





Him-Palam RKVY RAFTAAR Agri-Business Incubator (Him Palam R-ABI) CSK Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya Palampur



Newsletter of Him Palam RKVY-RAFTAAR Agribusiness Incubator (Him Palam RABI)

(April, 2022- March, 2023)

Introduction

Himachal Pradesh is situated in the heart of Western Himalayas with altitude varying from 300 meters to 7000 meters. It covers a geographical area of 55, 673 square kilometers, which is about 1.82 per cent of India's total area. Nature has endowed Himachal Pradesh with a wide range of agro-climatic conditions, which make it suitable for growing wide range of field and fruit crops. It comprises of four zones viz., Low hills subtropical (16% TGA), Mid hills sub-humid (21% TGA), High hills wet temperate (24% TGA) and High hills dry temperate (39% TGA) zones. The state is divided into 12 districts and 75 Tehsils for the administrative purposes. The mainstay of the people in the state is agriculture on which 67 percent population still depends. The marginal and small farmers possess 86.4 per cent of the total land holdings. The cultivated area in the state is only 11 percent. Because of hilly topography, the terraced cultivation is usually practiced in the State. About 80 % of its cultivated area is rainfed. Total area under food grains, fruits, apple, vegetables, floriculture, organic farming and tea is 790, 231, 113, 72, 0.6, 22 and 2.3 thousand hectares. There is a variety of field crops grown in the State viz., rice, wheat, maize, groundnut, soybean, sunflower, mustard, toria, urd, beans, moong, rajmash, gram, lentil, cash crops like seed potato, off-season vegetables and ginger, while fruits grown in the State are apple, mango, orange, pear, plum, peach, lime, litchi, apricot, galgal, pomegranate, etc.

Chaudhary Sarwan Kumar Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya (CSKHPKV) was established on 1st November, 1978. The University has four constituent colleges, viz. College of Agriculture with 13 departments, Dr. GC Negi College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences with18 departments, the College of Community Science with five departments and the College of Basic Sciences with four departments. Besides, It has three Regional Research Stations, ten Research Sub-stations and eight KVKs situated in four agro-climatic zones of the State. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has ranked this University at eleventh place among all farm universities of the country. Over the years, this University has contributed significantly in transforming the farm scenario of Himachal Pradesh. The university has contributed largely to the State for receiving the "Krishikarman award" of Government of India in food-grain production, four times in row. The University has developed and released 155 improved varieties of different crops for the different regions of the State. To enhance crop and animal productivity, the University has developed more than 100 technologies in the areas of crop improvement, animal breeding, disease combating, natural resources management, etc. For doubling the farmers' income by 2022 as envisaged by

the government, twenty farm-based models have been formulated and shared with the agriculture and animal husbandry departments of the State government.

To promote innovation and entrepreneurship development in agriculture and allied sectors the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare has established an Agri-Business Incubator under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana - Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sector Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR) scheme during 2018-19. Enhancing contribution of agriculture to the GDO and creating more job providers as compared to job seekers are the main agenda of the RKVY-RAFTAAR scheme. This incubator is known as Him Palam RKVY-RAFTAAR Agri-Business Incubator (Him Palam R-ABI) of CSKHPKV. The mission of Him Palam R-ABI) is to bring agricultural prosperity in North-West Himalayas through innovation and entrepreneurship. An agricultural value chain comprises of Producers (who grow crops and raise animals) at one end, Consumers (who eat, drink, wear and use the final products) at the other end and thousands of men and women, and small and large businesses in the middle). Him Palam R-ABI is committed to promote innovation and entrepreneurship among students/ youth of India in general and of Himachal Pradesh in specific. It will focus on nurturing innovative early-stage enterprises that have high growth potential to become competitive agribusinesses. It may include commercialization of scientific agro-technologies, seed ventures (seed production, processing, and marketing), innovative ventures (based on proprietary products or novel services with good market potential), farm ventures (Integrated farming system, Natural/Contract/ precision farming, etc.), agri-biotech ventures, supply chain management ventures, etc.

Mission

Promoting innovation and entrepreneurship in agriculture and allied sectors as per the guidelines of Government of India.

Vision

Providing high-quality incubation services to agri-startups of hill agro-ecosystems.

Objectives

- i) To achieve "Lab to Land" by dissemination of new technology /varieties to farmers through promoting a culture of Agri startups.
- ii) Identifying and adopting technologies appropriate for specific agribusiness enterprises.
- iii) Identifying and motivating entrepreneurs in agribusiness enterprises, frequently in rural areas.
- iv) Building commercial conduits in the form of value chains which integrate new value creating activities in rural and urban spaces
- v) To promote innovation, entrepreneurship and business creation in agriculture and allied sector by skill development, capacity building and technology scale up.
- vi) To build a vibrant agri-startup ecosystem, by establishing a network between academia, financial institutions, industries and other related institutions;

