

KVK TIMES

Special issue

Reaching the Unreached: TSP and SCSP Programmes of KVKs of Zone XI

A Window to KVKs of ICAR-ATARI, Zone - XI

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SPECIAL ISSUE OF KVK TIMES
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Programmes of KVKs of Zone XI



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निदेशक

Preface

Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) play a pivotal role in empowering farmers through technological support, aimed at enhancing crop productivity and farm enterprise, while ensuring profitability and sustainability. The principle of 'Believing through seeing' and 'Learning by doing' aptly characterizes the KVK approach, where scientists and farmers work hand-in-hand to implement various activities aligned with the mission of boosting farmer incomes. Over time, KVKs have expanded their scope, moving beyond frontline extension to innovations in market linkages, formation of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), and advancements in processing and value addition.

The 48 KVKs in Zone XI, spanning the states of Kerala, Karnataka, and the Lakshadweep Union Territory, have made significant contributions to enhancing agricultural productivity and increasing farmers' incomes, thereby ensuring the sustainable social and livelihood security of farm families.

A groundbreaking initiative, the virtual platform KVK TIMES, documents the fortnightly activities of all 48 KVKs in Zone XI. This publication has gained remarkable momentum, with its impactful news items creating long-lasting impressions. The stories shared in KVK TIMES hold great potential for cross-learning among KVKs, serving as a valuable resource for the entire agricultural community. This initiative undoubtedly boosts the morale of our collective efforts, highlighting the noteworthy contributions of our fraternity in the region.

ICAR-ATARI Bengaluru applauds the achievements of all 48 KVKs in the region. To further recognize this accomplishment, ICAR-ATARI Bengaluru, with support from ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Tumakuru-II, is proud to present this special issue of KVK TIMES on 'Reaching the Unreached: TSP and SCSP Programmes of KVKs of Zone XI (Jan 2020 – Dec 2024)'. This publication reflects the commitment and hard work of KVKs in serving marginalized and underrepresented communities. This publication has covered year wise interventions made, number of beneficiaries covered, output, outcome, impact etc. along with details of common utility center, budget utilization and all other salient points from each KVK under TSP and SCSP Programmes.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Secretary (DARE) & Director General (ICAR), as well as the Deputy Director General (AE), ICAR, for their continued support to the KVKs of Zone XI, ensuring their effective service to the farming community.

Bengaluru

10, January 2025

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**SPECIAL ISSUE OF KVK TIMES ON
Reaching the Unreached: TSP and SCSP
Programmes of KVKs of Zone XI (Jan 2020-Dec 2024)**

**ICAR - ATARI ZONE-XI
Karnataka, Kerala and Lakshadweep KVKs**

CONTENTS

ICAR-KVK Alappuzha	01	ICAR-KVK Kolar	40
ICAR-KVK Bagalkot	03	ICAR-KVK Kollam	42
ICAR-KVK Ballari	04	ICAR-KVK Koppal	44
ICAR-KVK Belagavi - I	05	ICAR-KVK Kottayam	45
ICAR-KVK Belagavi - II	06	ICAR-KVK Kozhikode	48
ICAR-KVK Bengaluru Rural	08	ICAR-KVK Lakshadweep	51
ICAR-KVK Bidar	10	ICAR-KVK Malappuram	52
ICAR-KVK Chamarajanagara	13	ICAR-KVK Mandya	53
ICAR-KVK Chikkaballapura	15	ICAR-KVK Mysuru	54
ICAR-KVK Chikkamagaluru	16	ICAR-KVK Palakkad	55
ICAR-KVK Chitradurga	17	ICAR-KVK Pathanamthitta	57
ICAR-KVK Dakshina Kannada	18	ICAR-KVK Raichur	60
ICAR-KVK Davanagere	19	ICAR-KVK Ramanagara	61
ICAR-KVK Dharwad	21	ICAR-KVK Shivamogga	62
ICAR-KVK Ernakulam	22	ICAR-KVK Thrissur	63
ICAR-KVK Gadag	23	ICAR-KVK Trivandrum	64
ICAR-KVK Hassan	24	ICAR-KVK Tumakuru - I	66
ICAR-KVK Haveri	25	ICAR-KVK Tumakuru - II	68
ICAR-KVK Idukki	27	ICAR-KVK Udupi	70
ICAR-KVK Kalaburgi - I	30	ICAR-KVK Uttara Kannada	71
ICAR-KVK Kalaburgi - II	31	ICAR-KVK Vijayapura - I	72
ICAR-KVK Kannur	32	ICAR-KVK Vijayapura - II	73
ICAR-KVK Kasaragod	35	ICAR-KVK Wayanad	74
ICAR-KVK Kodagu	38	ICAR-KVK Yadgir	76



ICAR-KVK Alappuzha

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Alappuzha has initiated TSP and SCSP Programme. In order to bring up the livelihood and nutritional status of the downtrodden population of the rural areas, different programmes were planned and implemented under SCSP by the KVK during the last three years.

Output and outcome

1. **Setting up of fruit plants in homesteads:** To enhance the nutritional security of the scheduled caste farmers and as a source of income at later stages, grafted planting materials of fruit plants like mango, jack, sapota and seedlings of Muringa, curry leaf and bush pepper were provided in Mulakkuzha, Puliur, Bharanikkavu and Vallikunnam panchayath during 2022, 2023 and 2024, respectively. A total number of 450 SC farm families were covered under this programme.

2. **Nursery unit for seedling production of vegetables and fruits:** A group of five SC women were identified from Bharanikkavu grama panchayath and inputs were provided for vegetable seedling production. After undergoing training in the KVK on vegetable seedling production and grafting of vegetable seedlings, they initiated the seedling production of chilly, brinjal, tomato, okra etc. During the Onam season the group produced marigold seedlings also. A total of 32000 vegetable, 1500 vegetable grafts and 30000 marigold seedlings worth Rs.1.25 lakhs were produced and sold by the group in a period of less than one year.

3. **Income generation activities of SC youth through mechanization :** As an income generating activity, two SC rural youth were provided brush cutters and training on operation. They started clearing the grasses and weeds from the farmers plot based on demand. They charge an amount of Rs.400-500 per hour for clearing the weeds. An average income of twelve to fifteen thousand rupees per month is earned by each person.

4. **Income generation through mushroom cultivation and spawn production:** Two mushroom production units and a mushroom spawn production unit was established under SCSP in different parts of the district. Mushroom production unit of Smt. Veena, in Krishnapuram panchayath was revived under SCSP programme. She produces 15-20 kg mushroom per month and earns an income of rupees 8000/month- which she revolves for running the unit on a regular basis. Mrs. Yamuna, Jawahar colony, Thanneermukkom panchayath is a widow, who started mushroom cultivation and earns 9000 – 10,000 rupees per month. She also initiated pickle production out of mushrooms. Mrs. P. Sathi, Ruchi Mushroom, Chunakkara panchayath started spawn production unit after attending vocational training on "Low-cost mushroom spawn production techniques" at KVK and set a lab and successfully utilizing inoculation hood and big cookers provided to her through SCSP fund. She produces 0.5 q spawns /month with 100% own consumption. She earns an income of Rs.30, 000 - 35,000/per month through the strengthened mushroom unit and low-cost spawn production unit provided through SCSP, running her family of her own.

5. **Backyard poultry rearing:** 10 chicks each were distributed to 150 Scheduled caste farmers and farm women in Venmony, Muhamma and Bharanikkavu panchayaths in the year 2022 and 2023. The farmers were selected based on the criteria of having proper shelter to house minimum 10 birds. After selection they were given hands-on-training programme on backyard poultry rearing and provided vaccinated birds at 2 months age. Monitored all the units regularly and supplied deworming medicines and vitamins as and when required. Majority of the birds survived and started laying eggs, only 9% mortality is reported. Each unit (10 birds) gets an average of 5-6 eggs per day and the total of 1900 eggs produced per year and earn an amount of Rs. 13500/- with the net profit of Rs.9500/- . A total of Rs.14.25 lakhs is earned as net profit from these 150 units.

6. **Portable egg hatchery unit:** A layer chick production unit using portable incubator was initiated under SCSP programme based at the residence of Smt. Reshmi, Ward No.7 of Muhamma

Grama panchayath. Portable incubator having a capacity to hatch 240 eggs per batch was provided on 22.08.2024. So far 175 Kadaknath layer chicks, 125 desi birds and 50 ducklings were produced in 5 batches, and she earned a net income of Rs. 44000/- through these activities.



ICAR-KVK Bagalkote

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bagalkote has initiated TSP and SCSP Programme in the year 2022-23. Under this project oil extraction machine was brought to KVK as common utility center for extraction of edible oil for consumption mainly groundnut, sunflower and sesame seeds. The oil extraction machine has helped scheduled caste, scheduled tribe and small farmers of Bagalkote district which aided the farmers for extraction of clean and hygiene edible oils at minimum price. A total of 100 farmers were benefited.

