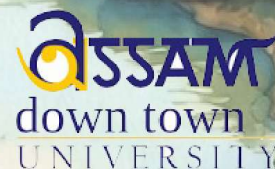
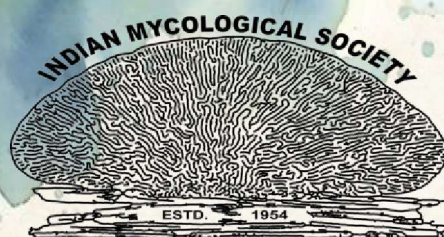


First Circular



**International Conference
On
Plant-Microbe Interactions and Sustainable
Bioresource Mobilization for Global
Agricultural Resilience**

December 4-6, 2026

Jointly Organized by

**Department of Botany
Gauhati University
Guwahati, Assam, India**

AND

**Indian Mycological Society
Kolkata, West-Bengal, India**

In Collaboration with

**Faculty of Science
Assam down town University
Guwahati, Assam, India**

Venue

**Gauhati University
&
Assam down town University
Guwahati, Assam, India**

ABOUT US

The Indian Mycological Society (IMS) was established on 21st August 1954, at the Department of Botany, University of Calcutta, Kolkata - 700019, West Bengal. Several eminent mycologists were founders of the society, such as Prof. S. R. Bose, who was the founding President of the society Prof. S. N. Banerjee, who served as the first Editor-in-Chief for the society's official publication of a journal; Prof. S. N. Bhaduri, who served as the society's first secretary; and Prof. S. B. Chattopadhyay, who served as the first joint Secretary. It was initially named as 'Mycological Society' and was subsequently renamed as Indian Mycological Society in the year 1990. Over the years, several eminent Mycologists and Plant Pathologists have been associated with the Society in various capacities such as President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Executive Council members [visit www.imskolkata.org].

As the oldest society dedicated to Mycology in India, IMS serves scientists nationwide, with a focus on the North Eastern region. One of the major activities of the society has been the publication of a journal [*Journal of Mycopathological Research* ISSN: 0971-3719 (Print); ISSN: 2583-6315 (Online)] being published quarterly exclusively devoted to Mycology, Plant Pathology, Microbiology and allied subjects.

Several National and International conferences have been organized by the society, which have seen active participation of large numbers of scientists and have led to opportunities for young researchers to interact with eminent scientists from different parts of the country and abroad. Besides, the society organizes five award lectures annually in memory of Prof. S. R. Bose, Prof. S. N. Banerjee, Prof. S. B. Chattopadhyay, Sir E. J. Butler and Prof. R. P. Purkayastha, which are delivered by eminent Mycologists and Plant Pathology. In addition, two more awards, i.e., Prof. K. R. Samaddar Life time Achievement Award and Prof. N. Samajpati IMS Recognition Award, have been instituted by IMS. In memory of Dr. T. Ghosh, society awards a Silver Medal to the M.Sc. (Botany) student from Ballygunge Science College, CU, who secured the highest marks in the specific course of Mycology and Plant Pathology. In addition, Society confers Honorary Fellowship to International Scientist and Fellows of the Indian Mycological Society (FIMS) based on their contributions in the field of Mycology, Plant Pathology and Microbiology.

Gauhati University is the oldest and one of the most prestigious institutions of higher education in Northeast India. Located at Jalukbari, Guwahati, on the scenic banks of the Brahmaputra River, the

university was founded under the Gauhati University Act, 1947, established on 26 January 1948, and has since played a pivotal role in shaping the academic landscape of the region. A bird's eye view of Gauhati University is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TfUO3NffWvg>

Gauhati University is a major affiliating institution with over 340 affiliated colleges and offers diverse academic programmes through around 39 postgraduate departments spanning Arts, Science, Technology, Medicine & Allied Health Science, Commerce & Management, and Law,

along with several research centres and institutes. The university holds NAAC A+ Grade accreditation, reflecting its commitment to academic excellence and quality education. In the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2025, Gauhati University secured the 9th position among State Public Universities, 33rd among universities in India, and 52nd among all higher educational institutions nationwide, highlighting its growing national academic prominence.

Spread across a lush green residential campus of about 650 acres, the university provides modern academic infrastructure, libraries, laboratories, and student amenities that support a vibrant research and learning environment.