Focus Area



Sustainable Agriculture



Animal Husbandry



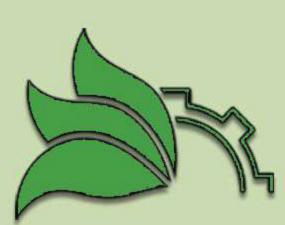
Food Processing



Natural Resource Management



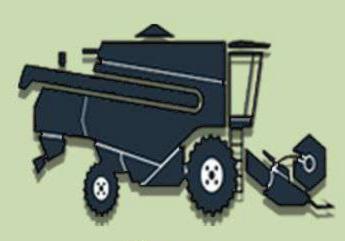
Agriculture Biotechnology



Agri Input tools and Technologies



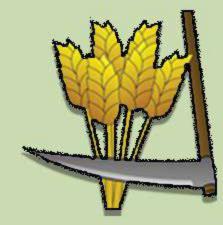
Micro Irrigation



Farm Mechanization



Precious Farming



Harvesting & Post Harvest Processing



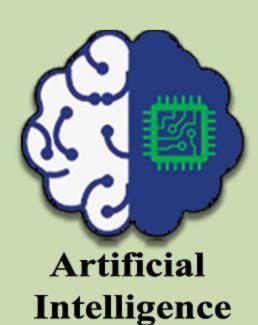
Supply Chain Management



Farm Retailing



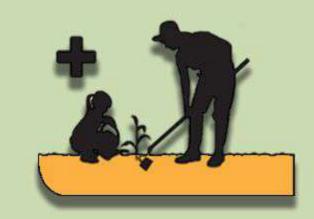
Internet of Things



Waste to Wealth



Agriculture Extension Education



Agril Clinics & Farm Health Services



Community Sciences

Him Palam R-ABI Programs

HIM - UTKARSH

A flight to grand business world (Agripreneurship Incubation Program)

KEY BENEFITS

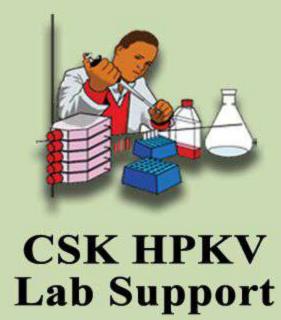


8 Week Workshop









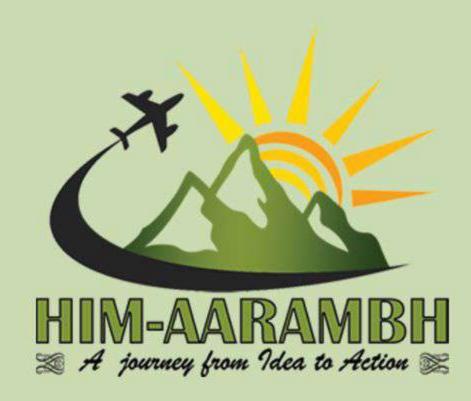
HIGHLIGHTS

- Financial assistance of maximum up to ₹25 lakhs to potential startups that have a Minimum Viable Product (MVP) based
 - on innovative solutions / processes / products / services / business model in agriculture & allied sectors.
- Screening of MVPs on the basis of their relevance to scalable business.
- This support will assist the incubatees to launch their products / services / business platforms etc. into the market and help
 - them to attain business viability at a faster pace.
- Mandatory two months training to provide skills for translating MVP to marketable stage and scale up the product and
 - business.
- Based on consistent performance evaluated by Him Palam R-ABI Incubation Committee, selected incubatees will be
 - eligible for seed funding.
- Program implementation strictly as per the guidelines issued by the MOA and FW.

Him Palam R-ABI Programs

HIM - AARAMBH

A journey from Idea to Action (Agripreneurship Orientation Program)

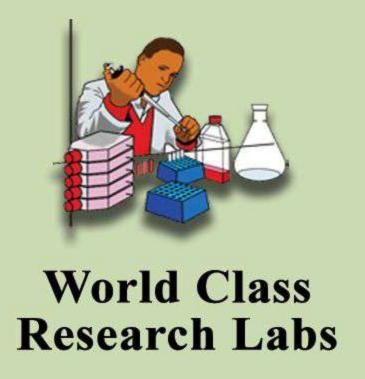


KEY BENEFITS



8 Week Workshop









HIGHLIGHTS

- Opportunity to students/ youth to work on their innovative ideas on technological solutions/ processes/ products/
 - services/ business platforms etc. in agriculture and allied activities.
- Screening of ideas on the basis of their potential for scalable business models.
- Two months Agri-Entrepreneurship Orientation Program.
- Selected interns eligible to apply for Idea/ Pre-Seed Stage funding of grant in aid up to ₹ 5 lakhs per startup for converting his/ her innovative idea into prototype/product as future agri startup.
- Final selection of interns by R-ABI Incubation Committee.
- Program implementation strictly as per the guidelines issued by the MOA and FW.

Him Palam RABI organized Kisan Bhagidari Prathmikta Hamari campaign under the Aazadi ka Amrit Mahotsav [26th April, 2022]

Him Palam RABI, CSKHPKV, Palampur organized Kisan Bhagidari Prathmikta Hamari campaign under the Aazadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. The key objective of the awareness session was to generate mass awareness amongst fishers, fish farmers, livestock & dairy farmers and other stakeholders about various schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying and encourage them to avail the benefits in association with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare as a part of ongoing celebration of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The campaign was organized in hybrid mode (Online/ offline) to cover maximum number of farmers. Seventeen of the startups incubated with CSKHPKV, Palampur showcased their products/ technologies to more than 100 farmers who were present physically at the venue and the farmers present online.



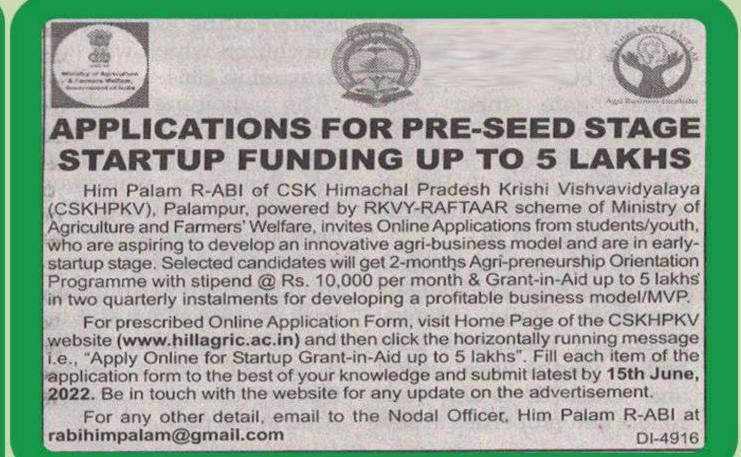


Him Palam RABI invited applications for aspiring agri-entrepreneurs and agri-startups for 2022-23 cohort [05th May, 2022]

Him Palam RABI, CSKHPKV, Palampur invited applications for pre-seed funding (upto 5 lakhs) programme i.e. Him Aarambh and seed funding (upto 25 lakhs) programme i.e. Him Utkarsh. The call for applications through print and digital media channels were advertised for aspiring Agri-entrepreneurs and agri-startups with innovative and scalable solutions in agriculture & allied sectors.







