



ASSAM AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

Annual Highlights

2025-26

A year of

SCIENCE, INNOVATION & IMPACT

From **Knowledge to Technology.**

From **Technology to Transformation.**



**Educating Minds • Advancing Science • Empowering Farmers •
Transforming Agriculture**



AAU ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS 2025-26

A Year of Science, Innovation & Impact

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Assam Agricultural University : AAU Annual Highlights 2025-26 : A Year of
Science, Innovation & Impact, Jorhat, Assam

A YEAR OF PURPOSEFUL PROGRESS

Strengthening Assam's Agricultural Future through Knowledge, Innovation and Partnership



Message from The Vice Chancellor

The year 2025–26 has been a year of purposeful progress for Assam Agricultural University. We continued to strengthen our three foundational pillars—education, research and extension—while increasingly integrating them with entrepreneurship, biotechnology, climate-resilient agriculture, mechanization, value addition and livelihood development. Our research addressed some of the most pressing challenges of Assam and the North-Eastern Region, including floods, drought, climate variability, soil degradation, pest pressure, fragmented holdings and livelihood insecurity. Promising crop technologies, advanced molecular research, sustainable farming systems, biological control technologies and agricultural machinery demonstrated the University's commitment to need-based science.

At the same time, AAU expanded its farmer outreach, strengthened Farmer Producer Organizations, supported agri-startups through NEATEHUB, advanced technology commercialization and generated new opportunities for women, youth and rural communities. The story of 2025–26 is therefore not merely a story of outputs. It is a story of knowledge moving—from classrooms to laboratories, from laboratories to fields, and from fields to enterprises and livelihoods.

Dr. Dipjyoti Rajkhowa
Vice-Chancellor
Assam Agricultural University

AAU AT A GLANCE

ONE UNIVERSITY. ONE PURPOSE. ONE AGRICULTURAL FUTURE.

India's first agricultural university in the Northeast continues to serve as Assam's knowledge engine for agriculture and allied sectors.

Assam Agricultural University, established on 1 April 1969, is the first agricultural university in Northeast India and the only agricultural university in Assam. Through education, research and extension, AAU serves the diverse agricultural and socio-economic needs of Assam and the wider North-Eastern Region.


1969
Established


6
Constituent
Colleges


23
KVKs


1,917
Students on Roll


937
New Admissions


628
Graduates


821
Publications


325
Research Papers
in Journals


5 Patents Granted
4 Patent Application
filed


38
FPOs Promoted


₹1.61 CRORE
Startup Grants


87,312
Advisory Beneficiaries

5 GI Product Registrations facilitated



A YEAR OF IMPACT

FROM KNOWLEDGE TO ACTION. FROM INNOVATION TO IMPACT.

Every initiative at AAU is designed to create value beyond the campus — for farmers, enterprises, institutions and communities.

During 2025–26, AAU strengthened the connection between **research**, **innovation**, **extension** and enterprise. Technologies and scientific knowledge were taken closer to users through field demonstrations, advisory services, training programmes and institutional partnerships.



RESEARCH THAT REACHES THE FIELD

Research teams worked on solutions relevant to the region's agricultural challenges, including climate resilience, improved crop varieties, farm mechanisation, biological solutions and location-specific technologies.



EXTENSION THAT CONNECTS

AAU's extension network brought scientific knowledge directly to farmers through KVKs, ATIC, phone-in services, Kisan Mobile Advisory, training programmes, demonstrations and digital outreach.

- 8,570** Farmers visited ATIC
- 87312** Phone-in/Kisan Mobile Advisory beneficiaries
- 138** Academic & professional events organised
- 238** Faculty/scientists in professional development



INNOVATION THAT BECOMES ENTERPRISE

AAU continued to support the transition from ideas and technologies to market-oriented opportunities through technology transfer, intellectual property, startup incubation and entrepreneurship support

- 16** Agri-tech startups supported
- ₹1.61 Crore** Startup grants awarded
- 38** FPOs promoted
- 9054** FPO farmer shareholders

IMPACT AT A GLANCE



87,312

Farmer outreach beneficiaries



8,570

ATIC engagement farmer visits



38

FPOs promoted



9,054

FPO farmer shareholders



16

Agri-tech startups supported



₹1.61 Crore

Startup ecosystem grants



238

Faculty development participants



138

Academic engagement events



THE AAU DIFFERENCE

FROM KNOWLEDGE TO IMPACT

AAU's strength lies not in any one activity, but in connecting the entire agricultural innovation chain.

