

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

2:30 PM – 4:00 PM	Welcome speech, inaugural talks by dignitaries, and Keynote Talk
4:00 PM – 4:15 PM	Tea Break
4:15 PM – 7:00 PM	WORKSHOP: MASTERING THE ART OF SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION, GRANT WRITING AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY Dr Vinay K Khanna (AcSIR, Lucknow) Dr Pankaj Seth (NBRC, Manesar) 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

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	Breakfast and Registration
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	PLENARY TALK Dr Shashi Bala Singh (ACBR, Delhi) <i>Translational Neuroscience: A Wide Arc</i>
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	SESSION 1: GLIAL FRONTIERS: FROM CONNECTIVITY TO NEURODEGENERATION Session Chair: Dr Ishan Patro (Jiwaji University, Gwalior) Co-Chair: Dr Pankaj Seth (NBRC, Manesar)
	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>
11:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Tea Break
11:30 AM – 12:45 PM	<p>SESSION 2: BRAIN CONNECT: EMERGING INVESTIGATORS FORUM Session Chair: Dr Shashi Bala Singh (ACBR, Delhi) Co-Chair: Dr Phalguni Alladi (NIMHANS, Bangalore)</p>
12:45 PM – 1:45 PM	Lunch Break
1:45 PM – 2:15 PM	<p>SPECIAL TALK Dr Deepak Goel (SRHU, Dehradun) <i>Neuroregeneration and Modulation after Acute Ischemic Stroke</i></p>
2:15 PM – 3:45 PM	<p>SESSION 3: CLINICAL FRONTIERS: BRIDGING NEUROSCIENCE & PATIENT CARE Session Chair: Dr Vinay K Khanna (AcSIR, Lucknow) Co-Chair: Dr Deepak Goel (SRHU, Dehradun)</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 & Clinical Practice</i></p> <p>Dr Paramveer Singh Sabharwal (Dehradun) <i>Imaging Talk - Title to be confirmed.</i></p>
3:45 PM – 5:30 PM	Tea Break and Poster Session
7:00 PM Onwards	Networking Dinner

21 March 2026: Connecting Mechanisms, Medicine, and Minds

--	--

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

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