



The Agri-Horticultural Society of India
Celebrates its 200th Anniversary
World Regional Rose Convention 2020, Kolkata

9th - 12th January 2020
1, Alipore Road, Kolkata - 700027



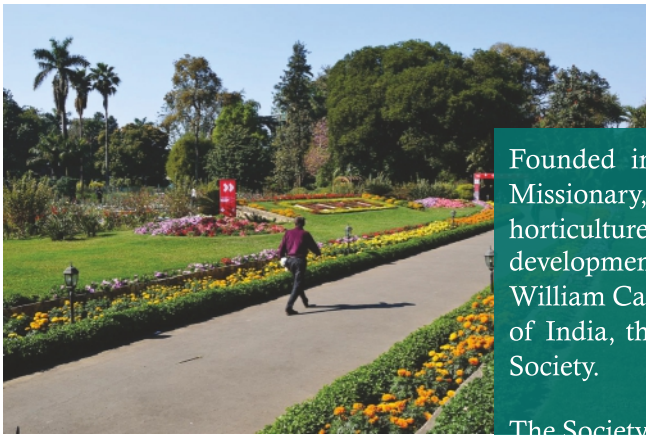
Colour of Joy



Media Partner



The Agri-Horticultural Society of India (AHSI)



Founded in 1820 by Rev. Dr. William Carey D.D., an English Baptist Missionary, The Agri-Horticultural Society of India serves as a heaven for horticulture enthusiasts. The Society was founded with the set-out objectives of development and promotion of agriculture and horticulture in India. Dr. William Carey D.D. was encouraged and supported by the Governor-General of India, the Marquis of Hastings, who also became the first patron of the Society.

The Society has been trying over the century to capture the spirit of the times, the passionate love for plant life. The adventures, the joys of discovery, the sorrows of failure and then the zealous conquest of new frontiers. It is this skein of excitement stemming from the pioneering spirit that seems to have woven itself through the long years. It continues to prompt the Society today to reinvigorate itself on the eve of a new era with new ideas and new technologies that are poised to take Indian agriculture to realms of untold prosperity.



Kolkata

Kolkata, the capital of the state of West Bengal is considered to be the 'Paris of the East'. It is home to five nobel laureates including Tagore and Mother Teresa. This city is now known as the 'Cultural Capital Of India' and is famous for its literary, scientific, artistic and revolutionary heritage. There are so many place to be visited in this city of joy, that you will be spoilt for choice.



President's Message **SUNIL KANORIA**

“ Dear Friends,

On behalf of **The Agri-Horticultural Society of India (AHSI)**, I would like to welcome you to the **World Regional Rose Convention 2020**, Kolkata in partnership with the **World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS)**, **The Indian Rose Federation (IRF)** and **The Bengal Rose Society (BRS)**. The World Regional Rose Convention is being celebrated with **AHSI's Bicentennial Flower Show**, along with several other activities.

The event will bring together eminent national and international rose enthusiasts who will share their knowledge and experience in an array of technical session and seminars.

India is the largest democratic country in the world and is a land of magnificent monuments, rich heritage, varied culture and ethereal beauty. The Rose has reigned supreme in the world of flowers for thousands of years and has always been the Symbol of Love, Passion & Devotion and plays an integral part in our daily lives. India has numerous gardens proudly dedicated to the rose.

Kolkata, formerly known as Calcutta, is the capital of West Bengal which is located on the banks of the historical River Hooghly. The City of Joy is a major metropolis of India and also the political and cultural hub of the country, where heritage and contemporary hues seem to merge in a seamless rhapsody of colours. This inspired the theme of the **WRRC 2020, Kolkata: "Colour of Joy"**. I take this opportunity to extend my invitation to visit our beautiful city of Kolkata, and attend the Rose Convention while experiencing India's legendary hospitality. I look forward to meeting you in Kolkata in January 2020. ”

