



International Rangelands and Fodder Conference (IRFC 2026)



On

**PASTURES, PEOPLE AND LIVESTOCK: SUSTAINING
LIVELIHOODS AND ECOSYSTEM**

at

**ICAR-Indian Grassland and Fodder
Research Institute, Jhansi**

23-25 September, 2026



Organizers

Range Management Society of India, Jhansi

In collaboration with

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi
ICAR-Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute (IGFRI), Jhansi
Rani Lakshmibai Central Agricultural University (RLBCAU), Jhansi
ICAR-Central Agroforestry Research Institute (CAFRI), Jhansi
Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS), New Delhi



About the Conference

- ❖ Rangelands and forage-based systems are vital for sustaining pastoral livelihoods, supporting livestock production, and maintaining ecological balance. These landscapes contribute significantly to biodiversity, climate resilience, and rural economy. As environmental challenges intensify, there is a growing need to develop integrated and sustainable approaches to rangeland management that benefit both people and ecosystems. Their inclusion in policy dialogues and conservation efforts is key to building a healthier planet.
- ❖ The International Rangelands and Forage Conference – 2026 aims to provide a global platform for scientists, policymakers, development practitioners, and pastoral communities to share knowledge, innovations, and best practices in rangeland, forage science and animal husbandry. The conference will cover diverse themes including sustainable grazing, ecosystem restoration, fodder innovation, climate-smart practices, and policy frameworks.
- ❖ The event holds special significance as it coincides with the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP 2026), declared by the United Nations to highlight the critical role of rangelands and pastoralists in global sustainability.
- ❖ Through keynote speeches, technical sessions, field visits, and networking forums, the conference aims to share cutting-edge research, innovative solutions, and traditional knowledge to promote ecosystem restoration, biodiversity conservation, and food security.
- ❖ We warmly invite you to be part of this landmark event to collaborate, learn, and shape the future of rangelands, forages and dependent livestock systems.

RMSI, Jhansi

- ❖ The Range Management Society of India (RMSI) is one of the earliest (1978) and reputed agricultural societies in India. It publishes *Range Management and Agroforestry* journal, an “A” category journal of NAAS/ICAR with NAAS rating of 6.40 (2026). It has organized several conferences in the past, a few worth mentioning are 3rd International Rangeland Congress in 1988, International Conference on Agroforestry for the Asia-Pacific region in 1994 and 23rd International Grassland Congress (IGC) in 2015 in New Delhi.

ICAR-IGFRI, Jhansi

- ❖ IGFRI is a national institute under the administrative control of Indian Council of Agricultural Research. It has highly experienced and internationally trained human resources engaged in need-led, participatory, inter-disciplinary research programs. With more than 50 years of experience, today it stands as the premier R&D institution in forage research and development in South Asia. Its Regional Research Stations are located at Srinagar (Jammu and Kashmir), Dharwad (Karnataka), Avikanagar (Rajasthan) and Palampur (Himachal Pradesh).

Conference Presentation Format

- ❖ Plenary Lectures: Internationally renowned scientists, policy makers and administrators will be invited to deliver special lectures on the topics related to the conference theme. They would present overview of the various symposia of the conference.
- ❖ Lead Lectures: These would offer an insight into the various conference sessions. Full length papers will be published in *Range Management and Agroforestry Journal*.
- ❖ Oral presentations: This would provide an opportunity for oral presentation of research papers received/submitted for oral/poster presentation. Eligible number of papers will be selected for presentation based on importance of subject matter and its relevance to the sub-themes of the conference.
- ❖ Poster presentations: The delegates will get an opportunity to present their contributory research papers through poster presentation. Poster presentation will be arranged session-wise. This would provide an opportunity to the participants to present their work in a more informal manner with personalized interaction with other participants.

- ❖ Full length papers will be invited from selected contributors for consideration for publication in Range Management and Agroforestry Journal.
- ❖ Exhibition, Advertisement and Sponsor presentations: Limited sponsor presentations will be arranged to provide an opportunity to sponsors to share their views and interaction with the delegates.