In the year 2023-24, ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bagalkote has identified 15 scheduled caste and 15 scheduled tribe farmers (30 beneficiaries) of Adagal village of Badami taluk of Bagalkote district for TSP and SCSP Programme. The farmers were distributed 150 poultry chicks for back yard poultry, 30 goats, 15 petrol pump sprayers, one chaff cutter and one tractor mounted sprayer for 30 beneficiaries. Female pregnant goats were distributed to 30 farmers. The pregnant goats yielded one kid per female goat, on an average the kid was sold at Rs. 5000/-. The livelihood of a single farmer has an income of Rs.5000/- from kid and an additional income of Rs. 1000/- from goat dung was added to the farmers income. Back yard poultry has helped the farmer to gain an additional income of 1200/- per farmer from selling of eggs. Training programmes were conducted on scientific practices on goat rearing and on back yard poultry were organized at KVK, Bagalkote. The TSP and SCSP farmers were distributed agriculture implements to ease the agricultural operations in the field. One tractor mounted sprayer was distributed as common utility center in the village for large scale spraying of pesticides in field and one chaff cutter was distributed as common utility center in the village for feeding goats. Petrol pump sprayers were distributed to 15 beneficiaries for small scale spraying of pesticides in field.



ICAR-KVK Ballari

ICAR-KVK, Ballari implemented the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) programme in the remote and hilly area of BelagalThanda, located in Ballari taluk. This area is characterized by a significant Scheduled Caste (SC) population with limited access to basic amenities, particularly for farming activities that support their livelihood. To address these challenges, ICAR-KVK, Ballari adopted the village for project implementation.

SCSP Programme Implementation: 2023-24

In 2023-24, 30 farmer beneficiaries from BelagalThanda were selected based on their interest and willingness to adopt agriculture, horticulture, and allied farm activities. The ICAR-KVK scientists engaged with the farmers to identify their needs and prioritize critical farm inputs under the SCSP programme.

The following inputs were distributed to the beneficiaries:

- ▶ Farm operational inputs: Cycle weeders, vermicompost bags, and tarpaulins.
- ▶ Vegetable kits and fodder seeds to enhance nutritional security and livestock fodder availability.
- ▶ Horticultural seedlings: Sapota, mango, nerale (jamun), and curry leaf (5 seedlings per farmer).

All inputs were distributed during a gathering at the ICAR-KVK seminar hall, where scientists provided technical advice for effective utilization. The initiative resulted in improved farm productivity, better composting practices, and the establishment of horticultural crops on the beneficiaries' farms.

SCSP Programme Implementation: 2024-25

In 2024-25, the SCSP programme continued in BelagalThanda with another set of 30 farmer beneficiaries. Based on their requests, farm implements such as spades, kurpis, sickles, pickaxes, and crowbars were distributed (5 units per farmer). The inputs were provided during a distribution event at ICAR-KVK, Ballari, in September 2024, accompanied by technical guidance for optimal use.

Key Outcomes

As BelagalThanda is situated far from the city, the SCSP programme effectively addressed the farmers' needs for essential farming tools and resources. Beneficiaries reported better maintenance of their fields, increased farm productivity, and enhanced income from surplus produce sold in local markets.



ICAR-KVK Belagavi - I

The Scheduled Caste Special Program (SCSP) was sponsored by ICAR ATARI, Zone XI, Bengaluru with an objective to uplift the SC farmers through technology demonstration in the KVK jurisdiction area. Staff meeting was conducted to discuss about steps to follow for successful implementation of program. Survey and interaction with SC farmers of different taluk with KVK scientists was conducted. Farmer scientist interaction was organised at Shelapur village of Hukkeri taluk where SC farm families are in large number for data collection, identification of problem, thrust area and willingness to adopt new technologies of the program. After consideration of details collected, special program committee and scientist decided to demonstrate technologies related dry land horticulture, climate resilient agronomy practices, nutri care activities, integrated animal component activities at Shelapur village as, its dry land and majority of SC farmers had farming land, and followed organic farming practices with integration of animal components.

List of Technical input provided to farmers:

- 1. Dryland Horticulture Demonstration:** By protective irrigation with water storage tank was provided for grafts of Mango, Guava, Curry leaf & Acid lime.
- 2. Vermi beds and Power sprayers:** Land owned by 20 SC farm families had animal component so, vermi compost preparation, vermi wash production was encouraged.
- 3. Cycle weeder, storage bin & Drum kit method of kitchen garden :** Was provided to reduce drudgery, labour cost incurred on weeding of farm women. Storage bin to prevent pests.
- 4. Oil extractor, Soya roaster machine & Tamarind Block making machine:** Oil Extractor which helps to extract oil from Ground nut, Sesame and Mustard which was grown by village farmer. Tamarind Block Making machine for making blocks from tamarind pods.
- 5. Animal health camp** was organised to tackle the issues of endo & ecto parasites, fertility issues and summer stress.



ICAR-KVK Belagavi - II

ICAR-KLE KVK Mattikoppa, Belagavi, has been allotted the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) programme from 2020-21 to the present. This fund has played a significant role in uplifting the financial status of farmers, farm women, and rural youth from the SC community within the KVK jurisdiction. Activities under this programme were primarily divided into General Fund and Capital Fund. Under the SCSP General Fund, 10 demonstrations were conducted over an area of 150 hectares, involving 493 farmers and farm women. In addition to varietal demonstrations, a management initiative for controlling root grubs in sugarcane was implemented by distributing *Metarhizium anisopliae* liquid to affected SC farmers. This led to a 38% reduction in pest infestation. To improve water use efficiency, sprinkler sets were provided to needy farmers. Other activities included integrated dairy management and backyard poultry farming for the self-sustainability of farmers and farm women. A Custom Hiring Centre under the SCSP programme was inaugurated by Sushree Shobha Karandlaje, the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (State), Government of India.

2020-21:

- ▶ Onion variety Bhima Super was demonstrated in 13.2 hectares involving 33 farmers.
- ▶ Soybean variety DSB 21 was distributed to 77 farmers, covering 30.8 hectares.
- ▶ Sprinkler irrigation sets were distributed to 26 selected farmers.
- ▶ The eco-friendly management of white grub in sugarcane was demonstrated by providing liquid *Metarhizium* in 12 hectares, involving 30 farmers.

2021-22:

- ▶ Integrated Dairy Management practices were demonstrated with 100 farmers.
- ▶ Manual thermocol incubators were distributed along with indigenous chicks for promoting backyard poultry farming, benefiting 11 farmers.
- ▶ A training session was conducted prior to initiating demonstrations, involving 100 farmers and farm women.
- ▶ Capacity development on Integrated Crop Management (ICM) in soybean was conducted for 36 farmers and farm women.

2022-23:

A demonstration on ICM in soybean with the new variety KDS 726 was conducted over 38.4 hectares, involving 96 farmers and farm women.

2023-24:

- ▶ Cattle feed was provided to 65 farmers.
- ▶ The liquid formulation of *Metarhizium anisopliae* was introduced to 25 farmers, covering 10 hectares.
- ▶ Soil analysis was carried out by collecting samples from 106 farmers, and recommendation charts were distributed.
- ▶ Two cows were provided to selected needy farmers under the SCSP programme.

2024-25:

- ▶ Cattle feed was distributed to 93 farmers to promote balanced nutrition in dairy animals.
- ▶ Bhima Super Onion seeds were distributed to 5 farmers, covering 2 hectares.
- ▶ Bengalgram variety BGD 111-1 seeds were distributed to 106 farmers, covering 42.4 hectares.
- ▶ Seeds of groundnut variety KDG 128 were distributed in 2 hectares, benefiting 10 farmers.

Custom Hiring Centre (Farm Equipment) under SCSP Programme:

Agriculture implements and equipment were purchased and stored at KVK. These are made available on a zero-cost basis for SC farmers to promote mechanization and ease of farm work. The following equipment is available for hire: Kamco Power Reaper 120H Seed Cum Fertilizer Drill (6 Tynes) Seed Cum Fertilizer Drill (4 Tynes) Spiral Separator Boom Sprayer Cultivator Reversed Forward Rotavator Slurry Unit Single Tyne Ridger Chain Slasher Mulch Laying Equipment



ICAR – Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bengaluru Rural District has implemented the SCSP programmes from 2023-24 and 2024-25 at Hiremuddenahalli village of Doddaballapura taluk with a financial support from Agricultural Technology Application and Research Institute (ATARI) Bengaluru. The village consists of 180 families with population of 900 numbers, out of which 110 families are belongs to Scheduled Caste. The village having 234 ha cultivable land out of 265 ha available land. Nearly 62% of them were literates, consisting of graduates, high, middle and primary educates. The farmers are mainly growing Finger millet, Maize, Redgram and Field bean and vegetable crops like Pole beans, Tomato, Chilli, Cabbage, flower crops viz., chrysanthemum and rose. Dairy is the one of the important component which provides employment throughout the year for house holdings and also serves as daily income generating activity.

