

# **44<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Indian Academy of Neurosciences**

**(October 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026)**

*Theme: Advances in Neuroscience in Health and Disease*

**Tentative Scientific Programme IAN-2026**

(Host institution: BRIC-National Brain Research Centre, Manesar, India)

**Conference Venue: [Savoy Suites, Manesar](#) (Gurgaon), Haryana, India**

## **Day 1 (6<sup>th</sup> October 2026; Tuesday)**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Hall 1</b>	
<b>09:30 - 11:00</b>	<b>Registration and Inauguration (Welcoming new IAN fellows)</b>	
<b>11:00 – 13:00</b>	<b>Workshop on Science Policy and Current funding priorities of funding agencies</b>  <b>Coordinator 1: *Garima Gupta,</b> Department of Biotechnology, Govt of India, Delhi, India  <b>Coordinator 2: A.V Balachandar (Confirmation awaited)</b> Anusandhan National Research Foundation, Govt of India, Delhi, India  <b>Coordinator 3: TBA</b> Indian Council of Scientific Research, Govt of India, Delhi, India	<b>Workshop on Effective Grant Writing and Scientific Communication</b>  <b>TBD</b>
<b>13:00 – 14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>14:00 – 14:45</b>  <b>Hall 1</b>	<b>Keynote Lecture 1 (Hall 1)</b>  <b>Speaker: *Vidita A. Vaidya</b> Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, India  <b>Title: <i>Serotonergic psychedelics – from molecules to mood</i></b>	
<b>14:45 – 15:20</b>	<b>Plenary Lecture 1 (Hall 1)</b>	

Hall 1	<b>Speaker: Christian Gonzalez-Billault</b> Universidad de Chile, Chile <b>Title:</b> <i>Cell biology of the neuron, from development through aging</i>	
15:20 – 15:50	<b>Networking over tea and cookies</b>	
	Hall 1	Hall 2
16:00 – 18:00	<b>Symposium I</b> <b><i>Neurodevelopmental and psychiatric disorders</i></b>  <b>Special Talk:</b> <b>*Lucina Uddin</b> University of California, Los Angeles, USA <b>Title:</b> <i>Brain dynamics and flexible behaviors</i>  <b>Speakers:</b> 1. To be selected from abstract submissions/self-nominations and by invitation 2. At least 2 speakers will be early career scientists (students, postdocs) selected from submitted abstracts to give short talks (10 mins)	<b>Symposium II</b> <b><i>Dissecting circuits for behaviours</i></b>  <b>Special Talk:</b> <b>Kaushik Si</b> Stowers Institute for Medical Research, USA <b>Title:</b> <i>Encoding memory in amyloids</i>  <b>Speakers</b> 1. To be selected from abstract submissions/self-nominations and by invitation 2. At least 2 speakers will be early career scientists (students, postdocs) selected from submitted abstracts to give short talks (10 mins)
18:00 – 19:00	<b>*Sabine Kastner</b> <b>Editor-in-chief, Journal of Neuroscience</b> <b>Title:</b> TBA	
Hall 1		
19:00 – 20:00	<b>Panel Discussion:</b> <i>Diversity and Inclusion in Neuroscience</i> Moderator(s): TBA  *Vidita A. Vaidya, *Suman Jain, *Khushbu Agarwal, *Shashi Bala Singh, Christian Gonzalez-Billault, Ishan Patro	
Hall 1		
20:00 onwards	<b>Networking Dinner:</b> <b><i>make new synapses and strengthen the existing ones</i></b>	