Themes & Sub-themes of Conference

i. Multifunctional Rangeland/Grassland

- Pasture, pastoralist and livestock integration.
- Grassland rejuvenation, biodiversity conservation and wild-life perspectives.
- Grasslands and climate change resilience, ecosystem services and their payment, restoration of degraded ecosystem for land degradation neutrality.

ii. Paradigm Shift in Forage Seed Research and Mechanization

- Forage seed research and innovations for improved pure and germinating seeds (PGS), seed quality and biotic and abiotic stresses.
- Novel approaches in forage seed production, propagation techniques, seed biology, seed storability, dormancy and viability management, participatory seed production etc.
- New vistas in mechanization for forage and seed production, processing, storage and value addition.

iii. Novel Approaches in Forage Crop Improvement

- Conventional and recent approaches for forage varietal development.
- Breeding for forage quality, stress resilience and bio-energy traits.
- PGR, CWRs, genetics and genomic resources, genomics assisted breeding, high throughput genotyping & phenotyping approaches, genome editing and apomixis.

iv. Forage Production and Natural Resources Management

- Forage based cropping systems, diversifications, integrated farming systems (IFS) for improved ecosystem services, and promoting circular economy.
- Agro-techniques for efficient resource use and One Health: PGPRs, precision farming, natural and organic farming, conservation agriculture and other nature based solutions.
- Non-conventional feed and fodder resources and forages for bio-energy.

v. Sustainable Livestock Production, Dairying and Value Chains

- Advances in animal breeding, feeding (designer feed & fodder, TMRs, VOCs based additives) disease management (disease diagnostics using biotech and sensors, forewarning and Decision Support System) and animal nutrition.
- Technologies for dairy processing and value addition, enhanced shelf-life and quality of livestock (milk and meat) and poultry products.
- Fodder conservation & post-harvest management (hay, silage, leaf meal, blocks, etc).

vi. Next Generation Technologies in Forages and Animal Sciences

- Use of artificial intelligence, drone and machine learning, data-driven modeling and forecasting, in fodder, pastures and livestock sector,
- Omics-technology for generating forage repository, DNA finger printing/ molecular markers tools for genetic purity testing in forages, biosensors, neo and synthetic compounds, next gen antimicrobials, etc.

vii. Alternate Land Use Systems and Agroforestry

- Forage based alternate land use system, especially horti-pastures, silvi-pastures, and multi-tier systems, etc.
- Tree-crop interactions and management, silvicultural techniques in agroforestry, genetic improvement in fodder trees, etc.

viii. Socio-Economics, Policy, Governance and Institutions

- Socio-economic perspectives of forages and forage based systems including pastoralists.
- Policy framework: grazing policy, financing, conflict resolution, land tenure rights and access for pastoral communities.
- Pastoralists capacity building, value chains and market linkages, FPOs, entrepreneurship, gender and youth, children education, health, etc.
- Advanced Fodder Expert Systems/DSS, ITKs and community-based pasture management, Global Research Collaborations and trans-boundary grazing corridors.

ix. Special Session for Pastoralists and Stakeholders (Panel Discussion)

- “Revitalizing Pastoralism and Transhumance: Challenges, Innovations, and Opportunities” (Involving Pastoralists, NGO/SEWA, FES and Milk Cooperatives/Unions, Scientists, Policy Makers).

x. PPVFRA Special Session on “Farmers’ Rights and Protection of Fodder Crop Varieties”

- Creation of awareness to farmers, other stakeholders and delegates for the community benefits

Call for Abstracts

Abstracts in above thematic areas are invited for submission Abstract in MS word (Font size, 12, Times New Roman, single line spacing) should contain an Introduction (50 words), Methods (100 words), Results and Discussion (200 words), Conclusion/Recommendation (50 words) and 3-4 Keywords. In no case the extended abstract should exceed 400 words (excluding title, authors and affiliations). Authors should register and submit abstract through the link provided.

Awards

For every theme, one best oral and two best poster (I & II) presentation will be awarded.

Special Issue

A special issue of Range Management and Agroforestry journal (impact factor 0.40) will be published from the conference papers. Best papers selected by the editorial board would get place in this special issue after a professional peer review process. So, participants are encouraged to submit best original papers for the conference.