The campus, located in the gateway city of Northeast India, enjoys excellent connectivity through road, rail, and air. It is located about 10 km from Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport, about 10 km from Guwahati Railway Station, and is easily accessible from different parts of the city, making it a convenient venue for national and international academic events.



Assam down town University (AdtU) was established under the down town Charity Trust in 2010 to respond to the need of ushering quality education in the North Eastern Region of India at an affordable cost. AdtU is a multi-disciplinary University and has been offering excellent education in Science, Paramedical Sciences, Nursing, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Engineering, Computer Science, Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation, Management, Humanities and Social Science and Agricultural Sciences, embracing interdisciplinary research and innovation. With students from over 20 Indian states and 15 foreign countries, AdtU is one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse universities in the region. AdtU is emerging as a leading private university in North East India, which is reflected in its recent NAAC accreditation with 'A+'.



The Faculty of Science was established in the year 2017, bringing together programs from Basic and Applied Sciences based on students' interests and societal needs. Since then, it has been offering

undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD programmes in applied sciences and basic sciences. The Faculty of Science continuously strives for excellence in teaching and learning. All programs offered by the Faculty comply with National Education Policy 2020. The faculty is supported by a Central Instrumentation Facility (CIF) with advanced units for drug discovery, animal cell culture, and microbial analysis, enabling interdisciplinary research. The key feature of the Faculty has been excellence in research and



innovation that can be seen through a number of funded projects over the last few years from the Department of Biotechnology and Department of Science and Technology. To date, the Faculty has received eight extramural research grants from various government agencies with a total of 5.9 Cr. with several projects ongoing and others completed. Faculty members actively engage in multidisciplinary research, resulting in high quality publications in SCI and Web of Science indexed journals, book chapters and patents published and granted.



ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The International Conference on Plant-Microbe Interactions and Sustainable Bioresource Mobilization for Global Agricultural Resilience is scheduled to take place from December 4 to 6, 2026, in Guwahati, Assam. It is jointly organized by the Department of Botany at Gauhati University and the Indian Mycological Society, in collaboration with Assam down town University. This partnership brings together the academic heritage of one of Northeast India's oldest universities, the specialized expertise of India's premier mycological society, and the multidisciplinary strength of a leading modern institution, reflecting the integrated approach essential for addressing contemporary agricultural challenges.

The conference is rooted in the understanding that the future of sustainable agriculture lies in harnessing the power of the plant microbiome. Plants do not function alone; they exist as holobionts, complex communities intertwined with bacteria, fungi, and other microbes that govern nutrient acquisition, growth, disease resistance, and tolerance to climate-induced stresses such as drought and salinity. Beneficial microbes, including nitrogen-fixing bacteria, mycorrhizal fungi, and plant growth-promoting rhizobacteria, offer a nature-based alternative to chemical-intensive farming. As climate change alters pathogen behavior and intensifies environmental pressures, these microbial allies become indispensable for building resilient agricultural systems.

Beyond plant-microbe interactions, the conference adopts a holistic view of sustainability. One key focus is agro-waste management and carbon sequestration, exploring how agricultural residues can be transformed through composting and biochar production into valuable soil amendments that enhance fertility, improve water retention, and store carbon. This is closely linked to soil health and nutrient cycling, emphasizing the role of microbial processes in reducing dependence on synthetic fertilizers and promoting long-term land productivity. Another important theme is biostimulants and the plant microbiome, highlighting how microbial inoculants and natural products can be used to boost plant growth and stress tolerance through practical, field-ready applications.

The conference also embraces the transformative potential of agri-biotechnology. Advanced omics technologies like genomics, metagenomics, and metabolomics are unravelling the complexity of plant-microbe relationships, while artificial intelligence enables predictive modeling for disease management and precision agriculture. Equally valued is traditional knowledge, with a focus on indigenous bioresources and time-tested farming practices that can inform and enrich modern scientific solutions.

As a platform for engagement, the conference brings together scientists, researchers, policymakers, and students from across India and the world. It places special emphasis on nurturing early-career researchers and fostering interdisciplinary collaboration. In recognition of scientific excellence, the conference will host five distinguished IMS award lectures honoring eminent mycologists. Two award competitions, viz., the Prof. S. P. Raychaudhury Memorial Young Scientist Award and the Prof. Anjali Roy Woman Scientist Award will provide emerging scientists with opportunities to present their work and gain recognition within the scientific community.

