



ICSSR and NABARD Sponsored REGIONAL SEMINAR



on

Innovations in Agriculture and Value Chain Management
for Rural Development in North-Western Region of India

27-28th March, 2025

(Hybrid Mode)



Organized by

Akal College of Economics, Commerce & Management
Eternal University, Baru Sahib, H.P.
(NAAC Accredited University)



Venue: Eternal University, Baru Sahib (H.P.)

About the Eternal University

Eternal University, established under Himachal Pradesh Government Act No. 3 of 2009, is a visionary initiative of His Holiness Baba Iqbal Singh Ji, who emphasized blending modern scientific education with spiritual values. Inspired by Sant Baba Attar Singh Ji and Sant Teja Singh Ji, Baba Iqbal Singh Ji laid the foundation of the first Akal Academy in 1986, now a network of 130 CBSE-affiliated academies across six states and two universities. Recognized by UGC, AICTE, NAAC, and other esteemed bodies, the university offers a variety of accredited programs, including its ICAR-approved B.Sc. (Hons.) agriculture degree. It is the first private university in Himachal Pradesh to establish a College of Agriculture, College of Nursing, and Centre of Public Health. The serene, pollution-free, fully residential campus provides holistic development opportunities through academics, co-curricular activities, and spiritual education, serving as a modern Gurukul exclusively for girls. The university actively promotes academic excellence by organizing national and international conferences, workshops, and *Kisan Melas*. It also arranges expert lectures and faculty development programs. Eternal University comprises seven constituent colleges fostering value-based education from nursery to Ph.D.

Akal College of Economics, Commerce and Management

The college established in 2011 with the Department of Economics and Management, later added the Department of Commerce in 2013. Its mission focuses on delivering programs aligned with NEP 2020, blending contextual curriculum, experiential learning, and assessments to enhance critical thinking, research, and professional ethics. The college emphasizes leadership development through value-based education, enriched by seminars, workshops, industrial visits, internships, and guest lectures. The Department of Economics offers B.Sc. (Hons with Research), M.Sc. Economics, M.Sc. (Ag.) Agricultural Economics and Ph. D. Economics. The Department of Commerce provides B.Com (Hons with Research), M.Com, and Ph.D. in Commerce. The Department of Management offers BBA (Hons with Research), MBA (Finance, HR, Marketing and Business Analytics) and Ph.D. in Management. The MBA (Business Analytics) is running in collaboration with Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of North Carolina. Faculty from international business schools also contribute to the program.

The Seminar

The seminar focuses on fostering innovations and entrepreneurship to address the unique challenges of rural development in the North-Western region of India, encompassing Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Ladakh, Jammu & Kashmir, and adjoining hilly areas of Punjab and Haryana. Agriculture serves as the backbone for over 80% of the rural population in this region, where the majority of farmers are smallholders or marginal, facing economic vulnerabilities, limited market access, and fragile ecosystems.

This seminar will explore how agricultural and rural innovations can transform agri-horti-livestock systems, enabling sustainability, competitiveness, and resilience in the face of climate change, resource depletion, and shifting market dynamics. By focusing on themes such as climate-resilient technologies, value chain management, entrepreneurship, and sustainable development, the seminar aims to promote diversified income sources, enhance rural livelihoods, and contribute to achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Through a multi-stakeholder approach, involving researchers, policymakers, entrepreneurs, and the farming community, the seminar seeks to create actionable strategies for leveraging the region's resources and capacities for sustainable growth and rural prosperity.

Theme I: Innovations in Agriculture and Rural Development

- ❖ Adoption of climate resilient technologies in agriculture and allied sectors
- ❖ Indigenous technology innovation and development

- ❖ Innovations in value chain management in agriculture and allied activities
- ❖ Labour saving innovations in agriculture
- ❖ Alternative investments against capital issues
- ❖ Innovations in soil health and water management strategies and their impact
- ❖ Role of agricultural technologies reducing dependence on purchased agri-inputs
- ❖ Lack of infrastructure in the agriculture sector
- ❖ Central sector and State Government policies and schemes for the promotion of innovation in agriculture and entrepreneurship
- ❖ Entrepreneurship and start-ups in agribusiness sector enhancing incomes and employment
- ❖ Business models in agriculture & allied sector, agro/eco/rural tourism
- ❖ Costs, returns and contribution of prospective enterprises including animal husbandry, fisheries, apiculture, sericulture, mushroom farming for rural development

Theme II: Diversification and Sustainable Development

- ❖ Enterprise diversification enhancing income and employment
- ❖ Rehabilitation of irrigation infrastructure and farm outreach
- ❖ Individual & group based organic & natural farming
- ❖ Sustainability of small and marginal holdings/entrepreneurs
- ❖ Indian knowledge system and sustainable development
- ❖ Knowledge and skill enhancement of the farming community for human resource development and capacity building
- ❖ Socio-economic development and management of natural resources
- ❖ Facilitative role of business organizations (cooperatives, FPOs and corporations, etc.) to ensure food and nutritional security
- ❖ Forest conservation and national parks development
- ❖ Agribusiness entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Registration Fee