CLOSING DATES

Receipt of Abstracts	:	August 31, 2026
Issue of Acceptance Letters	:	September 05, 2026
Receipt of Registration Fee (without Late Fee)	:	September 10, 2026

Registration

REGISTRATION FEES

Foreign delegates:

: US \$ 200 (After due date US\$ 300)

Indian delegates:

RMSI life member (In-service)

: ₹ 10,000 (After due date ₹ 12,000)

Non-RMSI life members

: ₹ 12,000 (After due date ₹ 14,000)

Industry and private organizations

: ₹15,000 (After due date ₹ 20,000)

Student/Research Scholar

: ₹ 4,000 (After due date ₹ 5,000)

Accompanying member

: ₹ 5,000

- ❖ Conference will be open to registrants only.
- ❖ The registration fee for the participant will cover participation in all scientific sessions, the proceedings and other soft and printed material of the meeting, welcome reception, lunches and dinner, tea/coffee during lecture breaks. It does not include charges for accommodation.
- ❖ Fees for Foreign delegates are in US dollars or equivalent in Indian Currency
- ❖ For registration, payment of fee submission and Abstract submission, follow the link:
<https://irfcrmsi.cyberlative.com/>



Scan QR for registration

Exhibition

An exhibition will be organized at the Conference venue during the Congress. The exhibition area will be the focal point of the Conference and the programme is structured to maximize the opportunity for delegates to visit this area. It has limited access to non-delegates also. Space for exhibition can be reserved by contacting the organizers. Exhibitors will get 3 m × 3 m space within the Exhibition area, having three sidewall, carpet, 1 table, 2 chairs, one standard electric power point, two spotlight and dustbin.



Sponsors

Organizers will be delighted to have sponsors in this International Event for addressing the issues of *"Pastures, People and Livestock: Sustaining Livelihoods and Ecosystem"*. This Conference is an unique opportunity to promote your organization on the world stage. Sponsors of this Congress will get marketing exposure to extensive onsite visibility to post-event coverage. Sponsoring the Conference is the ideal way to reach a huge gathering of scientists, administrators, policy and decision makers and consumers. This will provide an excellent opportunity for cost effective marketing. In order to provide maximum flexibility to the sponsors, we have different sponsorship levels, detail of which along with other information is available at the RMSI website: <https://rmsi.in/>. Sponsors may contact the organizers to negotiate various combinations in order to maximize their opportunities.

Advertisement

In Souvenir of the Conference which will contain message from VIP and articles from renowned scientists, policy makers and administrator have provision for advertisement by the Companies. Souvenir is a very important publication of the Conference and is usually kept by the delegates for long period and used as reference book. Interested Company may contact the organizers for giving their advertisements. The rates for the advertisement are as follows:

Back cover page	: ₹ 50,000
Inner page of back cover	: ₹ 40,000
Full page insertion	: ₹ 30,000
Half page insertion	: ₹ 25,000
Quarter page insertion	: ₹ 15,000

Sponsorship and Advertisement:

Interested person may contact organizing secretaries and send their expression of interest to rmsi.irfc2026@gmail.com

Sponsorship categories	Logo position in banner/ souvenir book	Rate	Complementary Benefits
Conference partner	Logo in Banner + Full Page advertisement	10 lakh	Registration of 10 Participants
Platinum sponsor	Logo in Banner + Full Page advertisement	5 lakh	Registration of 5 Participants
Gold sponsor	Logo in Banner + Full Page advertisement	3 lakh	Registration of 3 Participants
Silver sponsor	Logo in Banner + Full Page advertisement	2 lakh	Registration of 2 Participants
Bronze sponsor	Logo in Banner + Half Page advertisement	1 lakh	Registration of 1 Participant
Inside souvenir book	Full Page	50000/-	Exhibition stalls*
Session Sponsor	Session Sponsor for Lunch or Dinner	At Actual	Exhibition stalls*/standees

*Exhibition stall size: 3 m × 3 m

Chief Patron

Dr ML Jat, Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR, New Delhi

Patrons

- Dr RS Paroda, Chairman, TAAS and Ex-Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR
- Dr AK Singh, Vice Chancellor, RLBCAU, Jhansi
- Dr DK Yadava, DDG (Crop Sciences), ICAR, New Delhi