Before intervention of KVK, farmers practicing traditional agriculture with less exposure to advanced technologies and new varieties leads to poor yield and income. Hence, Krishi Vigyan Kendra plan to introduce advanced technologies along with new varieties as a model for improve the Socio-economic status of the SC farmers in the village.

To achieve this, ICAR – KVK, Bengaluru Rural under taken the following activities:

1. Collected 60 soil samples and analysed in the KVK and reports were given to the concerned farmers to follow soil test based nutrient management.
2. Four on farm testings were conducted in 20 farmers fields on Maize, Tomato, Napier hybrid and fodder maize.
3. As a technological interventions about 18 Front line demonstrations were conducted in 126 demonstrations covering 126 farmers to disseminated recent technologies and varieties in agriculture, horticulture and fodder crops.
4. To upscale the knowledge of farmers about 13 capacity building and skill training programmes were conducted which has benefited for 292 farm men and 173 farm women.
5. Three Exposure visits for 134 farmers, two animal health camps were conducted and treated 150 livestock, 19 field visits, three field days (Participated 142 farmers), seven method demonstrations (covered 263 farmers), two special days were organized to educate the farmers.
6. Under the guidance and funding of ATARI, Bengaluru KVK established the SC farmers implements and equipment utility centre at ICAR – KVK, Bengaluru Rural. The custom hiring centre is equipped with need based equipment like Brush cutter, Tree Trimmer, Battery Sprayer, Chain saw, Earth Auger, Hedge Trimmer and Winnowing Fan, Tractor Operated sprayer, Weighing scale, Tractor driven copper furrow, 2 Disc Harrow / Bed maker, Single Tyre Chisel plough, Cultivator, SS Flour mill during the year 2023-24 and 2024-25 with financial assistance of Rs. 3.11 lakhs and 2.40 lakhs respectively.
7. Agri inputs like Finger millet variety ML-365 (1385 kg), Mahagani and Jack grafts (240 No.), Mango grafts and Coconut seedlings (300 Nos.) poultry birds (480 Nos.), nutri garden kit (30 Nos.) bio-fertilizers (Trichoderma – 25 kg) were distributed to 547 farmers during the 2023-24 and 2024-25 in general and provided need based critical inputs to 146 farmers for conducting FLDs and OFTs.
8. Besides this under the convergence of line departments, institutions and University several programmes were organized like Swachhata Activities, Soil and water conservation programmes, use of bio-agents and providing Sintex tank and water filter for drinking clean water to the school children.

With the above technological interventions related to agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry the productivity of major agriculture crops specially finger millet increased to the tune of 15-16% compared to earlier status. Similarly in horticulture and animal husbandry also a positive impact was created with respect to production and productivity that leads to sustainability in the farming sector of the SC farmers.



Agriculture is the backbone of rural livelihoods, and marginalized communities such as Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) often face challenges that hinder their participation in modern farming advancements. Recognizing this, the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) in Bidar, Karnataka, has undertaken a remarkable initiative to empower these communities through the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) programme.

From 2020 to 2025, KVK Bidar implemented multifaceted interventions to ensure that the benefits of agricultural innovations reach those who are often left behind. By providing technical guidance, essential inputs, and fostering capacity-building initiatives, the SCSP programme has transformed the lives of over 775 SC and ST beneficiaries, turning them into progressive farmers who are not only self-sufficient but also serve as role models within their communities.

Methodology: Empowerment Through Targeted Activities

KVK Bidar adopted a holistic approach, using a variety of strategies to engage and empower SC and ST farmers. Key activities included:

Method Demonstrations: Practical, hands-on demonstrations in fields to showcase techniques such as vermicomposting, seed treatment, and nutrient management.

On-Campus and Off-Campus Training: Tailored programs on topics like soil health, crop production, and value addition.

Farm Trials: Trials on improved crop varieties, nutrient management, and pest control conducted on farmers' fields to validate innovations.

Group Discussions: Regular farmer-scientist interactions to address challenges and share knowledge.

Social Media Platforms: Digital outreach through WhatsApp groups, videos, and posts to ensure wider dissemination of information.

Outputs: Tangible Benefits Delivered

Under the SCSP programme, KVK Bidar provided critical inputs and resources that directly enhanced agricultural productivity and farmer well-being:

Vermicomposting Kits: The distribution of vermicompost bins, earthworms, and Vermiwash units promoted sustainable organic farming.

Azolla Beds: Azolla was promoted as a cost-effective livestock feed supplement.

Improved Seeds and Seedlings: High-yield mango, guava, and vegetable seedlings were introduced to enhance productivity.

Nutrigarden Kits: Provided to encourage kitchen gardening and improve household nutrition.

Safety and Spraying Equipment: Battery sprayers and safety kits enabled safe and efficient pest management.

Custom Hiring Centre: Established to offer affordable access to farm machinery, helping farmers adopt mechanized farming practices.



Outcomes: A Journey Towards Progress

The impact of these interventions has been transformative:

- 1. Adoption of Improved Practices:** Farmers shifted from traditional varieties to improved ones, incorporating seed treatment, soil testing, and nutrient management into their practices.
- 2. Enhanced Productivity:** Fields now yield higher-quality produce, such as the mango and guava trees planted in 2020, which are fruiting in abundance by 2024.
- 3. Economic Growth:** Access to custom-hiring centers reduced costs for SC farmers, increasing profitability.
- 4. Recognition and Awards:** Several SC and ST farmers have been recognized for their innovative and sustainable farming practices.

Impact: Transforming Lives and Building Communities

The SCSP programme at KVK Bidar has had a far-reaching impact, fostering socio-economic upliftment among SC and ST farmers in Bidar district:

- 1. Empowered Farmers:** Many beneficiaries have become self-reliant and serve as examples for their peers, inspiring others to adopt modern farming techniques.
- 2. Community Development:** Through value addition and branding initiatives, farmer collectives, NGOs, and FPOs have been strengthened, creating sustainable marketing linkages.
- 3. Nutritional Security:** Kitchen gardens and improved agricultural practices have enhanced food security and nutrition among participating households.
- 4. Environmental Sustainability:** Vermicomposting and Azolla cultivation have encouraged eco-friendly farming methods, contributing to soil health and reduced chemical dependency.

Success Stories: From Margins to Mainstream

The transformative journeys of SC farmers in Bidar district exemplify the program's success:

- ▶ **From Seed to Fruition:** Mango and guava seedlings distributed in 2020 have now grown into thriving orchards, showcasing the long-term benefits of early intervention.
- ▶ **Progressive Farmer Awardees:** Several farmers, once hesitant to adopt new practices, are now recognized as leaders in the farming community.
- ▶ **Entrepreneurial Ventures:** Beneficiaries have ventured into value addition, branding, and food processing, carving out new income streams.

Lessons Learned and Way Forward

The success of the SCSP programme under KVK Bidar underscores the importance of targeted, inclusive interventions in agriculture. Moving forward, the focus will be on:

- ▶ Expanding reach to include more marginalized communities.
- ▶ Strengthening digital outreach to ensure real-time guidance.
- ▶ Promoting advanced value-chain interventions for enhanced market access.
- ▶ Scaling up farmer-led innovations to inspire wider adoption.

Conclusion: A Boon for the Unreached

The SCSP programme at KVK Bidar has truly been a game-changer for SC and ST farmers. Over five years, it has not only delivered critical resources and training but also instilled confidence and a sense of agency among marginalized farmers. By bridging the gap between innovation and implementation, KVK Bidar is turning the vision of inclusive agricultural development into a tangible reality, ensuring that no farmer is left behind. The journey is a testament to the power of community-driven, farmer-centric initiatives, heralding a future where agriculture is not just a livelihood but a means of empowerment and dignity.





ICAR-KVK ChamaraJanagara

ICAR KVK ChamaraJanagara has successfully implemented strategic capacity development programmes under the Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) at Kodasoge and Boodipadaga villages with an objective of uplifting the rural backward community in ChamaraJanagara district. Since 2022-23, the programme has made significant strides in reaching 2426 beneficiaries through 59 planned capacity development activities like crop demonstrations, training programmes, group discussions, method demonstrations, animal health camps, field days, significant day celebration, field visits, exposure visits, exhibitions and consultancies. The programme implementation strategy centered on a multi-faceted approach that combined training with practical demonstrations, substantial support through quality inputs distribution directly to beneficiaries, intensive capacity building sessions, field demonstrations of improved technologies and consistent follow-up support.