Set against the vibrant backdrop of the Brahmaputra Valley and hosted by Gauhati University and Assam down town University, this conference offers a unique opportunity to converge, collaborate, and contribute to shaping a resilient and sustainable agricultural future.

THEMES AND PROGRAMME

1. Plant–Microbe Interactions and Rhizosphere Dynamics
2. Plant Diseases, Diagnostics, and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in natural and managed ecosystems
3. Microbial Taxonomy and Systematics
4. Agro-Waste Management and Resource Valorisation using microbes
5. Soil Health, Nutrient Cycling, and Carbon Sequestration for Sustainable Land Management
6. Climate Change and Stress Mitigation by Microbes
7. Microbial Biostimulants and Plant Growth promotion for enhancing crop productivity
8. Microbes in Health and Medicine
9. Agri-Biotechnology: Use of Omics driven approaches and Artificial Intelligence
10. Indigenous and Traditional Knowledge in Bioresource Utilization

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

December 04, 2026 (GU)

- ❖ Registration & Inauguration
- ❖ Presentation of Prof. K. R. Samaddar Life Time Achievement Award
- ❖ Presentation of Prof. N. Samajpati IMS Recognition Award
- ❖ Felicitation of IMS Fellows
- ❖ 2 Award Lectures
- ❖ 4 Technical Sessions

December 05, 2026 (GU)

- ❖ 2 Award Lectures
- ❖ 6 Technical Sessions
- ❖ Poster session

December 06, 2026 (AdtU)

- ❖ 1 Award Lecture
- ❖ Prof. S. P. Roychowdhuri Young Scientists Award Competition
- ❖ Prof. Anjali Roy Women Scientists Award Competition
- ❖ Valedictory Session

VENUE

DAY 1 & DAY 2 : Gauhati University (GU)

DAY 3 : Assam down town University (AdtU)



IMS AWARD LECTURES

1. Prof. S. R. Bose Memorial Award Lecture
2. Sir E. J. Butler Memorial Award Lecture
3. Prof. S. N. Banerjee Memorial Award Lecture
4. Prof. S. B. Chattopadhyaya Memorial Award Lecture
5. Prof. R. P. Purkaystha Memorial Award Lecture

IMS AWARD COMPETITION

Prof. S. P. Raychaudhury Memorial Young Scientist Award Competition

Life members or Associate Life members of the Indian Mycological Society below the age of 40 – both male and female, are eligible to apply for the above Award being instituted by IMS. Applications, along with Biodata, and the full manuscript of the paper to be presented, need to be submitted when applications will be invited. Applications received will be screened by a Committee and short-listed candidates will be called to make a presentation at this Conference (to be intimated during notification) which will be evaluated.

Prof. Anjali Roy Woman Scientist Award Competition

This award, being instituted by IMS, is open to female Life members or Associate Life Members in-service teachers/scientists. Applications, along with Biodata, and the full manuscript of the paper to be presented, need to be submitted when applications will be invited. Applications received will be screened by a Committee, and short-listed candidates will be called to make a presentation at this Conference (to be intimated during notification) which will be evaluated.

Applications, along with Biodata and the Full Manuscript should be sent to the Secretary, IMS (ims.kolkata@yahoo.com/ucnbu2012@gmail.com)

A notification inviting applications will be posted on the web site of IMS (www.imskolkata.org) and will also be sent in group mail to all members of IMS.

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

Submission of abstracts is necessary for all presentations, and the official language for all conference proceedings will be English. Abstracts of only those who have paid the Registration Fee will be included in the publication. Presentations will be delivered in either oral or poster format. All abstracts must be submitted electronically in MS Word, formatted on A4-sized paper with 3 cm margins on all sides. The abstract should not exceed 350 words and must be typed with single line spacing in 12-point Times New Roman. The title of the paper, name(s) of author(s) and their address(es) should be typed in Capital letters, along with email ID and phone number of the corresponding author. Abstracts are to be uploaded while submitting the Registration Form. The deadline for abstract submission is **October 31, 2026**. Each submission must be accompanied by a copy of the registration fee receipt.



GUIDELINES FOR POSTER PRESENTATION

Poster presentations will form an integral part of the conference and will be grouped under the major themes. The poster board dimensions are 140 cm in length and 90 cm in breadth. A panel across the top of the poster should display the title, names of authors, and institutional address, using letters no smaller than 40 pt in height. The content of the poster must be legible from a distance of one meter; headings should be in letters of at least 15 pt, while body text should be no smaller than 10 pt. The layout should be organized clearly to guide viewers through the information in a logical sequence.