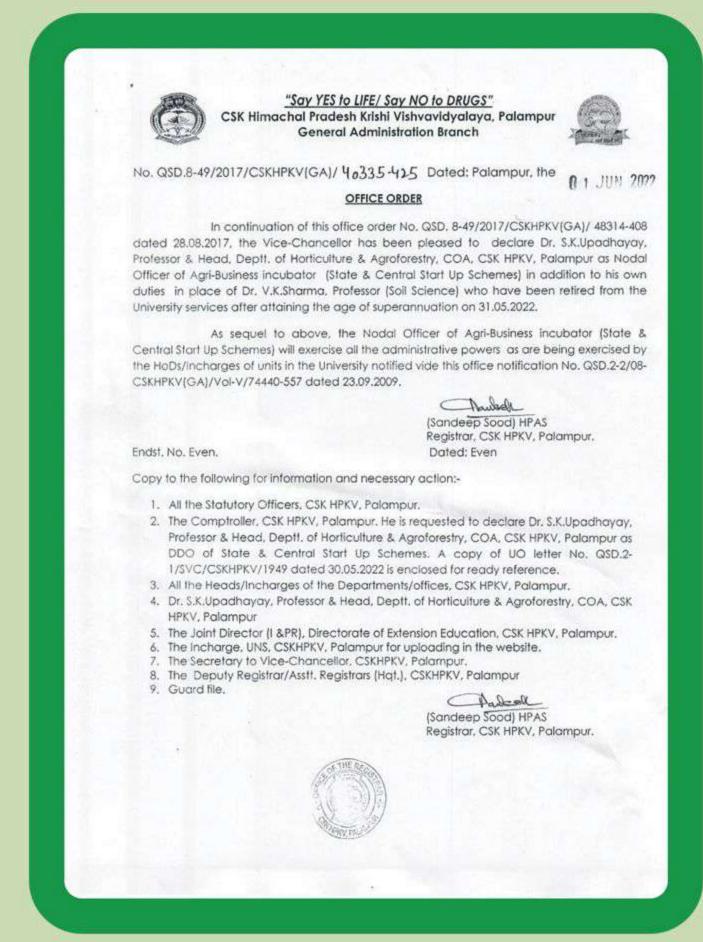


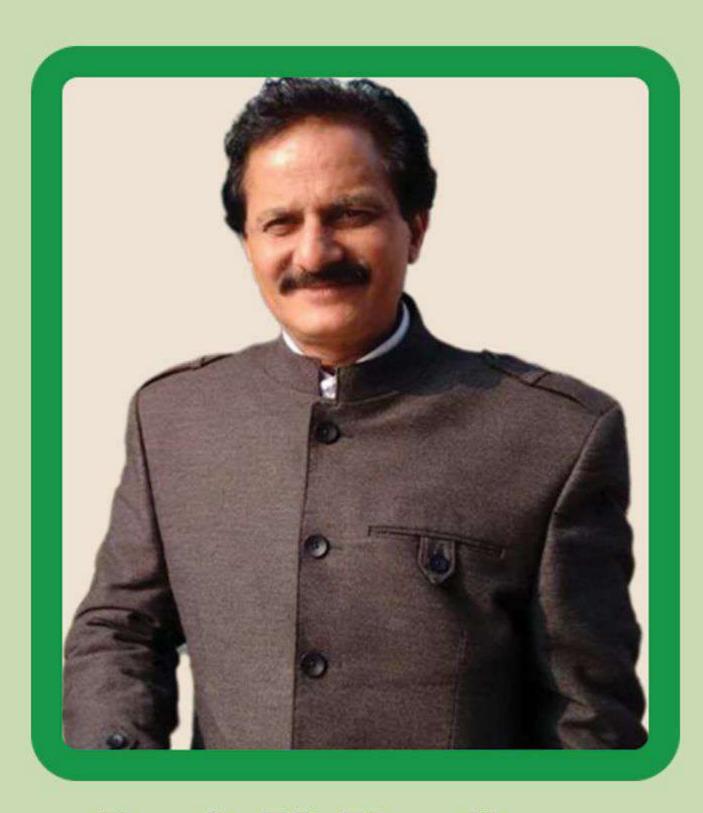
Dr. SK Upadhyay took over the charge of Nodal Officer, Him Palam RABI [03rd June, 2022]

After the superannuation of **Dr. V. K. Sharma**, Professor and Nodal Officer (Him Palam RABI), Department of Soil Science, College of Agriculture, CSK Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya, Palampur on 31st May, 2022, **Dr. SK Upadhyay**, Professor & Head, Department of Horticulture and Agroforestry, College of Agriculture, CSK Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya, Palampur took over the charge of Nodal Officer, Him Palam RABI on 03rd June, 2022.



Dr. V. K. Sharma





Dr. S. K. Upadhyay

Him Palam RABI extended the date for application submission for aspiring agri-entrepreneurs and agri-startups for 2022-23 cohort [15th June, 2022]

Him Palam RABI, CSKHPKV, Palampur extended the last date for the submission of applications for pre-seed funding (upto 5 lakhs) programme i.e. Him Aarambh and seed funding (upto 25 lakhs) programme i.e. Him Utkarsh from 15th June, 2022 to 31st July, 2022. The notice for the extension of last date for the submission of applications was given through the University website and social media.



