

# BRAIN CONNECT 2026:

## SYMPOSIUM ON 'DECODING THE BRAIN, INSPIRING THE FUTURE'

***Bridging Basic Neuroscience Research and Clinical Practice for Translational Impact***

***Swami Rama Himalayan University, Dehradun (19–21 March 2026)***

### **19 March 2026: Inaugural Session and Educational Workshop**

<b>2:30 PM – 4:00 PM</b>	Welcome speech, inaugural talks by dignitaries, and Keynote Talk
<b>4:00 PM – 4:15 PM</b>	<b>Tea Break</b>
<b>4:15 PM – 7:00 PM</b>	<b>WORKSHOP:</b> <b>MASTERING THE ART OF SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION, GRANT WRITING AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY</b> <b>Dr Vinay K Khanna (AcSIR, Lucknow)</b> <b>Dr Pankaj Seth (NBRC, Manesar)</b>  Dr Vinay K Khanna <i>Paper Presentation in Scientific Conference: Important Tips and Key Strategies</i>  Dr Vinay K Khanna <i>Avoid Plagiarism in Academics: Think, Compose and Cite for Impact and Originality</i>  Dr Pankaj Seth <i>Transforming Ideas into Funding: Essentials for Grant Writing</i>

### **20 March 2026: Foundations and Frontiers in Neuroscience**

<b>8:00 AM – 9:00 AM</b>	<b>Breakfast and Registration</b>
<b>9:00 AM – 9:30 AM</b>	<b>PLENARY TALK</b> <b>Dr Shashi Bala Singh (ACBR, Delhi)</b> <i>Translational Neuroscience: A Wide Arc</i>
<b>9:30 AM – 11:00 AM</b>	<b>SESSION 1:</b> <b>GLIAL FRONTIERS: FROM CONNECTIVITY TO NEURODEGENERATION</b> <b>Session Chair: Dr Ishan Patro (Jiwaji University, Gwalior)</b> <b>Co-Chair: Dr Pankaj Seth (NBRC, Manesar)</b>
	Dr Phalguni Anand Alladi (NIMHANS, Bangalore) <i>Glial Inscriptions in Ageing and Parkinson's Disease: Biochemical and Ultrastructural Insights</i>

	<p>Dr Nisha Patro (Jiwaji University, Gwalior)  <i>Title to be confirmed.</i></p> <p>Dr Smitha Karunakaran (CBR, Bangalore)  <i>Sex-Divergent Astrocytic Adaptation in the Locus Coeruleus as a Preclinical Driver of Alzheimer's Pathology</i></p> <p>Dr Sachin Tiwari (IIT, Roorkee)  <i>Novel Mechanism of Astrocytic Dysregulations in Dementia Onset</i></p>
<b>11:00 AM – 11:30 AM</b>	<b>Tea Break</b>
<b>11:30 AM – 12:45 PM</b>	<p><b>SESSION 2:</b>  <b>BRAIN CONNECT: EMERGING INVESTIGATORS FORUM</b>  <b>Session Chair: Dr Shashi Bala Singh (ACBR, Delhi)</b>  <b>Co-Chair: Dr Phalguni Alladi (NIMHANS, Bangalore)</b></p>
<b>12:45 PM – 1:45 PM</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>
<b>1:45 PM – 2:15 PM</b>	<p><b>SPECIAL TALK</b>  <b>Dr Deepak Goel (SRHU, Dehradun)</b>  <i>Neuroregeneration and Modulation after Acute Ischemic Stroke</i></p>
<b>2:15 PM – 3:45 PM</b>	<p><b>SESSION 3:</b>  <b>CLINICAL FRONTIERS: BRIDGING NEUROSCIENCE &amp; PATIENT CARE</b>  <b>Session Chair: Dr Vinay K Khanna (AcSIR, Lucknow)</b>  <b>Co-Chair: Dr Deepak Goel (SRHU, Dehradun)</b></p>
	<p>Dr Priya Ranjan Avinash (SRHU, Dehradun)  <i>Digital Phenotyping: The Future of Diagnostic Psychiatry</i></p> <p>Dr Sanjeev Pandey (SRHU, Dehradun)  <i>Acute Brain Injury and Neuroprotection: What the Operating Room Teaches Us</i></p> <p>Dr Malini Srivastava (SRHU, Dehradun)  <i>Decoding the Meditative Brain: Translating Neuroscience into Well-Being &amp; Clinical Practice</i></p> <p>Dr Paramveer Singh Sabharwal (Dehradun)  <i>Imaging Talk - Title to be confirmed.</i></p>
<b>3:45 PM – 5:30 PM</b>	<b>Tea Break and Poster Session</b>
<b>7:00 PM Onwards</b>	<b>Networking Dinner</b>