Under crop management interventions, Ragi (KMR-630, ML-365), Maize (MAH 14-5), Greengram (KKM-03), Blackgram (LBG-791) and Field bean (HA-4) improved varieties seeds were distributed to 145 farmers. The beneficiaries were provided training on seed treatment, integrated nutrient management, pest & disease management and post-harvest handling through capacity development programmes. This intervention has resulted in enhanced productivity through improved varieties (11.5 to 41.6 %) while ensuring better disease resistance (blast, downy mildew, yellow mosaic disease) and yield stability. Additionally, it contributes to increased protein availability for household consumption and helped generation of additional income through increased production.

As a nutritional security initiative through nutrigarden programme, 150 vegetable seed kits were distributed to farm families. The livestock integration component was mainly focused on backyard poultry development and clean milk production involving distribution of 1,250 poultry chicks (21 days old) and cow mats, mineral mixture & hygiene kits to 155 farmers. The comprehensive training covered housing management, shed management, fodder, feed and water management, diseases prevention & control, and marketing strategies for milk, poultry eggs and poultry birds. This intervention has created a sustainable source of protein for households while generating additional income (₹ 10.500 per annum per family) through the sale of milk, eggs and grown up poultry birds.

In the domain of horticulture development, 500 fruit tree saplings were distributed that included Mango (Banganapalli variety), Sapota (Kalipatti variety), Guava (L-49), Curry leaves and Jack fruit (Pink variety) to 50 farmers with each farmer receiving two saplings of each variety. The training encompassed pit preparation and planting techniques, irrigation management in dry lands, canopy management, integrated nutrient management, and plant protection measures. This intervention promises long-term benefits including sustainable income generation, soil conservation, enhanced biodiversity and improved farm microclimate. As a women empowerment initiative, 30 farm women were trained under entrepreneurship development. Each beneficiary received a papad press and a chakkuli press, accompanied by training on product preparation techniques, quality control measures, packaging and preservation, marketing strategies, financial management and record keeping. This intervention has catalyzed the development of micro-enterprises, enhanced household income, improved social status, and created local employment opportunities.

The programme's focus on sustainable farming practices manifested through the distribution of 50 vermibags for vermicompost production coupled with training on waste segregation, vermicomposting. Additionally, 32 cycle weeders were distributed to reduce drudgery in farming

operations with appropriate training on equipment operation, maintenance and safety measures.

The short-term impacts of the programme are already visible through local seed replacement by improved varieties which has accounted to an area expansion to 52 ha, better crop management practices, strengthened nutritional security, and immediate economic benefits through additional income. The long term impacts are expected to materialize in the form of sustainable development through established fruit orchards and sustainable farming systems, social empowerment particularly of women entrepreneurs, and environmental benefits including increased green cover and better waste management.

In conclusion, the SCSP and TSP programme implemented by ICAR KVK Chamarajanagara stands as a testament to effective rural development intervention. The programme's success in reaching 2426 beneficiaries showcases efficient resource utilization and effective planning. The integration of traditional farming practices with modern technologies has positioned these programmes as models for similar interventions in other regions.



ICAR-KVK Chikkaballapura

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chikkaballapura, has implemented the SCSP programme for the benefit and empowerment of Scheduled Castes (SC) in Chikkaballapura district. Based on the needs, various technical interventions were undertaken under the SCSP programme, including the demonstration of improved technologies in crops such as tomato, maize, ragi, mango, etc.

Tomato, being one of the important crops, saw a demonstration of eco-friendly pest and disease management. Wota traps, yellow and blue sticky cards, neem oil, and other critical inputs were distributed to 10 farmers. To promote dryland horticulture, a training session on improved mango production technologies was organized, and 249 seedlings were distributed to 13 SC farmers.

To enhance the family income of SC farmers, a training on apiculture was organized, and hive boxes, along with colonies, were distributed to 10 farmers. To promote backyard poultry, a training programme on the importance of backyard poultry was conducted, and 256 chicks were distributed to farmers.

A training programme on vermicomposting was organized, and 20 vermi bags were distributed. Additionally, a training session on processing and value addition in millets was conducted for 30 SC farm women. Nutrition, being an important aspect, was addressed through a training on the importance of Nutri-gardens, and 24 Nutri-garden seed kits were distributed to farmers.

Animal husbandry, being an important subsidiary activity, was supported by introducing CoFS-31 seeds and distributing cow mats to farmers. To reduce drudgery, agricultural implements such as cycle weeders, hand hoes, spades, sickles, and hand weeders were distributed to 50 farmers. Exposure visits were organized to the National Horticulture Fair by IIHR, Bangalore; Krishimela organized by UAS, Bangalore; and the NBAIR research station, as well as to progressive farmers' fields in Chikkaballapura district.

As a result of the implementation of the SCSP programme, SC farmers have gained awareness about improved varieties and technologies. The overall yield has increased by 15-20%, pest and disease damage has been reduced, and drudgery has been minimized.



ICAR-KVK Chikkamagaluru

ICAR-KVK, Chikkamagaluru reaching the unreached farmers especially SC/ST farmers through different activities like on campus training programmes, group discussion, scientist and farmer's interaction and social media platforms, Krishimela and exposure visit etc. SC/ST community in Chikkamagaluru district getting various benefits and technical guidance from KVK over a period of years. We are promoting Bee keeping, food processing and value addition support to farmers for their livelihood security.

During 2023-24 and 2024-25 under ORC provided critical inputs viz., seeds, seedlings, Bee Box and Colony and Iron Stand, Animal Feed, Cow mat, Milk can, poultry chicks, bio-fertilizer, Vermibeds and under NRC purchased Power operated HTP sprayer, Direct Paddy Seeder, Pepper De-Conting Machine, Agrimate Brush cutter, Automatic Electric 6 Tray Oven, Planetary Mixer 30L 3 Speed and Wood chipper. Other activities like soil and water testing of farmers soil samples and distribute the soil health cards and suggested soil test based fertilizer application to enhance the soil health and productivity. Hence, KVK, Chikkamagaluru to bring desirable changes in the suitable livelihood of more than 637 SC& ST farmers of the district.



ICAR-KVK Chitradurga

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chitradurga has conducted several activities under SCSP programme during 2023-24 and 2024-25.

1. **Distribution of Coconut seedlings:** KVK Chitradurga has distributed 800 Coconut seedlings to the 11 farmers of J.L. Hatty village, Hosadurga taluk and 400 seedlings to 9 farmers of Halavudhara village, Chitradurgataluk under of SCSP programme during 2023-24.

2. **Distribution of Coconut seedlings and Sheep:** KVK Chitradurga has distributed 20 sheep to the 20 farmers of J.L. Hatty village ,Hosadurga taluk during 2023-24.

3. **Educational tours :** KVK organised the educational trips to the SCSP beneficiaries. During 2023-24 Educational tour was organised by KVK for 25 farmers of Halavudhara village Chitradurga district to IIHR- Horticulture mela- 2024, Bangalore .

During 2024-25 educational tour to KSNUAHS, Krishimela at Shivamogga was organised for 126 farmers of Halavudhara Lambanihatty village,Chitradurgataluk from 18-10-2024 to 21-11-2024.

4. **Skill Training on Coconut Tree Climbing:** Krishi Vigya Kendra, Chitradurga and Organic Farming Research centre, Shivamogga have jointly organised three days skill training on Coconut tree climbing from 26-09-2024 to 28-09-2024 at KVK, Chitradurga. 53 farm youth from different villages of Chitradurga district have participated in the programme, Master trainer Mr. Madhu of Babbur village trained the participants for all the three days and at the end coconut tree climbing machines were distributed to the participants.

5. **SCSP training on “Integrated management of pest and diseases in Arecanut”:**

KVK Chitradurga in collaboration with Organic research centre, Shivamogga organized a two days training programme on Integrated pest and disease management in Arecanut for the farmers selected under SCSP programme from 8th to 9th of July 2024 at KVK, Chitradurga. Detailed information on different pests and diseases of Arecanut such as Bud rot, wilt, inflorescence blight, leaf spot, scales, Spindle bug, inflorescence eating caterpillar and their management practices were briefed by KVK scientists.

6. **Skill training on Bee Keeping and Repair of Sprayers:** Krishi Vigya Kendra, Chitradurga and Organic Farming Research centre, Shivamogga have jointly organised three days skill training on Bee Keeping and repair of Sprayers from 15-11-2024 to 17-11-2024 at KVK, Chitradurga..KVK Scientists have discussed about importance of bee keeping, maintenance of bee colonies, various products of Apiculture such as honey, Bee wax, Royal jelly etc, and their importance. They also gave detailed information on usage and maintenance of sprayers. Around 39 youths various taluks of Chitradurga have participated in the training programme.



ICAR-KVK Dakshina Kannada

ICAR-KVK, Dakshina Kannada, Mangaluru implemented FLD on "Fish culture in coastal farm ponds" under TSP program and distributed the critical inputs of fish seed and fish feed to the ST beneficiary farmer Shri B. Raghunatha Naik, Punacha village, Bantwal Taluk on 30.11.2024. Dr. Ravindragouda Patil, Assistant Professor (Fisheries Science) explained about the scientific way to release the fish seed and scientific way of fish culture to the beneficiary.