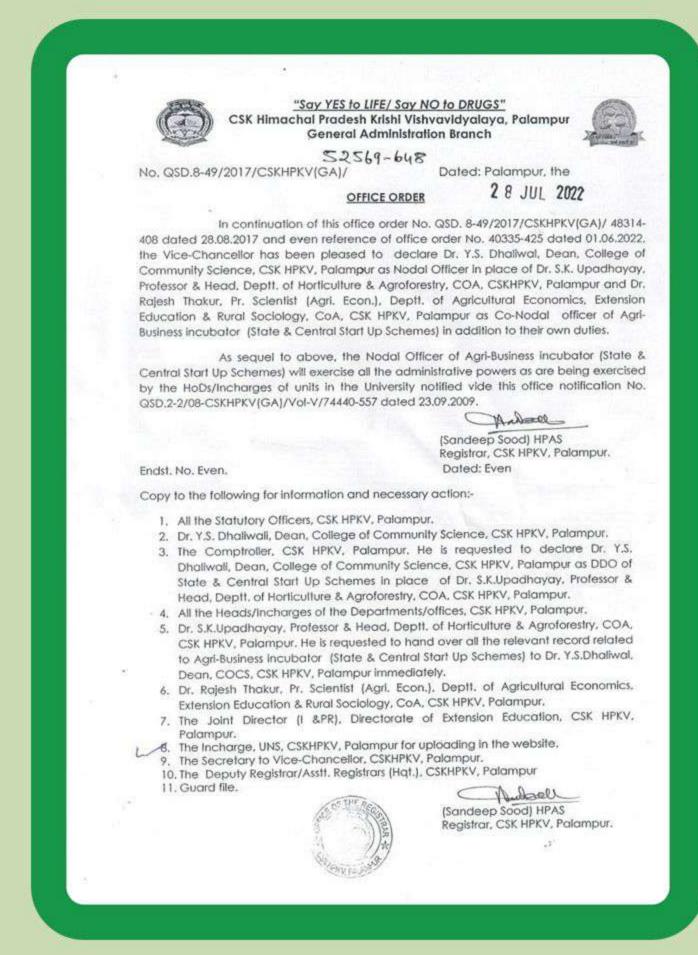


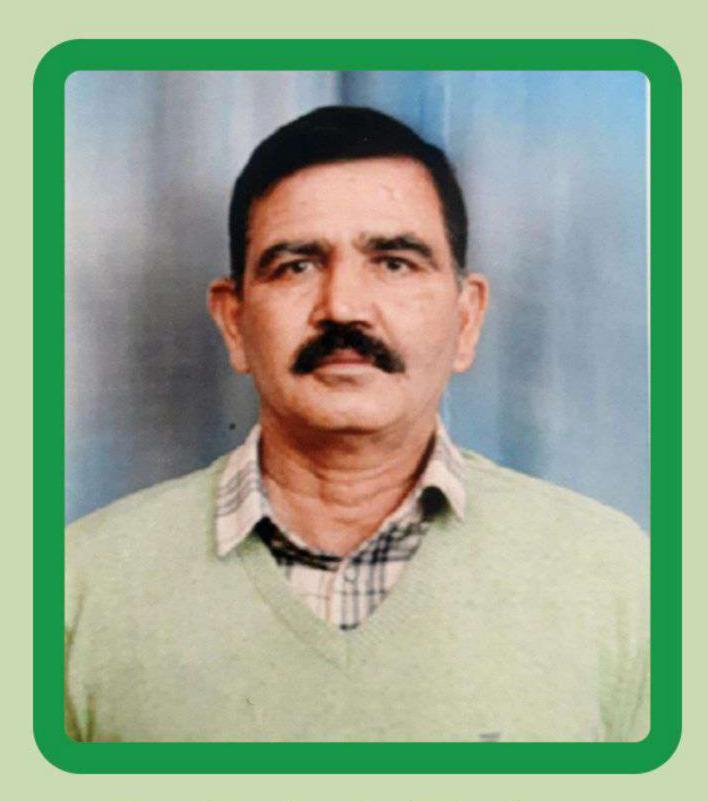
Dr. Y. S. Dhaliwal took over the charge of Nodal Officer, Him Palam RABI [28th July, 2022]

Dr. Y. S. Dhaliwal, Dean, College of Community Science, CSK Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishvavidyalaya, Palampur took over the charge of Nodal Officer, Him Palam RABI on 28th July, 2022 in place of Dr. S. K. Upadhyay and Dr. Rajesh Thakur, Pr. Scientist (Agril. Econ.), Dept. of Agricultural Economics, Extension Education & Rural Sociology, CoA, CSK HPKV, Palampur as Co-Nodal Officer.



Dr. Y. S. Dhaliwal Nodal Officer (ABI)





Dr. Rajesh Thakur Co-Nodal Officer (ABI)

Him Palam RABI extended the date for application submission for aspiring agri-entrepreneurs and agri-startups for 2022-23 cohort [31st July, 2022]

Him Palam RABI, CSKHPKV, Palampur extended the last date for the submission of applications for pre-seed funding (upto 5 lakhs) programme i.e. Him Aarambh and seed funding (upto 25 lakhs) programme i.e. Him Utkarsh from 31st July, 2022 to 09th August, 2022. The notice for the extension of last date for the submission of applications was given through the University website and social media.

