

NIFTEM-K

NEWSLETTER

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NEWSLETTER

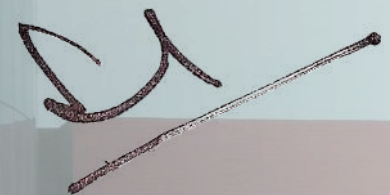
From the Desk of Director

Innovations driving collaborations

At the very outset, I take this opportunity to wish all our readers a very happy, safe and prosperous new year. The quarter gone by saw visits of senior officers and Executives from Government Departments and Industry reinforcing their trust in collaborating with NIFTEM-K. The key behind this trust getting built up is largely the innovations created by NIFTEMites and the Institute's renewed focus on cutting edge research. One of the key highlights of this quarter was the successful completion of VAP, the Institute's flagship programme. Compared to the previous year, where the VAP was conducted in nine states, 12 districts and 16 villages, the Institute's VAP programme this year was undertaken in 13 states, 17 districts and 22 villages. The villagers in the new villages were quite interested in the initiatives undertaken by the Institute in skill development and capacity building. As a result of the interventions made by our students and faculty, farmers and villagers from Samastipur in Bihar are likely to visit the Institute soon to get deeper insights about the work being done by it. Collaborations with IIT and IIIT, Hyderabad will help NIFTEM-K in extending its student and faculty exchange programmes and also immersion programmes for its students, besides joint PhD supervision and collaborative research. Faculty from the Institute successfully transferred some of its innovative technologies to its diverse

stakeholders, located across the length and breadth of the country. The Institute also organized CONNECT which was primarily intended to connect NIFTEM-K successfully to the Industry through better internships and placements for our students, filling the gaps as brought out by the Industry for improving their employability and better connect for joint research activities. The Institute's sixth convocation presided by Professor V Ramgopal Rao, Chairman, BoG and graced by Professor Ajay Sood, Principal Scientific Advisor, GoI, Sh. Shyam Sundar Aggarwal, MD, Bikanervala and Sh. Devesh Deval, JS, MoFPI saw the degrees awarded to 262 NIFTEM students from different streams. The second edition of the Institute's Alumni meet and Foundation Day celebrations besides cultural performances and jazzy bands, saw the gracious presence of high profile dignitaries like Dr. VK Paul, Honourable Member, Niti Aayog who through his Foundation Day lecture kept the audience glued to their chairs by an insightful talk relating food, nutrition and health with some very practical illustrations. Institute kept up its tempo in research by its faculty, students and staff publishing their research in high impact journals. Our brilliant students during this quarter too also organized various interesting and exciting programmes and participated and gained top spots in programmes organized by other Academic and scientific organizations in the country. However, it was a sad end to the year for the NIFTEM-K family as we lost our young and dynamic colleague, Dr. Disha Gulia, Assistant Professor, FBM&ED department in a horrifying road accident. May the departed soul rest in peace.

I am hopeful that all our readers will find this edition of Newsletter informative and would love to hear about your comments/feedback for improving the contents and presentation. Happy reading till we come back again with some new, insightful and interesting updates in the new year.



Dr. Harinder Singh Oberoi
Director (NIFTEM-K)

NEWS AND EVENTS

Shri B. Karthikey, Secretary (Industries), Government of Bihar visited NIFTEM-K

Shri B. Karthikey, Secretary (Industries), Government of Bihar, visited NIFTEM-K. During the visit, he toured state-of-the-art facilities, including academic laboratories, pilot plants, the Centre of Excellence in Food Fortification, the Centre for Food Research and Analysis (CFRA), and the Incubation Centre.

Landmark Partnership Established for Skill Development in Bihar

NIFTEM-K and Industry Department, Government of Bihar, formalized a landmark partnership aimed at strengthening training and skill development within the state food processing ecosystem. The agreement was executed by Shri B. Kartikeya Dhanji, Secretary, Industry Department, and Dr. Harinder Singh Oberoi, Director, NIFTEM-K, signifying an important step toward systematic capacity building. Under this collaboration, NIFTEM-K will extend its national expertise in food processing, entrepreneurship, and industry-oriented training to equip youth with practical, employment-ready competencies. The initiative is expected to enhance employability, encourage entrepreneurship, and support sustainable livelihoods, while aligning policy support with technical knowledge to promote innovation-driven growth in Bihar’s rapidly developing food sector.



Shri B. Karthikey, Secretary (Industries), Government of Bihar during his visit to NIFTEM-K



Signing of agreement NIFTEM-K and Industry Department, Government of Bihar for Skill Development in Bihar

Nestlé & NIFTEM-K plan strategic collaboration

NIFTEM-K had the honour of hosting distinguished delegation from Nestlé’s global and Nestlé India R&D teams on 30th October 2025 to explore potential avenues of collaboration in food safety, quality assurance, and innovation. The delegation, led by Dr Ryan Carvalho, Head-Nestlé Research, Laussane, Switzerland engaged with Dr Harinder Singh Oberoi for prospective joint initiatives, including the development of rapid antibiotic detection kits, gluten-free and specialty food formulations, and sustainability interventions driven by renewable energy, thereby reinforcing the shared commitment of both organizations for enhancing food safety and sustainable advancement across the agri-food sector. The team also visited institutional facilities including the centre of excellence in food fortification and the centre for food research and analysis



Signing of agreement NIFTEM-K and Industry Department, Government of Bihar for Skill Development in Bihar