REGISTRATION DETAILS

Registration Categories			
Early Bird (up to September 30, 2026)		Late (up to October 31, 2026)	
Foreign delegates:	\$100	Foreign delegates:	\$110
Industry participants:	Rs. 6000/-	Industry participants:	Rs. 6500/-
Scientists/Faculty: IMS, GU and AdtU	Rs. 3500/-	Scientists/Faculty: IMS, GU and AdtU	Rs. 4000/-
faculty Members:	Rs. 2500/-	faculty Members:	Rs. 3000/-
Research Scholars*:	Rs. 2000/-	Research Scholars*:	Rs. 2500/-
M.Sc./ UG students:	Rs. 1000/-	M.Sc./ UG students:	Rs. 1500/-
Accompanying Person:	Rs. 2000/-	Accompanying Person:	Rs. 2500/-

**Only those who are currently doing Ph.D. and are not employed.*

The Registration Fee covers admission to all the scientific sessions and other programmes of the Conference, the Registration Kit, tea/coffee, lunch and dinner during the conference.

How to Register

Registration must be completed by clicking the provided link, filling out the form, and submitting it by the deadline. Uploading the abstract and payment transaction slip is necessary while submitting the form.

Link for Registration: <https://forms.gle/nRpu24vFumtNaQMz8>

For any further information, please contact Email: iconferenceims2026@gmail.com

PAYMENT DETAILS

All payments (Registration Fee/Accommodation Booking charges) can be paid Online. For online payment, details are as follows:

UPI ID : psbconf2026@sbi

The Last date of Registration and receipt of abstract is **September 30, 2026 (Early Bird) & October 31, 2026 (Late)**.

Account Name : PMISB INT CONF 2026

Account No. : 45014184136

Bank & Branch : GUWAHATI UNIVERSITY

Address : GUWAHATI UNIVERSITY, JALUKBARI,
GUWAHATI KAMRUP METRO

IFS Code : SBIN0002060

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Please upload transaction slip of payment of registration fee while submitting abstract and registration form.

Payment can be made directly by scanning the QR code provided here or through NEFT.

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ACCOMMODATION DETAILS

The accommodation for the participants, if requested in time, will be arranged on first come first basis with advance payment. The room tariffs are given below:

Room Type	Rate for Single occupancy/ day (in INR)	Rate for Sharing basis/ day (in INR)
Standard	1900	1200
Deluxe	2400	1400
Suite	3000	1600
Deluxe Suite	3700	2200
Superior Room	6300	3500
Dormitory in Guest House	400	

Accommodation requests must be indicated when filling out the Google Form. Payment for accommodation can only be made after room availability is confirmed. For any further accommodation-related queries, please email iconferenceims2026@gmail.com with a clear subject line. Please note that on-site accommodation requests cannot be guaranteed.

PLACES OF INTEREST IN AND AROUND GUWAHATI

Within Guwahati (0–15 km)

- ❖ **Kamakhya Temple** — ~7 km from Gauhati University: One of the most revered Shakti Peethas in India, located on Nilachal Hill. The temple is an important centre of Tantric worship and offers panoramic views of the Brahmaputra River and the city.
- ❖ **Deepor Beel** — ~5 km: A Ramsar-listed wetland and bird sanctuary located on the outskirts of the city, known for its rich biodiversity and migratory bird populations.
- ❖ **Mahabahu Brahmaputra River Heritage Centre** — ~10 km: Located at the Old DC Bungalow atop Borphukan Tila. This site was developed from the British-era Deputy Commissioner's bungalow into a cultural center showcasing the history, culture, and ecology of the river.
- ❖ **Umananda Temple** — ~10 km: A historic Shiva temple situated on Peacock Island, one of the smallest inhabited river islands in the world, accessible by ferry from the Brahmaputra Riverfront.
- ❖ **Sati Radhika Shanti Udyan** — ~12 km: Located along the Brahmaputra riverfront in Uzan Bazar, Guwahati.
- ❖ **Srimanta Sankardev Kalakshetra** — ~15 km: A premier cultural complex dedicated to the life and works of the great Vaishnavite saint-scholar Srimanta Sankardev, showcasing Assam's art, culture, and heritage.
- ❖ **Assam State Museum**— ~11 km: one of the leading museums in Northeast India, displaying archaeological artefacts, sculptures, manuscripts, and traditional crafts of the region.
- ❖ **River cruises** — ~8 km: Cruise on the mighty Brahmaputra, one of the world's greatest rivers. The river runs for 1800 miles from its source in the Tibetan Himalayas to its delta in the Bay of Bengal through this beautiful state. Enjoy a fabulous range of interesting experiences while cruising this magnificent river. Cruises on the Brahmaputra river are offered both by Assam Tourism and by private operators. Some of these operate small tours along Guwahati city. Some of the brands that provide river cruise services in Guwahati are - a) Mahabahu River Cruise, Pandu, Guwahati, b) River Queen (IWT), MG Road, Guwahati, c) Alfresco Grand, Machkhowa, Guwahati, d) Brahmaputra Cruise Pvt. Ltd., 289 AT Road, Bharalumukh, e) Kamakazi, MG Road, Fancy Bazar, Guwahati.



