Kasturba Gandhi Degree & PG College for Women

WHERE SEEDS OF LEARNING GROW

West Marredpally, Secunderabad, Telangana, India – 500026.

Sponsored and managed jointly by Osmania Graduates' Association and the Exhibition Society, Hyderabad.

50 Years of Excellence — Estd. 1973

NAAC ACCREDITED A+ GRADE (4th Cycle)

A TWO-DAY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

"SOIL TO SOUL"

REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE, ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY, HOLISTIC HUMAN WELL-BEING AND CONSCIOUS LIVING

(Hybrid Mode)

10th & 11th December 2026

10:00 AM – 5:00 PM (IST) · Venue: Auditorium 1



Organised by

Kasturba Integrated Research Centre (KIRC) with IQAC & IIC

Register now ↗

1973	A+	17	6
Established	NAAC Grade	UG programmes	PG programmes

About the College

The college was established in 1973 by the Osmania Graduates' Association under the patronage of the Exhibition Society. In the year 1932, a group of dedicated alumni of Osmania University founded the Osmania Graduates' Association (OGA) with a view to harness the talent of graduates towards integrated development of Telangana region with the promotion of education. Exhibition Society is a voluntary organization that was established in 1938 to conduct and manage annually the All India Industrial Exhibition. The OGA and Exhibition Society together have established over 20 educational institutions emphasizing on providing education to economically disadvantaged women across the state of Telangana. The College is re-accredited by NAAC for the fourth time, with an 'A+ Grade' in January 2024. The College offers 17 undergraduate programs: BA, BBA, BCA, B.Com. with 3 combinations and B.Sc. with 11 combinations. There are 6 postgraduate programs including MBA.

Chief Patrons



Sri. P. Narotham Reddy
Chairman, OGA-President, Exhibition Society-Vice President



Sri. L. Manjith Reddy
Vice Chairman



Mohd. Faheemuddin
Hon. Secretary-cum-Correspondent



Sri. G. M. Ramesh
Joint Secretary



Sri. D. Suresh Kumar
Hon. Treasurer

Convenor



Dr. Rajshree R.
Principal
Chairperson IQAC, Coordinator IIC

Co-Convenors



Dr. A. Lalitha Devi



Dr. K. Kusuma Dorcas

About the Conference

Kasturba Gandhi Degree & P.G. College for Women is organising an International conference titled "Soil to Soul", an initiative that explores the profound connection between soil health, sustainable food systems, and holistic human well-being. The conference seeks to inspire positive societal transformation by highlighting how ecological integrity forms the foundation of healthy communities and a healthier future.

At a time when soil degradation, biodiversity loss, and lifestyle related diseases are becoming major global concerns, the conference advocates a shift toward conscious and sustainable living. It encourages individuals and communities to recognize that their food choices influence not only personal health but also environmental sustainability and agricultural resilience.

A key focus of the conference is the growing challenge of food adulteration and food fraud. By exposing the health risks associated with harmful additives, chemical contamination, and deceptive food practices, the program aims to raise public awareness and empower consumers, particularly youth, to demand greater transparency and food safety. The conference will serve as a multidisciplinary platform bringing together agricultural scientists, nutritionists, healthcare professionals, farmers, researchers, academicians, policy makers, and other stake holders. Through meaningful discussions and knowledge exchange, participants will explore the interconnected dimensions of crop biodiversity, nutrition, public health, sustainability, and cultural heritage, while identifying pathways toward building healthier people, healthier communities, and a healthier planet.

About KIRC, IQAC & IIC

KIRC Kasturba Integrated Research Centre is a multi-departmental research facility started in 2016. Our mandate is to pursue and promote integrated research at the frontiers covering broad areas of science and technology. The centre was conceptualized with the aim of deciphering knowledge into applicable scientific processes useful for the betterment of mankind. It creates and maintains strong connections with industries, institutes of higher learning, and other organizations.

IQAC The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of Kasturba Gandhi Degree & PG College for Women plays a pivotal role in fostering a culture of quality, excellence and continuous institutional improvement. Established in 2006, IQAC serves as a catalyst for, effective governance and holistic student development. It facilitates quality enhancement initiatives through curriculum enrichment, faculty development programmes, research and extension activities.

