



# 4<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL WEED CONFERENCE

**Technological Innovations in Weed Management for Climate Resilient Sustainable Agri-Food Systems**

**18-21 November 2026**

**VENUE**

**Punjab Agricultural University  
Ludhiana (Punjab) INDIA**



**ORGANIZERS**

Indian Society of Weed Science, Jabalpur  
Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana  
ICAR - Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur  
Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi  
Website: <https://www.isws.org.in>

## ABOUT CONFERENCE

Weeds are a major biotic constraint that pose a significant threat to crop and non-crop areas. Among several weed management options in place, herbicide-based weed management is considered easier, more cost-effective and economical. However, continuous use of similar herbicides in crops/ cropping systems leads to the evolution of herbicide resistance in weeds. Globally, 541 cases of herbicide resistance have been reported and the cases are increasing. Climate change poses additional threats to agriculture, more so on the efficiency of weed management practices exercised in crops. It affects weed flora dynamics & distribution, reduces herbicide efficacy, and alters cropping patterns. The invasive and parasitic weeds, along with the unrestricted and injudicious use of herbicides also affect the environment. Changes in crop establishment methods that alter weed flora and their severity can also make management more difficult. These call for integrated weed management options/ practices, combining cultural/ecological, mechanical & manual, biological, and chemical methods, which may serve as a panacea and can give better, longer, and efficient weed management. Further, precision weed management using digital technologies may spearhead the integrated weed management to newer heights.

The Indian Society of Weed Science (ISWS), established in 1968, is a professional society dedicated to advancing weed science in India. The society actively promotes research, education, and extension activities related to weed management. It serves as a platform for disseminating science-based information to the public, researchers and policymakers, while also raising awareness about the invasive and noxious weeds through seminars, workshops and conferences.

The 4<sup>th</sup> International Weed Conference (IWC) will provide a valuable platform to all stakeholders (researchers, academicians, industry professionals and policymakers) to exchange ideas, share innovations, showcase promising technologies, and learn from leading experts in various domains of weed science. There are several key sub-themes of the conference. Precision weed management using digital technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI)/ machine learning (ML), remote sensing, GIS, drones offer possibilities for accurate weed identification and effective control. Weed management in relation to climate variability, noxious, perennial and invasive weeds will also be dealt in this conference. Several new promising farmers-friendly technologies will be presented as well for weed management. It will also serve as a memorable occasion for ISWS members from India and abroad to reconnect and strengthen collaborations.

## ABOUT VENUE

Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), established in 1962 in Ludhiana, stands at the heart of India's agricultural transformation. Born out of the urgent need to revive Indian agriculture after the Partition, PAU became the crucible of innovation during the Green Revolution. It played a defining role in transforming Punjab into India's breadbasket, driving food production through science, technology, and grassroots outreach. The university's achievements have been nationally recognized with the ICAR's Best Institution Award in 1995 and 2017. In 2025, PAU entered EduRank's top 100 global agricultural institutions and secured the number one spot among India's agricultural universities as per both NIRF (2023 and 2024) and IIRF (2025) rankings. PAU houses six constituent colleges, 32 departments, and three schools offering 10 undergraduate, 46 postgraduate, and 30 doctoral programs. It also offers diplomas and certificates in agricultural and allied fields. With 970 crop varieties and hybrids released to date, including 229 nationally notified ones, PAU's contributions to Indian agriculture are unmatched. Every breakthrough, every trained student, and every variety released brings India a step closer to a sustainable and food-secure future.



## CONFERENCE THEME

Technological Innovations in Weed Management for Climate Resilient Sustainable Agri-Food Systems

## CONFERENCE SUB-THEMES

- Weed biology, ecology and dynamics in the context of climate change
- Weed management challenges in regenerative agriculture
- Innovative weed management in non-cropped areas and aquatic environment
- Herbicide persistence, residues, risk assessment and mitigation
- Herbicide-tolerant crops: Weed management implications
- Advances in biological weed control and weed utilization
- Weed threat to biodiversity and socio-economic implications
- Herbicide-resistant weeds: Mechanism and management strategies
- Weed science education, extension and impact assessment
- Precision weed management using digital technologies
- Integrated weed management in crops and cropping systems

Renowned weed scientists from India and abroad have been identified for Plenary, Key Note, Lead papers presentation to address the current status of research in the respective technical sessions.

