

**Report**  
**Of**  
**“International Seeds Day”**  
**Organized by the Integral Institute of Agricultural Sciences & Technology (IIAST)**  
**April 26, 2022**

Seed is the basic and most critical input for sustainable agriculture. The response of all other inputs depends on the quality of seeds to a large extent. For farmers, seed is life. Therefore, integrity and sanctity of every seed should be preserved and protected. Recognizing the importance of seeds, every year, on 26<sup>th</sup> April, International Seeds Day is celebrated. Integral Institute of Agricultural Sciences & Technology (IIAST) celebrated the same, in Hall-3 of Central Auditorium to make the students aware of the importance of seed.

The programme began with the Welcome Address of **Dr Saba Siddiqui**, Head, Department of Agriculture, IIAST, Integral University followed by a short speech on the significance of International Seeds Day.

The guest speaker **Dr Sujit Kumar** addressed Intellectual Property Rights: Indian Seed Sector with relation to Farmer's rights, seed treaty and UPOV. Dr Sujit Kumar is the Scientific Officer (Plant Breeding) at Uttar Pradesh Council of Agricultural Research, Lucknow. Dr Sujit Kumar has 22 years of experience in Genetics and Plant Breeding. Dr Sujeet has worked on the various aspects of IPR, hybrid crops. Dr Sujit gave the introduction of the seed act and emphasized the significance of UPOV in the protection of new varieties. He also explained to students the process of registering the variety and preserving the seeds for the long term. The session was interactive and students participated enthusiastically

The other eminent speaker **Professor C.P. Sachan** discussed the Seed Scenario in emerging technology in light of the post-WTO regime. Professor Sachan has 34 years of experience in teaching, research and extension. Prof. C. P. Sachan explained the basic difference between seed and grain and discussed the role of biotechnology in the improvement of seed quality and shelf life. He also advised the students to be an employer, not an employee by starting a business in the Seed Industry. All the students actively participated in the lecture with their evident responses. The students got a deep insight into the significance of International Seeds Day.

The deliberations given by both the speakers were very informative and students benefited from their knowledge and experience.

The programme was conducted by **Dr Deepti Srivastava**, Assistant Professor, Department of Agriculture, IIAST, Integral University.

A quiz competition on seed, patent, and farmer's rights was also conducted by the faculty members, **Dr Mala Kumari** and **Dr Anand Kumar**. 76 students enthusiastically participated in the quiz competition and the names of the winners are:

1. Mr Saurabh Kumar, B.Sc.(Hons.)Ag 3<sup>rd</sup> Year

2. Miss Anjali Singh, B.Sc.(Hons.)Ag 3<sup>rd</sup> Year

3. Miss Neha Gautam B.Sc.(Hons.)Ag 2<sup>nd</sup> Year; Mr Saoud Khan B.Sc.(Hons.)Ag 2<sup>nd</sup> Year;  
Mr Narayan Dutt Mishra, B.Sc.(Hons.)Ag 3<sup>rd</sup> Year

Prizes and Certificates were distributed by Dr Sujit Kumar and Professor C.P. Sachan.

The student coordinators of the programme were Mahima Singh Kushwaha and Angrej Dhawan, students of M.Sc. (Ag) Genetics and Plant Breeding. The programme witnessed an overwhelming response from students and staff.

### Glimpses of Event