IIC The Institution's Innovation Council of the college aims to nurture a vibrant culture of innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship among faculty and students. Established under the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC), Government of India, IIC provides a platform to identify, encourage and develop innovative ideas through activities such as ideation workshops, design thinking sessions, entrepreneurship awareness programmes, innovation challenges, expert interactions and mentoring.

Organising Committee

Prof. Neela Kameswari	**Dr. K. Sunitha**	**Dr. Shoba Rani**	**Dr. V. Shivalakshmi**
Dr. E. L. Vanaja	**Dr. G. Srilatha Reddy**	**Dr. T. Varalaxmi**	**Ms. R. Mangavani**
Ms. G. Sunanda	**Ms. Sattor Sushma**	**Ms. S. Saritha**	**Ms. Shakuntala Dayama**
Ms. D. Jyothi	**Major Jayasudha**	**Ms. Vidyalakshmi**	**Ms. Beulah Aparanji**



Objectives of the Conference

01 To protect soil health for sustainable farming.

02 To enhance seed selection through AI.

03 To create awareness on adulterated foods.

04 To grow greens and medicinal plants at home.

05 Holistic development of body, mind and soul.

06 To encourage youth towards entrepreneurship and green startups.

Intended Audience

- Students and faculty from various colleges.
- Agricultural scientists and researchers from institutes and universities.
- Nutritionists and dieticians from institutions and hospitals.
- Medical professionals and public health experts.
- Farmers and farmer cooperatives.
- NGOs working in agriculture, nutrition and health.
- People from the neighbourhood community

Topics Covered

Themes and sub-themes · 6 themes, 26 sub-themes



THEME I

Sustainable Agriculture and Soil Health

- Organic sustainable farming practices.
- Soil microbial health.
- Rainwater harvesting for agriculture.
- Government support for seed conservation.

THEME II

Traditional & Modern Farming

- Traditional farming practices.
- Modern agricultural methods.
- Digital technologies in farming.
- Agricultural education and food security.

THEME III

Ecological Integrity and Biodiversity

- Protection of natural and agricultural ecosystems.
- Efficient water management.
- Climate-resilient agriculture.
- Conservation of forests and wetlands.

THEME IV

Holistic Human Well-Being and Nutrition

- Food safety, adulteration and health.
- Soil health, food quality and well-being.
- Organic foods, healthy diets and holistic health.
- Lifestyle, wellness and preventive health.

THEME V

Conscious Living and Ethical Consumption

- Plastic reduction and waste management.
- Individual responsibility towards environmental sustainability.
- Ethical and accountable consumerism.
- Food labels and consumer awareness.
- Food waste reduction.

THEME VI

Educating Community and Future Goals

- Women and entrepreneurship in agriculture.
- Government schemes for organic farming.
- Community gardening and sustainable living.
- Government support, crop insurance and subsidies.
- Youth entrepreneurship and green startups.

Programme Schedule

Day One — Thursday, 10th December 2026

TIME (IST)	PROGRAMME
09:30 – 10:00 AM	*Registration & Welcome Tea*
10:00 – 10:20 AM	Inauguration: inviting Dignitaries on the dias & Lighting the lamp
10:20 – 10:30 AM	Welcome Address: **Dr. Rajshree R,** Principal
10:30 – 10:40 AM	Significance of the Conference: **Dr. A. Lalitha Devi,** Co-Convenor
10:40 – 10:50 AM	Felicitation of Chief Guest & Dignitaries
10:50 – 11:00 AM	Presidential Address: **Sri. P. Narotham Reddy,** Chairman
11:00 – 11:10 AM	Address by: **Mohd. Faheemuddin,** Hon. Secretary
11:10 – 11:20 AM	Inaugural Address: **Prof. Vishnu Vardhana Rao,** Vice-Chancellor, IIPH; ICMR – Chair)
11:20 – 11:25 AM	Release of Conference Souvenir
11:25 – 11:30 AM	Vote of Thanks: **Sri. D. Suresh Kumar** Hon. Treasurer
11:30 – 11:40 AM	*High Tea / Refreshments*
11:40 – 12:30 PM	**Keynote Session I** · **Sri. M. Vijaya Ram**, Entrepreneur
12:30 – 1:15 PM	**Technical Session I** · **Dr. Simhachala Laxmana Swami**, Ayurveda & Herbal Medicine Practitioner
1:15 – 1:45 PM	*Lunch*
1:45 – 2:30 PM	**Technical Session II** · **Sri. M. Surendranath**, Entrepreneur
2:30 – 3:15 PM	**Technical Session III** · **Dr. Ravikumar Ramlu Vidule**, Prof. in Chemistry & Climate Researcher, Maharashtra
3:15 – 3:45 PM	**Technical Session IV** · **Dr. M. L. Kavitha**, Osmania General Hospital
3:45 – 4:30 PM	**Oral / e-Poster Presentations**
4:30 PM onwards	*Tea / Refreshments*