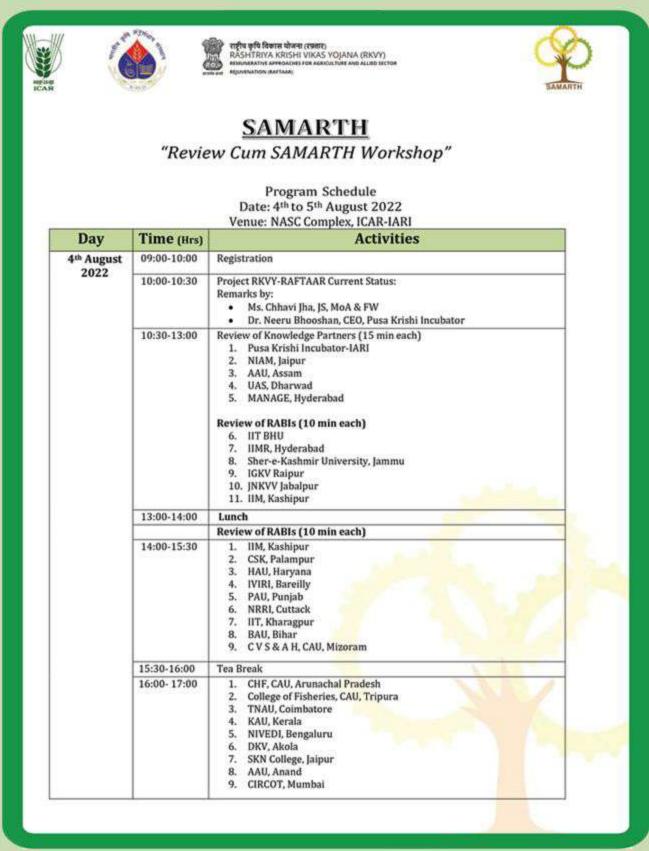




Him Palam RABI attended Review Cum SAMARTH Workshop at NASC Complex, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi [04th - 05th August, 2022]

Him Palam RABI, CSKHPKV, Palampur attended the review the review-cum-SAMARTH Workshop at NASC Complex, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi where on the first day of the workshop, different RABIs including Him Palam RABI presented their progress one-by-one as per the schedule, the suggestions were noted for the smooth functioning of the project. On the second day of the workshop, the representatives from National Informatics Centre, Govt. of India demonstrated the MIS portal for the transparency of the startups between Ministry and the RABIs.





Him Palam RABI extended the date for application submission for aspiring agri-entrepreneurs and agri-startups for 2022-23 cohort [09th August, 2022]

Him Palam RABI, CSKHPKV, Palampur extended the last date for the submission of applications for pre-seed funding (upto 5 lakhs) programme i.e. Him Aarambh and seed funding (upto 25 lakhs) programme i.e. Him Utkarsh from **09th August**, **2022 to 30th September**, **2022**. The notice for the extension of last date for the submission of applications was given through the University website and social media.





Him Palam RABI attended Farmers' Market at Rotary Bhawan, Palampur [22nd September, 2022]

Him Palam RABI, CSKHPKV, Palampur attended Farmers' Market on the occasion of International Organic Day in the presence of the Nodal Officer, Dr. Y. S. Dhaliwal and many startup founders including the startups of our RABI to showcase their products/technologies to the local farmers of Himachal Pradesh and motivate them to become job providers rather than job seekers.