Team Nestlé during visit to CFRA, NIFTEM-K

NIFTEM-K signs strategic MoUs with IIT, Hyderabad & IIIT Hyderabad

In a major step towards fostering innovation and interdisciplinary research, Dr Harinder Singh Oberoi, Director, NIFTEM-K signed two significant MoUs with Prof. B. S. Murty, Director, IIT Hyderabad and Prof. Sandeep Shukla, IIIT, Hyderabad on 10th October 2025 to advance Innovation and Digital Transformation. The MoU with IIT Hyderabad was on strengthening joint initiatives in research and development, capacity building, student internships, and joint certificate programmes across food technology, engineering, and allied sciences. The MoU with IIIT Hyderabad focuses on leveraging AI, data analytics, and emerging digital technologies to address challenges in food processing, safety, and entrepreneurship. During the visit, Dr Oberoi also held discussions with the stakeholders from International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) on protein profiling in high-protein legumes and millets, and on developing innovative value-added food products from selected varieties.



Management Development Program on Business Analytics

NIFTEM-K successfully conducted a three-day Management Development Program (MDP) on Business Analytics from 17th-19th September 2026, tailored for professionals from the food and agriculture sector. The program equipped participants with practical knowledge and tools to leverage data for strategic decision-making, covering business intelligence, data management and visualization, AI applications, and digital marketing analytics. More than 20 participants including Executives in Sales, Marketing, Supply Chain, and IT department of reputed organizations, including Sumitomo Chemical, IFFCO-MC Crop Science, Willowood Chemicals, Crystal Crop Protection (Saffire), Food Freshly, Scimplify, Neo Crop Solutions, and Agromeds Crop Solutions attended the MDP programme. By bridging the gap between data and decision-making, the MDP enhanced industry leaders capacity to drive efficiency, innovation, and growth.



Director NIFTEM-K felicitating Dr. Dhaval Maheta, Professor of Management, IIM Ahmedabad during MDP

NIFTEM-K celebrated Excellence at 6th Convocation



Release of Convocation Souvenir on the occasion of 6th Convocation of NIFTEM, Kundli

The 6th Convocation of NIFTEM-K held on 7th October 2025 was a grand celebration of achievement, innovation, and academic excellence. The ceremony was graced by the presence of Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India, as Chief Guest, and Mr. Devesh Deval, Joint Secretary, MoFPI and Sh. Shyam Sundar Aggarwal, Managing Director, Bikano as Guests of Honour. Presided over by Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao, Chairman, BoG, NIFTEM-K & Group Vice Chancellor, BITS Pilani, the event reflected NIFTEM-K's commitment to bridging science, technology, and industry. Director, NIFTEM-K, addressed the gathering, highlighting strides in education, innovation, and entrepreneurship. This year, 262 NIFTEM-K students were conferred degrees (126 B.Tech, 92 M.Tech, 27 MBA, and 17 Ph.D. scholars) with seven meritorious students honoured with Gold Medals for outstanding academic performance. The convocation highlighted NIFTEM-K's dedication to fostering collaboration between academia, the scientific community, and the food processing industry.

NIFTEM-K celebrated Alumni Meet and Foundation Day

NIFTEM-K marked 13 years of excellence in food technology and entrepreneurship along with annual Alumni Meet graced by Dr Vinod K. Paul, Honourable Member, NITI Aayog, Prof V Ramgopal Rao, Chairman, BoG, NIFTEM-K, Dr Ashwani Pareek, Executive Director, National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute (NABI), Mohali and Mr. Aditya Bagri, Group Director, Bagrry's. Under the guidance of Dr. Harinder Singh Oberoi, the event highlighted the NIFTEM-K commitment to science-driven innovation, transformative education, and impactful research.



NIFTEM Foundation Day Celebrations



Alumni with Dr S Thangalaxmi, President, Alumni Association of NIFTEM-K



NIFTEM-K Alumni Meet Celebrations



A glimpse of junior students with the Alumnis

Director NIFTEM-K Visits BITS Goa



Dr Harinder Singh Oberoi visited the BITS Goa campus on 14th November 2025 and interacted with Prof. Suman Kundu, Director, BITS Goa & faculty, researchers, start-ups, and students. Hosted by Prof Sunil Bhand, former Dean (Research) and Project Director, BITS BioCyTiH Foundation, the visit included a talk by Dr Oberoi on “Recent advancements in food science”, highlighting collaborative opportunities in food safety, food authenticity, and bioprocessing. The interactions opened promising avenues for academic and research partnerships, with both institutions expressing interest in formalising the collaboration through an MoU in the near future. NIFTEM-K looks forward to advancing impactful joint initiatives and fostering future-ready innovations.

NIFTEM-K Expands Village Adoption Programme Across Multiple States

NIFTEM-K has expanded its Village Adoption Programme to 22 villages across 17 districts in 13 states, marking another significant step toward rural empowerment. Teams engaged closely with village communities to assess needs, discuss training opportunities, explore avenues for technology support, and strengthen local participation. A dedicated group of 257 students, guided by 38 mentors and co-mentors, visited the adopted villages with a shared objective to listen, learn, and contribute. Through this initiative, NIFTEM-K continues to advance its mission of uplifting rural communities, fostering entrepreneurship, and creating sustainable, livelihood-oriented impact at the grassroots level.