1

EDUCATE
STUDENTS • SKILLS •
EXPERIENTIAL
LEARNING



NURTURING
FUTURE LEADERS

2

RESEARCH
CROPS • CLIMATE •
BIOTECHNOLOGY •
SUSTAINABILITY



GENERATING
NEW KNOWLEDGE

3

INNOVATE
TECHNOLOGIES •
PATENTS • PRODUCTS



IDEAS INTO
SOLUTIONS

4

TRANSFER
KVKS • ATIC •
ADVISORIES •
DEMONSTRATIONS



BRIDGING
LAB TO LAND

5

TRANSFORM
FARMERS • FPOS •
STARTUPS •
ENTERPRISES •
LIVELIHOODS



STRONGER
COMMUNITIES
A BRIGHTER TOMORROW



EDUCATION

01 | LEARNING TODAY. LEADING TOMORROW.

Building the next generation of agricultural professionals, entrepreneurs and change-makers.

Education at AAU combines scientific knowledge, practical experience and exposure to real agricultural challenges. During 2025–26, the University continued to strengthen its academic pipeline across Bachelor's, Master's and Ph.D. programmes.

STUDENT PROFILE — 2025–26



EDUCATION WITH EXPERIENCE



The **Student READY** programme integrates a 20-credit experiential learning component into agricultural education, giving students opportunities to apply classroom knowledge in practical, rural and entrepreneurial settings. Through field exposure, hands-on learning and interaction with farming communities and agricultural enterprises, the programme strengthens:



CAREERS & PROFESSIONAL PATHWAYS



AAU's education ecosystem extends beyond graduation, helping students develop the technical, professional and entrepreneurial capabilities needed to contribute to agriculture, allied sectors, research, industry, government and emerging agritech enterprises

Education at AAU is not only about earning a degree — it is about gaining the knowledge, experience and confidence to lead agriculture into the future.



EDUCATION

02 | STUDENT EXCELLENCE

TALENT THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Education at AAU combines scientific knowledge, practical experience and exposure to real agricultural challenges. During 2025–26, the University continued to strengthen its academic pipeline across Bachelor's, Master's and Ph.D. programmes.

FELLOWSHIPS & NATIONAL/STATE QUALIFICATIONS



 **306**
STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOLARSHIPS

 **64.86%**
OF REPORTED SCHOLARSHIPS WENT TO GIRL STUDENTS

 **1**
University Gold Medal

 **14**
Best Thesis Awards

 **23**
Oral Presentation Awards

 **30**
Poster Presentation Awards

 **1**
International Ph.D. Fellowship

FEATURE STORY

BRONZE ON THE NATIONAL STAGE

AAU students **Bipasa Paul** and **Tanmoy Bharali** won the Bronze Medal in Landscape Gardening Skill at **IndiaSkills 2025–26**.



EDUCATION

03 | EXCELLENCE RECOGNIZED

EXCELLENCE HAS MANY FACES

When AAU people excel, the University shines beyond its campuses



PROF. S.S. JOHL AWARD
Dr. Dipanjan Kashyap
Best Ph.D. Thesis on Agricultural Policy, 2025.



NORTH EAST EXTENSION EXCELLENCE AWARD
Dr. Indrajit Barman
Biswanath College of Agriculture.



GREEN VISIONARY AWARD – YOUNG SCIENTIST
Dr. Pranamika Sharma
Biswanath College of Agriculture.



YOUNG HORTICULTURIST AWARD
Dr. Bornali Gogoi
College of Horticulture & FSR.