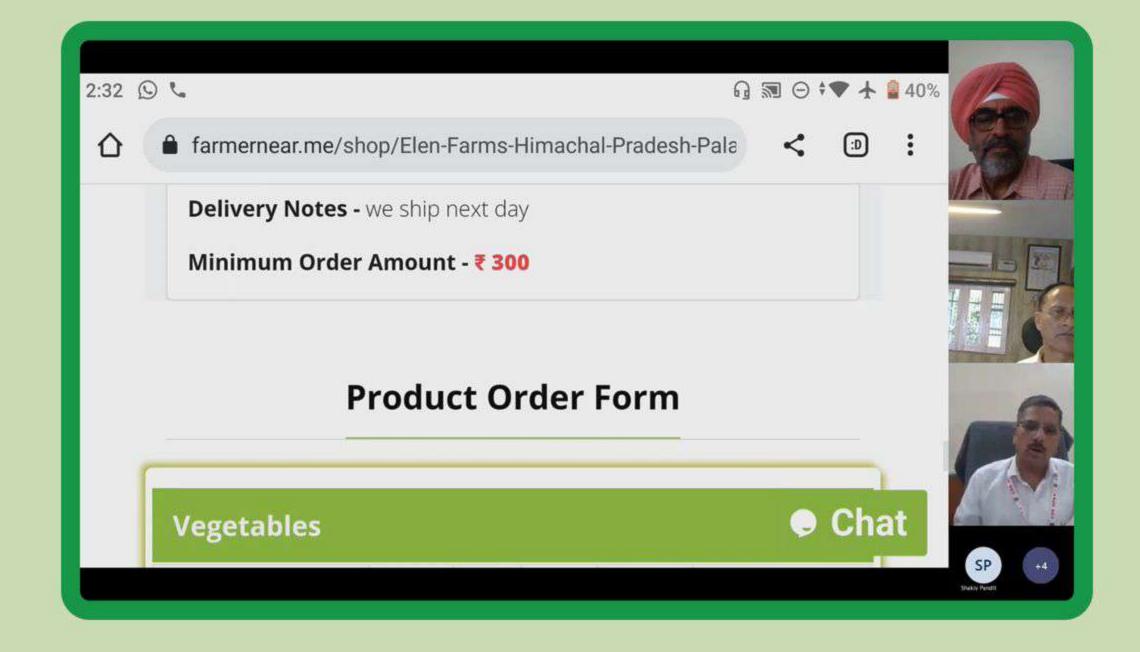


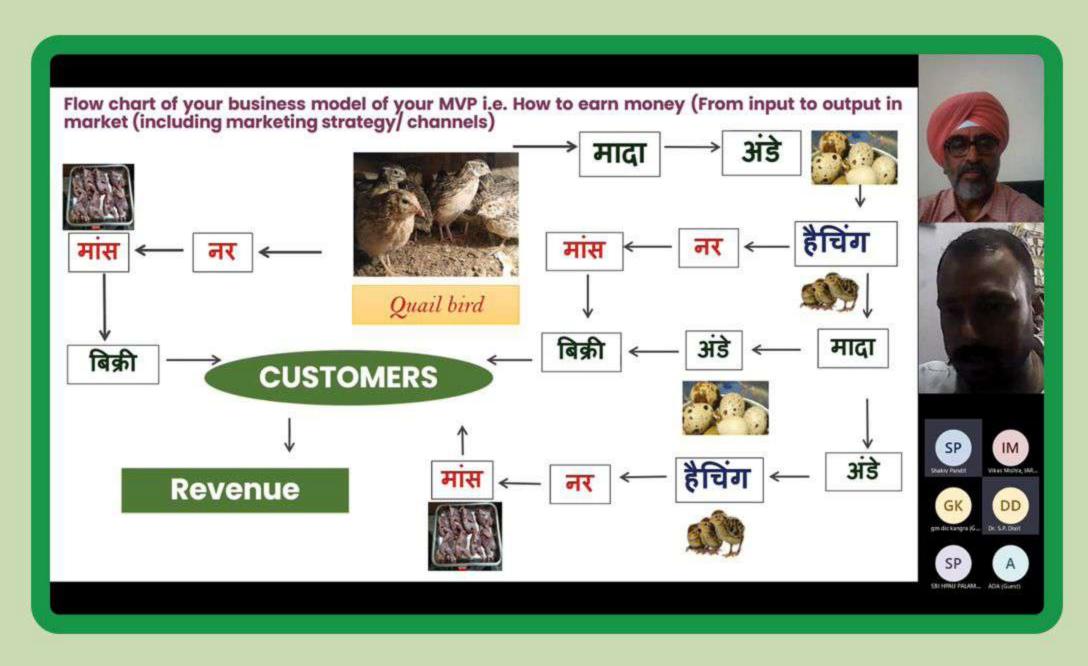




Him Palam RABI conducted RIC - III & Final RIC Meeting to evaluate the progress of the startups for Cohort 2020-21 & 2019-20 respectively [27th September, 2022]

Him Palam RABI, CSKHPKV, Palampur RIC Committee meeting for 2019-20 cohort and 2020-21 cohort convened on 27th September, 2022 to check the progress of funded start-ups against the release of the 2nd tranche and 1st tranche, respectively under Him Aarambh program. The virtual meeting was held under the Chairpersonship of Prof. H.K. Chaudhary, Vice Chancellor, CSKHPKV, Palampur and Dr. Y.S. Dhaliwal, Nodal Officer, Agri Business Incubator, CSKHPKV, Palampur, and the members of RIC committee. Five funded pre-seed startups from 2019-20 cohort and one pre-seed stage startup from 2020-21 cohort demonstrated and presented the progress of the start-up so far & discussed the challenges with the committee.





Him Palam RABI attended PM Kisan Samman Sammelan at IARI Mela Ground, New Delhi [17th - 18th October, 2022]

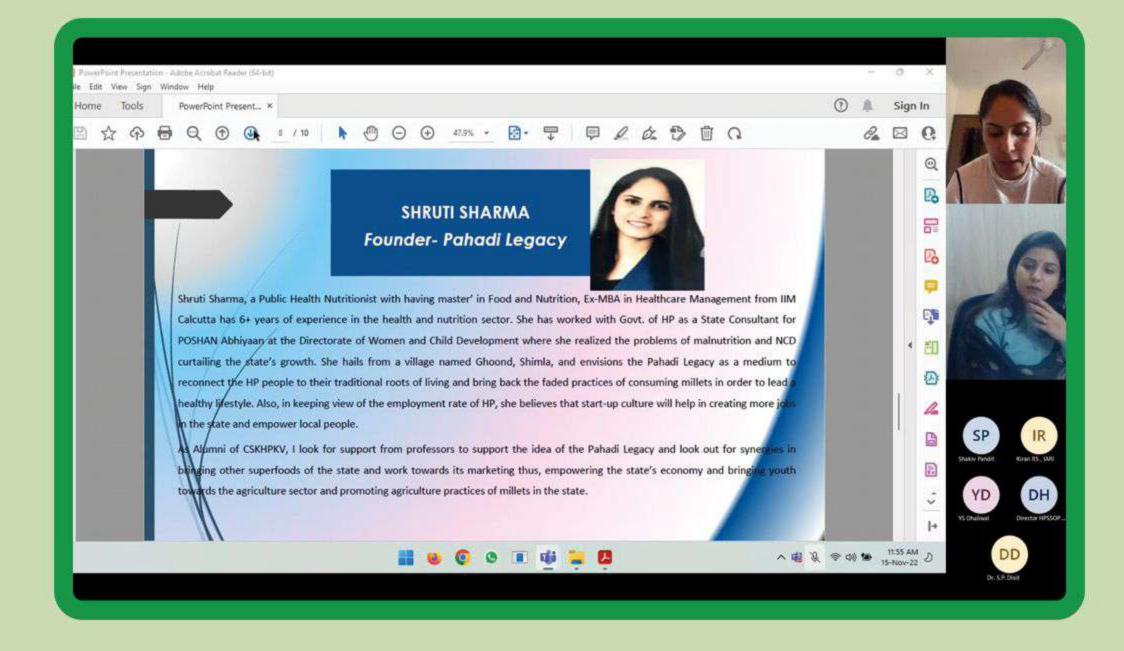
Him Palam RABI, CSKHPKV, Palampur attended PM Kisan Samman Sammelan at IARI Mela Ground, New Delhi. The event was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. More than 15,000 farmers & various FPOs from across the country also attended the event. This was a monumental event in history where startups, policy makers, farmers, and other stakeholders were face-to face. This event fostered an exchange of ideas between various key stakeholders including central & state government officials, start-ups from the wider ecosystem, incubators, FPOs, academicians, as well as all the KPs & RABIs.





