised institution. Today, it offers a wide range of professional education in engineering, management, law, medicine, biotechnology and more, catering to nearly 40,000 students, including 2000 international students from 65 countries.

Over the years, KIIT has earned prestigious national and international accreditations. It holds an A++ Grade from NAAC and is accredited by leading international bodies such as ABET (USA) and IET (UK). Its strong emphasis on quality teaching, research and innovation has consistently placed it among India's top private universities.

KIIT has also received widespread recognition in global and national rankings. In the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2025, it was placed 17th among all universities in India. In international evaluations, KIIT is placed at 169th in Asia in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2026 and 294th in Asia by the QS World University Rankings 2026.

In the Times Higher Education Young University Rankings 2026, it stands at 168th globally. In addition, KIIT has also achieved a strong performance in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2025, where it features in the 101–200 bracket globally for its commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. It ranked 20th globally and 3rd in India in Quality Education (SDG 4), 15th globally and No. 1 in India in Reduced Inequalities (SDG 10), ranked 29th globally and No. 1 in India in Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions (SDG 16).



About KSRM



KIIT School of Rural Management (KSRM) caters to the needs of rural enterprises, rural development organisations, the voluntary sector and corporate houses with rural and agribusiness interests. It was founded on 20 November 2006 by Dr. A. Samanta, Founder of the KIIT and KISS group of institutions and the late Dr. V. Kurien, Father of the White Revolution in India, to offer MBA (Rural Management) and other short-term programmes for personnel engaged in rural and agricultural sectors.

KSRM's vision is to become a globally recognized centre of excellence in Rural Management and Agribusiness Management through a knowledge-driven approach. Its mission is to nurture competent professionals with strong ethical values, leadership qualities and a commitment to catalysing sustainable rural development while bridging the rural-urban divide.

The School offers two flagship programmes: MBA (Rural Management) and MBA (Agribusiness Management). It also offers the Post-Graduate Diploma in Community Development (PGD-CD) and a Ph.D. programme in Rural and Agribusiness Management.

KSRM takes pride in its strong network of more than 350 partner organizations across India, including government departments, development agencies, NGOs, cooperatives, CSR foundations, agribusiness companies and multilateral institutions. These meaningful partnerships provide students with valuable opportunities for experiential learning, internships, research, field engagement and promising career pathways.

Supported by distinguished faculty, strong industry and development-sector linkages and a deep commitment to practical learning, KSRM has emerged as a leading institution in Rural Management and Agribusiness Management. Its graduates contribute with knowledge, purpose and professionalism to rural development, sustainable food systems and the agribusiness sector, helping drive inclusive and lasting transformation.





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