Participants	Online mode	Offline mode
Students (UG & PG students)	Rs. 500	Rs. 700
Research Scholar	Rs. 700	Rs. 900
Faculty/Academicians	Rs. 1000	Rs. 1200
Invited Speakers	NA	NA



- ❖ **Registration Link:** <https://forms.gle/9Te6RjXCiqmYe3cv7>

- ❖ **Account Details:** The fee can be paid through RTGS/NEFT or online transfer to following bank details.
- ❖ Beneficiary Name: Eternal University
- ❖ Bank Name: State Bank of India, Gurudwara Baru Sahib
- ❖ Bank A/C No: 30957030400
- ❖ IFSC Code: SBIN0011784

Guidelines for Extended Abstracts/ Full Paper Submission

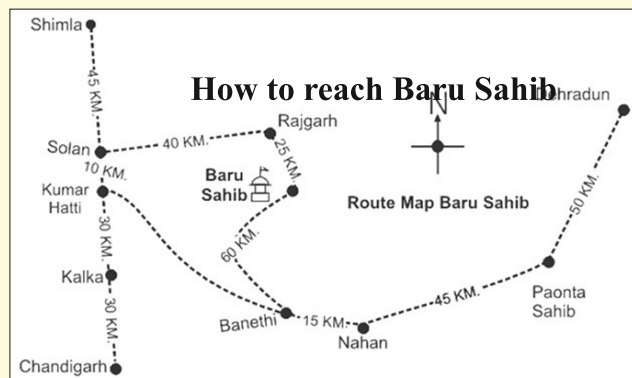
- ❖ The abstract should be typed in Times New Roman font size 11 with bold title and headings. The theme should be mentioned on the top of the page. Title (10-15 words); Keywords (4-5 words alphabetically); Introduction (upto 100 words max.); Material and methods (100-150 words max.); Results and Conclusion (Upto 150 words). The extended abstract cum summary word limit will be up to 500 words.
- ❖ The abstract/paper should be submitted in word doc only (no PDF will be accepted).
- ❖ The allowed word limit for the invited paper is between 5000 to 6000 words (including abstract, keywords, and references).
- ❖ It should be submitted by email to seminar2024@eternaluniversity.edu.in latest by 10th March, 2025.

Important dates

- ❖ Last date for extended abstract/full paper submission : 10th March, 2025
- ❖ Communication for selected abstract & full papers: 15th March, 2025
- ❖ Submission of registration fee: 20th March, 2025

Award

- ❖ Dr. Manmohan Singh Memorial Best Oral Presentation Award under each theme for UG/PG/Ph.D. and Faculty separately.
- ❖ All registered presenters and participants will get certificate. However, e-certificate will be provided to online participants.



Instructions

- ❖ Limited accommodation is available in university guest house on first cum first serve basis. For students dormitory accommodation will be provided.

Contact us

For any queries contact us on: seminar2024@eternaluniversity.edu.in

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Seminar Committee

Chief Patron	Baba Dr. Davinder Singh Ji (Hon'ble Chancellor, Eternal University)
Patron	Prof. Jaswinder Singh (Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Eternal University)
Chief Guest	Dr. A.K. Sood (Deputy MD, NABARD, Mumbai)
Advisory Committee	Dr. Neelam Kaur, Advisor Health & Education Mr. B. S Kapur, Chief Finance Officer Dr. T.S. Banipal, Dean, Academics Dr. N.P. Singh, Dean, Research Dr. Purvi Luniyal, Dean, ACASS Dr. Yogita Thakur, DSW Dr Meenakshi Gupta, Librarian Mr. SC Ghosh, Director, UCRC Dr Mehmooda Regu, Principal ACN Dr Raino Bhatia, Principal ACE Mr Balraj Singh, Director Admn. & Placement
Seminar Convenor	Prof. S.K. Chauhan Dean, AC ECM cum Additional Registrar
Organizing Secretary	Dr. Ankit Pathania, Assistant Professor
Associate Organizing Secretary	Dr. Manjinder Kaur, Assistant Professor
Organizing Team	Mrs. S.K. Dhaliwal, Associate Professor Dr. D.K Sharma, Visiting Professor Dr. Tusshar Mahajan, Professor Dr. Pawan Kumar Dubey, Assistant Professor Dr. Kajal Chaudhary, Sr. Assistant Professor Ms. Kuldeep Kaur, Assistant Professor Dr. Neha, Assistant Professor Dr. Shivani Dutt, Assistant Professor Dr Shanta Kumari (Former Assoc. Prof.) Dr Amit Kumar (Former Faculty) Mr Ambar Srivastava (Former Faculty) All Master & Ph. D Research Scholars of AC ECM