

81ST PLENARY MEETING

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Cotton Value Chain: “Local Innovations for Global Prosperity”



Dr Samir Sawant

Dr Samir Sawant is a Chief Scientist and Area Coordinator at the Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology Division of CSIR-National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow, India, and a Professor at the Academy of Scientific and Industrial Research. He completed his MSc in Biotechnology in 1996 with a gold medal from Goa University, and his PhD in Biochemistry in 2004 from Lucknow University and CSIR-NBRI. He has pioneered work in plant gene regulation, which led to the development of the first-ever artificial synthetic plant promoter. He specialises in Plant Molecular biology, Biotechnology, Genomics, Epigenetics, and Molecular and Genetic Markers. Dr Sawant's developed Indian 50K Cotton SNP chips and contributed to a global consortium of 63K SNP chips. He developed bio-stimulant technology for cotton yield improvement, for which a US patent was awarded, and developed F1-Hybrid technology using a novel reversible male sterility system. He has published more than 65 research articles, 10 book chapters, and many scientific reviews, and has been awarded 18 patents.

Dr Sawant is a fellow of the National Academy of Sciences and the International Society of Environmental Botanists. He was awarded INSA Young Scientist Medal in 2006, the Innovative Young Biotechnologist Award, the Young Senior Innovative Biotechnologist Award 2009, the CSIR Technology Award, and the Anil Kumar Bose Memorial Award.