## SATELLITE SYMPOSIA

### WEED SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES: STUDENTS-SCIENTISTS BRAINSTORMING

Chair: Dr. Bhagirath S. Chauhan, UQ, Queensland, Australia  
Co-Chair: Dr. Amit Jhala, UN-L, Lincoln, USA  
Convenor: Dr. Simerjeet Kaur, PAU, Ludhiana, India

### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND MACHINE LEARNING FOR PRECISION WEED MANAGEMENT

Chair: Dr. Prof. B. Muthukumar, TAMU, Texas, USA  
Convenor: Dr. C.R. Chethan, ICAR-IARI Dhemaji, Assam, India

### SMART-WEED MANAGEMENT INNOVATIONS IN HERBICIDE INDUSTRIES

Chair: Dr. Mayank Yadav, Bayer Crop Science Ltd. Germany  
Co-Chair: Dr. Sunil Kumar, Corteva Agriscience, India  
Convenor: Dr. Mohammad Irfan, Bharat Certis AgriScience Ltd., India

### SCALING WEED MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGIES FOR DIRECT-SEEDED RICE

Chair: Dr. Virender Kumar, IRRI, Philippines  
Co-Chair: Dr. B. Duary, Visva-Bharati, Sriniketan, India  
Convenor: Dr. Buta Singh Dhillon, PAU, Ludhiana, India

### HERBICIDE RESISTANCE AND HERBICIDE-TOLERANT CROPS: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN WEED MANAGEMENT

Chair: Dr. Samunder Singh, Retd. Prof. & HoD Agronomy, CCSHAU Hisar, India  
Co-Chair: Dr. Mithila Jugulam, TAMU, Texas, USA  
Convenor: Dr. Todar Mal Poonia, CCSHAU, Hisar, India

### FARMERS-SCIENTISTS BRAINSTORMING

Chair: Dr. M.S. Bhullar, PAU, Ludhiana, India  
Co-Chair: Dr. Parvender Sheoran, ICAR-ATARI, Ludhiana, India  
Convenor: Dr. Jasvir Singh Gill, PAU, Ludhiana, India

### BIOLOGICAL WEED CONTROL

Chair: Dr. Sushilkumar, Ex President, ISWS, Jabalpur, India  
Co-Chair: Dr. K. Dhileepan, DPI Queensland, Australia  
Convenor: Dr. Puja Ray, Presidency University, Kolkata, India

## PRESENTATIONS

There will be five categories of presentations:

PLENARY LECTURE

KEYNOTE LECTURE

LEAD LECTURE

ORAL LECTURE

POSTER

## INVITATION TO SUBMIT ABSTRACT

The participants are invited to submit their abstracts online as per the guidelines available on the website. Abstract submitted for oral presentation will be reviewed and selected on merit for inclusion in the programme. All abstracts submitted for poster presentation will also be reviewed and accepted. Abstracts not conforming to the guidelines will not be accepted. If an abstract is submitted for an oral presentation, but not accepted as a platform presentation, the authors will be invited to present it as poster instead. Only one abstract will be allowed as a senior author. Notification of acceptance/rejection of the paper will be sent via email to the corresponding author only. No paper will be included in the proceedings without the payment of registration fee.

## REGISTRATION FEE

The registration fee includes the conference kit, access to conference sessions, tea/snacks during session breaks, and working lunch. It does not include accommodation charges. Registration kits will not be provided to accompanying persons. Indian delegates can pay their registration fees online through CC Avenue given on the website. The foreign delegates are requested to submit the registration fees through PayPal or CC Avenue. Links for payment of registration fees are available on the website.

