

**AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION PLATFORM FOR SOUTH ASIA (AEPSA)
3rd MEETING OF THE AEPSA ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD IN HYBRID
MODE AT KAB-I, PUSA, NEW DELHI ON 5th JUNE 2026**

PROCEEDINGS

The Third Meeting of the AEPSA Advisory Committee (AAC) was held on 5th June, 2026 in hybrid mode under the Chairmanship of Dr Rajbir Singh, DDG (Agricultural Extension), ICAR and the Vice Chairman of the AEPSA Advisory Committee. Dr RS Paroda, Chairman, TAAS and the AEPSA Advisory Committee could not attend due to some other unavoidable and pressing commitment.

The following attended the meeting:

In Physical Mode:

1. Dr Rajbir Singh, DDG (Agril. Extn.), IACR & Vice Chair, AEPSA Advisory Committee
2. Dr Karim Maredia, Director, MSU & Member, AAC
3. Dr Bhag Mal, Secretary, TAAS & Member AAC
4. Dr VV Sadamate, Chief Coordinator, AEPSA
5. Dr RR Burman, ADG (Agril. Extn.), ICAR (Special Invitee)
6. Dr RN Padaria, Joint Director (Extn), IARI & Country Resource Person(CRP), India
7. Dr NV Kumbhare, Principal Scientist (Ag. Extn)& In charge, ATIC, IARI (Special Invitee)
8. Mr Svatantra Dubey, Technical Associate, AEPSA

In Virtual Mode:

9. Dr RK Tripathi, Coordinator (Projects & Partnerships), AEPSA
10. Dr Hamidur Rahman, Country Resource Person, Bangladesh
11. Mr Ahsan Ullah, General Secretary, BAEF, Bangladesh
12. Dr Rakib Hasan, Executive Member, BAEF, Bangladesh
13. Dr Chandana Jayawardena, Country Resource Person, Sri Lanka
14. Mr BB Rai, Country Resource Person, Bhutan

Knowledge Partners

15. Prof S Venku Reddy, President & Executive Director, PRDIS, Hyderabad
16. Dr Mahadeb, CIRDAP, Bangladesh, Representing DG, CIRDAP

At the outset, the participants attending the meeting in person and virtually were welcomed. The minutes of 2nd Advisory Committee held on 13th December, 2025, were confirmed, as no comments were received. The Action Taken Report (ATR) on the major recommendations of II Advisory Committee was presented. Email responses received from a few stakeholders (post meeting) were considered.

The recommendations of the meeting are given below.

- Keeping in view of present geopolitical conflicts transforming AEPSA into National Agricultural Extension Platform may be explored. A follow-up meeting be organized for seeking the guidance of Dr. R. S. Paroda to consider the modalities.
- Strengthen resource mobilization by intensifying membership drives, and creating a corpus fund through partnerships, conferences, and paid training programmes.

- Enhance visibility and outreach through greater use of social media, country-specific WhatsApp groups, and regular newsletters featuring innovations, case studies, start-ups, and partnerships, while exploring the possibilities of initiation of journal.
- The reserved slots for NAEP in the USA Extension Orientation Programme (12–18 September 2026) with funding support like last year is to be utilized.
- Organize the Stakeholders' Consultation on Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) in India at the earliest to advance dialogue on challenges and future strategies.
- Build on the assured programmatic and financial support from TAAS and MSU, while prioritizing national-level activities and resource mobilization over the next 6–8 months.

The meeting ended with the formal vote of thanks.