



# Integral Institute of Agricultural Science & Technology (IIAST) Integral University, Lucknow

## Report of Guest Lecture on Seed Day in the Department of Agriculture, IIAST

The Department of Agriculture, IIAST, Integral University commemorated International Seeds Day on April 26, 2024, with an enlightening guest lecture titled "**From Seed to Spice: Celebrating the Flavourful Path.**" in Seminar Hall of IIAST. The event aimed to delve deeply into the profound significance of seeds within the journey of spice production, illuminating the diverse array of flavours they contribute to our culinary experiences.

Dr. P.K. Singh, former Registrar ANDUAT (Acharya Narendra Deva University of Agriculture and Technology), graced the occasion as the distinguished guest speaker. Leveraging his extensive expertise in Genetics and plant breeding, Dr. Singh delivered insights into the pivotal role of seeds in spice production, elucidating the intricate journey from seed to spice. Throughout the lecture, Dr. Singh provided comprehensive explanations on how seeds serve as the fundamental building blocks of agricultural ecosystems, laying the groundwork for the cultivation of diverse and vibrant spice varieties that enrich our culinary traditions. He emphasized on the indispensable contribution of seeds to spice cultivation and production processes, emphasizing their role as catalysts for agricultural innovation and sustainability. Furthermore, Dr. Singh accentuated the cultural significance of spices, highlighting their integral role in global cuisines and their historical importance in trade and cultural exchange. By exploring the challenges faced by spice growers, including climate change and market dynamics, He stressed the urgency of preserving genetic diversity in spice crops through sustainable agricultural practices.

Around 60 students had attended the interactive session which allowed attendees to engage in meaningful discussions on a spectrum of topics, ranging from seed conservation to spice cultivation techniques. This fostered a deeper appreciation for the multifaceted role of seeds in agriculture and culinary arts, as well as an understanding of the interconnectedness between seed diversity, food security, and cultural heritage.

In essence, the guest lecture served as a poignant reminder of the invaluable contribution of seeds to our lives. Dr. PK Singh's profound expertise and impassioned delivery left a lasting impact, inspiring attendees to recognize and celebrate the significance of seeds in sustaining our food systems and preserving our cultural heritage. Celebrating Seed Day in the Department of Agriculture helped in highlighting the importance of seeds in agriculture but also for promoting sustainable practices, preserving biodiversity, enhancing food security, and honouring cultural heritage. It serves as a reminder of the essential role that seeds play in nourishing and sustaining life on our planet. The Programme was observed under the guidance of Prof. Mohd Haris Siddiqui, Dean, Faculty of Agricultural



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Science and Technology and Prof. Saba Siddiqui, Head, Department of Agriculture, IIAST. Dr. Deepti and Dr. P.N. Verma moderated the session as faculty coordinator.

Glimpses of the program