OTHER NOTABLE RECOGNITIONS



BEST M.Sc. THESIS / PAPER / POSTER AWARDS
Multiple AAU students and scholars received national and international recognition during the year.



INDIASKILLS 2025-26
Bronze Medal – Landscape Gardening.



PLANT GENOME SAVIOUR AWARD
received by Na Dihing Citrus FPC Ltd. under the AAU-CBBO.



AND MANY MORE
AAU faculty, students and alumni continued to bring laurels through their excellence and dedication.

*Recognition is not the destination.
It is a reminder to aim higher.*



EDUCATION

04 | FUTURE-READY EDUCATION

FROM DEGREE TO DESTINATION

Experiential learning, digital education and entrepreneurship are reshaping the AAU student experience.

AAU's undergraduate curriculum incorporates the ICAR 6th Deans' Committee recommendations and the NEP 2020 framework, with market-oriented curricula, Skill Enhancement Courses, Student READY, Academic Bank of Credits, DigiLocker and technology-enabled learning.



EXPERIENCE

Student READY

20-credit experiential learning

Student READY

20-credit experiential learning



ENTREPRENEURSHIP

NEATEHUB

Student Entrepreneurship
Development Programme

Earn While You Learn



DIGITAL

- AMS
- Academic Bank of Credits
- DigiLocker
- e-learning resources



EDUCATION

05 | PEOPLE & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

INVESTING IN PEOPLE. INVESTING IN KNOWLEDGE.

A strong institution is built by continuously strengthening its people.



FOCUS AREA



EDUCATION

06 | KNOWLEDGE CREATION

759 PUBLICATIONS. CULTURE OF SCIENCE.

AAU's research story is also a story of knowledge shared with the world.



COLLEGE WISE CONTRIBUTION

270 College of Agriculture, Jorhat	192 Biswanath College of Agriculture	139 College of Horticulture and Forestry	105 College of Sericulture	53 College of Community Science
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RESEARCH

01 | SCIENCE FOR CHALLENGES OF ASSAM

Research that begins with the problem—and ends with a solution.

Agricultural University remains committed to generating knowledge, developing innovative technologies and providing science-based solutions to address the key challenges facing agriculture and allied sectors in Assam and the North-Eastern region.

KEY RESEARCH CHALLENGES



Climate
Variability



Soil
Degradation



Pest and
Diseases



Floods
and Drought



Livelihood
Insecurity



Nutritional
Security

OUR RESEARCH DIRECTIONS



Crop
Improvement



Sustainable
Production
Technologies



Natural Resource
Management



Biotechnology
and Genomics



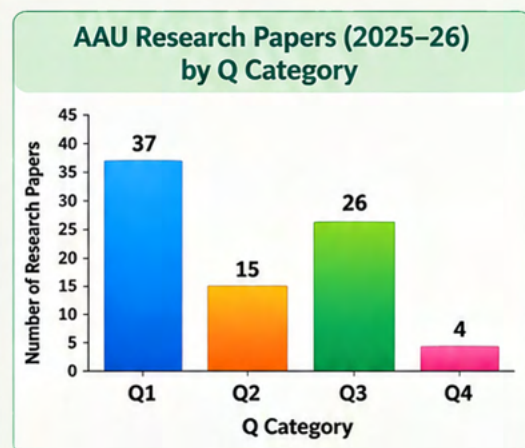
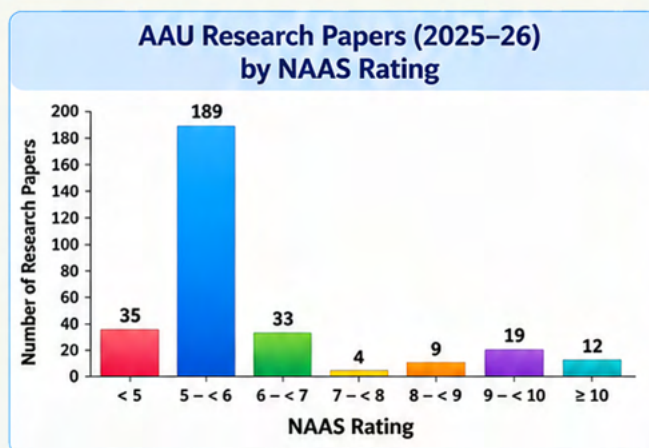
Value Addition
and Agri-business



Socio-economic
and Policy
Research

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS AT A GLANCE (2025-26)

The research performance of AAU during 2025-26 is reflected not only in the volume of publications but also in the quality and ranking of the journals in which the research was published.



