इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ़ हॉर्टीकल्चर टेक्नोलॉजी
Institute of Horticulture Technology
Recognised as SIRO by Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India
ISO 9001 : 2008

Monthly
Newsletter
July 2026 Volume 9 No.07

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Government Reinforces Support for Horticulture through MIDH

The Government of India has reaffirmed its commitment to accelerating the growth of the horticulture sector through the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). The scheme continues to play a vital role in promoting sustainable horticulture by supporting the production of quality planting material, protected cultivation, precision irrigation, post-harvest management, integrated pest management and capacity building of farmers.

Under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, this central scheme enhances productivity and farmers' incomes across fruits, vegetables, flowers, spices, and mushrooms. It achieves this by funding climate-resilient farming practices, advanced value chains, protected cultivation, precision irrigation, and modern infrastructure like high-density planting and plug-type nurseries

The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare has recently updated the MIDH programme, highlighting its focus on improving productivity, enhancing farmers' income, encouraging climate-resilient farming practices and strengthening value chains for fruits, vegetables, flowers, spices, mushrooms and other horticultural crops. The initiative also promotes the adoption of modern technologies such as greenhouse cultivation, micro-irrigation, fertigation, high-density planting and nursery development.

Institute of Horticulture Technology (IHT) a pioneer Institute for Capacity Building Training serves as a vital hub for capacity building and technology dissemination. IHT bridges the gap between research and practice by conducting specialized training and exposure visits for farmers, entrepreneurs, and field functionaries nationwide. The institute offers hands-on courses, including:

- Modern Horticulture Technologies.
- Plug Nursery Production for vegetables and flowers.
- Commercial Hydroponics and urban landscaping.
- Production Technology of greenhouse vegetable crops.
- Micro Irrigation and Fertigation management.
- High Density Planting and canopy management of fruit plants.
- Others

Trainees in IHT being explained the advantages of Plug Type Nursery

By demonstrating these techniques, IHT equips agriculture professionals with the practical skills needed to deploy advanced farming technologies effectively in their home states.

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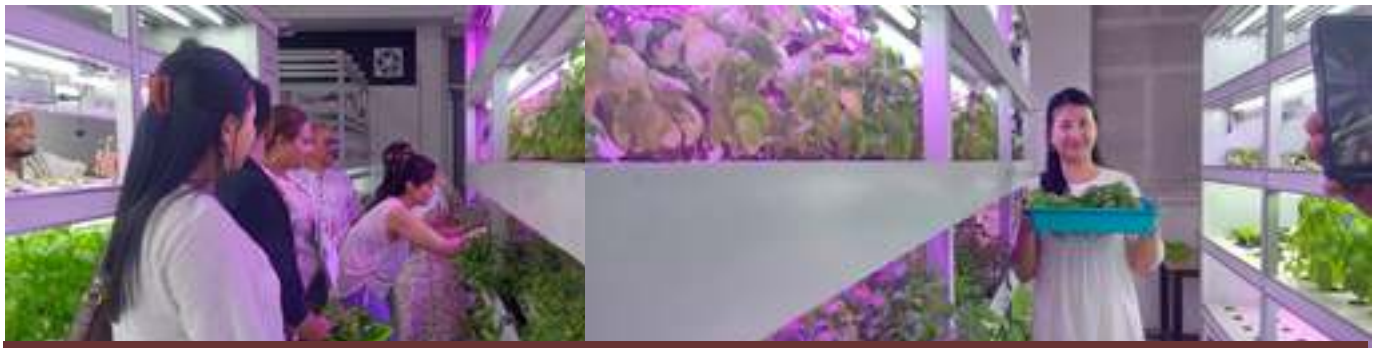
Training Programmes in Modern Horticulture Technologies in IHT

Continuing its mission of promoting modern horticulture and developing skilled professionals for the horticulture/agriculture sector, the Institute of Horticulture Technology (IHT), Greater Noida, successfully organized a series of specialized training programmes during the month. These programmes brought together farmers, agri-entrepreneurs, students, researchers, working professionals and horticulture enthusiasts from different states of India. Each programme was carefully designed to combine knowledge with practical learning through interactive lectures, live demonstrations, laboratory exposure, field visits and hands-on training, enabling participants to gain the confidence and technical expertise required for adopting advanced horticultural technologies.

Commercial Hydroponics Programme

The Commercial Hydroponics programme was conducted as a two-week hybrid training programme in both online and offline modes. The programme provided participants with an in-depth understanding of commercial hydroponic farming, covering different hydroponic systems, greenhouse technology, nursery planning, crop selection, nutrient management, irrigation and fertigation systems, climate control, EC and pH management, crop production techniques and integrated pest management. The practical sessions at the IHT Technology Park enabled trainees to operate hydroponic systems, prepare nutrient solutions, monitor crop growth and understand the day-to-day management of a commercial hydroponic farm. Participants appreciated the balance of theory and practical exposure, which helped them understand both the technical and business aspects of hydroponic cultivation.