[Click the link to access detailed information](#)

Unveiling TEDxNIFTEM

NIFTEM-K proudly launched TEDxNIFTEM, an independently organized TED event, on the occasion of its Foundation Day. The inaugural edition, themed “Echoes from the Deep” provided a platform where ideas meet innovation, voices find purpose, and NIFTEM-K legacy resonates on the global stage. Conceptualized and powered by Geetanjali – The Literary Society, and inspired by TED worldwide vision, TEDxNIFTEM marks the start of a new tradition celebrating curiosity, creativity, and conversations that inspire meaningful change.



Director NIFTEM-K launched the TEDxNIFTEM

NIFTEM-K Startup Madira Beverages Secures Seed Funding and Incubation

A proud moment for NIFTEM-K, Madira Beverages, founded by 2nd-year B.Tech students Kamal Nayan Tiwari and Aryan Kumar Keshri, received seed funding of Rs. 4 Lakhs and incubation support from Pusa Krishi Incubation Centre, ICAR-New Delhi.

NIFTEM-K Students Win 2nd Best Award at Foodathon 2030

NIFTEM-K proudly celebrates a significant achievement as our student team secured the 2nd Best Award at Foodathon 2030, a prestigious platform recognizing innovative solutions in sustainability and circular economy. The project was distinguished for its real-world applicability and future-ready approach. Congratulations to Shalabh Goel, Shreya Saran, and Rajat Singh for exemplifying the spirit of innovation and excellence at NIFTEM-K, contributing toward a more sustainable food ecosystem.



BizzCross: Entrepreneurial Thinking & Crossword Challenge

BizzCross, a distinctive crossword challenge designed to integrate curiosity and knowledge in the areas of start-ups, entrepreneurship, networking, and marketing, witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, who demonstrated strong problem-solving abilities alongside a clear passion for entrepreneurial thinking. The lively atmosphere and collaborative spirit created a memorable learning experience for all involved, reinforcing the culture of creativity, critical thinking, and an entrepreneurial mindset among NIFTEM-K students.



Inspirational Session on De-Addiction Organized at NIFTEM-K



NIFTEM-Kundli organized an inspirational session on de-addiction on 13th November 2025, in collaboration with Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya, under the national campaign Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India. The session was conducted by Dr. Sachin Parab, Holistic Wellness Expert and Motivational Speaker, on the theme “Break the Chain – Be the Better You,” with the objective of creating awareness among

students about different forms of addiction and motivating them to pursue a healthier, balanced, and value-based lifestyle.

Establishment of NCC Unit at NIFTEM-K

NIFTEM-K marked a significant milestone with the establishment of its first National Cadet Corps (NCC) unit, under the 12 NCC Army Unit, Sonipat. The screening process for NCC enrolment was conducted on 16th October 2025, following which 15 students were selected and registered, forming the first NCC batch of NIFTEM-K. Regular NCC training sessions are being conducted for cadets, with physical training and parade practice scheduled thrice in a week.



KEY MEETINGS & VISITS

Delegation from Taiyo Kagaku Global, Japan visited NIFTEM-K

NIFTEM-K hosted a distinguished delegation from Taiyo Kagaku Global and India R&D teams on 28th November 2025, marking a key step toward pioneering next-generation nutritional solutions. The delegation, including Dr. T.P. Rao, Managing Director, Taiyo Kagaku India Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Mokoto Tokunaga, General Manager, Nutrition Division, Taiyo Kagaku Co. Ltd., Japan, and Mr. Yasutaka Sugiyama, Senior Manager, Nutrition Division, Taiyo Kagaku Co. Ltd., Japan, expressed interest in signing a Confidentiality Disclosure Agreement (CDA) and formalizing collaborative initiatives. Dr. Harinder Singh Oberoi, Director, NIFTEM-K, welcomed the team and highlighted the NIFTEM-K initiatives, reinforcing its vision of global partnerships and translational research. Key areas of collaboration included validation of SunActive® Iron formulations, development of iron and vitamin enriched food products, technology transfer and licensing, joint R&D with publications and patents, and strengthening market linkages to expand the impact of NIFTEM-K innovations.

PepsiCo R&D team visits NIFTEM-K

NIFTEM-K hosted a delegation from PepsiCo India, led by Mr. Mijanur Rahman, Senior Director and R&D Head, to explore opportunities for collaboration in food science and technology. The team interacted with Dr. Harinder Singh Oberoi, Director, NIFTEM-K who steered the discussion on the development of rapid detection kits, collaborative ready-to-eat snack product development, and analytical testing support for PepsiCo's products. The delegation also visited the CFRA Lab. and pilot plant facilities.

Toshvin Analytical team visits NIFTEM-K

NIFTEM-K welcomed a delegation from Toshvin Analytical Pvt. Ltd., led by Mr. Nakul Toshniwal, Managing Director, to explore collaboration in food safety and analytical excellence. The visit focused on potential partnerships in commercializing rapid testing kits, Make in India manufacturing of highend instruments, industry collaboration in the upcoming Centre of Excellence in Food Safety and Authenticity, and joint research on microplastics, fruit juice concentrate protocols, and honey authenticity testing.