Category	Before 30 September 2026	1 to 30 October 2026	Spot Registration
<b>Indian participants</b>			
ISWS members	₹ 8,000	₹ 8,500	₹ 9,000
Retired ISWS members	₹ 4,000	₹ 4,500	₹ 5,000
Non-ISWS members	₹ 9,000	₹ 9,500	₹ 10,000
Students (ISWS members)	₹ 4,000	₹ 4,500	₹ 5,000
Students (non-ISWS members)	₹ 5,000	₹ 5,500	₹ 6,000
Accompanying person	₹ 4,000	₹ 4,000	₹ 4,000
Industry representatives	₹ 20,000	₹ 21,000	₹ 22,000
<b>Overseas participants</b>			
ISWS members	US\$ 300	US\$ 325	US\$ 350
Non-ISWS members	US\$ 400	US\$ 425	US\$ 450
Overseas students	US\$ 150	US\$ 175	US\$ 200
SAARC countries	US\$ 150	US\$ 175	US\$ 200
Accompanying person	US\$ 150	US\$ 150	US\$ 150
Industry representatives	US\$ 400	US\$ 450	US\$ 500

## TRAVEL DESK

Suitable agency will be identified as our official Travel Partner who will take all your queries and provide services related to travel, excursions at your cost. There are large number of tourist places in and around Ludhiana.

## ACCOMMODATION

Limited guest house accommodation is available, which will be given to only invited guests, therefore, participants have to book accommodation by themselves. A few female students can be accommodated in dormitory type of accommodation at venue premises on "FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS". A wide range of hotels with tariffs ranging from INR ₹ 2000 to ₹ 12000 per room per day are available in the city within a distance of 2-10 km from the Conference venue. For the benefit of the delegates, the organizers will negotiate with some nearby selected hotels for discount. The list and contact details of such hotels along with tariff will be updated on the website in due time. There is limited hotel accommodation near the venue within 2 km, therefore, participants are advised to book the nearby hotels as soon as this information is posted on the website.

## TRANSPORT

No transport facility will be provided by the organizers from Airport/Railway stations to the Hotels or Guest houses and venue. Therefore, participants are advised to stay in nearby hotels.

## INFORMATION FOR SPONSORS

The Conference Organizers are pleased to offer a limited number of sponsorship opportunities for the ISWS 4<sup>th</sup> International Weed Conference.

**The Conference will provide sponsors and exhibitors with the following opportunities:**

- Association with the largest event organized by the Indian Society of Weed Science
- Direct access to key policymakers and industry leaders
- Interaction with leading weed scientists and researchers from around the world

A range of sponsorship packages is outlined in this prospectus, from which sponsors may select the option that best aligns with their level of financial support and organizational objectives.

In principle, all sponsorships will be allotted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Should you wish to negotiate a customized sponsorship package tailored to your corporate goals and specific areas of interest, please feel free to contact the Conference Organizers.

### CATEGORIES

Category	Amount (INR)
Platinum Sponsor	₹ 10,00,000
Gold Sponsor	₹ 7,50,000
Silver Sponsor	₹ 5,00,000
Bronze Sponsor	₹ 3,00,000

### INCENTIVES

#### PLATINUM SPONSOR

- Company logo on the Conference website with hyperlink to company's home page
- Promoting company logo on all Conference publications
- Advertisement banners and logo in backdrops
- Official acknowledgement by the Organizing Secretary at the inaugural function
- Free registration to four company representatives
- Two oral presentations and two exhibition stall
- Full page advertisement in the Conference publication
- Company logo and name in the final program copy

#### GOLD SPONSOR

- Company logo on the Conference website with hyperlink to company's home page
- Promoting company logo on all Conference publications
- Advertisement banners and logo in backdrops
- Official acknowledgement by the Organizing Secretary at the inaugural function
- Free registration to three company representatives
- One oral presentation and one exhibition stall
- Full page advertisement in the Conference publication
- Company logo and name in the final program copy

#### SILVER SPONSOR

- Company logo on the Conference website with hyperlink to company's home page
- Official acknowledgement by the Organizing Secretary at the inaugural function
- Free registration to two company representatives
- One exhibition stall, half page advertisement in Conference publication

#### BRONZE SPONSOR

- Company logo on the Conference website with hyperlink to company's home page
- Free registration to one company representative
- Half page advertisement in Conference publication

### ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIP OPTIONS

You may also promote your company and products through sponsorship of other events and services related to the Conference. We are sure that you will be able to find an item on the following list to fit your company's particular interests and budget.

