

## Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) Forum Lecture Series

*You are cordially invited to the Fifty-First STIP Forum Lecture  
on*

### **CRISPR for Developing Future Crops**

*by*

## **Professor K C Bansal**

**Former Director, ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources  
and Member, Board of Trustees, MS Swaminathan  
Research Foundation (MSSRF), Chennai**

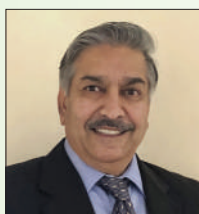
*Chair:* **Dr Vibha Dhawan**  
**Director General, TERI**

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Date: 24 January 2024 (Wednesday) | Time: 7.00-8.00 PM  
Venue: Casuarina Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

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### **ABOUT THE SPEAKER**



**Professor K C Bansal** is a former Director of the National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi and Member, Board of Trustees, MS Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), Chennai. He spearheaded the National Transgenic Crop Network across various ICAR research institutions. His research interests include functional genomics and transgenic development for abiotic stress tolerance in plants; developed the first series of transgenic crops with improved tolerance to drought and salt stress. His work on functional characterization of LEA, MYB, sHSP and osmotin gene is well known. The first ABA receptor gene OsPYL10 from an Indian drought tolerant rice landrace was cloned by his lab. He took an unprecedented initiative to evaluate the entire wheat germplasm (~ 22,000 accessions) conserved at the Indian National Genebank, and identified trait-specific reference sets.

Professor Bansal served as Vice-Chair (Asia), Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, FAO, United Nations (2013-15). He is a recipient of the Indian Science Congress award conferred on him by the Prime Minister of India, and the Haryana Vigyan Ratna (Highest State Science award). Prof. Bansal is elected Fellow of the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, and the National Academy of Science, India. He served on the Editorial Board of the Plant Biotechnology Journal. Professor Bansal earned a doctoral degree with a Gold Medal from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute and conducted advanced research at Harvard University in Cambridge, USA.

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**ABOUT STIP FORUM:** The Science Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) Forum has been set up with the objective of promoting debate on various aspects of Science, Technology and Innovation Policy. The Forum goes beyond the disciplinary boundaries by taking into account the intersectionality of S&T and I. It aims to bridge the gap between the science and society for dissemination of scientific achievements as well as for generalising debate of societal aspirations and promoting responsible research and innovations. The monthly lecture series of public lectures has been launched (since September 2017) to sensitize the public discourse on science, technology and innovation policy. Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), The Energy Resources Institute (TERI), Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research (CEFIPRA), Vigyan Prasar and India Habitat Centre (IHC) are the collaborating partner institutions.