Him Palam RABI conducted RIC - I Meeting for the selection of suitable agri-startups for 2-months Agri-entrepreneurship Orientation-cum-Incubation Programme for Cohort 2022-23 [15th November, 2022]

Him Palam RABI, CSKHPKV, Palampur RIC Committee meeting for 2022-23 cohort convened on 15th November, 2022 for the selection of suitable agri-startups for 2-months Agri-entrepreneurship Orientation-cum-Incubation Programme for Him Aarambh (pre-seed funding) and Him Utkarsh (seed funding) program. The virtual meeting was held under the Chairpersonship of Prof. H.K. Chaudhary, Vice Chancellor, CSKHPKV, Palampur and Dr. Y.S. Dhaliwal, Nodal Officer, Agri Business Incubator, CSKHPKV, Palampur, and the members of RIC committee. Twenty-four applicants for pre-seed funding and twenty-six applicants for seed funding demonstrated and presented their startup pitch before the committee.





Him Palam RABI conducted and concluded 2-months Agri-entrepreneurship Orientation-cum-Incubation Programme for Cohort 2022-23 [12th December, 2022 - 10th February, 2023]

2-months Agri-entrepreneurship Orientation-cum-Incubation Programme for Him Aarambh (pre-seed) and Him Utkarsh (seed) program for 2022-23 cohort was conducted virtually from 12th December, 2022 to 10th February, 2023. More than 90 hours of sessions were conducted, aiming to cover every aspect of creating & scaling up a start-up. Subject matter experts from various domains e.g., marketing, finance, entrepreneurship development, information technology, design thinking, intellectual property rights, compliances on DPIIT registration, growth strategies, branding, packaging & design etc. have shared their experience with incubates. The sessions were conducted, covering each area of a business expansion and to provide a holistic development for emerging start-ups and agri-businesses.

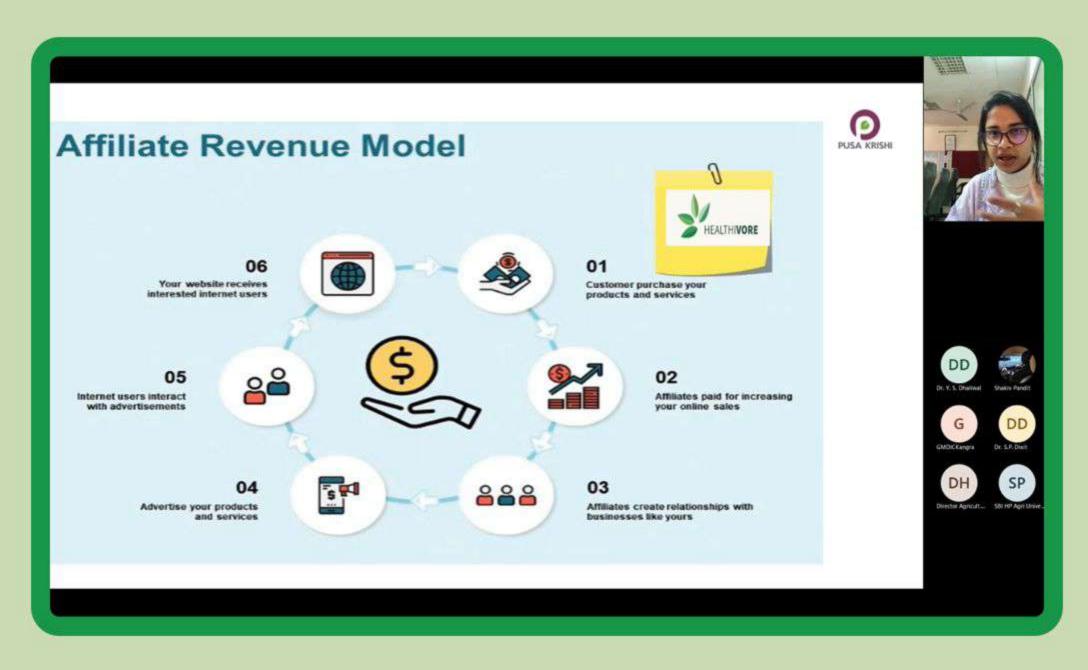




Him Palam RABI conducted RIC - II Meeting to evaluate the progress of Agri-preneurship Orientation & incubation Programme for Cohort 2022-23 [24th February, 2023]