#### High tea (Exclusive sponsorship) (₹2,00,000)

High tea will be hosted immediately after the inaugural function on the first day of the Conference and will include all the delegates, invitees and exhibit participants. Sponsor will receive full recognition on this event.

#### Registration area (Exclusive sponsorship) (₹2,00,000)

This area is used during the whole duration of the Conference. The sponsor has the opportunity to place signage in the registration area.

#### Congress bags (Exclusive sponsorship) (₹6,00,000)

Sponsor's logo will be displayed discreetly on each bag. The sponsor is also entitled to include one piece of promotional literature in the Conference bag.

#### Pen drive (₹4,00,000)

The abstracts, and lead and plenary papers of the Conference will be brought out in digital format. Sponsor's logo will appear on the pen drive.

#### Lanyards for badges (₹1,00,000)

The lanyard will bear the sponsor's logo and the ISWS logo. The Organizing Committee will select the type and design of the lanyards.

#### Notepads and pens (₹1,00,000)

Sponsor's name and logo will be printed on the back side of the notepads, and on one side of the pens that will be included in the Conference bag.

#### Special sponsorship request

The organizers are willing to tailor a package to suit special objectives of sponsors. If you have any particular request on how you want to present your company at the Conference, please contact: Dr. Sushilkumar, Chairman, Finance Committee, 4<sup>th</sup> International Weed Conference.

#### Advertising Opportunities

Advertisements may be made in the following Conference publications:

Location	Final program
Inside page (full page)	₹ 50,000
Inside page (half page)	₹ 30,000

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

**Convenor:** Dr. Yogita Gharde, Treasurer, ISWS, ICAR-DWR, Jabalpur

**Email:** [iswsjbp@gmail.com](mailto:iswsjbp@gmail.com)

**Mobile:** 8226072727

## ISWS AWARDS 2024 AND 2025

Following awards have been instituted by the ISWS, for which, applications are invited from the life members:

**ISWS Life Time Achievement Award:** This award will be given in recognition of the work done by a retired scientist in the field of weed science during his/her life time (One in each year).

**ISWS Gold Medal:** This recognition is meant for the ISWS Fellows and Recognition award winners who made outstanding contributions and have achieved professional excellence in weed science (Two in each year).

**ISWS Fellow:** This recognition is for the life members who have made significant contributions in the field of weed science (Four in each year).

**ISWS Dr. T.V. Muniyappa Young Scientist Award:** This award is given to young scientist (below 35 years) in the field of weed science. Cash award of ₹ 10,000/- and certificate will be given to the awardee (One in two years).

**ISWS Prof. V.S. Rama Das Young Scientist Award:** This award is given to young scientist (below 35 years) in the field of weed science. Cash award of ₹ 10,000/- and certificate will be given to the awardee (One in two years).

**ISWS Shree A. Rama Rao Best Ph.D. Thesis Award:** This award is for excellent research work done for Ph.D. thesis in the field of weed science. Cash award of ₹ 10,000/- and certificate will be given to the awardee (One in two years).

**ISWS Mrs. A. Anasuya Best Ph.D. Thesis Award (Women):** This award is for excellent research work done by women for Ph.D. thesis in the field of weed science. Cash award of ₹ 10,000/- and certificate will be given to the awardee (One in two years).

**ISWS Prof. B.S. Chauhan Best Paper Award:** For the best paper published in Indian Journal of Weed Science, Cash award of ₹ 5,000/- and certificate are given to the awardee (One in each year).