RESEARCH

02 | RICE FOR THE FUTURE.

Reengineering rice for flood, drought and diverse agro-ecologies.

AAU is developing climate-resilient rice varieties through conventional and molecular breeding, with a focus on productivity, stress tolerance and stability across the diverse agro-ecologies of Assam and the North East.



Arun : a 110 days drought tolerant rice variety developed by AAU for climate resilient rice production across Assam

AAU VARIETIES | ECONOMIC IMPACT

From resilient varieties to measurable impact.



RANJIT & BAHADUR

Notified during 1994

62.5% of Kharif rice area

₹3,685 crore economic impact
up to 2014-15



RANJIT SUB 1 & BAHADUR SUB 1

Submergence-tolerant • notified 2018

4.29 lakh ha | 28.6%*

₹2,492 crore economic impact
up to 2024-25

₹6,177 CRORE COMBINED ECONOMIC IMPACT TO ASSAM

*When the climate changes,
the seed must change with it.*



RESEARCH

03 | NEW CROP TECHNOLOGIES

NEW VARIETIES. NEW POSSIBILITIES.

Strengthening crop diversity, productivity and livelihood opportunities for Assam.

AAU continues to develop and promote improved varieties in rice and other crops, contributing to greater crop diversity, higher productivity and enhanced livelihood opportunities for farmers across the state.

POST-FLOOD RICE

Three medium-duration Sali lines



IR 20R 1879



IR 20R 1965



IR 20R 1113

10-12% YIELD ADVANTAGE

Several promising rice lines recorded 10-12% yield advantage over established checks and were advanced to multilocal and AICRP trials for post-flood situations.



LATHYRUS

- AAU LATHYRUS-1
- AAU LATHYRUS-2
- AAU LATHYRUS-3



RICE BEAN

- JOR-21-1
- JOR-20-1 (MUHITA)



RICE

Plant Variety Rights obtained for
• KON JOHA • KOLA JOHA



BLACKGRAM

• SBC-50
Recommended for late kharif



TUBEROSE

• KHK TR-1
Recommended for farmers' fields



RESEARCH

04 | EDITING THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE

Where Assam's agricultural science meets the genomic age.

AAU's research portfolio included CRISPR/Cas-based work, *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation, molecular marker validation and gene-based studies.



CRISPR/Cas
Gene-editing Research



BHIMKOL BANANA
Efficient transformation
protocol established



**CRISPR-EDITED
PLANTLETS**
Successfully regenerated



Bt CHICKPEA
Field trials of Bt events undertaken
following regulatory approval for
event-selection trials



MOLECULAR BREEDING
Gene/QTL-based approaches for
stress tolerance



*From genes to genomes.
From experiments
to resilient crops.*

RESEARCH

05 | SUSTAINABLE FARMING

FARMING WITH NATURE

More productivity. Efficient resource use. Better livelihoods.

AAU promotes location-specific, resource-efficient and environmentally sustainable farming systems that enhance productivity, conserve natural resources and strengthen rural livelihoods.

A CARBON-NEGATIVE 1-HECTARE RAINFED MODEL

An integrated farming system combining:

**Crops + Horticulture + Cattle + Fishery + Duckery + Goatery +
Apiary + Liquid Manure + Vermicomposting**

2.24
B:C RATIO

338
MAN-DAYS OF
EMPLOYMENT/YEAR

The model also increased soil organic carbon and demonstrated the potential of integrated, resource-efficient farming under rainfed conditions.