Advisory Committee

- Dr Panjab Singh, Chancellor, RLBCAU, Jhansi & Ex-Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR
- Dr Mangala Rai, Ex-Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR
- Dr Raghavendra Bhatta, DDG (Animal Science), ICAR
- Dr AK Nayak, DDG (NRM), ICAR
- Dr Rajbir Singh, DDG, Extension, ICAR
- Prof PL Gautam, Ex-Chairperson, PPVFRA & Ex-DDG (CS), ICAR
- Dr TR Sharma, National Professor, NIPB, New Delhi & Ex-DDG (CS), ICAR
- Dr PK Ghosh, Vice Chancellor, Visva Bharati University, West Bengal
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- Dr Ramesh Singh, Global Research Program Director, ICRISAT, Hyderabad
- Dr PK Singh, Agriculture Commissioner, MAFW, GOI, New Delhi
- Dr BM Naveena, Animal Husbandry Commissioner, DAHD, New Delhi
- Dr Bhagmal, Secretary, TAAS & Ex-Director, ICAR-IGFRI
- Dr SK Pradhan, ADG, Food and Fodder Crops, ICAR
- Dr Anil Kumar, ADG (Coordination), ICAR, New Delhi
- Dr Muthukumarasamy B, Joint Secretary, NLM, DAHD, New Delhi
- Dr SK Dhyani, Senior Agroforestry Specialist, WAC, South Asia Office, New Delhi
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- Dr Sunil Kumar, Director, ICAR-IIFSR, Meerut
- Dr AK Tomar, Director, ICAR-CSWRI, Avikanagar
- Dr MK Chatli, Director, ICAR-CIRG, Makhdum, Mathura
- Dr Ashok Kumar Mohanty, Director, ICAR-CIRC, Meerut
- Dr Girish Patil S., Director, ICAR-NRC on Mithun, Nagaland
- Dr M.K. Verma, Director, ICAR-CITH, Srinagar
- Dr Amaresh Chandra, Dean, RPCAU, Bihar & Ex-Director, ICAR-IGFRI, Jhansi
- Dr SK Chaturvedi, Director Research, RLBCAU, Jhansi
- Dr SK Singh, Director Extension Education, RLBCAU, Jhansi
- Dr Anil Kumar, Director Education, RLBCAU, Jhansi
- Dr RK Singh, Dean, College of Agriculture, RLBCAU, Jhansi
- Dr Manish Srivastav, Dean, College of Horticulture & Forestry, RLBCAU, Jhansi
- Dr OP Chaturvedi, Ex-Director, ICAR-CAFRI, Jhansi
- Dr DK Agarwal, Registrar General, PPVFRA, New Delhi
- Dr AK Roy, Former Project Coordinator (FC), ICAR-IGFRI, Jhansi
- Dr MK Ghatala, Country Representative, CIMMYT-India
- Dr AK Handa, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CAFRI, Jhansi

Executive Committee

- Dr Sultan Singh, Vice president, RMSI
- Dr Rajiv K Agrawal, Vice president, RMSI & Pr. Scientists, ICAR-IGFRI
- Dr SK Singh, Joint Secretary, RMSI & Head, FMPHT, ICAR-IGFRI, Jhansi
- Dr Sadhana Pandey, Head, Social Science Division, ICAR-IGFRI, Jhansi
- Dr Shahid Ahamed, Head, Crop Improvement Division, ICAR-IGFRI, Jhansi
- Dr AK Shukla, Head, GSM Division, ICAR-IGFRI, Jhansi
- Dr P Sharma, Head, PAR Division, ICAR-IGFRI, Jhansi

- Dr AK Singh, Head, Seed Technology Division, ICAR-IGFRI, Jhansi
- RMSI Councillors: Drs Vinod Kumar, SB Neog, Ritu Mawar, Vinod K Wasnik, Manoj Chaudhary and HC Pandey (Treasurer)
- Dr K Sridhar, Officer-in-Charge, IGFRI-SRRS, Dharwad
- Dr RP Nagar, Officer-in-Charge, IGFRI-WRRS, Avikanagar
- Dr S Ahmad, Officer-in-Charge, IGFRI-HFGRS Srinagar
- Dr SS Bhat, Officer-in-Charge, IGFRI-CIHG, Palampur
- Dr RV Kumar, In-Charge, PME, ICAR-IGFRI, Jhansi
- Dr SR Kantwa, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IGFRI, Jhansi

Organizing Committee

Chairman: Dr P Kaushal, President, RMSI and Director, ICAR-IGFRI, Jhansi

Co-chairmans: Dr A Arunachalam, Director, ICAR-CAFRI, Jhansi;
Dr VK Yadav, PC, AICRP FCU, Jhansi

Organizing Secretary: Dr DR Palsaniya, Secretary, RMSI and Head Crop Production Division, ICAR-IGFRI, Jhansi

Co-organizing Secretaries: Drs Mukesh Choudhary, Amit Kumar Singh, Maneet Rana, Gaurendra Gupta, SK Mahawer and Avijit Ghosh, ICAR-IGFRI, Jhansi

Accommodation

The registration fee does not include accommodation charges. Limited accommodation is available in the government guest houses. The participants are encouraged to make their own arrangements for stay. A wide range of accommodation varying from 3-Star hotels to guest houses is available in the Jhansi city.