**[21 March 2026: Connecting Mechanisms, Medicine, and Minds](#)**

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM	<b>Yoga and Meditation Session</b>
8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	<b>Breakfast</b>
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	<b>PLENARY TALK</b> <b>Dr Ishan Patro (Jiwaji University, Gwalior)</b> <i>Neuroscience Education and Research in India</i>
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	<b>SESSION 4:</b> <b>NEURAL REGULATION AND RESILIENCE: FROM CIRCUITS TO ENVIRONMENT</b> <b>Session Chair: Dr Manorama Patri (CUHP, Dharamshala)</b> <b>Co-Chair: Dr Subasree Ramakrishnan (NIMHANS, Bangalore)</b>
	Dr Anita Jagota (UoH, Hyderabad) <i>Circadian Rhythms and Neural Regulation in Healthy Ageing and Longevity</i>  Dr Niranjan Kambi (GITAM, Visakhapatnam) <i>Ancient Minds Remember: Investigating Primitive Episodic Memory in Bees</i>  Dr Manju Tiwari (JC Bose Campus, Bhimtal) <i>Microglia in Transition: From Neural Surveillance to Neuroinflammatory Activation</i>  Dr Santhosh Sethuramanujam (IIT, Madras) <i>Investigating the Neuronal Sub-Populations Affected in the Early Stages of Retinopathy in Diabetic Mouse Models</i>
11:00 AM – 11:30 AM	<b>Tea Break</b>
11:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>SPECIAL TALK</b> <b>Dr Neeraj Jain (IIT, Jodhpur)</b> <i>AI for Mental Healthcare: From an Indian Perspective</i>
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	<b>SESSION 5:</b> <b>MECHANISTIC PATHWAYS: FROM ORGANISMS TO ORGANOIDS</b> <b>Session Chair: Dr Neeraj Jain (IIT, Jodhpur)</b> <b>Co-Chair: Dr Nisha Patro (Jiwaji University, Gwalior)</b>
	Dr Pankaj Seth (NBRC, Manesar) <i>Human Neural Stem Cells and Brain Organoids as Models for Understanding the Neurodevelopmental Disorders'</i>  Dr Subasree Ramakrishnan (NIMHANS, Bangalore) <i>Brain-Computer Interface</i>  Dr Shubham Dwivedi (UPES, Dehradun) <i>Zebrafish as an Alternative Model for Neurological Disorders</i>  Dr Aastha Dheer (SNU, Greater Noida) <i>Understanding the Epileptic Brain: A Microglial Perspective</i>

<b>1:30 PM – 2:30 PM</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>
<b>2:30 PM – 4:00 PM</b>	<b>SESSION 6: INSPIRING MINDS, BUILDING BRIDGES</b>
	<p><b>Panel Discussion</b>  <i>The Roadmap for Neuro-Research in India.</i>            A moderated discussion with Plenary Speakers on challenges, funding, and collaboration.</p> <p><b>Valedictory Function</b>            Awards and Closing Remarks            Prize distribution for posters/talks and official closing of the symposium.</p>
<b>4:00 PM – 4:30 PM</b>	<b>Tea and Departure</b>