RESEARCH

06 | BIOLOGICAL CONTROL

FROM MICROBES TO FARM SOLUTIONS

Harnessing nature to protect crops and reduce dependence on chemical interventions.

3 BIOPESTICIDE PRODUCTS DEVELOPED

Featuring strains of:

- *Isaria javanica*
- *Beauveria bassiana*
- *Trichoderma turialbense*

97 BIOLOGICAL CONTROL TECHNOLOGIES

Approved for multilocational evaluation.



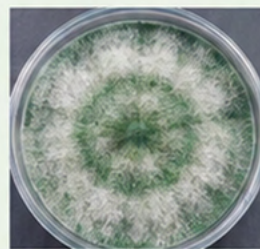
Beauveria bassiana infecting insect larva

The XXXIV Annual Group Meeting of the AICRP on Biological Control hosted at AAU brought together 88 scientists from 41 centres, with three new biopesticides released and 97 technologies approved for multilocational evaluation.

FEATURE

New *Trichoderma asperellum* strain BC3
Accession No. PZ006141.1

The research section records its identification along with the development of three solid and three liquid biopesticide products.



Trichoderma asperellum
strain BC3



Application in nursery

*Biological solutions
for productive and
sustainable farming.*

RESEARCH

07 | SMART FARMING & MECHANIZATION

SMARTER FARMS. STRONGER FARMERS.

Engineering solutions for labour, efficiency and precision.

AAU develops and promotes farm mechanization and precision technologies to reduce drudgery, enhance productivity and create sustainable livelihood opportunities for farmers across Assam.

TECHNOLOGIES PROMOTED



HOME-SCALE MILLET DEHULLER

Making processing accessible at smaller scales



RICE-FLAKE PRODUCTION SYSTEM

Strengthening post-harvest value addition



RIDING-TYPE PADDY WEEDER

Improving field efficiency



DRONE-BASED APPLICATION

Fertilizer and pesticide application demonstrated under contingency conditions



EXTENSION

01 | KNOWLEDGE TO FARMERS

FROM SCIENCE TO SOIL

Putting knowledge directly into farmers' hands.

Through its network of Krishi Vigyan Kendras and extension programmes, AAU takes location-specific technologies, practices and advisories to farmers across Assam.



23

KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRAS

1,072
28,728

Training programmes
Participants



835

OFTs/FLDs CONDUCTED

2,326 farmers covered



8,570

FARMERS VISITED ATIC

4,470 male | 4,100 female



1,113

FARM ADVISORIES

Covering varieties, pest and disease management, agro-techniques, soil and water conservation, post-harvest technology, animal husbandry and fisheries.



107

RADIO PROGRAMMES



632

**PHONE-IN & KISAN MOBILE
ADVISORY PROGRAMMES**



87,312

BENEFICIARIES REACHED



EXTENSION

02 | TAKING AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE TO THE PEOPLE

Connecting knowledge, technology and innovation with the farmers of Assam.



67,375

Extension programmes



12.41 lakh

Farmers reached



4,52,700

Farmers covered under
Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan



3 lakh ha

Area covered by
Ranjit Sub-1

KEY EXTENSION ACHIEVEMENTS



994

SHORT-TERM TRAININGS

26,972 farmers, rural youth & extension personnel trained; including 8,773 ST and 5,405 SC farmers.



4,568

DEMONSTRATIONS

273 Front-Line Demonstrations plus 3,986 oilseed and 309 pulse CFLDs for technology dissemination.



3 LAKH ha

FLOOD-RESILIENT RICE

Ranjit Sub-1 & Bahadur Sub-1 withstand up to 15 days of complete submergence; Ranjit Sub-1 reached 3 lakh ha.



12,553

ADVISORY SERVICES

Farmer support strengthened through advisory services, diagnostic visits, farmer-scientist interactions and field activities.



11.32 LAKH

PLANTING MATERIALS

11,31,928 planting materials generated, alongside 3,284 q seed and 2,829.87 q bio-inputs.



1,338

VIKSIT KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAN

Programmes across 8,794 villages, covering 4,52,700 farmers under the flagship Kharif 2025 campaign.



