



# ConSEPT 2024

MUK - KSK memorial lecture series

International Dialogue on

## Crop Growth Modulation through Hormone Elicitors

Implications for  
Entrepreneurship Development

**28 September, 2024**



### Our Speakers:



**Prof. Agepathi S  
Raghavendra**

FASc, FNA, FNASc, FTWAS  
School of Life Sciences  
University of Hyderabad



**Prof. Viswanathan  
Chinnusamy**

Joint Director (Research)  
Principal Scientist  
ICAR - IARI



**Dr. Soham Ray**

MUK memorial  
Young Scientist Awardee  
Senior Scientist  
ICAR-IARI



Department of Crop Physiology  
University of Agricultural Sciences  
GKVK, Bangalore

**Registrations  
are open**



## About ConSEPT program

The ConSEPT is an annual conference conducted on the last Saturday of September of each year in the memory of Prof. Makarla Udayakumar and Prof. K S Krishna Sastry, the doyens of Crop Physiology.

Prof. K S Krishna Sastry was the founder of the Department of Crop Physiology at UAS(B). Prof. Sastry had the vision that understanding the physiology of crop plants is highly relevant from the view point of agricultural sciences and established an independent division at UAS(B) in 1975. His expertise in plant hormone physiology, photosynthesis and crop productivity rendered him an excellent leader of science who led the Department of Crop Physiology between 1975 and 1985.

Prof. Makarla Udayakumar joined UAS(B) as a CSIR pool officer in 1973. As destiny would have it, Udayakumar met his mentor and match in Prof. Sastry. This heralded the beginning of a golden era for plant physiology at UAS(B), in particular, and India in general. Their close association and shared passion for excellence in science led to the evolution of the country's most vibrant and successful group of plant physiologists at UAS(B). As one of the youngest professors at UAS(B), Udayakumar succeeded Sastry and served as Head of the Department for around 17 years.

The ConSEPT 2024 is based on the theme 'Crop Growth Modulation through Hormone Elicitors : Implications for Entrepreneurship Development'. Through talks by invited experts and a vibrant panel discussion on entrepreneurship development we envisage to harness the power of plant physiology for modulating crop growth on a mission mode.

## About the invitees



**Prof. Agepati S. Raghavendra** is a Professor at Dept. of Plant Sciences, University of Hyderabad. He is a fellow of all the four science Academies in India (INSA, IASc, NASI & NAAS) as well as the TWAS. He was also a SERB JC Bose Fellow, DFG Mercator Visiting Professor (Germany), AvH JSPS Senior Visiting Scientist (Japan) and a Visiting Professor at several Institutes abroad.



**Prof. Viswanathan Chinnusamy** has made significant contributions in the field of plant physiology and molecular biology with expertise in Genome Editing, Epigenetics, Cross-Talk in Abiotic Stress Signaling and contributed to the reconstitution of an abscisic acid signaling pathway in vitro



**Dr. Soham Ray** is a Prof. M. Udayakumar Memorial Young Scientist Awardee 2023 conferred by Indian Society of Plant Physiology, New Delhi) and his research aims to improve crop yield and resilience, contributing to advancements in agricultural practices and food security.



**Dr. Gopalakrishna Ramaswamy**, is Founder and CEO at TheraCUES Innovations. TheraCUES is dedicated to enabling translational research in Precision Medicine to bring impactful discoveries and therapies.



**Dr. Praveen Kumar Vemula** works at Institute for Stem Cell Science and Regenerative Medicine (InStem) who is also a Co-founder and Director at Sepio Health, a company focused on innovative healthcare solutions. His work includes designing soft and hard hybrid biomaterials for efficient delivery of nucleic acids and small molecular drugs.



**Sailaja Nori**, CoFounder and director of R&D, Sea6 Energy leads the research team to develop novel processes to convert Macroalgae into agricultural biostimulants, biofuel and other Renewable chemicals. A co-inventor in 5 patents (2 granted), She has been featured as special mention in "Science and Green Tech category" in Forbes India "30 under 30" list, 2018.



**Suraj Nair** is part of the investment team at Ankur Capital, Suraj has a master's degree in Bioprocess Technology from the Institute of Chemical Technology. He has close to six years of professional experience cutting across multiple industries from biopharmaceuticals to market research and consulting.

International Dialogue  
**Crop Growth Modulation through Hormone Elicitors**  
Implications for Entrepreneurship Development

- 09.30 am : Arrival and registration
- 10.00 am : Inaugural Session
- 10.30 am : **MUK/KSK memorial lecture**  
Prof. A S Raghavendra, University of Hyderabad
- 11.30 am : High Tea
- 12.00 noon : **Thematic lecture**  
Prof. Viswanathan Chinnusamy, IARI, New Delhi
- 12.45 pm : **Awardee Talk**  
Dr. Soham Ray, IARI, New Delhi
- 01.15 pm : Lunch
- 02.30 pm : **Panel Discussion on Entrepreneurship development**  
Panelists: Praveen Vemula, inStem  
Sailaja Nori, Sea6 Energy  
Gopalakrishna R, TheraCUES  
Suraj Nair, Ankur Capital
- 04.30 am : Wrap-up and High tea

Registration is **FREE** of cost  
Lunch will be provided at the venue for registered participants

Click here or scan the QR code to register

[Registration link](#)

Participation Certificates will be provided