Team NIFTEM-K with Team Taiyo Kagaku Global, Team PepsiCo & MD, Toshvin Analytical Pvt. Ltd.(L-R)

NIFTEMK hosts ICMA Delegation

NIFTEMK welcomed a delegation from the Indian Confectionery Manufacturers Association (ICMA) on 31st October 2025. Led by the President Sh. Prabhakar Mishra and Vice President Ms. Ranjeet Kaur, along with representatives from leading industry organizations including Mondelez, ITC, Perfetti Vanmelle, Mars Wrigley, DS Group, Reliance Consumer Products, and S K Industries. The delegation held extensive discussions with the NIFTEMK team headed by Dr Harinder Singh Oberoi, focusing on strengthening industryacademia collaboration through joint research, student placements, internships, and technology transfer. The ICMA team expressed strong interest in developing infrastructure at NIFTEM-K to serve as a hub for innovation and skill development in the confectionery sector.

Team Doehler visits NIFTEM-K

NIFTEM-K welcomed a distinguished delegation from the Doehler Group led by Mr. Nikolay Ermakov, Global R&D Head, and Dr. Vivek Chaughule, Director, Development & Applications, to explore collaborative opportunities in advanced nutrition. Director, NIFTEM-K highlighted the Institute's research strengths in nutrition, gut health, and innovative food science, along with plans for the upcoming Centre of Excellence for Immunonutrition. Discussions focused on joint R&D initiatives, immuno- and therapeutic-nutrition product development, student internships, and pilot-scale trials, marking a significant step toward a strategic partnership that aims to advance science-driven nutrition and industry-ready innovations.

Zepto Delegation Visits NIFTEM-K

NIFTEM-K had the privilege of hosting a delegation from Zepto Private Limited, led by Mr. Rachit Ranjan, Chief Policy Officer, and Ms. Vinti Agarwal, Senior Manager (Public Policy) on 11th December 2025. The discussions focused on developing a joint course with defined credit load and specialized training program on Food Safety for food handlers, aimed at enhancing sector-wide capacity building and best practices. Dr. Harinder Singh Oberoi highlighted NIFTEM-K's commitment to food safety, authenticity, and innovation, underscoring the value of industry-academia collaboration. Key areas explored included FSMS training at NIFTEM-K, technology transfer of SARTHI for safe refrigerated transport of perishables, and potential collaboration on rapid detection kits for adulteration and pesticide residues. The visit marked an encouraging step toward a safer, innovation-driven food ecosystem.



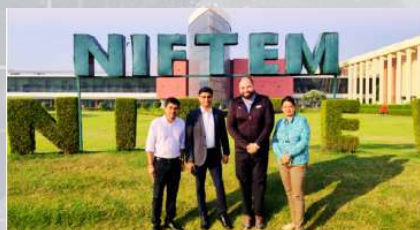
Director NIFTEM-K with Team ICMA Delegation, Team Doehler & Zepto Delegation (L-R)

Britannia Industries R&D visited NIFTEM-K to Strengthen Industry-Academia Collaboration

NIFTEM-K had the privilege of hosting the R&D delegation from Britannia Industries Limited, marking a significant step toward strengthening industry-academia collaboration in the food processing and innovation ecosystem. The visit highlighted a shared commitment to developing healthier, more efficient, and consumer-centric food solutions through sustained knowledge exchange and collaborative research initiatives.

Patanjali Group delegation visits NIFTEM-K

NIFTEM-K hosted a delegation from Patanjali Organic Research Institute Pvt. Ltd., including Mr. Surender Kumar Sharma (CEO, Patanjali Food and Herbal Park), Mr. Pawan Kumar (Chief General Manager), and Dr. Ramkrishna Gupta (AVP & Head – New Product Development, Patanjali Foods-Ruchi Soya). The visit identified collaboration opportunities in technology transfer for innovative products (Honey Powder, Ghee Powder, Kanji Powder), byproduct valorisation research, renewable energy applications, and academic partnerships through internships, placements, and Ph.D. coguidance.



Team Britannia At NIFTEM-K



Director NIFTEM-K with Patanjali Delegation

MoFPI Delegates visit NIFTEM-K

NIFTEM-K had the privilege of hosting Sh. Arvind Kumar and Sh. I. M. Khan, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI). Director welcomed the delegates, who engaged in productive discussions following the BWC meeting. The visit also included a symbolic plantation drive, reflecting a shared commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship.

Spiritual and Scientific Wisdom Converge: Distinguished Guests visit NIFTEM-K

NIFTEM-K had the honor of hosting Gorakshak Sant Swami Amritanand Ji (Shri Krishnayan Desi Gorakshashala), Shri Sarvan Ji (Chairman, Gau Sewa Ayog, Government of Haryana), and Shri Pushpender Chandel Ji (Former MP, Hamirpur, Bundelkhand). The interaction highlighted the synergy between India's spiritual wisdom, ethical livestock care, and scientific innovation. Swami Ji lauded NIFTEM-K's early pregnancy detection kit for cows, recognizing its potential to support sustainable livestock management. Their insights on value-based development, compassion-driven leadership, and harmonizing tradition with technology left a lasting impression on the NIFTEM-K community.



Director NIFTEM-K with Patanjali Delegation



Director NIFTEM-K with Patanjali Delegation

CELEBRATIONS

NIFTEM-K Commemorates Rashtriya Ekta Diwas with Run for Unity

NIFTEM-K celebrated Rashtriya Ekta Diwas on 31 October 2025 with enthusiasm, beginning the day with a spirited Run for Unity followed by the Unity Pledge, reflecting the nation's strength in diversity. The event honored the legacy of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and reinforced the importance of unity, teamwork, and collective responsibility among students and staff.



