



National Symposium-cum-Zonal Meet on

Smallholder-linked Integrated, Eco-friendly and Long-term Disease Management

(SHIELD-2025)

December 18-20, 2025



DIRECTORATE OF RESEARCH
BIHAR AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY
SABOUR, BHAGALPUR-813210 (BIHAR)



About the Symposium

The National Symposium on “Smallholder-linked Integrated, Eco-friendly, and Long-term Disease Management (SHIELD-2025)” aims to address new challenges in plant disease dynamics with changing agro-ecological conditions. The symposium will bring together experts to discuss advances in pathogen biology, host-pathogen interactions, and molecular diagnostics and forecasting. Sessions will also cover biocontrol, bio-formulations, nano-formulations, smart surveillance, and extension support systems, with an emphasis on long-term solutions. The event aims to enhance crop health, productivity, and environmental sustainability, particularly in eastern India, by linking research with practical applications and fostering cross-sector dialogue.

Themes the Symposium

1. Integrated and Climate-resilient Disease Management

- IDM strategies for smallholder farming systems
- Climate-smart and agroecological disease management
- Crop diversification and landscape-level disease resilience
- Soil microbiome management using amendments
- Participatory extension and farmer-led innovations

2. Pathogen Ecology, Epidemiology and Surveillance

- Emerging and re-emerging plant diseases
- Pathogen diversity, population dynamics and forecasting
- Digital tools, drones, and AI-based surveillance
- Early warning and risk assessment frameworks

3. Host Resistance and Genomic Innovations

- Advances in host resistance breeding and molecular diagnostics
- Genomics, transcriptomics and proteomics in disease resistance
- CRISPR / RNAi-mediated resistance development
- Multi-disease resistance and resilient germplasm resources

4. Eco-friendly and Biological Management Options

- Bio-control agents, bio-pesticides and microbial consortia
- Botanicals and natural products for disease control
- Rhizosphere health management for disease suppression
- Synergistic use of organic amendments and beneficial microbes





5. Novel Avenues in Plant Pathology

- Genomic and molecular diagnostics
- Microbiome engineering
- Nano-formulations and application
- Digital and precision plant pathology
- Bioinformatics and data integration

6. Policy, IPR, Capacity Building and Success Stories

- Policy aspects in plant pathology
- Capacity building and human resource development
- Regional / local success stories
- Socio-ecological and policy innovations

7. Extension Plant Pathology for Next-generation Sustainable Disease Management

- Integrated digital extension platforms
- Climate smart plant pathological advisory
- Farmer-centric participatory surveillance
- Public-private-farmer partnerships
- Group and Community engagements

---- the bullet points are meant to illustrate a few key ideas under each theme ----

Awards

The Symposium has established Best Oral and Poster Presentation Awards under each theme, with first, second, and third prizes to be presented in each category.

IPS Award Nominations

The symposium invites applications for the Prof. M. J. Narasimhan Merit Academic Award (IPS) – Zone-level nominations for selection to the national round. Eligible participants from the zone will compete for nomination to the national level. Two candidates will be selected by the Zonal President (East Zone) as the final nominees for consideration at the IPS Annual Meeting. The age limit for contestants is 35 years. The below-mentioned format must be filled and duly submitted to the Symposium by the candidates.





TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This is to certify that the paper entitled “.....” presented for Prof. M.J. Narasimhan Merit Academic Award Contest for the year (2025) pertains to the major work done by the candidate..... (Name of the candidate). It is further certified that the work has not been published and presented for any other award and contestant is below the age of 35 years and is a member of the society.

Signature of the student

The Society will publish the paper of awardees in Indian Phytopathology. The award recipient must submit a full-length paper (as per IPS guidelines) for publication to the journal 'Indian Phytopathology'. There is no restriction on the age of co-author, if any.