**ISWS Best Book Award:** For authored or edited book published in weed science (One in two years).

**ISWS Dr. Mahesh K. Upadhyaya Lecture Award:** This award is given to the scientist by ISWS working in the field of non-chemical approaches. The award envisage ₹ 10,000/- and memento with the certificate.

**ISWS Best Poster Award:** To be awarded for the best poster presented in each session during the conference. ISWS membership is not mandatory for this award.

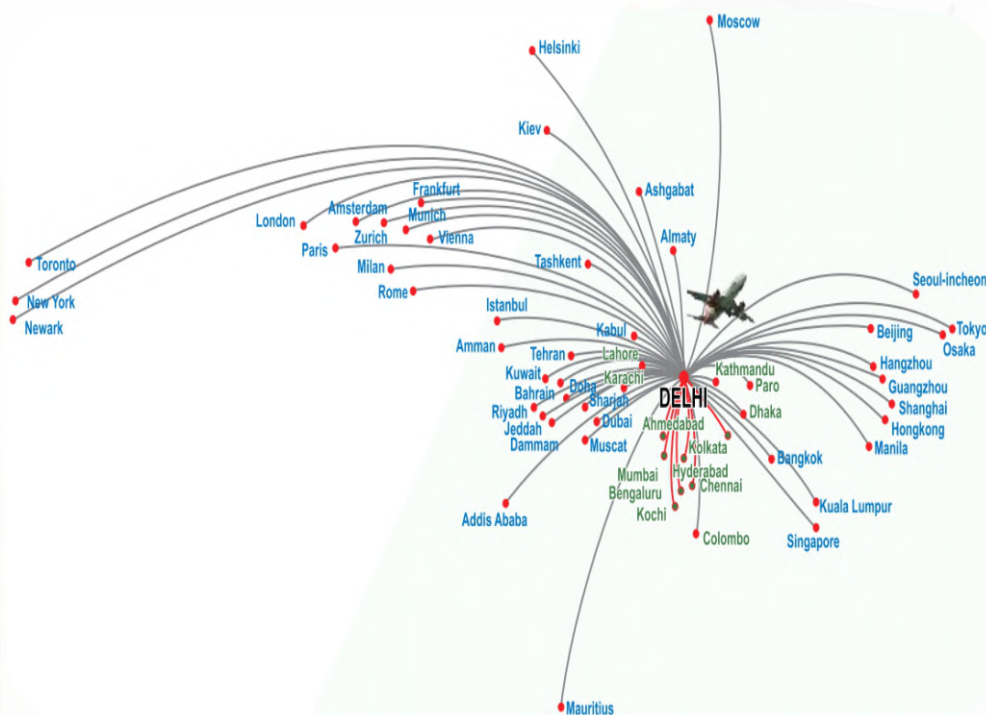
**ISWS Best Oral Presentation Award:** To be awarded for the best oral presentation in each session during the conference. ISWS membership is not mandatory for this award.

**ISWS Student Travel Grant:** Actual train fare limited to 3<sup>rd</sup> AC will be given to deserving students pursuing Ph.D. in weed science. For attending the conference.

**ISWS SAARC Countries Students Support Grant:** Waiving of registration fee and free accommodation will be given to deserving students pursuing Ph.D. in weed science. ISWS membership is not mandatory for this award.

(For details of the awards, visit the website: [isws.org.in](http://isws.org.in). Start date for application submission is 1<sup>st</sup> July 2026, and closing date is 31<sup>st</sup> August 2026)

## GLOBAL TRAVEL GUIDE TO LUDHIANA, INDIA



### Asia / Pacific

- Bangkok, Thailand: ~4:00–5:00 hrs
- Beijing, China: ~6:00 hrs
- Dhaka, Bangladesh: ~2:00–3:00 hrs
- Jakarta, Indonesia: ~10:00–11:00 hrs
- Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: ~5:00–6:00 hrs
- Sydney, Australia: ~15:00 hrs
- Tokyo, Japan: ~8:00–9:00 hrs