Constitution Day at NIFTEM-K: Celebrated with a great zeal

NIFTEM-K observed Constitution Day with a Pledge on 26th November 2025, commemorating the adoption of the Constitution of India as the foundational framework of the nation's democratic governance. Director NIFTEM-K administered the pledge followed by an address to faculty, staff, and students. The institute also organized series of academic and cultural activities as part of three days celebrations, including a student parliament, constitutional tech quiz, essay writing, debate, calligraphic poster-making, and cultural presentations. Furthermore, students and faculty associated with the village adoption programme across 17 districts in 13 states also administered the pledge at their respective locations engaging rural youth and school children.



Constitution Day Pledge and Ceremonies

NIFTEM-K PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL EVENTS

NIFTEM-K shines at World Food Day 2025

NIFTEM-K marked its proud participation in the World Food Day 2025 celebrations organised by Indian Food and Beverage Association (IFBA) in collaboration with NIFTEM-K and Institute of Hotel Management, Delhi. Team NIFTEM-K secured First Prize in the healthy snacking competition, reaffirming leadership in food innovation and nutrition. Dr Harinder Singh Oberoi presented the academia perspective, outlining key initiatives in HFSS research, food fortification, rapid testing kits, and food laboratory strengthening. The event, graced by Shri Avinash Joshi, Secretary, MoFPI, and Dr Satyen Kumar Panda, Advisor (Q&A) Executive Director (Regulatory Compliance), emphasized the shared commitment of government, academia, and industry to advancing a safe and sustainable food future.

NIFTEM-K showcases innovation and skills at Annapoorna InterFood 2025

NIFTEM-K participated in the International Food & Beverage Trade Expo – Annapoorna InterFood 2025, held from 11th – 13th December 2025 at the Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai. The institute engaged with industry leaders, policy makers, and entrepreneurs on emerging trends in food processing, packaging, safety, automation, and allied technologies. The expo was inaugurated by Shri Avinash Joshi, Secretary, MoFPI, who emphasized food safety, value addition, and farmer prosperity under flagship government schemes. Over three days, the event featured product launches, B2B meetings, presentations and workshops. At the NIFTEM-K stall, interactions focused on training, skill development, consultancy, placements, admissions, and promotion of the upcoming ANVESH 2026 initiative as a platform for innovation, research, and collaboration in the food processing sector.



Director NIFTEM K and Team NIFTEM during World Food Day 2025



Team NIFTEM at Annapoorna InterFood 2025

PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES/ SEMINAR

Faculty Participation

- Dr. Vikash Surliya, Assistant Professor, Food Business Management and Entrepreneurship Development presented an oral paper at 12th International Conference on “Agriculture & Veterinary: Transformative Approach, Research & Innovations Forum (ICAVRI-2025)” jointly organized by Goa College of Agriculture, Goa in association with UAS Dharwad, VNMKV, Parbhani Directorate of Agriculture Goa and ISASTR Society, New Delhi held on 16th to 18th November, 2025 at Goa.
- Dr. P K Nema received a “Promising Innovation Award” on the topic “Novel processing technology for development of natural nutrient-dense food products” in INFUSE Innovation Summit 2025, held at ICMR–National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), Hyderabad during 4–5 December 2025.
- Dr. Vimal Pant, Head, FBM&ED Department participated in the Multi-Country Observational Study Mission on Principles and Best Practices of the Sufficiency-Based Circular Economy, organized by the Asian Productivity Organization in Tokyo, Japan during 10th-12th December 2025.
- Dr Sarika Yadav, Associate Professor, FBMED, presented a paper titled “Enhancing Resilience in EV Mobility Systems to Support Sustainable Food Supply Chains amid Climate Change Challenges” (online), at the 39th Annual Conference on Agricultural Marketing from 29th October to 1st November 2025, organised by the School of Economics, University of Hyderabad & Indian Society of Agricultural Marketing.

Students Participation

- Ms. Shivangi, MBA Scholar, FBM&ED Department a paper entitled “Reimagining Millets in India: Production, SWOT Assessment and Consumer Behaviour Analysis” at 12th International Conference on “Agriculture & Veterinary: Transformative Approach, Research & Innovations Forum (ICAVRI-2025)” jointly organized by Goa College of Agriculture, Goa in association with UAS Dharwad, VNMKV, Parbhani Directorate of Agriculture Goa and ISASTR Society, New Delhi held on 16th to 18th November, 2025 at Goa.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED BY NIFTEM-K

CONNECT 2025: Industry–Academia Roundtable

NIFTEM-K successfully hosted CONNECT 2025, an Industry–Academia Roundtable that brought together 22 eminent industry leaders from 19 leading organisations across the food sector. The discussions featured insights from representatives of Mars Wrigley, Marico, Nestlé, Nutrivita, PepsiCo, Tirupati Group and others, focusing on aligning academic training with evolving industry needs. Dr Harinder Singh Oberoi emphasized on curiosity, critical thinking, and strong conceptual foundations as core to professional excellence. The session concluded with a shared commitment to expand internships, live projects, mentorship, and collaborative engagement.