Guide/Advisor of the student

APS-IPS travels sponsorship for PhD students

The American Phytopathological Society has offered the travel award to a PhD student who is a member of IPS. Competitions among PhD students in IPS-Eastern region will be held during the IPS-East Zonal meet. PhD students (EZ) are invited to participate in this contest in single or joint authorship. The purpose of the award is to encourage plant pathology students pursuing a doctoral degree in India and who are members of IPS to attend the APS annual meeting or APS sanctioned meeting if deemed appropriate by the Indian Phytopathological Society and APS Foundation Board.

Call for manuscripts

The Abstract / Extended Abstract / Full-length Paper / Lead Paper must be submitted online through the link: <https://tinyurl.com/SHIELDBAU2025> as per provided guidelines within the given time. The abstract may follow a range of 200 to 300 words for Abstract, and 1000 to 1500 words with one or two table(s) or figure(s) for Extended Abstract and should be typed in MS-Word (Times New Roman, font size 12, line spacing 1.5). Please underline the name of the presenter and indicate the presenting author with an asterisk and email ID. Full-length Papers and Lead papers may be compiled within 10-25 pages with tables and figures. Manuscripts are expected to be submitted (soft copy) by December 5, 2025 for publication.





Registration fee structure

Participant category	Early bird registration*	Late / On-spot registration
Teacher / Scientist	4000	4500
Student	2000	2500
JRF/SRF/RA/YP etc.	2500	3000
Extension stakeholder	3500	4000
NGO / Corporate / Private	8000	10000
Accompanying person	2000	2500

*up to November 30, 2025

Important dates

Last date for early bird registration	November 30, 2025
Last date of abstract submission	December 05, 2025
Confirmation of abstract	December 10, 2025
Late / on-spot registration	December 18, 2025
Accommodation confirmation	Priority and first-come-first-serve basis Hotels in Bhagalpur may be preferred as another option

Venue

Bihar Agricultural University (BAU), founded on August 5, 2010 by splitting off Rajendra Agricultural University, is one of the country's youngest SAUs, and it houses Bihar Agricultural College, which was founded before Independence. . The university comprises five agricultural colleges, along with colleges specializing in Horticulture, Agricultural Biotechnology, Agricultural Engineering, Forestry and Environmental Science, and Agribusiness Management. Further, the university has of 25 Krishi Vigyan Kendras within its jurisdiction and 12 research centres. BAU is a leader in conducting research on crop improvement, natural resource management, crop protection, product development, and farmer socioeconomic welfare in Bihar. The university promotes





climate-smart technologies through a variety of programmes, including the Climate Resilient Agriculture Programme and Climate Smart Village initiatives. BAU, which plays an important role in agricultural education by providing undergraduate teaching, postgraduate research, academic training, and human resource development, has been recognised for its quality and standards. With cutting-edge media facilities, the university has played an important role in disseminating knowledge to farmers, helping them improve their livelihoods. The university is accredited with an 'NAAC A' grade and is ISO 9001:2015-certified; moreover, it has received numerous prestigious awards and accolades.

Travel to BAU Sabour

The nearest railway station is Sabour (SBO), Bhagalpur (BGP) and Naugachia (NAA), located at 0.5 km, 10.0 km and 25.0 km, respectively from University Headquarter. It is well-connected to Ajmer, Bengaluru, Guwahati, Howrah, Jammu Tawi, Lucknow, Mumbai, New Delhi, Patna, Ranchi, Surat, Varanasi etc. through railheads. Conveniently, it is accessible via Bagdogra, Darbhanga, Deoghar, Patna and Purnea airports; the region enjoys a mildly cool climate during the month of December.

Boarding facilities

The boarding facilities on payment basis will be provided at the University premises on priority and first-come-first-serve basis. Hotels in Bhagalpur may be preferred as another option. A few hotels are: Shree Hotels (above Shree Shopping Mart, near BAU Sabour); Ashoka Grand (Patel Babu Road, 6 minutes walk to Bhagalpur Railway Station); Rajhans International (MG Road, 2.1 km to Bhagalpur Railway Station); Hotel Vaibhav (MG Road, 2.2 km to Bhagalpur Railway Station); Hotel Nihar (MG Road, 2.2 km to Bhagalpur Railway Station); Chinmaya Inn (Rai Bahadur Sukhraj Rai Path - near Tilkamanji, 3.2 km drive to Bhagalpur Railway Station) etc. No additional arrangement shall be made for 'pick and drop' for the participants.





