

Welcome back Sonam, three years after your first experience with DEFIAA organisation in France during 2 monthes.

Hello Dear Sonam. We are very pleased to welcome you again !

**1 -Can you present yourself in few words ? Can you explain where are you from, your studies ?**

Hello ! My name is Sonam. I am a PhD research scholar at GBPUAT Pantnagar (India) in the department of Agrometeorology.

I belong to Bihar state which is located in the northern part of India.

**2 – Why are you back to France ? How long and where are you staying ?**

I am coming back to France to attend workshop and conference on Global Plant Health Assessment (GPHA) to be held in Toulouse School of Economics. I will be staying in Toulouse for the period.

**3 – Can you describe your first experience in France ?**

Yes ! I had a wonderful experience in my 1st visit to France. I made many friends who are very kind and nice to me. I interacted with a lot of people there and they welcomed me very well.

**4 – What about the added value of defiaa DEFIAA accompagnement help you to plan your coming again ?**

Yes, Defiaa helped me a lot in planning for this second visit to France. I was very confident to travel alone because once I have been here during DEFIAA. Otherwise I could have hesitated to come alone. My exposure to France during last visit is helping me here everyday.

**5 –How are you contacted to be involved in an international work with INRAE ?**

One of our Department is having a visiting honorary professor who is a scientist from INRAE. He is the one of the lead person for this Global Plant Health Assessment and was in need of members for Secretariat. I got selected in Pantnagar university for this to work as secretariat.

**6 - What is the aim of your stay ? What are you in charge in ?**

I am part of the secretariat of this workshop and conference and thus involved in all the proceedings of it. I (along with my colleague) am also the webmaster of a website devoted solely for the purpose of GPHA.

**7 – Can you explain your schedule, your workshop ?**

The workshop is scheduled from 5 October to 7 October. And the conference is scheduled on 8th October. The timing is from 9 :00 am to 6 :00 pm.

**8 – How many people are invited to this workshop ? Where are they from ? What is each people function ?What is yours ?**

The workshop and conference is being organized in hybrid mode (ie, participants can attend it physically and those who are unable to attend can attend it online). There are more than 40 participants for the workshop. However, the conference is open for all.

The participants are mainly eminent professors and scientist from all parts of the world (Asia, Australia, Europe, Africa, etc).

They had worked upon this Global Plant Health Assessment and prepared reports for different ecoregions of the world. These are going to be presented and discussed in the workshop.

Since I am part of the Secretariat, I am involved in all the proceedings, communications between participants, updates, planning and successful organization of the workshop and conference.

**9 – Can you explain what GB pant university expects about your coming in France ?**

The university expects its significant involvement in the the workshop and conference and our exposure and experience to new areas.

**10 – What about your life, your work in Pantnagar, in India according to sanitary conditions ?**

I am living an almost back to normal life in Pantnagar with masks and sanitizers on. Its pleasant and clean environment in the university. The place is very good to stay.

Thank you very much Sonam to took few minutes to answer me about these questions before your coming.

Good luck in your professional and international life,

Christophe Groell and Chantal Desprats

DEFIAA INDE