Trainees gaining hands-on experience in harvesting hydroponically grown leafy vegetables under a controlled environment

Protected Cultivation of Vegetable Crops Programme

The Protected Cultivation of Vegetable Crops programme was organized as a five-day training programme at Greater Noida, focusing on vegetable production under protected structures. Participants learned about greenhouse and polyhouse technologies, soil health management, quality nursery production, climate control, micro-irrigation and fertigation systems, water quality monitoring, EC and pH management, crop nutrition and maintenance of irrigation systems. Practical demonstrations at the Technology Park covered greenhouse structures, bed preparation, mulching, transplanting, training and pruning of vegetable crops and integrated pest management. The programme equipped participants with practical knowledge to improve productivity, optimize resource utilization and produce high-quality vegetables under protected cultivation.

Hands-on training on Protected Cultivation

Mushroom Production Technology Programme

The Mushroom Production Technology programme was conducted as a four-day training programme in both online and offline modes in different batches. The programme covered the methods of mushroom cultivation, including compost preparation, pasteurization, spawn production, climate management, irrigation techniques and modern production technologies for button and oyster mushrooms. Participants also gained practical exposure through laboratory demonstrations and commercial production unit visit, where they observed real-time cultivation practices. Hands-on sessions on compost preparation and integrated pest management enabled trainees to understand the essential practices required for successful and sustainable mushroom production.

Participants interacting with expert in the mushroom spawn laboratory and learning scientific mushroom spawn production techniques.

Trainees visiting a commercial mushroom production unit to observe modern mushroom cultivation and production practices.

Saffron Production Technology Programme

The Saffron Production Technology programme was successfully organized as a three-day training programme in both online and offline modes. The training introduced participants to the immense commercial potential of saffron cultivation using protected and controlled-environment technologies. Participants learned about quality corm selection, hydroponic and soilless cultivation techniques, nutrient and water management, environmental control, indoor saffron production, harvesting, processing, packaging, storage and marketing. Practical demonstrations on media preparation, corm planting and greenhouse management helped participants understand the complete production cycle. The programme also highlighted entrepreneurship opportunities, challenges, and government support available for commercial saffron cultivation, inspiring many participants to consider saffron as a high-value crop.

Participants are explained as how to prepare and process the growing media for saffron corm sowing

Orchid Cultivation Programme

The training programme on Orchid Cultivation especially Dendrobium Cultivation under Protected Conditions was conducted as a three-day online training programme, introducing participants to the scientific and commercial aspects of orchid production. The training covered commercially important orchid varieties, greenhouse climate management, propagation techniques, potting media, irrigation and fertigation practices, flowering management, post-harvest handling, marketing, export opportunities and integrated pest and disease management. The programme provided valuable knowledge to floriculture enthusiasts, nursery owners and aspiring entrepreneurs, enabling them to explore orchid cultivation as a profitable floriculture enterprise.

Microgreens Production Technology

A three-day offline training programme on Microgreens Production Technology was also organized to promote urban farming and nutrition-based entrepreneurship. Participants learned about the importance of microgreens, suitable crop selection, seed treatment, growing media, tray preparation, irrigation management, harvesting techniques, hygiene standards, packaging, storage and marketing. Live demonstrations enabled trainees to understand the complete production process from sowing to harvesting. The programme highlighted the growing demand for microgreens in the hospitality, retail and health food sectors, encouraging participants to explore this emerging business opportunity with minimal investment and quick returns.

Landscape Gardening Programme

The Landscape Gardening programme was organized separately in both online and offline modes, offering participants comprehensive knowledge of landscape planning, garden design principles, ornamental plant selection, lawn establishment, irrigation systems, hardscape and softscape elements, vertical gardening, terrace gardening and maintenance of residential and commercial landscapes. Through practical demonstrations and design-based learning, participants developed the skills required to plan and execute aesthetically appealing and environmentally sustainable landscapes while exploring opportunities in professional landscape consultancy and entrepreneurship.

Participants learning the scientific technique of plant layering during the practical session on plant propagation.