Webinar on Jackfruit Processing & Value Addition (in Konkani) under the PMFME Scheme

NIFTEM-K successfully conducted an online webinar on “Jackfruit Processing & Value Addition” (in Konkani) under the PMFME Scheme on 12th November 2025, organized in collaboration with the Directorate of Industries, Trade and Commerce (DITC), Goa. The session featured expert insights from Dr. Aduja Naik (CFTRI) and Dr. Maria Carina (Karnataka University). The event witnessed participation from around 108 attendees, including micro food processing entrepreneurs, FPOs, SHGs, and state officials. The program focused on promoting awareness, scientific processing practices, and capacity building in jackfruit value addition to strengthen the micro food processing ecosystem under the PMFME Scheme.



Youth Grooming & Hygiene Awareness Workshop

NIFTEM-K in collaboration with Right Side Story, Gillette, and Whisper India, successfully organized a Youth Grooming and Hygiene Awareness Workshop on 17th November 2025. The technical session featured an interactive lecture by Dr. Suma, Gynaecologist at Tulip Hospital, who discussed Basic Hygiene & Sanitation in Youth and addressed concerns related to UTIs, focusing on early symptoms, prevention, and good hygiene practices. Approximately, 60 students actively participated in the workshop. As part of the awareness drive, sanitary napkins and Gillette razors were distributed, ensuring that both students and faculty use such products to maintain personal hygiene.



Guest lecture on brand management

NIFTEM-K organized special guest lecture on Brand Management on 14th November 2025 covering area of Future of Branding – Emerging Trends: AI personalization, Metaverse and Beyond.

TRAININGS ORGANIZED BY THE INSTITUTE

NIFTEM–K organized a total of 9 capacity-building and training programmes, including one-day trainings, and multi-day hands-on programmes. The key thematic areas covered were food fortification, value addition of agricultural produce, public health nutrition, large-scale fortification technologies, analytical techniques, and decentralized food production.

These programmes collectively reached over 340 beneficiaries, including students, scholars, micro food processing entrepreneurs, SHGs, FPOs, industry personnels, and government officials, thereby strengthening technical skills, awareness, and practical competencies across the food and nutrition ecosystem.

[Click the link to access detailed information](#)

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Technology Transfer by NIFTEM-K

This quarter marked a significant milestone for the institute in translating lab-scale research into real-world solutions. By licensing a diverse range of indigenous technologies to industry partners, the institute continues to bridge the gap between scientific innovations and the evolving needs of the food sector. Following technologies were transferred to diverse stakeholders

Sl. No.	Area / Sector	Name of Technology	Invented by	Transferred to (Licensee/Industry Partner)
	Bakery & Confectionery	Eggless Cake Premix Technology	Dr Anand Kishore, FE Deptt.	Crop Pure Pvt. Ltd.
	Traditional Foods & Convenience Foods	Instant Composite Millet-Based Kheer Premix	Dr Ankur Ojha, FST Deptt.	RDZ 1983 Bakery, Rajasthan
	Food Safety & Livestock Diagnostics	Rapid Cattle Pregnancy Detection Kit	Dr Dinesh Kumar, IDS Deptt.	ARF Lifesciences LLP, Faridabad
	Food Safety & Quality Assurance	Rapid Paneer Adulteration Detection Kit	Dr Dinesh Kumar, IDS Deptt.	ARF Lifesciences LLP, Faridabad
	Millet-Based Foods / Ancient Grains	Millet Puff Technology	Dr Komal Chauhan, FST Deptt.	Yes Bee Food, Trichy
	Public Health Nutrition (Mission Poshan 2.0 / Saksham Anganwadi)	Fortified Foods (Processed Grains, Flaxseed Products, Mineral Premixes)	Dr Komal Chauhan, FST Deptt.	Interlink Foods Pvt. Ltd.
	Therapeutic & Clinical Nutrition	High-Nutrient Ready-to-Eat Bars for Diabetes, Obesity & Kidney Health Management	Dr Komal Chauhan, FST Deptt.	Hexagon Nutrition Ltd., Mumbai
	Functional Condiments & Nutraceuticals	Vitamin B-Complex Biofortified Probiotic Vegan Mayonnaise	Dr Neetu Taneja, IDS Deptt.	Jiwanmitra Nutraceuticals Pvt. Ltd.



