

International Conference ANVESH-2026 Showcases Next-Generation Vision for Emerging & Sustainable Healthy Foods

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The International Conference **ANVESH-2026** (Advanced Next Generation Vision for Emerging & Sustainable Healthy Foods) concluded successfully, emerging as a landmark global platform that brought together the entire food processing ecosystem under one roof. More than just an academic gathering, ANVESH-2026 served as a dynamic confluence of government agencies, start-ups, industry leaders, exhibitors, eminent scientists, renowned chefs, and enthusiastic participants committed to shaping the future of sustainable and healthy foods. The Valedictory Function was graced by the **Chief Guest, Sh. Suresh Prabhu, Former Minister for Commerce and Industry, Government of India**. In his special address, Sh. Prabhu highlighted the pivotal role of NIFTEM-Kundli in driving innovation in the food processing sector. Reflecting on the institute's remarkable journey of 13 years, he noted that through this conference, NIFTEM-K is now advancing the vision of redefining the food pyramid for the next generation of healthy and sustainable foods. The ceremony was also attended by the Guests of Honour, **Sh. Asit Gopal, Special Secretary and Financial Adviser, Ministry of Food Processing Industries**, who emphasized that the vision of *Viksit Bharat* can be realized only through innovation, knowledge, and entrepreneurship. Another Guest of Honour, **Sh. Sanjay Singhania, Senior Vice President, Haldiram's Group**, challenged the young minds of NIFTEM-K to create value at every stage of the food value chain, noting that the institute has the potential to transform "trash into treasure." On the occasion, **Director, NIFTEM-K, Dr. Harinder Singh Oberoi**, presented a comprehensive brief highlighting the key achievements, outcomes, and global impact of the conference.

On day 1, Addressing the inaugural session, the **Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Sh. Chirag Paswan** stated that the food processing sector will play a crucial role in realising the vision of *Viksit Bharat-2047* envisioned by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He emphasised that for a nation of 1.4 billion people, technology-driven development is imperative. Innovations, research and modern technologies must be taken to rural areas and farmers to bridge the gap between villages and cities.

The international conference featured an impressive academic and industry engagement with **3 panel discussions, 113 oral presentations, 115 invited talks, and 226 poster presentations with participation from 25 countries**, reflecting the depth and diversity of research and innovation in the food sector. The deliberations spanned critical and future-oriented themes including Food Innovation, Safety, Traceability & Regulatory Compliances; Nutraceuticals and Specialty Foods; Personalized Nutrition & Functional Ingredients; Sustainable Food Processing, Waste Valorization & Circular Economy; Postharvest Technologies for Waste Reduction; Alternate Proteins and Plant-Based Foods with Next-Gen Smart and Clean-Label Technologies; Digital Transformation in Food Processing and Supply Chain Management; and Reimagining India's Higher Education Ecosystem through policy reforms, research innovation, and

industry collaboration. A Round Table meeting, involving more than **40 Vice Chancellors and Directors** from reputed academic and research organizations across the country, deliberated on academic reforms aimed at addressing skill development needs and strengthening industry–academia collaboration.

ANVESH-2026 also hosted a vibrant exhibition featuring **61 exhibitors**, including corporates, start-ups, MSMEs, and government departments, showcasing cutting-edge technologies, novel products, and sustainable processing solutions. The exhibition attracted significant attention from academia, industry, and entrepreneurs seeking collaborative opportunities and technology adoption.

Adding a unique experiential dimension, the conference organized **22 live cookery shows** demonstrating innovative applications of emerging ingredients, plant-based alternatives, and nutritionally enhanced foods aligned with sustainability and health trends.

With participation from policymakers, global experts, researchers, and innovators, ANVESH-2026 witnessed an overwhelming response with **500+ registered participants** and **over 2000 visitors**, underscoring its relevance as a premier international forum. The conference successfully fostered meaningful dialogue, knowledge exchange, and partnerships aimed at advancing sustainable food systems and next-generation healthy food innovations, reinforcing India's leadership in the global food processing and nutrition landscape.





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