ICAR-KVK, Dakshina Kannada, Mangaluru implemented SCSP program on "Value addition of Fishery products" under SCSP program and distributed the critical inputs of Vericelli machine-1 No., Kadai (10 Liter)-2 Nos, Sealing Machine (12 inches)-2 Nos, Meat Mincer (1 HP) - 1 No. and Weighing Balance (100Kg)-1 No. to the SC beneficiary Mrs. Savithri H.S., Laila village, Belthangady Taluk on 19.12.2024.

ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra DK Mangaluru in collaboration with Karnataka State Department of Agriculture (KSDA), Sullia Taluk and NRLM, Taluk Panchayath Sulia celebrated National Farmers Day at Sullia on 23-12-2024. Five progressive farmers under SCSP programme were provided with plastic drums for promotion of Natural Farming. In order to promote green fodder during summer season among dairy farmers. ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra Dakshina Kannada implemented FLD – Demonstration of Fodder cowpea in paddy fallows “ for Tribal Farmers at Bettampady Village of Puttur taluk under TSP Programme through organising capacity development programme on 09-11-2024. The beneficiaries were provided with critical inputs like fodder cowpea seeds var. MFC-09-01 and Rhizobium bio fertilizer.

ICAR- Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dakshina Kannada in association with Ambedkar Aapatbandhava Trust, Puttur organized capacity development programmes on 'Nutri Garden' on 08.02.2024 at Gram Panchayat, Dharmasthala. Mr. Raju Hosmath, president, Ambedkar Aapatbandhava Trust, Puttur presided over the function. Critical inputs such as Secateurs and Guter sprayer were provided to SCSP.

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dakshina Kannada organised the capacity development cum method demonstration programme for Schedule Caste farmers on 14.11.2024 and 02.12.2024 at Sampaje village of Sullia taluk and Vittla village of Bantwal taluk respectively under SCSP programme of 2024-25. The participant 20 farmers were provided with plastic drums.

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dakshina Kannada organised the capacity development cum method demonstration programme for schedule tribe farmers on 09.11.2024 at Bettampady village of Puttur taluk under TSP programme of 2024-25. The participant 10 farmers were provided with plastic drums.

In order to promote organic farming among the Schedule Tribe farmers, five farmers from Moodambailu village of Bantwal taluk were trained under TSP programme during 2024-25 about recycling of farm waste for preparation of vermicompost. The trained farmers were provided with vermi bags (size 12x4x2)



ICAR-KVK Davanagere

ICAR-Taralabalu Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Davanagere implemented Scheduled Caste Special Programme (SCSP) in the district. The activities consists of frontline demonstrations, dry land horticulture technologies, nutrient management, integrated pest management, animal health campaigns, soil health campaigns, special training including natural farming, kitchen garden, storage pest management. Self employment to youth and entrepreneurship development. The special days of agriculturally important programmes were celebrated with SC community through special lectures.

Training on Kitchen garden and vegetable seeds shared to SC community women farmers at Rajagondanahalli Thanda, Channagiri Tq

Animal Health Campaign in collaboration with Karnataka Antibiotic and Pharmaceuticals Ltd, AH and VS department and Grama Panchayath at Rajagondanahalli Thanda, Channagiri tq. Cattle, buffalo, Sheep/goat were treated and deworming tablets, vitamin tonic and mineral mixture were shared on the occasion.

Training on fodder management and shared improved fodder seeds of CoFS-31 variety to SC community.



The Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) activities undertaken by ICAR Taralabalu Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Davanagere in collaboration with ICAR-National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources (NBAIR) and ICAR-ATARI, Zone XI, Bengaluru, with aim to uplift tribal communities through targeted agricultural and allied interventions. These activities focus on improving livelihoods, ensuring food security, and promoting sustainable agricultural practices.

Activities Conducted:

1. Coconut Seedling Distribution: Provided high-yielding coconut seedlings to tribal farmers to encourage plantation-based income generation. Forty Arsikere Tall coconut Seedlings were provided to 20 beneficiaries.

2. Exposure Visits: To learn the New innovative Technologies by the ICAR and other State Agriculture Universities two Exposure visits have been arranged for the TSP beneficiaries for the below institutions.

▶ Horticulture Research Station, Arsikere: Focused on advanced horticultural practices including Coconut based cropping systems, Multi-storeyed cropping system, value addition and Marketing of coconut products

▶ IIHR KVK, Gonikoppal: Highlighted innovative farming techniques including Arecanut based cropping systems, use of Bio Products, Mushroom Cultivation

▶ JSS KVK, Mysore: Provided insights into integrated farming systems, Dairy Unit, Agri clinics and Fodder block

▶ NBAIR and IIHR, Bengaluru: Focused on biological pest management practices and advanced research in horticulture including Hi Tech Horticulture practices, New varieties developed from the IIHR.

3. Release of Trichocards : Provided Trichocards for the biological control of pests in maize and cotton crops.

4. Onion Frontline Demonstration (FLD): Demonstrated the AFLR variety of onion, showcasing its adaptability and higher yield potential.

5. Storage Probe Demonstration: Educated farmers on the use of storage probes for better grain management and pest control.

6. Animal Health Camp: Organized a health camp to address livestock health issues, ensuring better productivity and disease management.

7. Demonstration of Apiary Unit: Set up an apiary demonstration to promote beekeeping as a supplementary income source.

8. Nutrigarden Training: Trained tribal women on establishing nutrigardens for enhanced household nutrition and food security.

9. Spray of Micronutrients Using Drones: Demonstrated drone spraying technology to apply micronutrients on Bengal gram, ensuring uniform application and reduced labour costs.

Capacity Building Programmes for TSP Farmers : Providing Bio Inputs to TSP Farmers, Group Discussion about Planning activities, Provided Literature to TSP Farmers



ICAR-KVK Dharwad

ICAR-KVK, Dharwad has conducted programmes under SCSP from 2022-2024. Dharwad district SC farmers took keen interest in improving their mango, guava, curry leaf, turmeric, drumstick, tamarind, dragon fruit, lime with respect to yield and quality. They were also taught about scientific techniques in farming, apiculture, use of biofertilizers, vermicompost production, use of mango special and animal husbandry activities so as to improve their economic status. Due to all these interventions their overall income of farm family was increased by 1.85 times compared to earlier economic status. With respect to animal husbandry activities, they shown improvement in quality egg and meat production in backyard poultry farming with Sahyadri breed (110 eggs/ year/ bird) and increased body weight gain (1.85 kg/ bird), also around 65 % of the technology adoption level was observed. These outcomes underscore the positive impact of the training and support provided by ICAR-KVK Dharwad in elevating the livelihoods of the community.

▶ Interventions taken for implementation of SC/SP:2022: A Equipment Utility Centre was created to take up the entrepreneur activity under SCSP program.

▶ 2023: A total of three capacity building programmes on integrated farming system were conducted and one off campus training programmes on scientific Backyard poultry were conducted under SCSP programme. SCSP programme was implemented in Alnavar cluster which comes under northern transitional zone.

▶ 2024: A total of three capacity building programmes on integrated farming system on campus, training programmes on scientific backyard poultry farming, grafting and air layering in guava and high density planting, vermicompost production, nutri garden, soil conversation and testing were conducted under SCSP programme. One workshop on Integrated farming system was organized at Chilakawad village of Navalagund taluk under SCSP. SCSP programme was implemented in Navalagund taluk which comes under northern dry zone.

▶ Distribution of planting materials (1050 nos.), fodder slips (38500 nos.), chicks (1090 nos.), honey bee colonies (5 nos.), mango special (100 kg)

▶ Soil sample analysis (25 nos.)

▶ Distribution of small equipments (solar light trap, cycle weeder etc) and establishment of utility centre at ICAR-KVK, Dharwad.

▶ A total of 896 SCSP farmers were covered under various programmes/schemes/exposure visits/consultancy at ICAR-KVK, Dharwad. As a step towards improving the livelihood of Scheduled caste farmers, ICAR-KVK, Dharwad under the guidance and funding of ATARI Bengaluru established the SC Farmers.

▶ Equipment Utility Centre at ICAR-KVK, Dharwad was established during the year 2023-24 which consists of turmeric grinding machine, fodder chaff cutter and incubation and hatchery machine for chick production.



ICAR-KVK, Ernakulam has conducted programmes under SCSP from 2020-2024. To make Ernakulam district self-sufficient in fruit production and ensure access to safe, home-grown fruits, KVK Ernakulam has been promoting the "One Fruit Orchard in Each Home" programme since 2015. Over five years, the initiative has successfully established nearly 850 fruit orchards.