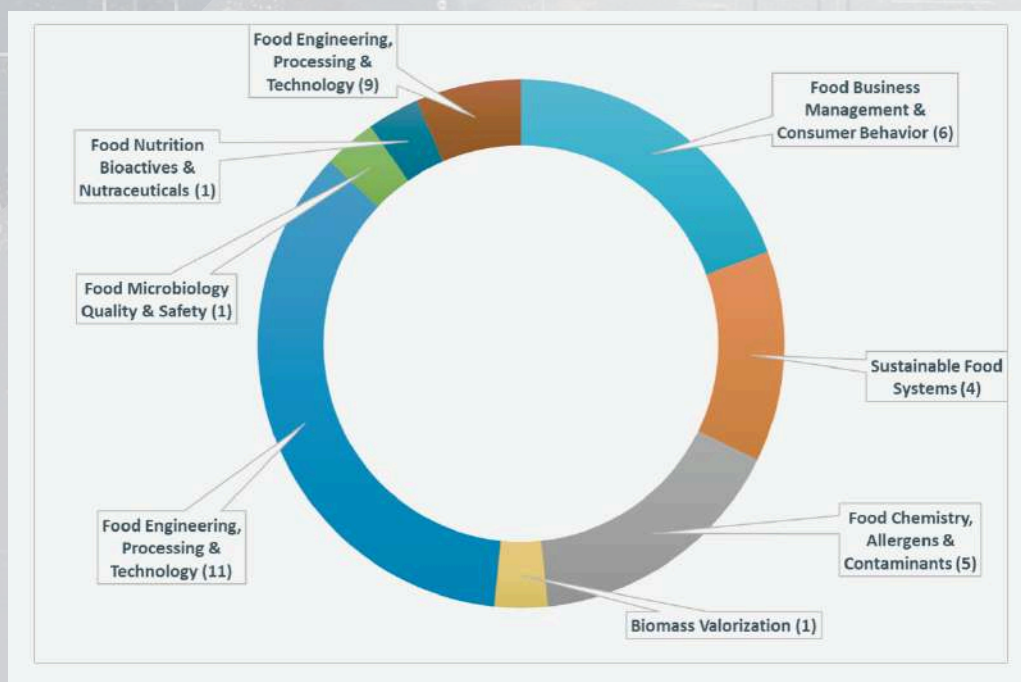
RESEARCH PROJECTS & CONSULTANCY

Following projects were granted during period October-December 2025

Sl no.	Title of the Project	Name of the PI	Project Cost (Rs.)	Funding Agency
1	Culture dependent fermented flaxseed lignan in obesity and diabetes management through GLP1 regulation and immunomodulation.	Dr. S. Chakkaravarthi	11.80 Lakh	Doehler India Pvt. Ltd
2	Evaluation of Partially Hydrolysed Guar Gum (PHGG) Based Composite Flour on Glycaemic and Metabolic Health: In Vitro, Ex Vivo, and In Vivo Investigations in Dyslipidemic Diabetic Rodent Models.	Dr. Komal Chauhan	29.99 Lakh	Hindustan Gums
3	Characterization of available biofertilizers and development of site-specific biofertilizers for organic cultivation and postharvest management of organic produce.	Dr. Bhim Pratap Singh	5.37 Lakh	Neel Agri Fresh Produce Private Limited

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

NIFTEM-K published 31 research papers and review articles in leading scopus indexed national and international journals during the quarter which can be broadly categorized under domain areas of Food Business Management & Consumer Behaviour; Food Engineering, Processing & Technology; Food Nutrition, Bioactives & Nutraceuticals; Post-harvest technology, Storage and Packaging; Sustainable Food Systems; Food Microbiology Quality & Safety; Biomass Valorization & Value-Addition; and Food Chemistry, Allergens & Contaminants. Faculty members from NIFTEM-K also published 14 book chapters in books published by Elsevier, Springer, Taylor & Francis (CRC Press) and 3 books published by with Springer International Publishing ©Springer Nature Switzerland AG.



[Click the link to access detailed information](#)

AUGMENTING NIFTEM-K INCOME STREAM

NIFTEM Pilot Plant generated Rs. 16.66 Lakhs as revenue for the period October-December 2025.

CRC ACTIVITIES AND CORPORATE RELATION

Placement Information-2026

Corporate Resource Centre (CRC) at NIFTEM-K plays a pivotal role in engaging students with Corporate in terms of Placement, Internship, Expert Lectures and Industry visits. The recruitment process got initiated at NIFTEM-K in November 2025 for the year 2026. As a first, AWL Agri Business Ltd. visited campus on 1st December 2025 and Mr. Vishal Sharma from MBA got selected for a full time role with an initial package of Rs.16.50 LPA. Further process is going on with TCPL, Amul (GCMMF), ITC-ABD, Perfetti Van Melle, Bacardi, Tetrapak, Chandigarh Sweets Ltd., etc. for their proposed campus drive from Mid-January, 2026 onwards. 11 students have been confirmed Pre Placement Offers (PPO's) by different companies so far.



STUDENT ACTIVITIES

During October–December 2025, NIFTEM–K students, through active campus societies organized and participated in over 22 student-led activities encompassing cultural, literary, technical, sports, social awareness, sustainability, national observances, and community outreach. Major activities included Garba Night, Alumni meet cultural performances, Foundation Day cultural evening, World Mental Health Day awareness session, Inter-Institutional cultural and sports event, CMIE–Prowess Workshops, Film Thinking, Idol making competition, Children’s day celebration, THINKOVA: Spark to Sustain, VAP Documentary & photography competition, and Veer Bal Diwas, Christmas, New Year celebrations. A significant highlight was the Constitution Day celebrations (24–26 November 2025), featuring cultural competitions, technical quiz, essay and debate competitions, student parliament, art and calligraphy events, and nationwide Preamble reading across 21 VAP locations in 13 states, reinforcing civic awareness and democratic values.

These activities were organized by a vibrant network of student societies including Saarang (Cultural Society), Geetanjali (Literary Society), Kalakriti (Fine Arts Society), Alabhyam (Technical Society), BIZMAC (Management & Analytics Society), Prakriti (Environmental Society), Vyaktitva (Personality Development Society), Samarthya (Sports Society), Arthaat/JPSM (Public Systems & VAP Society), and Aarambh (Social Outreach Society), with guidance from faculty coordinators.



[Click the link to access detailed information](#)

PRIDE OF NIFTEM-K

Team Agri-Innovators (NIFTEM-K) secured first place at Sambhrama 6.0 – Vishleshan organized by ISAB. The Sambhrama 6.0 Vishleshan, a national-level case study competition that emphasized analytical depth and innovative thinking witnessed the presence of participants across the country. The winning team comprised of Abhinav Panwar, Soham Roy, Ayush Mishra, and Shuvankar Rath.