EXTENSION

03 | WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE

HER FARM. HER ENTERPRISE. HER FUTURE.

Researching women's contribution. Strengthening women's choices. Creating livelihood pathways.

AAU generates evidence, develops solutions and creates opportunities to enhance the role of women in agriculture and allied sectors.

2,400
RESPONDENTS

Across:

Assam | Arunachal Pradesh |
Sikkim | Nagaland

1,600
FARM WOMEN

Studied for multidimensional
livelihood security under
Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran
Pariyojana interventions.

960

FARM WOMEN

Surveyed for enterprise
and livelihood
opportunities.

HIGH-DEMAND AREAS



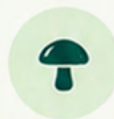
Poultry



Dairy



Fisheries



Mushroom



Organic
Inputs



Water
Conservation



Agro-waste
Value Addition



Food
Processing



EXTENSION

04 | MEGA FARMERS' FAIR

WHERE FARMERS MEET SCIENCE

Technology. Interaction. Enterprise. One common platform.

MEGA FARMERS' FAIR 2026

9-10 JANUARY 2026 | AAU, JORHAT

2,722
PARTICIPANTS



1,497
WOMEN



1,225
MEN



200+
SCHEDULED TRIBE
FARMERS



150 TONNES

Certified Ranjit Sub-1 rice seed
produced

8 FPOs | 5 districts



Three FPCs received
₹15 lakh each under the
Mukhya Mantri Utkarsh Yojana



FOUR PILLARS



TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION

Improved and
location-specific
technologies



FARMER-SCIENTIST INTERACTION

Direct exchange
of knowledge



ENTREPRENEURS' MEET

Connecting innovation
with markets



SEED GROWERS' MEET

Strengthening
seed systems



EXTENSION

05 | FARMERS AS ENTREPRISES

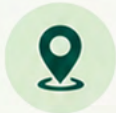
38 FPOS. 18 DISTRICTS. 9,054 FARMERS.

From fragmented producers to organized agricultural enterprises.



38

FARMER PRODUCER ORGANIZATIONS



18

DISTRICTS



9,054

FARMER SHAREHOLDERS



+49.28%

GROWTH IN SHAREHOLDERS

INSTITUTIONAL PERFORMANCE

10 FPOs — Grade A

9 FPOs — Grade B

0 FPOs — Grade D/E

The AAU-CBBO facilitated convergence with programmes involving machinery, finance, technology, market opportunities and enterprise development.

*Stronger Farmers
Stronger Assam*



**BETTER
PRODUCE**



**BETTER
MARKETS**



**STRONGER
COMMUNITIES**



Machinery



Finance



Technology



Inputs



Markets



Contract Farming

STARTUPS & ENTREPRENEURSHIPS

01 | FROM IDEA TO IMPACT

Building the Northeast's next generation of agri-entrepreneurs.

NEATEHUB supported 16 Cohort-11 startups through mentoring, incubation, business development and funding facilitation under RKVY-RAFTAAR.



16

AGRITECH STARTUPS
SUPPORTED



₹1.61 CRORE

GRANTS AWARDED



THREE PATHWAYS



SARANYA

Seed-stage ventures



ISANYA

Ideation-stage ventures



NAVYAM

Student-led innovation



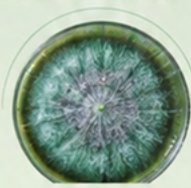
AAU STUDENT FIRST 2025

A flagship business-plan competition that brought student innovations before the Vice-Chancellor and senior scientists, with more than 100 participants.