Day Two — Friday, 11th December 2026

TIME (IST)	PROGRAMME
09:30 – 10:00 AM	*Registration*
10:00 – 11:00 AM	**Keynote Session II** · **Sri. Ananda Rao**, Deputy Director, TGSAFE
11:00 – 11:10 AM	*Tea / Refreshments*
11:10 – 12:10 PM	**Technical Session V** · **Prof. Ramesh Athe**, IIIT Dharwad, Karnataka
12:10 – 1:00 PM	**Technical Session VI** · **Dr. Ramesh Naik**, Senior Scientist, ICAR-NAARM
1:00 – 1:30 PM	*Lunch*
1:30 – 2:30 PM	**Technical Session VII** · **Dr. Deepak M. Kasote**, Research Associate, Agricultural Research Station, Qatar University, Qatar
2:30 – 4:00 PM	**Oral / e-Poster Presentations**
4:00 – 5:00 PM	**Valedictory Ceremony:** Conference Report Presentation: **Dr. K.Kusuma Dorcas,** Co-Convenor
5:00 PM onwards	*High Tea & Distribution of Certificates*

Speakers



INAUGURAL ADDRESS

Prof. Vishnu Vardhana Rao Mendu

Vice-Chancellor, Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH), Hyderabad · ICMR Chair in Medical Statistics

An eminent biostatistician and public health leader, heads IIPH Hyderabad and the PHFI–Institute of Public Health Sciences (Deemed-to-be University). He previously served as Director of ICMR–National Institute of Medical Statistics, New Delhi, and at ICMR–National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad. An Osmania University alumnus with over three decades of experience, his work spans biostatistics, clinical trials, public health nutrition and AI in healthcare.



Sri. M. Vijay Ram

Entrepreneur, Environmentalist & Natural Farming Advocate · Founder, Emerald Mithai Shop and SAVE

A Hyderabad-based entrepreneur who left a decade-long career in advertising design in 2005 to pioneer chemical-free food, crafting traditional sweets with indigenous cow ghee and organic ingredients. Through SAVE he has trained over 15,000 farmers in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh and conserves more than 365 indigenous paddy varieties. His honours include the Green Entrepreneur Award (IPE Hyderabad) and the Best Bioconservator Award (AP Biodiversity Board).



Dr. Simhachala Laxmana Swami

Ayurveda & Herbal Medicine Practitioner (Moolika Vaidyam) · Veeranjaneya Ayurveda Pharmacy & Herbal Research Centre, Narapally

With over 25 years of practice in Ayurveda and traditional herbal medicine, he is the founder-president of the Ayurveda Parampara Moolika Vaidya Maha Sangham (APMVMS). He works to preserve traditional botanical knowledge, conservation and provide natural remedies. He is also an active Telugu writer and educator on herbal medicine and holistic wellness.



Sri. M. Surendranath

Eco-conscious Entrepreneur · Director, Emerald Comestibles Pvt. Ltd. & Proprietor, Ekadasi Culture Organisation

Holding an M.Tech in Biotechnology (Andhra University) and a B.Pharmacy (Osmania University), he champions chemical-free, preservative-free traditional foods, cold-pressed oils and natural farming produce. As Secretary of SAVE since 2006, he has led the construction of 800 rainwater harvesting pits, translocated 200 trees and promoted lake conservation, and has trained nearly 8,000 farmers in Subhash Palekar Krushi (SPK) natural farming.

Speakers



Dr. Ravikumar Ramlu Vidule

Professor in Chemistry & Climate Researcher · SSGM College, Loha, Nanded, Maharashtra

Holding a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry, his research centres on green chemistry, ultrasound-assisted organic synthesis and solar energy materials such as CZTS thin films. As a climate researcher in Maharashtra, he works on environmental sustainability, carbon credit initiatives and agricultural solutions that support farmers, bridging applied chemical sciences with practical, regional climate resilience.