This achievement highlights how well-structured ideas, backed by mentors support, passion and teamwork, can create meaningful impact in the field of agriculture. The success reflects strong leadership, collaborative effort, and the academic excellence fostered at NIFTEM-K. Every challenge during the journey strengthened our problem-solving abilities and reinforced our commitment to innovation-driven solutions.



ENTREPRENEUR OF QUARTER

BANHIDE

A Journey from Compassion to Sustainable Innovation

BANHIDE
PLANT BASED — BANANA LEATHER



Every impactful startup begins with a defining moment. **“Banhide”**, came from emotional experience of Mr. Shashank Shrivastava. A routine tannery visit confronted him with the stark contradiction between cultural reverence for the cow and the suffering inherent in leather production. This realization compelled him to seek an ethical, innovative, and viable alternative rather than remain part of an unsustainable system. He researched for about a decade in leather industry and came out with this startup to create a biodegradable, plant-based material from banana waste.

Banhide is a mission-driven venture developing cruelty-free, eco-friendly leather alternatives from banana agro-waste which is durable and suitable for diverse applications in fashion, footwear, accessories, and furniture. In doing so, Banhide advances a circular economy that reduces waste, empowers farmers, strengthens rural livelihoods, and protects animals and the environment. His efforts have received recognition from Hon’ble Minister Shri Piyush Goyal ji and Hon’ble President of India. NIFTEM-K has financially supported the startup with a grant of Rs. 10 lakhs. During World Food India 2025, NIFTEM-K provided product showcasing support and networking opportunities through its pavilion.

TECHNOLOGY OF THE QUARTER

Pro-Millet Energy Bar

(Blend of Kodo Flakes and Jowar Pops)

NIFTEM-K presents the Pro-Millet Energy Bar, an innovative, nutrient-dense snack crafted with a unique blend of kodo flakes and jowar pops, complemented by a variety of wholesome ingredients. The bar is naturally gluten free, making it suitable for consumers with gluten sensitivity or those choosing gluten-free lifestyles. This product is designed to meet the growing demand for healthy, convenient, and clean-label snacking options. Enriched with nuts, cocoa, and natural sweeteners, the bar delivers a balanced nutritional profile, making it suitable for consumers across all age groups.

The Pro-Millet Energy Bar stands out for its plant-based protein content and naturally elevated micronutrient profile. The natural presence of essential micronutrients in millets and added ingredients enhances the bar's functional benefits, supporting sustained energy, improved satiety, and overall wellness. Cocoa-based ingredients boost flavor and antioxidant potential. With its distinctive millet-based composition, the bar offers an appealing taste experience while promoting the nutritional and environmental benefits of traditional Indian grains.

This product represents a high-value innovation suitable for modern lifestyles, sports nutrition, school snacking, and health-focused markets. It aligns seamlessly with the rising consumer interest in millet-based functional foods and supports the national millet promotion initiatives. The technology is now available for technology transfer, offering manufacturers and entrepreneurs a strong opportunity to bring this promising, future-ready, gluten-free, fibre- and protein-rich product to market.



NEW JOINING AT NIFTEM-K



Ms. Sweta Malakar
Senior Research Fellow

Ms. Sweta Malakar joined FIH-CEFF on 1st December 2025 in the project "Fortification Innovation Hub." She completed her graduation from Punjabi University, Patiala in Agriculture followed by Master's degree in Post Harvest Technology from Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Pundibari, Cooch Behar, WB



Ms. Mrigna Sareen
JRF/ Capacity Building Officer

Ms. Mrigna Sareen joined FIH-CEFF on 26th November 2025, as a Junior Research Fellow/ Capacity Building Officer for the project "Fortification Innovation Hub." She completed her graduation from Panjab University, Chandigarh and her Master's degree from Defense Institute of Advance Technology DIAT, DRDO Pune.



Mr. Rashad K M
Junior Research Fellow

Mr. Rashad K M joined CEFF on 3rd December 2025, as a Junior Research Fellow under the project funded by Almond Board of California “Integrating Millets and Almonds/Almond Flour in food service at educational institutes: A sustainable approach to enhancing Nutrition in Private Schools in India” He completed his Bachelor’s degree in Food Technology from the University of Calicut, Kerala followed by Master’s degree in Food Science and Technology from Pondicherry Central University, Puducherry. Prior to joining FIH, he worked as a Project Associate at CSIR–Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI).



Ms. Shikha Soni
Project Assistant

Ms. Shikha Soni joined SHPL- CEFF on 31st October 2025 as a Project Assistant under the project “Characterization of tamarind kernel powder as thickener, stabilizer, and gelling agent in food applications.” She completed her five-year integrated B.Sc. and M.Sc. degree in Food Processing and Technology from Atal Bihari Vajpayee Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh. She has also qualified the UGC-NET examination in Home Science.



Ms. Sneha Singh
Junior Research Fellow

Ms. Sneha Singh joined CEFF on December 2nd, 2025, as a Junior Research Fellow under the project funded by Almond Board of California “Millets and Almonds/Almond Flour in food service at educational institutes: A sustainable approach to enhancing Nutrition in Private Schools in India” She completed her graduation from VBU Hazaribagh in Clinical Nutrition and Dietetics and her Master's degree from Banasthali Vidyapith in Food Science and Nutrition. Earlier she was working as a Research Manager (Technical) in a PMFME project at NIFTEM-K.

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Designed by : Arvind K Singh
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