Guidelines for Poster Presentation

- For each session, there will be a poster session to encourage detailed discussion with presenters. The papers contributed for each poster session will have a convener. The convener will prepare and present summary of the poster session in the respective session. The posters are to be prepared in the standard form.
- Posters will be the principal format for the participant's volunteered presentations. Posters facilitate the exchange of experience and ideas. The posters will be grouped according to the sub-themes of the conference and a specific day, time and space will be allotted to each poster which will be indicated in the programmed for poster presentation. A good poster must be readable, legible, well organized and concise. For sake of uniformity, the following guidelines may be adhered for the preparation of paper.
- Poster preparation: The title card at the top should include in addition to title (in capitals), name(s) of the author(s) and their affiliation. The text of the poster may be divided into objective (two to three sentences), methodology, results (four pages including tables, charts/graphs) and summary/conclusions.
- Lettering: The lettering for the title should be 36 points in bold capital while that of name of authors in 28 point bold lower case and institution in 24 points bold italics lower case may be followed. All additional lettering should be 20 points normal. The heading namely, objectives, methodology, results and summary/conclusion should be in 20 points bold lower case.
- Script. Table and figure headings and text should be bold face lettering of 20 points. The numerals and letters included in the figures and tables should be 16 points normal.
- The size of the poster should not exceed 1.80 m (height) and 0.90 m width.
- Remember, a lot of people will read or study your poster while you are away, in such a case make sure that message is clear and simple.
- Posters will be evaluated by the Committee and for awards. Student's posters will be evaluated separately.

General Information

INSURANCE: The Organizing Committee assumes no liability for participants' personal accidents, sickness, and theft or property damage. Participants are requested to make their own arrangements with respect to health and travel insurance.

VISA: A valid VISA is necessary for all overseas delegates and all delegates are requested to apply at least 6 to 8 weeks before the proposed date of departure. For SAARC countries a permission authorization will be sent to the respective Indian consulate office in their country; however the individual delegate is required to apply for Indian visa, well in advance. Please consult your travel agency or nearest Indian Embassy/Consulate office.

LANGUAGE: The official language of the Congress will be English.

LETTER OF INVITATION: Individuals requiring an official letter of invitation in order to obtain a visa and authorization to attend the conference should contact the Organizing Committee. An invitation letter will be sent on request to registered delegates only. The letter of invitation does not financially obligate the Conference organizers in any way. All expenses incurred in relation to the Conference are the sole responsibility of the participant.

CURRENCY: The currency of India is Indian Rupee. One Rupee is divided into 100 paisa. Rupee currency notes come in the denomination of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, and 500. Current exchange rate is US\$ 1=₹90.22/- 1 Euro = ₹105.33/- (approx).

BANKING AND EXCHANGE FACILITIES: Currency exchange facilities are available at banks and at hotels. Most banks are open from 10 am to 4 pm from Monday to Saturday; however some banks offer extended banking hours. 24 hours ATM is located in shopping centers and many neighborhood markets.

ELECTRICITY: In India electricity is provided at 220 V, 50 Hz. Sockets take round pins (2 or 3). Adapters are generally available at all hotels.

CONTACT

Dr. Pankaj Kaushal

Organizing Chairman

International Rangelands and Fodder Conference & President, Range Management Society of India & Director, ICAR-Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi - 284003, India

Tel No. +91 0510 730908

Email: igfri.director@gmail.com

Dr. DR Palsaniya

Organizing Secretary

International Rangelands and Fodder Conference and Secretary, Range Management Society of India & Head, Crop Production Division