COMMERCIALIZED TECHNOLOGIES



Isaria javanica
(IP Organic)



Trichoderma harzianum
technology



Additive-Free
Fresh Assam Lemon Juice

1

COPYRIGHT
REGISTRATION
GRANTED

3

TECHNOLOGY
TRANSFER
AGREEMENTS DONE

6

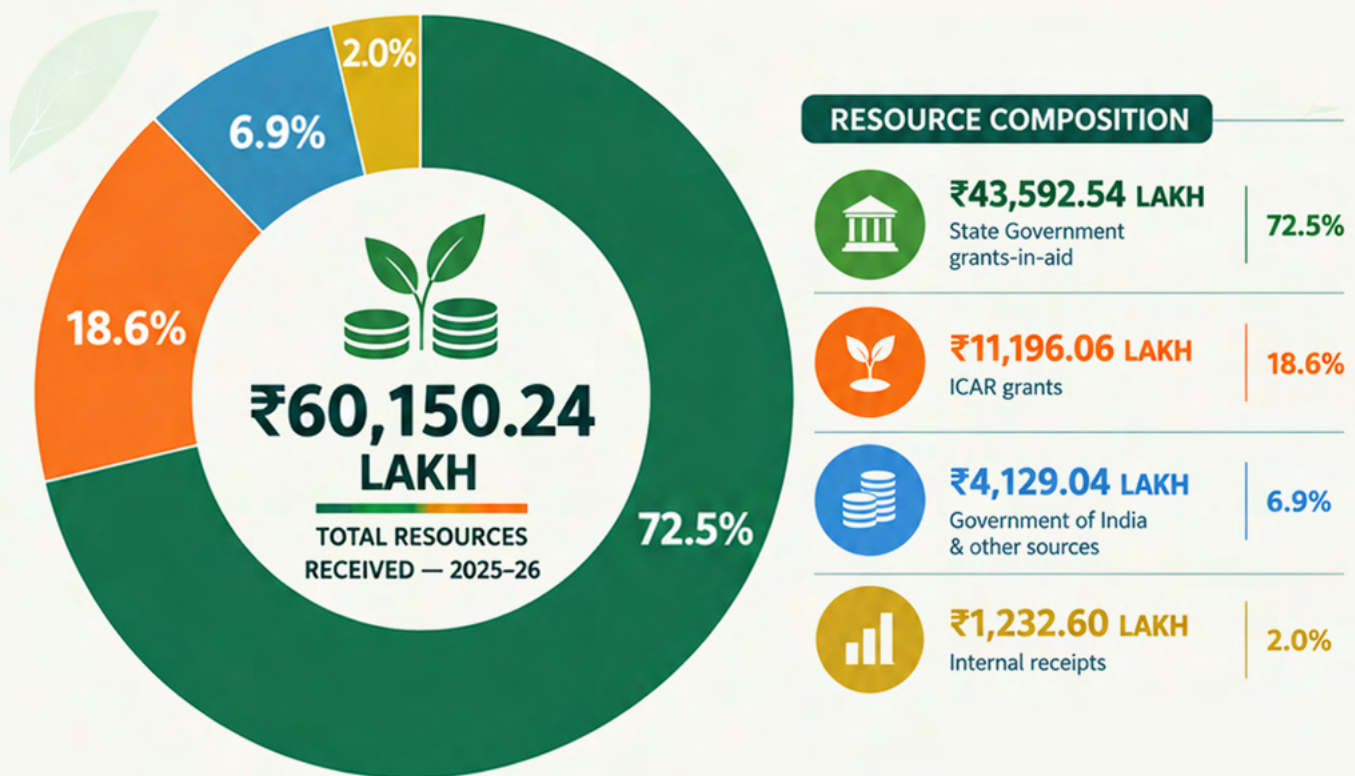
INDUSTRIAL DESIGN
APPLICATIONS BEING
PROCESSED FOR
FILING



FINANCIAL STRENGTH

INVESTING IN AGRICULTURE'S FUTURE

Public investment translated into education, research, extension, innovation and infrastructure.



EDUCATION

Skilled human resource for tomorrow



RESEARCH

Innovations for sustainable agriculture



EXTENSION

Taking technology to the last mile



INNOVATION

Ideas for impact



INFRASTRUCTURE

Stronger facilities for greater service



THE NEXT HARVEST OF IDEAS

Building a resilient, technology-driven and inclusive agricultural future.



The future of Assam's agriculture will be built where science meets the field, innovation meets the farmer, and knowledge meets opportunity.