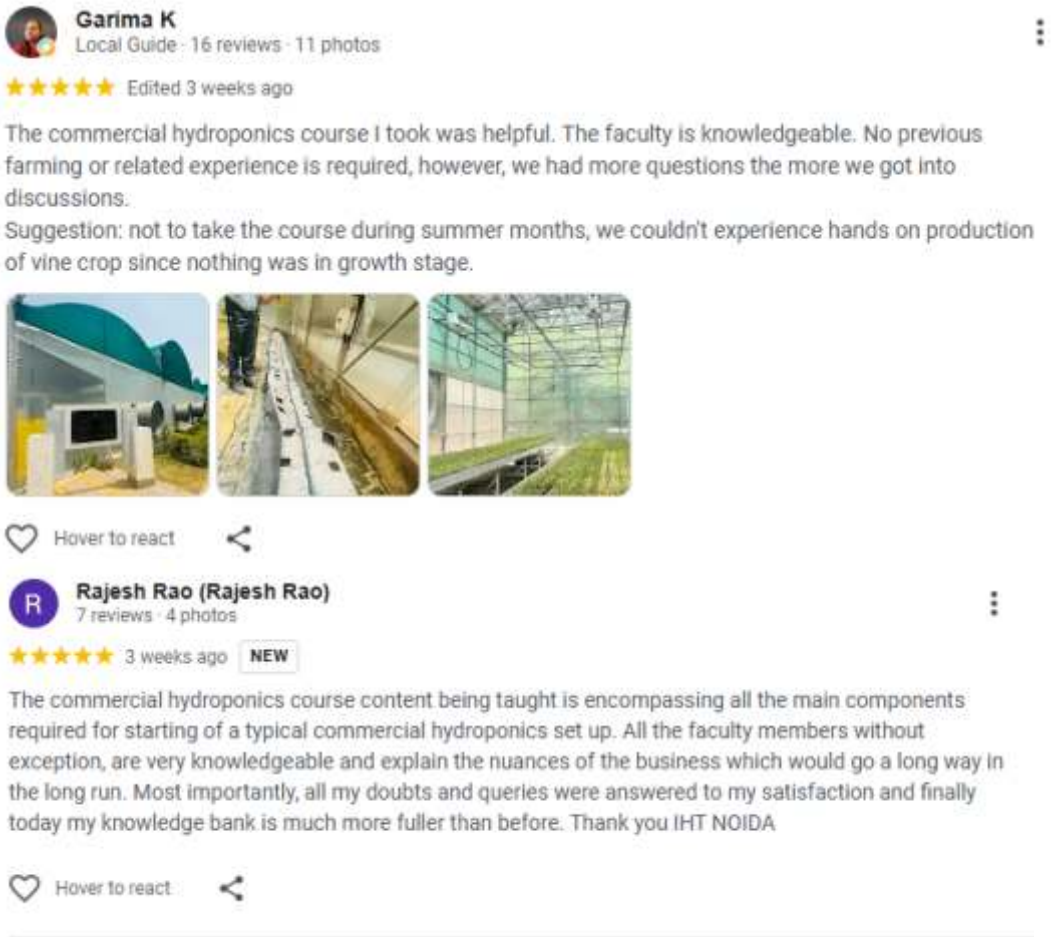
Modern Home Care Gardening

A one-day Home Care Gardening workshop was organized to introduce participants to practical and sustainable home-based horticulture practices, with a special focus on essential indoor plant care, balcony and kitchen gardening.. The programme focused on kitchen gardening, terrace and balcony gardening, cultivation of vegetables, herbs and ornamental plants in limited spaces, selection of suitable containers and growing media, irrigation and nutrient management, composting techniques and routine plant care. Participants also learned simple methods for managing common pests and diseases using eco-friendly practices. The training encouraged families, urban gardeners and hobby growers to adopt home gardening for producing fresh, healthy vegetables and herbs while promoting a greener and healthier lifestyle. The programme received an enthusiastic response from participants, who appreciated the practical demonstrations and easy-to-adopt techniques for creating productive home gardens with minimal investment.

The enthusiastic participation received in all these programmes reflected the increasing interest in advanced horticultural technologies across the country. Participants appreciated the practical, industry-oriented training methodology, experienced faculty members and world-class facilities available at IHT. The programmes not only enhanced their technical knowledge and practical skills but also strengthened their confidence to establish successful agribusiness enterprises, adopt sustainable farming practices and contribute towards the growth of India's modern horticulture sector.

Overall Participant Feedback

Participants from different states highly appreciated the well-planned training programmes conducted by IHT. They found the sessions practical, informative, and easy to understand. The expert guidance, hands-on demonstrations, and modern training facilities helped them gain confidence in adopting new horticultural technologies and applying them successfully in their own farms and businesses. Some feedbacks from Google are attached below:



Upcoming Trainings

1. Commercial Hydroponics
2. Orchid Production in Protected Setup
3. Protected Cultivation of Vegetable Crops
4. Landscaping and Garden Maintenance
5. Saffron Cultivation- online and offline
6. Mushroom Production- Online
7. Commercial Nursery Production – Vegetables
8. Italian Gourmet Herbs

IHT is excited to offer these valuable training programs in the upcoming month to help you enhance your skills and grow your agricultural ventures. For details visit www.iht.edu.in

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Institute of Horticulture Technology

Main Campus: 42A, Knowledge Park III, Greater Noida - 201310, Uttar Pradesh
North East Campus: Mandira, Kamrup - 781127, Assam
Mobile: 8860621160, website: www.iht.edu.in, Email: enquiry@iht.edu.in, training@iht.edu.in