

BANGALORE, INDIA: APSA's third Asian Solanaceous Round Table (ASRT 3) in Bengaluru, India, 22 - 25 October, was attended by some 350 delegates, including scientists, breeders, government officials, students, and seed company executives. Initiated in Bengaluru in 2014, with a follow-up meeting organized in Bangkok, Thailand in 2017, ASRT was created by private seed companies and public research institutions as a platform for structured discussions to address productivity challenges relevant to Solanaceous crops -- especially tomato, eggplant and chili peppers. The ASRT 3 was organized by APSA in partnership with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR), and Society for Promotion of Horticulture (SPH) – in association with the Federation of Seed Industry of India (FSII) and the National Seed Association of India (NSAI). The Inaugural Ceremony on October 22, was presided over by Dr. A.K. Singh (DDG, ICAR), Dr. T. Janakiram (ADG, ICAR), Dr. M. R. Dinesh (Director, IIHR), Dr. C. Ashwath (Secretary, SPH), Dr. Marco Wopereis (DG, World Vegetable Center), Dr K. Keshavulu (Managing Director, Talangana State Seed Corporation), Dr. Kanokwan Chodchoey (ED, APSA) and Dr. Manish Patel (APSA Treasurer and Executive Committee). Planning for the event was steered by APSA's R&D Advisory Committee, led by Dr. Narendra K. Singh (chair), Dr. Seetharam Annadana (co-chair), Dr. Surinder K Tikoo and Dr John R. Sheedy.