ICAR-Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi - 284003, India

Mobile: +91 6388147179

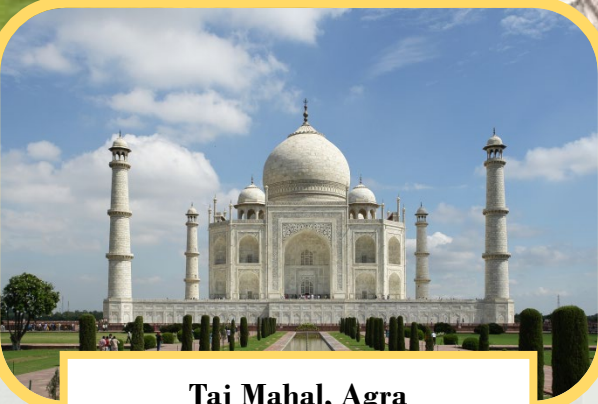
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Email: rmsi.irfc2026@gmail.com

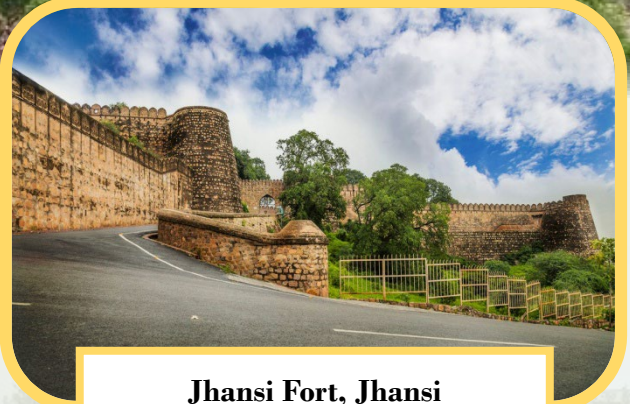
Society website: <https://rmsi.in/>

Conference Website: <https://irfcrmsi.cyberlative.com/>

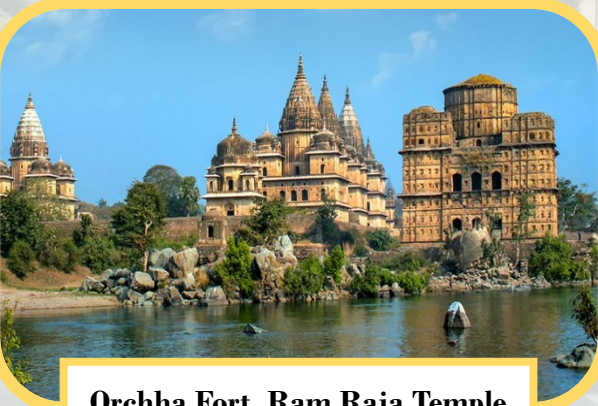
Nearby Sightseeing



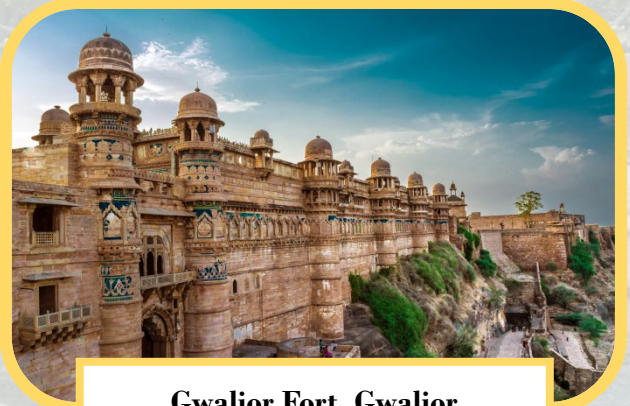
Taj Mahal, Agra



Jhansi Fort, Jhansi



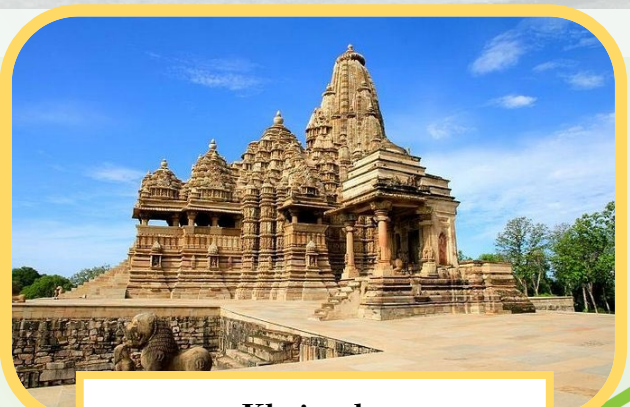
Orchha Fort, Ram Raja Temple



Gwalior Fort, Gwalior



Shri Pitambara Peeth, Datia



Khajuraho