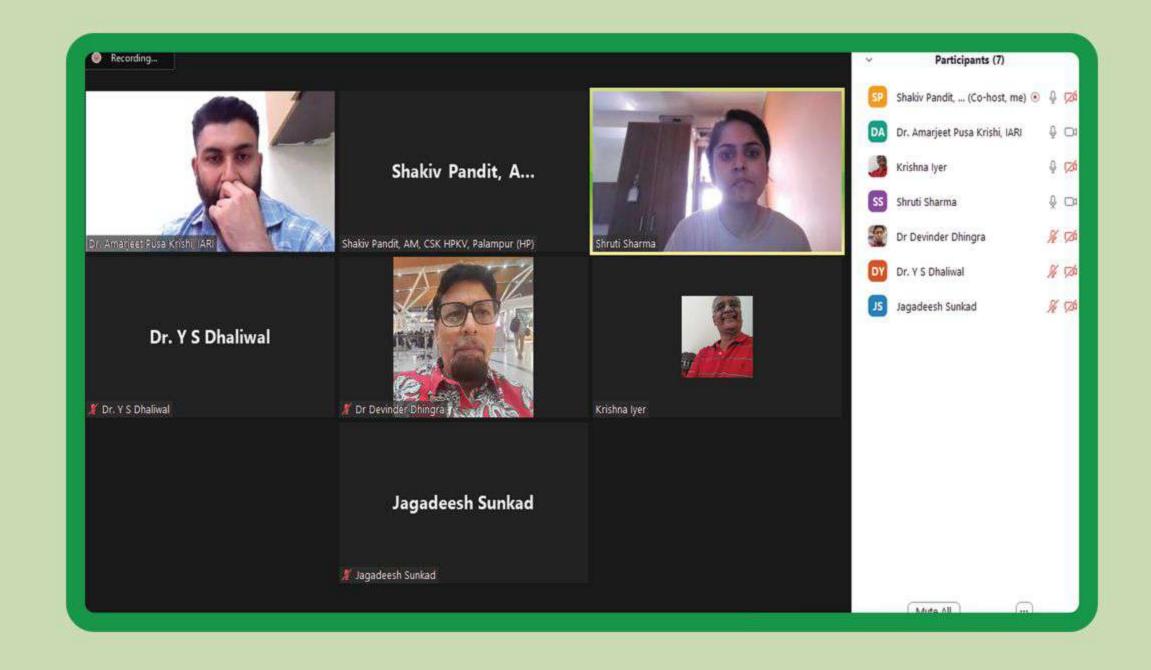
Him Palam RABI, CSKHPKV, Palampur RABI Incubation Committee meeting for 2022-23 Cohort convened on 24th February, 2023 for evaluation & recommendation for the next stage for the start-ups after 2-Months Agri-entrepreneurship Orientation-cum-Incubation Programme under Him Aarambh & Him Utkarsh programs. The virtual meeting was held under the chairpersonship of Prof. H.K. Chaudhary, Vice Chancellor, CSKHPKV, Palampur and Dr. Y. S. Dhaliwal, Nodal Officer, Agri Business Incubator, CSKH-PKV, Palampur along with the RIC committee members to evaluate the progress of incubated start-ups and to recommend them for CIC meeting. Twenty-seven start-ups presented their growth and development in RIC-II meeting before the committee for grant in aid recommendation.

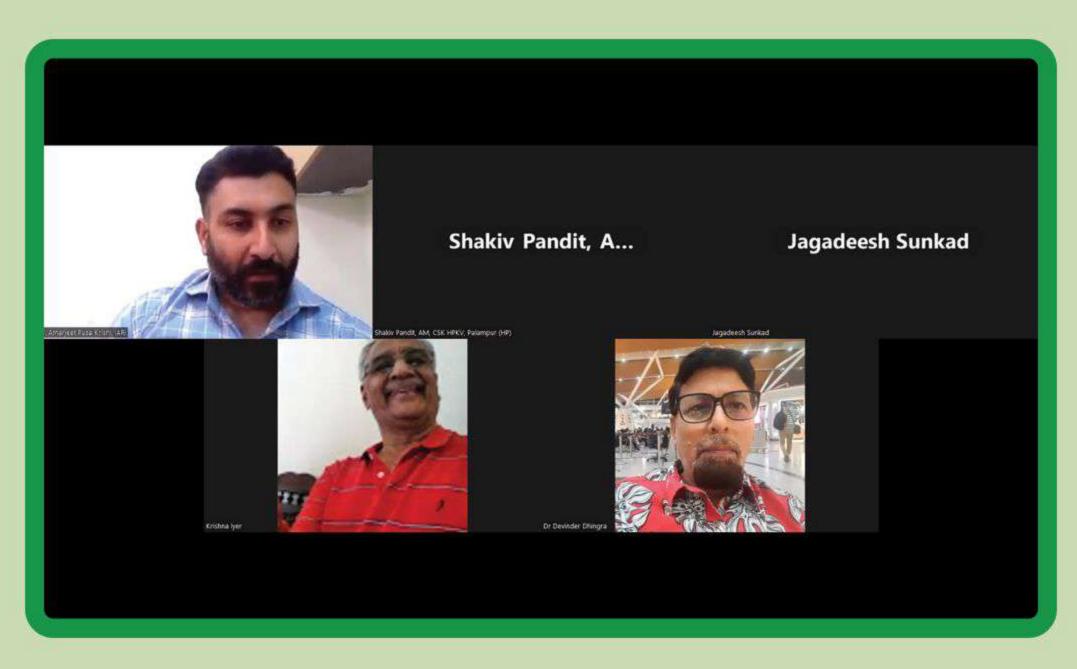




Him Palam RABI, CSKHPKV, Palampur with Pusa Krishi Incubator, New Delhi conducted CIC meeting of 2022-23 cohort [13th March, 2023]

Him Palam RABI, CSKHPKV, Palampur CIC/RC meeting for 2022-23 cohort convened on 13th March, 2023 for the grant-in-aid recommendation for the start-ups after 2 months incubation-cum orientation programme under Him Aarambh & Him Utkarsh programs. The recommended total of 17 start-ups for "seed stage funding (up to Rs 25 lacs) and Pre-seed stage funding (up to Rs 5 Lacs) presented the pitch for funding. RKVY-RAFTAAR Centre of Excellence Incubation Committee (CIC) recommended five (5) start-ups under Him Aarambh (pre-seed stage funding) and two (2) start-ups under Him Utkarsh (seed stage funding).





Prepared By

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