During 2020-2021, this programme was extended to Scheduled Caste farmers in Alengad and Karumalloor under the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) funding of ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI), Bengaluru. The programme included the distribution of fruit plants, organic manures, and soil ameliorants, along with training on scientific planting and orchard management.

The distribution was inaugurated by Alangad Panchayath President Mr. Abdul Manaf and Karumalloor Panchayath President Smt. Sreelatha Lalu. Each beneficiary received five fruit saplings, including mango, guava, sapota, citrus, and rose apple. Through this initiative, 100 SC farmers were empowered to establish sustainable home orchards.

Promoting Natural Farming for Vegetable Self-Sufficiency among SC families

KVK Ernakulam is advancing natural farming practices among Scheduled Caste families to achieve vegetable self-sufficiency and enhance nutritional security.

On September 27, 2022, at a programme held in Keezhmad Krishi Bhavan, quality vegetable seeds from ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bengaluru, were distributed to selected SC families. Participants received training on natural vegetable farming and water management techniques to boost homestead productivity. Sessions also covered recycling household waste for use in kitchen gardens.

The programme was inaugurated by Smt. Siby V G, Agriculture Officer, Keezhmad. Shri. Shoji Joy Edison, Subject Matter Specialist (Horticulture), led the training sessions, fostering sustainable agricultural practices among SC families.

Revitalizing Sugarcane Farming and Jaggery Production for SC Communities

In an effort to rejuvenate sugarcane farming in the Periyar River basin and revitalize the legacy of "Alangadan Jaggery," KVK Ernakulam established a Jaggery Production Unit in Alangad under the SCSP programme.

The unit, equipped with a sugarcane crusher and additional machinery, was funded by ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru (₹2.65 lakhs), with infrastructure support from the Alangad Co-operative Bank. The initiative is implemented in collaboration with the Alangad Grama Panchayath.



ICAR-KVK Gadag

ICAR-K.H. Patil KVK, Gadag has been implementing various activities under the SCSP and TSP programs since 2022-23 to enhance the livelihoods of SC and ST communities in Gadag district. KVK made intervention in field crops, horticulture crops and animal husbandry under agro-climatic conditions of Gadag District.

KVK Interventions:

I. SCSP

1. **OFT and FLDs:** 13 On farm trials and 417 demonstrations, benefitting 420 farmers by introducing recent improved varieties/hybrids, climate resilient technologies and livestock related interventions that suit the district's agro-climatic conditions.

2. **The Common Utility Centre (CUC):** During 2022-23 KVK purchased farmers need based equipments like tractor drawn Two Bottom MB plough, tractor drawn Five tine duck foot cultivator, tractor Operated 5 feet Rotavator, Spiral separators (2 No's), Onion De-toppers (2 No's), Engine operated knapsack sprayer and Cycle weeder (2 No's) for custom hiring centre Worth of 2.7 lakh under SCSP. During 2023-24 CHC was added with Specific Gravity Separator and Coconut Frond Shredder worth of 3.11 lakh.

II. TSP

1. **FLDs:** 73 demonstrations were conducted in 30ha area belonging to 73 farmers by introducing eco- friendly pest and disease management technologies of ICAR-NBAIR, Bengaluru and recent varieties/hybrids of ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru. Along with this the capacity building programmes on agriculture and horticulture crops were conducted to farmers & farm women during 2023-24 and 2024-25.

2. **Provision of Honey bee colonies:** As an income generative activity 11 honey bee colonies were provided to 7 ST farmers.

Outcome and Impact

As a result of interventions made under SCSP and TSP, crop yields increased by 21.4% to 33%, while eco-friendly IPDM practices reduced pest and disease incidence by 30-40%, lowering cost of cultivation by Rs. 9,000-15,000/ha. Interventions in livestock have resulted in 8.5 % to 16.27 % increase in milk yield. Equipment of Custom Hiring Center (CHC) used by 149 farmers for 846 hours which in turn reduced cultivation costs by 40%. Agricultural equipment provided to SC farmers, in collaboration with the ICAR institutes, ensured timely operations, while vegetable seed kits promoted Nutrigardens helped in nutritional security among ST families. Coconut and cashew saplings achieved a 75% survival rate and sewing machines with all accessories enabled farm women on fine tuning of skills for enhancing their socio-economic status.



ICAR-KVK Hassan

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kandali, Hassan, started the SC-SP programme in 2023. Since then, based on the issues identified in the cluster, KVK Hassan has focused on benefiting the Scheduled Caste (SC) community in Dummenhalli village, Belur Taluk. As part of this initiative, KVK has identified SC beneficiaries and organized several capacity-building activities like crop demonstrations, training programmes, group discussions, method demonstrations, field days, field visits, exposure visits, exhibitions and consultancies. Among the training programs, KVK conducted three training programmes (three days) as well as a five-day training programme on nursery management and the use of improved machinery for coconut farming, specifically targeting SC youths. The beneficiaries have also been given opportunities to grow their skills, improve their livelihoods, and contribute to the overall socio-economic development of the region.

In addition, KVK has conducted demonstrations on improved pulse varieties, including Ragi-316, Redgram-BRG-5, Cowpea-KBC-9, Horse gram-PHG-9, and Field bean varieties HA-3 & HA-4. The beneficiaries have also received improved poultry and duck breeds, as well as a variety of fruit tree seedlings, including Mango, Jackfruit, Guava, Sapota, Butterfruit, Papaya, Coconut, Arecanut, and Dragon fruit. To promote nutritional gardening, vegetable seed kits were provided to the beneficiaries for establishing their own nutri-gardens.

KVK has also organized a soil health campaign and advised beneficiaries to adopt fertilizer recommendations based on soil tests. Moreover, the SC-SP capital has been utilized to establish a Custom Hiring Centre, benefiting local farmers by providing access to essential farm machinery. Furthermore, the beneficiaries had the opportunity to visit ICAR-NBAIR (National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources), where they were educated about the harmful effects of using pesticides, insecticides, and weedicides in current agricultural practices. Overall, the SC-SP programme has made significant progress in uplifting the SC community, encouraging agricultural innovation, and ensuring a more sustainable and prosperous future for the beneficiaries of Dummenhalli village. KVK's ongoing efforts will continue to support the community in realizing its full potential and achieving long-term agricultural and economic success.





ICAR-KVK Haveri

ICAR-KVK Haveri (Hanumanamatti) incepted a programme on Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) since 2023 with an objective to upliftment of socioeconomic status of the Scheduled Caste farmers of Haveri district through implementing advanced technologies with guidance/support of ATARI Bangalore and UAS Dharwad. Programme was implemented in two villages namely Kamadodand Venkatapura of Ranebennur and Byadagi taluk respectively. The SC farmers from these villages are perceptive and actively participated in the programme. The following extension activities were conducted since inception

Glimpse of activity:

1. Dissemination of recent agricultural technology through training programme: ICAR KVK Haveri conducted 20 on and off campus training programmes to impart knowledge on recent advances of agriculture and allied sector viz., Dryland Horticulture, Integrated farming systems, Backyard poultry farming, INM on Kharif and Rabi crops, Bee keeping, management of Pink bollworm in BT- cotton and Nutrigarden etc along with some critical input distribution. These training programmes enhanced their skill and knowledge in turn increased cultivation of dry land horticulture crops in 20 acre of land. However, more than forty farmers were started rearing improved varieties of backyard poultry and ten farmers were started beekeeping. Further eco-friendly approach of pest management especially awareness on novel mating distemper tool of pink bollworm in cotton resulted 75-80 per cent reduction in incidence and enhanced productivity. There is 20% reduction in incidence of Pink bollworm in BT- cotton. More than twenty farmers were growing their own vegetables through nutrigarden.

2. Access to improved varieties of seedlings: Inculcating farming to practice IFS system by incorporating horticulture and forestry components to sustain their livelihood. In this context improved horticulture technologies are disseminated through components viz., varieties of bhagya in drumstick (9000 no.), DSH-1 in sapota (100 no.), suvasini in curryleaf (3000 no.), prathibha pro tray seedlings in turmeric (16000 no.) and Swietenia macrophylla in mahogany (1850 no.) for enhancing sustainability. Totally 96 farmers benefited from the programmes. The beneficiaries were apprised about the nutritional and economic values of the horticultural crops and the ways in which the vegetable, spices and forest crops cultivation can generate self-employment opportunities for the rural youths. Various production technologies were also demonstrated for instances pruning of curryleaf and drumstick to enhance production. Diagnostic visits were also conducted to different horticulture crops to address the pest and disease problems.