Dr. M. L. Kavitha

Associate Professor of Microbiology, Osmania General Hospital· Nodal Officer, Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance

A microbiologist with over 15 years of academic and diagnostic experience, she earned her MD in Microbiology from Gandhi Medical College in 2010 and earlier served at the Institute of Preventive Medicine, Narayanguda. Her expertise spans molecular diagnostics, mycology, virology and quality assurance, including establishing NABL-accredited government laboratories. She has been trained at Manipal, PGIMER Chandigarh, NCDC Delhi and General Hospital Bangkok.



Sri. V. Ananda Rao

Deputy Food Controller (FAC), Food Safety Wing · TG SAFE, Government of Telangana

A senior regulatory officer with the Telangana Standards Authority for Food and Essential Drugs, he oversees food safety enforcement, licensing and regulatory compliance across the state from the Commissionerate in Hyderabad. He coordinates state-wide food quality inspections, hygiene audits and anti-adulteration drives, and plays a central role in enforcing the Food Safety and Standards Act to safeguard public health in Telangana.



Prof. Ramesh Athe

Assistant Professor, Data Science & Artificial Intelligence · IIIT Dharwad, Karnataka

He holds an M.Phil. in Statistics from Osmania University and a Ph.D. in Biostatistics from ICMR–NIN, Hyderabad. Before joining IIIT Dharwad in 2019, he served as a Scientist at the Indian Statistical Institute and at ICMR research centres. His expertise spans biostatistics, machine learning, meta-analysis, clinical trials and health technology, and he has over 40 peer-reviewed publications.

Speakers



Dr. Mude Ramesh Naik

Senior Scientist (Agronomy), Research Systems Management Division · ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad

An Agricultural Research Service officer (97th FOCARS batch), he joined NAARM in 2019 after seven years at ICAR-CRIJAF, Kolkata, working on salinity tolerance in jute. His research covers nutrient management, resource conservation, organic farming, weed management and climate-resilient agriculture. He coordinates foundation training for newly recruited ARS scientists and supports campus sustainability and biodiversity initiatives.



Dr. Deepak Mahadev Kasote

Research Associate, Agricultural Research Station · Qatar University, Doha, Qatar

He specialises in mass spectrometry-based metabolomics, phytochemistry and food chemistry, with a Ph.D. from the University of Pune and research stints at IRRI, Texas A&M University, the University of Missouri and NC State University. His work studies crop stress tolerance, nanoparticle seed priming and functional foods such as Qatari honey and propolis. He is a Section Editor for Discover Plants and Associate Editor for Frontiers in Plant Science.

Guidelines for Oral & e-Poster Presentations

- The abstract / full paper should be based on the themes / sub-themes of the conference.
- **Clearly include:** title of the paper, name(s) of the author(s), designation and institutional affiliation, email ID and contact number of the corresponding author.
- The abstract should be in 250 words in English with 4–5 keywords.
- The abstract / full paper should be original and must not have been published / presented elsewhere. Use Times New Roman, font size 12, 1.5 line spacing, and submit in MS Word to the email below.
- The e-Poster template and guidelines for oral presentations are provided in the registration link.
- Online presentations (both oral & e-poster) are accepted from non-local participants only.

IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract: **28th November 2026**

Full paper: **30th November 2026**

- ✓ **Prizes for the best oral presentations & e-Posters**
- ✓ **Selected papers wiil be published with an ISBN**

Email↗
soiltosoul2026dec@gmail.com

Registration link ↗
forms.gle/z7aXq8A9xzPtbNYk9

Fee Structure & Registration

International participants	$5
Faculty	₹500
Research Scholars	₹400
Students	₹300
Attendee	₹300

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Register now: forms.gle/z7aXq8A9xzPtbNYk9 ↗

For registration and other details, please contact

Ms. Priyanka
78936 81618

Ms. Kalaiveni
86396 36643

Ms. Sowmya
93471 11087



Venue: Auditorium 1

Kasturba Gandhi Degree & PG College for Women
West Marredpally, Secunderabad,
Telangana, India - 500026.

Hospitality

Accommodation will be provided for non-local participants.