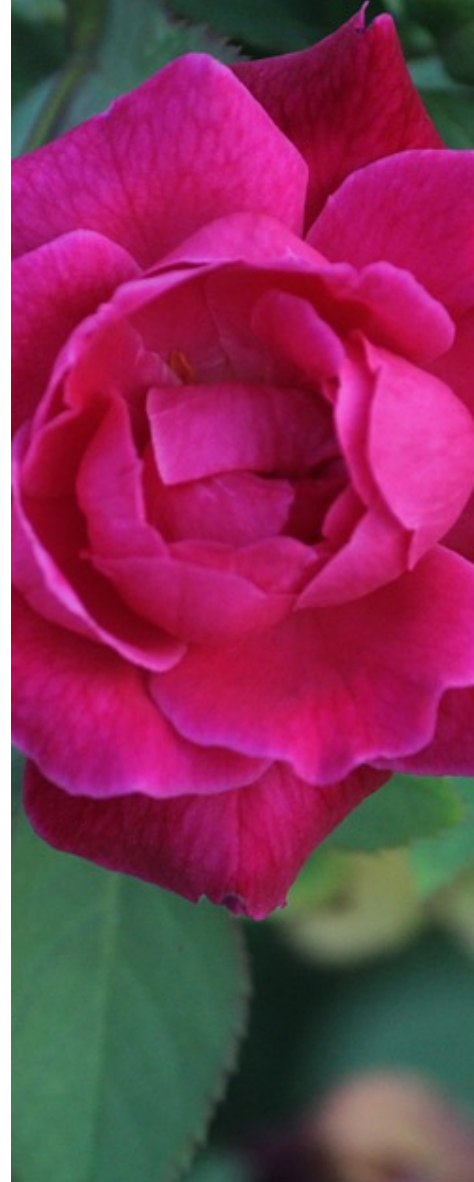
The Indian Rose

The association of roses with Indian history goes back to the very beginning of time. Mythology and the archaeology, trace the presence of this flower many years ago. In India, rose had social, medical, cultural and religious uses.

The Himalayan mountain range boasts of many wild rose plant varieties. Scriptures mention the wide use of rose flower in garlands as ornamentation and offerings to God in rituals. In the 16th century when the Mughal Emperors came to rule India, they brought camel loads of roses which were lavishly planted in many gardens.

When the British came to India in the 17th century, their ships from China carrying merchandise to England, stopped for refueling at Kolkata port. Rose plants were a part of their shipment and would be kept in the Indian Botanical Garden of Howrah, on the banks of the River Ganges. Some plants from each batch would be planted in this garden.

There are many products that are typically Indian - Rose water, Rose oil, Gulkand, Gul Roghan, Rose essence, Rose liquor, Rose honey, Rose hip, and dried Rose petals. What could be called the modern era in rose growing in India started with the advent of the pioneer Indian breeder, B. S. Bhattacharji in the 1940's. After Independence, rose growing received a tremendous fillip when the eminent agriculture scientist and rose lover, Dr. B. P. Pal, became the Director of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi. His enthusiasm led to the establishment of a Rose Society of India in the capital, New Delhi. He also hybridized many roses suited for the north Indian climate and started a programme of rose breeding in the I.A.R.I. A vast range of modern roses are cultivated in India, representing all Classes, from across the world. The latest western roses, including cut - flower roses, are well represented, thanks to the enthusiasm of various rose nurseries. A landmark was the WFRS Award of Garden of Excellence to the Centenary Rose Garden, located in the southern mountains, in Ootacamund, Tamil Nadu.



Glimpses of Kolkata



THE INDIAN BOTANICAL GARDEN

230 year old, one of it's kind heritage, the garden is home to over 12000 species of plants. It boasts of the largest tree in the world, the Great Banyan Tree.



VICTORIA MEMORIAL

Built in between 1906 and 1921 in the memory of Queen Victoria, this is one of the most traveled museums in the world. It is surrounded on all sides by beautiful English gardens.



ECO PARK

An urban park in Rajarhat and the biggest park in India so far. It has various ecological zones, theme gardens and a special rose garden.



RAJ BHAVAN

The official residence of the Governor of West Bengal. It was built in the nineteenth century and follows a Neoclassical style with distinct Baroque overtones.

Pre-convention Tours



Shantiniketan - The land of nature and Tagore



The Sunderbans - Wildlife Tour from Kolkata

Post-convention Tours



Himalayan Tour - Darjeeling and Gangtok

Program

Time	Agenda	Venue
9th January 2020: Day 1		
09:30	*Registration	AHSI
09:30 – 12:30	Judging of ROSE & Annual Flower Show 2020	AHSI
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch	AHSI
14:00 – 14:30	Press Meet	AHSI
15:00 – 16:30	Inauguration Bi Centenary Stamp Release Naming of Rose	AHSI
19.30 onwards	Welcome Reception	President's Residence
10th January 2020: Day 2		
09:30 – 12:15	Technical Session 1	AHSI
12:15 – 13:00	Panel Discussion: Pot Rose Culture in Bengal	
13:00 – 13:30	Address by Representatives of International Organizations	
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch	
14:30 – 18:30	River Cruise on Hooghly / Visit to Indian Botanic Garden	
18:30 onwards	Leisure Time	

Time	Agenda	Venue
11th January 2020: Day 3		
09:30 – 12:00	Technical Session 2	AHSI
12:00 – 13:00	Panel Discussion	
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 16:00	Visit to the Historic Governor House	Raj Bhawan, Kolkata
18:00 – 19:30	An evening curated by Maestro Bickram Ghosh	AHSI
19:30 onwards	Gala Dinner	
12th January 2020: Day 4		
08:00 – 12:00	Heritage Walk of Kolkata Mother Teresa's house Eco Park	City Tour
12:00 – 14:00	Visit to Victoria Memorial Garden	
15:00 – 17:00	Prize Distribution followed by Closing Ceremony	AHSI
18:00 onwards	Valedictory Dinner	AHSI

***The Registration will be open from 9th January to 12th January.**

For More Information on Program and Hotels, visit www.wfrs2020kolkata.com

World Regional Rose Convention 2020, Kolkata

Col Pratul Pandit (Retd)

Secretary / CEO

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