3. Incorporation of poultry component as a part of IFS to sustain their livelihood : Community farmers of Kamdod and Venkatapura village were engaged in backyard poultry farming with local Desi type chicken with low egg and meat production in backyard system. KVK conducted capacity-building programmes and provided 800 five week old improved variety of backyard poultry strain Kaveri from Central Poultry Development Organisation (CPDO), Bengaluru to 40 farmers in last two years. The colour pattern of Kaveri bird is multicolour with single comb and yellow colour shank and skin. These birds have characteristic features like low chick mortality, early sexual maturity, withstanding predators, laying brown colour eggs, high egg and meat production. The average egg production of Kaveri bird is 132 eggs per year and average body weight is 1900 g/bird at 20th week as against 70 eggs/year and 1500g/ bird of local desi birds which were used to rear earlier. The results of the studies showed that Backyard poultry rearing showed significant positive relationship in increasing their income and improving their standard of living with nutritional security.

4. Demonstration of Rabi Sorghum Variety SPV 2217 : KVK demonstrated FLD on Rabi Sorghum Variety SPV 2217 to 50 community farmers in last two years. The primary objective was to increase the net income of farmers by introducing a high-yielding, moderately tolerant to charcoal rot

disease, lodging resistant, stay green at physiological maturity and high fodder yield. Comparing the yields of traditional varieties with SPV 2217, the impact of the demonstration was clear. Farmers reported with an average yield of 16.50 quintals per acre for SPV 2217, compared to the 12.50 quintals per acre typically achieved with traditional varieties. The 32% increase in yield was attributed to the adoption of scientific farming practices, better quality seed and more effective pest and nutrient management with reflection of 25% increase in their net income per acre, which improved their livelihoods and developed better farming practices.

5. Encouraging subsidiary agriculture: "Beekeeping" : The KVK conducted skill development program on beekeeping and provided honey bee hive box with colony to beneficiaries. Capacity building programme on beekeeping was focussed with a aim to sustain their livelihood throughout year and conserve environment. Farmers learnt hands on experience from training to handle bees, proper colonies management, rearing methods, honey extraction and movement of hives. Farmers are getting average of 3kg of honey for every 3 months (they are selling at the price of 800 rupees per kg) and additionally 10 %increased yield in cross pollinated crops (Viz. Sunflower, safflower, maize, bhendi).

6. Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs) Agri-machines for SC Farmers: In the era of intensive and mechanized crop production systems, timely and availability of cost effective agricultural implements to the scheduled caste farmers plays a pivotal role. Due to small land holding and high market price of implements, small and marginal farmers cannot offer to purchase all the machinery. So, establishment of custom hiring centers/machinery banks in the villages is need of the hour. Custom Hiring Centre (CHC) are basically a unit comprising a set of farm machinery, implements and equipment meant for custom hiring by farmers. The main objective of Custom Hiring Centre is to supply farm implements to scheduled caste farmers. The major agriculture implements avail at centre are Rotavator, Cultivator, MB plough, Weed Slasher/Cutter, Sprayer, Hoe, Blade harrows. About 32 scheduled caste farmers were benefited from this centre. The CHCs provided timely and cost-effective machinery to small and marginal farmers with this reduction in cost of cultivation was noticed with increasing net income of farmer.





ICAR-KVK Idukki

ICAR-KVK, Idukki has conducted programmes under SCSP.

1. SCSP Scheme Activities Undertaken by KVK Idukki with a budget allocation of Rs. 3,46,800 in the financial year 2023-24

- ▶ Conducted 28 Capacity Building Programs benefiting 453 individuals.
- ▶ Organized 2 skill development training with 20 participants.
- ▶ Conducted 15 Frontline Demonstrations with a beneficiary of 73 SC farmers. The Frontline demonstrations on Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) in Small Cardamom, Silicon Nutrition in Small Cardamom, Micronutrient liquid formulation in tapioca, ICAR IIHR NSKPPF in Cabbage, IPM in Black Pepper, Arka Khyati, Arka Rakshak 18: Effectively deterred wild monkeys from raiding crops, Promotion of Mushroom-Based Products: Created awareness of high-value mushroom products, Apiculture in Small Cardamom, Root Rot Management in Carrot, Monoculturing of Chitralada and Gift Tilapia, Introduction of Arka Sarath French Bean Variety and KAU Deepika Variety, Balanced Feeding in Cattle, Mineral Mixture for Goats have shown significant yield improvements, reduced pest and disease losses, and increased profitability for farmers.
 - ▶ Distribution of Inputs: Hybrid Seeds: Provided to 10 commercial farmers for crop diversification, Pepper Saplings: 1,500 distributed to 10 beneficiaries, Mushroom Spawn: 25 spawns distributed to 10 beneficiaries, Honey Bee Boxes: Supplied to 5 beneficiaries to promote apiculture, Fingerlings: 2,400 distributed to 15 beneficiaries for enhanced fishery activities.
 - ▶ Infrastructure Development
 - ▶ Processing Unit Hub: Established for SC beneficiaries to support value addition and processing.
 - ▶ Campaigns and Support Services
 - ▶ Conducted 2 Animal Health Campaigns benefiting 30 SC individuals, Soil Testing: Benefited 25 farmers through soil health analysis, Literature Distribution: 5,000 informational materials distributed to disseminate knowledge

Overall 651 individuals directly benefited from training, demonstrations, and input distribution. The SCSP initiative by KVK Idukki has effectively enhanced the livelihood of beneficiaries by providing them with the tools, knowledge, and support needed for sustainable and profitable farming practices.

2. TSP Scheme Activities Undertaken by KVK Idukki with a budget allocation of Rs. 2,50,000 in the financial year 2023-24

- ▶ Conducted 18 Capacity Building Programs benefiting 339 individuals.
- ▶ Organized 2 skill development training with 20 participants.
- ▶ Conducted 10 Frontline Demonstrations with a beneficiary of 52 ST farmers. The Frontline demonstrations on Bio-intensive intervention of pest, drought management and deterring crop raiding wild elephants in small cardamom, ICM in Black Pepper, INM in Banana, Monoculturing of Chitralada, Introduction of Arka Sarath French Bean Variety, Demonstration of Manuratna variety of paddy, Arka Khyati, Arka Rakshak. Effectively deterred wild monkeys from raiding crops, Promotion of Mushroom-Based Products, package of practices to control kids mortality in goats, Demonstration of apiculture unit among small cardamom have shown significant yield improvements, reduced pest and disease losses, and increased profitability for farmers.
 - ▶ Distribution of Inputs: Hybrid Seeds: Provided to 4 commercial farmers for crop diversification, Pepper Saplings: 1,500 distributed to 10 beneficiaries, Mushroom Spawn: 25 spawns distributed to

10 beneficiaries, Honey Bee Boxes: Supplied to 5 beneficiaries to promote apiculture, Fingerlings: 1,400 distributed to 10 beneficiaries for enhanced fishery activities.

▶ Campaigns and Support Services: Conducted 2 Animal Health Campaigns benefiting 30 SC individuals, 15 numbers of veterinary services to ST dairy farmers, Soil Testing: Benefited 25 farmers through soil health analysis, Literature Distribution: 1500 informational materials distributed to disseminate knowledge.

Overall 520 individuals directly benefited from training, demonstrations, and input distribution. The SCSP initiative by KVK Idukki has effectively enhanced the livelihood of beneficiaries by providing them with the tools, knowledge, and support needed for sustainable and profitable farming practices.

3. SCSP Scheme Activities Undertaken by KVK Idukki with a budget allocation of Rs.7,18,450 in the financial year 2024-25

▶ Conducted 7 Capacity Building Programs benefiting 118 individuals.

▶ Conducted one on farm trial and 11 Frontline Demonstrations with a beneficiary of 93 SC farmers. All the programs are in progress

▶ Distribution of Inputs: Micronutrients: 450 kg of small cardamom, black pepper and vegetable nutrient mixtures distributed to 90 SC farmers, Pepper Saplings: 500 numbers distributed to 15 beneficiaries, Mushroom Spawn: 100 spawns distributed to 5 beneficiaries, Honey Bee Boxes: Supplied to 75 beneficiaries to promote apiculture, Fingerlings: 2093 numbers distributed to 9 beneficiaries for enhanced fishery activities.

▶ Campaigns and Support Services

▶ Soil Testing: Benefited 30 farmers through soil health analysis.

4. TSP Scheme Activities Undertaken by KVK Idukki with a budget allocation of Rs.4,85,000 in the financial year 2024-25

▶ Conducted 16 Capacity Building Programs benefiting 273 individuals.

▶ Conducted 2 on farm trial and 5 Frontline Demonstrations with a beneficiary of 50 ST farmers. All the programs are in progress

▶ Distribution of Inputs: Mushroom spawn: 100 kits distributed to 5 beneficiaries

Hybrid Seeds: 15 kg of hybrid vegetable seeds provided to 5 commercial farmers for crop diversification, Honey Bee Boxes: Supplied to 25 beneficiaries to promote apiculture., Micronutrients: 270 kg of small cardamom, black pepper and vegetable nutrient mixtures distributed to 54 ST farmers, Lime: Supplied 1000 kg of lime to 10 ST beneficiaries for the purpose of reclamation of soil, EL Light (Elephant repellent): Distributed 20 numbers of EL Light to 20 beneficiaries

▶ Campaigns and Support Services

▶ Soil Testing: Benefited 20 farmers through soil health analysis.