Kamakhya Temple



Deepor Beel



Umananda Temple

Nearby Excursions within Assam (50–200 km)

- **Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary** — ~50 km from Guwahati: Famous for having one of the highest densities of the Indian one-horned rhinoceros, offering jeep and elephant safaris.
- **Manas National Park** — ~140 km: A UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its pristine forests and rare wildlife, including the golden langur and pygmy hog.

- **Kaziranga National Park** — ~200 km: Another UNESCO World Heritage Site, globally recognized for conserving the greater one-horned rhinoceros and diverse wildlife.



Srimanta Sankardev Kalakshetra



Assam State Museum



Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary



Manas National Park



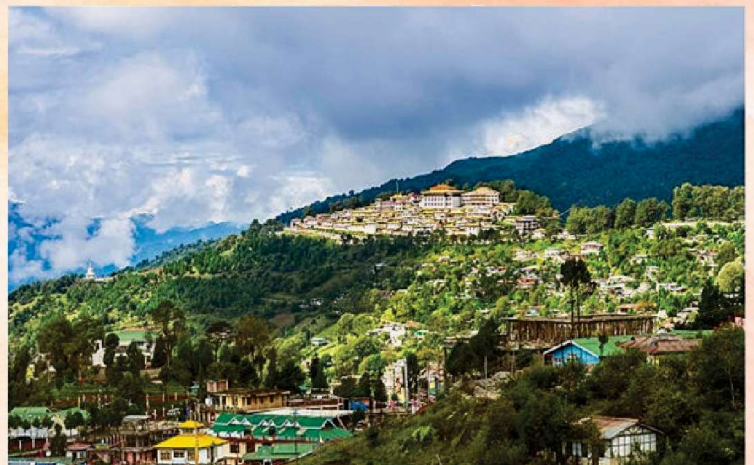
Kaziranga National Park



Shillong (Meghalaya)

Regional Destinations:

- **Borapani (Meghalaya)** — ~101 km from Shillong: Also known as Umiam Lake, Borapani is a breathtaking man-made reservoir famous for its vast, shimmering waters and surrounded by lush, green hills. Often the first majestic stop for travellers heading to Shillong, this spot offers a tranquil escape with opportunities for boating, water sports, and enjoying stunning sunrise or sunset views.
- **Shillong (Meghalaya)** — ~100 km: Known as the “Scotland of the East”, Shillong (Meghalaya) is a picturesque hill station renowned for its waterfalls, scenic landscapes, and pleasant climate.
- **Cherapunji (Meghalaya)** — ~180 km from Guwahati: Known as the “Land of Living Root Bridges”, Cherrapunji (Meghalaya) is a stunning high-altitude town famed for its record-breaking rainfall, dramatic gorges, and ever-verdant landscapes.
- **Arunachal Pradesh** — ~320–450 km from Guwahati: Known as the “Land of the Rising Sun,” Arunachal Pradesh is celebrated for its breathtaking Himalayan landscape, monasteries, and rich tribal culture. Popular destinations include **Tawang**, **Bomdila**, and **Ziro Valley**. Visitors can travel from Guwahati by road (8–12 hours depending on destination) or by train to Naharlagun near Itanagar, followed by road transport to interior regions.



Arunachal Pradesh