



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

**Report
on
Guest Lecture on Outlook of Agriculture ahead
Organized by
Department of Agriculture
September 19, 2022**

The Department of Agriculture at the Integral Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology (IIAST) hosted a guest lecture with the goal of educating attendees about new developments in the area and offering insights into the most recent developments in agriculture. Mr. Sunil, Managing Director, Suryansh Coolex Pvt. Ltd., Lucknow, visit us on September 19th, 2022, for an insightful guest lecture on " Outlook of Agriculture ahead. The Department of Agriculture's head, Dr. Saba Siddiqui, cordially welcomed the guest lecturer. Dr. Siddiqui urged everyone to participate in the event, which promised to provide insightful information on both the potential transformative power of contemporary methods and traditional agricultural practices.

The lecture provided a comprehensive overview of the key drivers expected to shape the future of agriculture over the next couple of decades. Mr. Sunil began by highlighting the immense challenges the industry will face due to climate change, water scarcity, shrinking arable land, and a growing global population projected to reach 9.7 billion by 2050. He emphasized that a "business-as-usual" approach will be disastrous, and that transformative innovations will be critical to feed the world's population while minimizing environmental degradation.

Mr. Sunil also covered the potential implications of these innovations, including greater consolidation in agri-food value chains, heightened market power of agritech firms, weakening of traditional distribution networks, and regulatory challenges around novel food products. The economic outlook focused on increasing private investment in the agritech sector driven by billionaire philanthropists and the rising influence of institutional investors prioritizing environmental and social governance (ESG) factors. Opportunities in carbon credit markets for regenerative agriculture practices were also highlighted.

Overall, the lecture painted a holistic picture of how agriculture is poised for an innovative reboot over the next few decades driven by the compounding challenges of climate change, population growth, and resource scarcity. Students gained valuable insights into the emerging technologies, investment trends, and socioeconomic forces that will reshape our global food systems in the years ahead.



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The Q&A session featured an engaging discussion around potential unintended consequences, food affordability concerns, preserving agrobiodiversity, data rights for farmers, and responsible governance of agricultural innovations. We thank Mr. Sunil for such a comprehensive analysis of the outlook for agriculture in the 21st century and beyond.

Addressing the audience, Dr. Saba Siddiqui, Head of the Department of Agriculture at IIAST, Integral University, emphasized the importance of utilizing such platforms for knowledge acquisition. She highlighted the significance of research discussions within these forums. The guest lecture concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Faria Fatima. The guest lecture was meticulously organized by the members of the RAWE committee, including Dr. Malik Mobeen, Mr. Nadeem Khan, Dr. Faria Fatima, Dr. Khalid Habib, Dr. Sunil Kumar, and Dr. Ayush Bhushan, under the guidance of Prof. Mohd. Haris Siddiqui, Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural Science and Technology, and Dr. Saba Siddiqui, Head of the Department of Agriculture.

Glimpse