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Sponsorship

SHIELD-2025 offers sponsorships for the agri-based and other companies / enterprises in the following categories:

A. Advertisement publication in the souvenir

Category	Amount (₹ lakh)	Benefit		Advertisement
		Free registration along with kit (person)	Standee (3×6 feet) for publicity*	
Platinum	1.00	2	2	Full page – colour
Diamond	0.75	1	1	Half page – colour
Gold	0.50	0	0	Full page – B&W
Silver	0.25	0	0	Half page – B&W
Bronze	0.15	0	0	1/4 th of the page – B&W

*location will be allotted during the event

B. Exhibition space

Space	Amount (₹ lakh)	Benefit	
Per unit	0.25	Increased brand visibility	Networking opportunities

C. Acknowledgement announcement

Category	Amount (₹ lakh)	Benefit
Green	1.00	Announcement of acknowledgments during inaugural, valedictory and each technical session
		Organization film of maximum 2 minutes duration to be run 2 times during break span
		During the event, 3-5 minutes in the podium to speak about agriculture, plant diseases and your company / enterprise
Yellow	0.75	Announcement of acknowledgments during inaugural, valedictory and each technical session
		Organization film of maximum 2 minutes duration to be run 2 times during break span
Grey	0.50	Announcement of acknowledgments during inaugural and valedictory sessions





D. Food sponsor partner

Category	Amount (₹ lakh)	Benefit
Platinum Partner	3.00	<p>Official status of 'Food Sponsor Partner' of the event</p> <p>Food court advertisements: one standee (3×6 feet) and one flexi of similar size for publicity at food court area</p> <p>One standee (3×6 feet) near / at the Guest House</p> <p>One standee (3×6 feet) or one flexi of similar size for publicity near / at the tea distribution area</p> <p>Organisation card / visiting card (3.5 × 2 inches) may be supplied during lunch by the concerned organisation</p>
Gourmet Partner	2.00	<p>Food court advertisements: one flexi (3×6 feet) for publicity at food court area</p> <p>One standee (3×6 feet) near / at the Guest House</p> <p>Organisation card / visiting card (3.5 × 2 inches) may be supplied during dinner by the concerned organisation</p>
Hospitality Partner	1.00	<p>Food court advertisements: one flexi (2×4 feet) for publicity at food court area</p> <p>Organisation card / visiting card (3.5 × 2 inches) may be supplied during Hi-Tea after inauguration by the concerned organisation</p>
Culinary Partner	0.50	Food court advertisements: one flexi (2×4 feet) for publicity at food court area

Demand Draft No. / Online payment details:

UTR No.

Date:

Registration fee Rs. (digit)
..... (word)

paid in favour of "SHIELD 2025 BAU SABOUR"

Account No. 04870110105597

IFSC Code: UCBA0000487, Branch: Sabour-Bhagalpur.

UPI ID: shield2025@ucobank

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(SHIELD-2025)



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and Long-term Disease Management
(SHIELD-2025)
Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour
Registration Form

Full Name (in CAPITAL LETTERS):

Designation:

Address:

City: State:

PIN: Country:

Mobile: (prefer WhatsApp / Telegram)

E-mail:

Title of the Oral/Poster Presentation:

.....
.....

Theme area: S.No.:

Demand Draft No. / Online payment details:

DD/UTR No. Date:

Registration fee Rs. digit)
[.....

(word)] paid in favour of “SHIELD 2025 BAU SABOUR”

Account No. 04870110105597; IFSC Code: UCBA0000487,

Branch: Sabour-Bhagalpur. UPI ID: shield2025@ucobank



Arrival Date: Time:

Travel mode (itinerary details):

.....

Departure Date: Time:

Date: Signature:

Abstract Submission Link: <https://tinyurl.com/SHIELDBAU2025>

The filled-in registration form should be submitted on:

<https://tinyurl.com/REGSHIELD2025>



(SHIELD-2025)



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