### Europe / Africa

- Berlin, Germany: ~8:00–9:00 hrs
- Johannesburg, South Africa: ~10:00–11:00 hrs
- London, England: ~9:00–10:00 hrs
- Madrid, Spain: ~10:00–11:00 hrs
- Milan, Italy: ~9:00–10:00 hrs
- Paris, France: ~9:00–10:00 hrs

### North America

- Atlanta, USA: ~16:00–17:00 hrs
- Chicago, USA: ~16:00 hrs
- Los Angeles, USA: ~17:00 hrs
- Mexico City, Mexico: ~18:00–19:00 hrs
- Miami, USA: ~18:00 hrs
- Montreal, Canada: ~15:00 hrs
- New York, USA: ~15:00–16:00 hrs
- Toronto, Canada: ~15:00 hrs
- Vancouver, Canada: ~15:00 hrs

### South America

- Buenos Aires, Argentina: ~20:00–21:00 hrs
- Caracas, Venezuela: ~18:00–19:00 hrs

## HOW TO REACH LUDHIANA

### Step 1: Arrive in India

Most international delegates should arrive at:

#### Indira Gandhi International Airport (DEL), New Delhi

India's largest and busiest international airport, well connected with **North America, Europe, Middle East, Africa, East Asia** and **Southeast Asia** through direct and one-stop flights.

### Step 2: Reach Ludhiana from Delhi

After arriving in New Delhi, Ludhiana can be reached easily through air, train or road.

#### A. By Air

From Delhi, connect to any of the following nearby airports:

Airport	Code	Distance to Ludhiana
Ludhiana (Sahnewal Airport)	LUH	Within city limits
Chandigarh International Airport	IXC	113 km
Amritsar International Airport	ATQ	155 km

From Chandigarh or Amritsar, Ludhiana can be reached in 2–3 hours by taxi or bus.

#### B. By Train

Ludhiana is a major railway hub on the **Northern Railway Network**.

High-speed and express trains connect **New Delhi and Ludhiana in 4–5 hours**.

Trains run frequently from: New Delhi, Chandigarh, Amritsar, Jaipur, Mumbai and Kolkata

#### C. By Road

Ludhiana is well connected by highways:

- **National Highway 44 (NH-44)** connects Delhi → Panipat → Ambala → Ludhiana
- Distance from Delhi: approx. **310 km**
- Travel time by car or bus: **5–6 hours**

Comfortable **AC Volvo buses, taxis and private cabs** operate daily from Delhi, Chandigarh and Amritsar.

#### Local Transportation in Ludhiana

App-based taxis (Uber, Ola),

Local taxis and auto-rickshaws,

Hotel shuttles (for conference hotels)

Conference venue and all hotels are easily accessible within the city.