## Day 2 (7<sup>th</sup> October 2026; Wednesday)

Time	Hall 1	Hall 2
09:00 - 09:45  Hall 1	<p><b>B.K. Bachhawat Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award Lecture</b>  <b>Chairpersons: Vinay K Khanna and Ishan Patro</b></p> <p>Awarded to a distinguished Indian scientist determined by the IAN executive committee in July 2026 based on nominations by IAN fellows</p>	
09:45 - 10:20  Hall 1	<p><b>Plenary talk 2</b></p> <p><b>Speaker: Goichi Miyoshi</b>            Gunma University Graduate School of Medicine, Japan</p> <p><b>Title:</b> <i>An early postnatal critical period for the development of inhibitory neurons in social circuit regulation</i></p>	
10:20 - 11:00	<p><b>Networking over tea-coffee &amp; light snacks</b></p>	
11:00 – 13:00	<p><b>Symposium III</b>  <b><i>Glia in health and disease</i></b></p> <p><b>Speaker: *Suhita Nadkarni</b>            Indian Institute for Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune, India</p> <p><b>Title:</b> <i>Synaptic Information Processing in Alzheimer's Disease: Effects of Short-Term Release Changes on Transmission and Plasticity</i></p> <p><b>Speakers:</b>            1. To be selected from abstract submissions/self-nominations and by invitation            2. At least 2 speakers will be early career scientists (students, postdocs) selected from submitted abstracts to give short talks (10 mins)</p>	<p><b>Symposium IV</b>  <b><i>AI-ML and BMI for Neuroscience</i></b></p> <p><b>Speaker: *Brigitte Röder</b>            University of Hamburg, Germany</p> <p><b>Title:</b> Dissecting the visual system with non-invasive electrophysiology in humans</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b>            1. To be selected from abstract submissions/self-nominations and by invitation            2. At least 2 speakers will be early career scientists (students, postdocs) selected from submitted abstracts to give short talks (10 mins)</p>
13:00 - 14:00	<p><b>Lunch</b></p>	
14:00 – 16:00	<p><b>Poster session I - (Hall 3)</b></p>	
16:00 – 16:35 Hall 1	<p><b>Plenary Talk 3</b>  <b>Speaker: *Vatsala Thirumalai</b></p>	

	National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS-TIFR), Bengaluru, India	
	<i>Title: Neural circuits generating behaviorally relevant predictions and their developmental emergence</i>	
<b>16:35 – 18:00</b>	<p><b>IAN Fellow-Elect Talks</b></p> <p><b>Chairpersons: Rajat Sandhir</b></p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <p><b>*Usha Rajamma, IUCBR-SSH, Kottayam</b></p> <p><b>Title:</b></p> <p><b>Mehdi Hayat Shahi, AMU, Aligarh</b></p> <p><i>Title: The Sonic Hedgehog (Shh) Cell Signaling Pathway is a formidable target for brain tumor therapy.</i></p> <p><b>Thomas Gregor Isaac, CBR, IISc, Bangalore</b></p> <p><i>Title: Understanding modifiable risk and resilience factors of Dementia in the Indian context</i></p>	<p><b>Oral talk Session</b></p> <p><b>TBD</b></p>
<b>18:00 – 20:00</b>	<p><b>Symposium V</b> <b><i>Nutrition, Gut and the Brain</i></b></p> <p><b>Gokulakrishnan Kuppan</b> National Institute for Mental Health and Sciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru, India</p> <p><i>Title: Schizophrenia through the Microbiome Lens: From Mechanistic Insights to Clinical Translation</i></p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <p>1. To be selected from abstract submissions/self-nominations and by invitation</p> <p>2. At least 2 speakers will be early career scientists (students, postdocs) selected from submitted abstracts to give short talks (10 mins)</p>	<p><b>Symposium VI</b> <b><i>Neuroscience of Sleep and Consciousness</i></b></p> <p><b>Speakers</b></p> <p>1. To be selected from abstract submissions/self-nominations and by invitation</p> <p>2. At least 2 speakers will be early career scientists (students, postdocs) selected from submitted abstracts to give short talks (10 mins)</p>
<b>20:00 onwards</b>	<b>Networking Dinner</b>	