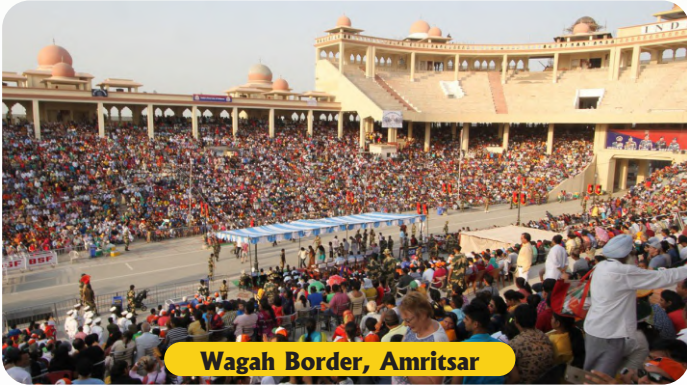
## TOURIST PLACES NEAR LUDHIANA



**Golden Temple, Amritsar**



**Jallianwala Bagh, Amritsar**



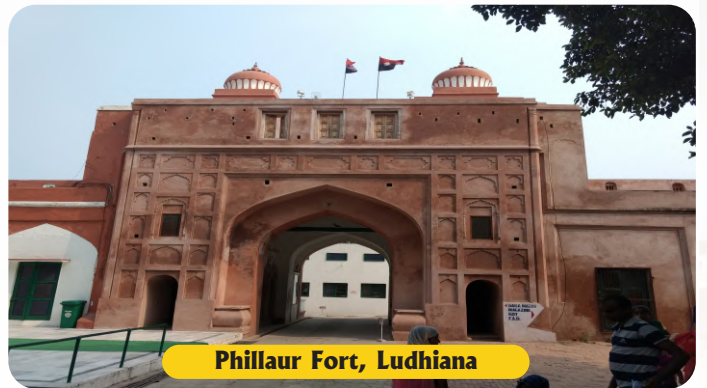
**Wagah Border, Amritsar**



**Maharaja Ranjit Singh War Museum, Ludhiana**



**PAU Museum, Ludhiana**



**Phillaur Fort, Ludhiana**



**Vaishno Devi Temple, Jammu**



**Lodhi Fort (Purana Qila), Ludhiana**



**Zakir Hussain Rose Garden, Chandigarh**



**Local Punjabi Villages (Organized Tour)**

## CHIEF PATRON

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Secretary, DARE & Director General  
Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)  
New Delhi, India

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Ludhiana, India

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New Delhi

### Dr. Yvonne Pinto

Director General  
International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)  
Philippines

## INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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**Co-Chairs:** Dr. N.T. Yaduraju, Ex-President ISWS, Mysore, India  
Dr. Samunder Singh, Ex-President, IWSS, India  
**Convenor:** Dr. T.K. Das, President, ISWS, New Delhi, India

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Dr. Steve W. Adkins, UQ, Australia  
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Dr. William K. Vencill, UG, USA  
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Dr. Aniruddha Maity, USA  
Mr. Rajvir Singh Rathi, Bayer, India  
Mr. R.G. Agarwal, Dhanuka, India  
Mr. Raju Kapoor, FMC Ltd., India  
Mr. K.N. Singh, Gharda Chemicals Ltd., India

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**Co-Chairs:** Dr. P. Murali Arthanari, TNAU, Coimbatore  
Dr. Ummed Singh, DR, SKNAU, Jobner, Jaipur  
**Convenor:** Dr. R.P. Dubey, Ex-Secretary, ISWS, Jabalpur

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Dr. Anil Kumar, ADG (TC), ICAR, New Delhi  
Dr. A. Velmurugan, ADG (S&WM, NRM), ICAR, New Delhi  
Dr. Poonam Jasrotia, ADG (PP&B), ICAR, New Delhi  
Dr. Rakesh Kumar, ADG, AAF&CC, ICAR, New Delhi  
Dr. V. Pratap Singh, Ex-President, ISWS, Pantnagar  
Dr. A.R. Sharma, Ex-Secretary, ISWS, Jabalpur  
Dr. K. Sammi Reddy, ICAR-NIASM, Baramati  
Dr. V.K. Singh, Director, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad  
Dr. H.S. Jat, ICAR-IIMR, Ludhiana  
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Dr. R.K. Yadav, Director, ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal  
Dr. Sunil Kumar, Director, ICAR-IIFSR, Modipuram  
Dr. A.K. Singh, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Patna  
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## IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract submission deadline:	31 July 2026
Date of abstract acceptance:	30 August 2026
Early bird registration deadline:	30 September 2026
Awards application submission starts:	1 July 2026
Last date to apply for awards:	31 August 2026

A COMPLIMENTARY VISIT TO THE GOLDEN TEMPLE, JALLIANWALA BAGH AND WAGAH BORDER, AMRITSAR, WILL BE ARRANGED FOR ALL REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS ON 21 NOVEMBER 2026 BY THE 4<sup>TH</sup> IWC ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

**GENERAL BODY (GB) MEETING**  
ISWS GB meeting will be held at 6.00 PM in main hall on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2026  
All members are requested to attend the meeting



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