## Day 3 (8<sup>th</sup> October 2026; Thursday)

Time	Hall 1	Hall 2
09:00 – 09:45  Hall 1	<b>P.N. Tandon Oration</b>  <b>Speaker -</b> A distinguished Indian scientist determined by the IAN executive committee in July 2026 based on nominations by IAN fellows	
09:45 - 10:20  Hall 1	<b>Keynote Lecture 2</b>  <b>Speaker: Nachum Ulanovsky</b> Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel  <b>Title: Neuroscience going wild: Neural coding in social groups of bats and in bats navigating outdoors on a remote oceanic island</b>	
10:20 – 10:55  Hall 1	<b>Plenary Talk 4</b>  <b>Speaker: *Manjari Tripathi</b> All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, India  <b>Title: TBA</b>	
10:55 – 11:25	<b>Networking over tea-coffee &amp; light snacks</b>	
11:25 – 13:25	<b>Symposium VII</b> <i>Physiology and pathophysiology of neuroendocrine systems</i>  <b>Speaker: *Anita Jagota</b> University of Hyderabad, India  <b>Title: Clock Dynamics in Aging and Neurodegenerative Disorders: Therapeutic Interventions</b>  <b>Speakers:</b> 1. To be selected from abstract submissions/self-nominations and by invitation 2. At least 2 speakers will be early career scientists (students, postdocs) selected from submitted abstracts to give short talks (10 mins)	<b>Symposium VIII</b> <i>Cell Biology of Neurons</i>  <b>Speaker: Vimlesh Kumar</b> Indian Institute for Science Education and Research (IISER), Bhopal, India  <b>Title: A degeneration checkpoint for G4C2 repeat neurotoxicity</b>  <b>Speakers:</b> 1. To be selected from abstract submissions/self-nominations and by invitation 2. At least 2 speakers will be early career scientists (students, postdocs) selected from submitted abstracts to give short talks (10 mins)
13:25 - 14:30	<b>Working Lunch</b>	
14:30 – 16:30	<b>Poster session II with Tea and Coffee</b>	

<b>16:30 – 17:05</b> <b>Hall 1</b>	<b>Plenary Talk 5</b> <b>Speaker: Manuel Zimmer</b> <b>EMBO Global Investigator</b> Research Institute of Molecular Pathology, Vienna, Austria  <b>Title:</b> <i>Neuronal population dynamics of sensory processing and decision making in C. elegans</i>
<b>17:05 – 19:00</b>	<b>Young Scientist Colloquium-I: Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award</b>  (for early career scientists below 40: includes senior graduate students and postdocs)  To be selected from submitted abstracts by the Scientific Programme Committee.
<b>19:00 – 20:00</b>	<b>Indian Academy of Neurosciences General Body Meeting</b>
<b>20:00 onwards</b>	<b>Cultural Programme and Gala Dinner</b>

## Day 4 (9<sup>th</sup> October 2026; Friday)

<b>Time</b>	<b>Hall 1</b>	<b>Hall 2</b>
<b>09:00-09:45</b>	<b>S. S. Parmar Oration</b>  A distinguished Indian scientist determined by the IAN executive committee in July 2026 based on nominations by IAN fellows	
<b>09:45-10:20</b>	<b>Plenary Talk 6 Speaker:</b>  <b>Speaker: *Amita Sehgal</b>  Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, USA.  <b>Title:</b> <i>Metabolic basis of sleep</i>	
<b>10:20 – 11:05</b>	<b>KT Shetty Oration</b>  <b>Speaker</b>  A distinguished Indian scientist determined by the IAN executive committee in July 2026 based on nominations by IAN fellows	

11:05 – 12:35	<b>Young Scientist Colloquium-II: DM Kar Award</b> (for early career scientists below 35: includes young graduate students)  To be selected from submitted abstracts by the Scientific Programme Committee	
12:35 – 13:30	<b>Lunch</b>	
13:30 - 15:30	<b>Symposium IX</b> <i>Neurobiology of Reward and Addiction</i>  <b>Speaker: Suhel Parvez</b> Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi, India  <b>Title:</b> <i>Integration of Peripheral and Central Immune Alteration in Neurodegeneration</i>  <b>Other speakers:</b> 1. To be selected from Abstracts submissions/self-nominations and by invitation 2. At least 2 speakers will be early career scientists (students, postdocs) selected from submitted abstracts to give short talks (10 mins)	<b>Symposium X</b> <i>Connectomics and adaptive reorganization</i>  <b>Speakers:</b> 1. To be selected from Abstracts submissions/self-nominations and by invitation 2. At least 2 speakers will be early career scientists (students, postdocs) selected from submitted abstracts to give short talks (10 mins)
15:30 – 16.30	<b>Non-academic careers with a PhD: A corporate perspective</b>  Session with panelists organized by *Keerthana Iyer, ALBA Network-FENS	
16:30 onwards	<b>Valedictory function and award distributions</b>  <b>Closing remarks by Dr Vinay K Khanna, President, IAN</b>	
Followed by	<b>Networking over tea-coffee &amp; light snacks</b>	

\* Women speakers