Common utility center for SC and ST farmers established at KVK, Idukki

The Common Utility Centre established at the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) has become a valuable resource for Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) farmers, who are utilizing its advanced equipment and machines to improve their agricultural practices and generate additional income. Farmers have been using the multipurpose electric dryer (50 kg capacity) to process their produce

efficiently, while the pepper thresher has significantly reduced labour in pepper threshing. The availability of brush cutters and power sprayers has enabled timely field operations, improving productivity. Additionally, the brush cutters are being utilized for labour work on neighbouring farms, providing an additional source of income for farmers. Tools like finer unipole tree climbing ladders and fruit harvesters have made tree-based activities safer and faster. Equipment such as the mini millet cleaning machine, packing machine, and blender for producing micronutrient mixtures have helped farmers add value to their crops and improve soil health. EL lights and other tools have supported better farm management. These resources are provided free of cost, either directly from the KVK or on the farmers' fields, ensuring accessibility. The initiative, funded through SCSP and TSP schemes, with budgets ₹8,91,300 over three years (2022 to 2024), has empowered SC and ST farmers by reducing manual labour, enhancing productivity, enabling sustainable agricultural practices, and creating opportunities for additional income, thereby improving their livelihoods.



ICAR-KVK Kalaburgi - I

ICAR-KVK, Kalaburagi-I, reaching the unreached farmers especially SC farmers through different activities like method demonstrations, farm trials, on campus and off campus training programmes, group discussion, scientist and farmer's interaction and social media platforms etc. SC community in Kalaburagi district getting various benefits and technical guidance from KVK over a period of years. We are promoting food processing, value addition, branding and marketing linkages, GI tag registration for redgram and Kamalapur banana and support to farmers who are engaged in cooperative societies; NGOs and FPOs.

During 2023-24 under ORC providing critical inputs viz., seeds, seedlings, micronutrients, vermicompost, organic inputs, Tarpaulin, Safety kit, Vermi-beds and under NRC distributed Power operated sprayer, Battery operated sprayer, Riddhi power sprayer and Sickles. Other activities like soil and water testing of farmers soil samples and distribute the soil health cards and suggested soil test based fertilizer application to enhance the soil health and productivity. So, KVK, Kalaburagi-I to bring desirable changes in the suitable livelihood of more than 630 SC farmers were benefited.



ICAR-KVK Kalaburgi - II

ICAR-KVK Kalaburagi-II (Raddewadagi) has conducted various programmes under SCSP-TSP till date. Kalaburagi district, the pulse bowl of Karnataka, is located in the northern part of Karnataka state known for its Redgram, Chilli, Cotton and Chickpea cultivation. The annual rainfall is 720 mm, which is mostly bimodal in nature, spread over for about 6 months from July to November. With the keen interest of SC and tribal farmers of the district, ICAR-KVK Kalaburagi-II has taken various measures for their upliftment in terms of yield improvement, farm mechanization, soil and water conservation techniques viz., distribution of Chickpea super annigeri variety, nipping machines, pulse magic for the redgram crop, sprayers, distribution of Custard apple, Guava, Jamun, Aomla, Orange, Acid lime seedlings, vegetable seeds, mango special, vegetable special, citrus special, Guava special, Papaya special, Arka microbial consortium, custom hiring of bund former, mulching machine with drip liner, post hole digger, cotton shredders. This results in the 20% to 30% increase yield in the redgram crop due to right time distribution of sparying machines and pulse magic nutrient spray. Similarly, custom hiring of various equipments such as bund former which helps to save the moisture during the moisture stress condition, post hole digger which helps the farmers to plant the Mango, Pomegranate and Jamun which saves the labour cost. Cotton shreeder helps in the recycling of organic residues left in the field. These outcomes shows the positive impact of the training and support provided by ICAR-KVK Kalaburagi-II (Raddewadagi)

A total of 800 SCSP farmers were covered under various programmes/schemes/exposure visits at ICAR-KVK Kalaburagi-II (Raddewadagi) as a step towards improving the livelihood of TSP/SCSP farmers under the guidance and funding of ATARI Bengaluru. The custom hiring centre is equipped with farmer friendly equipments like bund former, mulching machine with drip liner, post hole digger, cotton shredders, cycle weeder, power sprayer and cotton shredder etc

Salient Points:

- ▶ Distribution of Custard apple, Guava, Jamun, Aomla, Orange, Acid lime seedlings
- ▶ Distribution of vegetable seeds (cucumber, water melon, tomato, brinjal, palak, muskmelon)
- ▶ Distribution of mango special, vegetable special, citrus special, Guava special, Papaya special, Arka microbial consortium
- ▶ Distribution of improved variety of Chickpea seeds
- ▶ Distribution of Power Sprayers
- ▶ Distribution of Pulse Magic
- ▶ Distribution of Nipping machines



ICAR-KVK, Kannur has conducted programmes under SCSP.

The Scheduled Castes (SC) comprises about 16.6% of India's population (2011 census). The Government of India is implementing a variety of initiatives under the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) Scheme for the upliftment of SC Community. While most government schemes for SCs are welfare-oriented or provide immediate benefits for survival, the Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kannur in collaboration with Indian Institute of Spice Research's (IISR) and Indian Council of Agricultural Research, ATARI Zone XI aims to create sustainable livelihoods for SC community through agricultural initiatives.

Agriculture plays a pivotal role in enhancing the livelihood security and income generation of rural communities, particularly among marginalized groups such as Scheduled Caste (SC) farmers. The SC population in Kannur district is around 83350, and it comprises 28% of the total population. In the Kannur district of Kerala, the diversification of farming activities adopted by SC farmers in the region, including ginger and turmeric cultivation, vegetable cultivation, precision farming, mushroom cultivation, pulse cultivation, and beekeeping has proven to be an effective strategy for sustainable development and economic upliftment. These activities not only contribute to household income but also promote food security, environmental sustainability, and employment opportunities.

a) Popularization of new varieties of spice crops' for Doubling Scheduled Caste Farmers' Income under the "SCSP programme:

KVK Kannur, with the financial support of the Indian Institute of Spice Research (IISR), implemented the project "Popularization of new varieties of spice crops' under the SCSP programme" at 20 panchayaths and municipal corporations in Kannur district from February, 2023. The high-yielding varieties of ginger (Varadha), turmeric (Prathibha), blackpepper (P1, P2, P5, P7, P8, P9, P10, and Vijay), biocontrol agents such as pseudomonas, and micronutrients (Ginger and Turmeric Special) were distributed to the farmers. Field visits were conducted by the expert team of KVK Kannur to evaluate the performance of different varieties and diagnose field-level issues. The plant protection bioagents and chemicals were supplied to the farmers based on the severity of pest and disease incidence. Around 160 SC families benefited from the programme and 7 farmers were selected for the participatory seed production programme of KVK Kannur during 2023 to 2025. The ginger crop was cultivated in a 2 hectare area and obtained an average yield of 110 kg/cent, and turmeric was cultivated in a 5 hectare area and obtained an average yield of 120 kg/cent.

b) Popularization of high yielding varieties of vegetables for Doubling Scheduled Caste Farmers' Income under the SCSP programme:

KVK Kannur, with the financial support of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), implemented the project "Popularization of high yielding varieties of vegetables under the SCSP programme" covering 5 ha area under vegetable in Kannur district. KVK Kannur is handholding 5 SC farmer groups namely Sahridaya, Krishideepam, Nano, Sooryakanthi and Udhaya by providing expert advice through trainings, demonstrations and field visits. The vegetables were cultivated in a 5 hectare area and obtained an average yield of 21 t/ha during 2023.



c) Popularisation of Precision Farming for Doubling Scheduled Caste Farmers' Income

Precision farming is a modern agricultural practice that leverages advanced technologies and data-driven approaches to enhance productivity, optimize resource use, and improve income generation. Recognizing its transformative potential, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Kannur organized a five-day skill development training program on precision farming for Scheduled Caste (SC) farmers. This training program proved instrumental in equipping SC farmers with essential knowledge and practical skills in precision farming techniques, significantly boosting their agricultural efficiency and livelihood security. By adopting these advanced practices, participants have been empowered to achieve higher productivity, reduce input costs, and diversify their income sources.

d) Establishing an implements and equipments utility Centre at Pattuvam Panchayath under Schedules Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP)

An utility centre for farm implements and equipments was established at Panchayath for the SC farmers group “Udaya Swayam Shahaya Sangham” under SCSP programme entitled "SC Farmers implements and equipments utility centre at KVK's" funded by ICAR, ATARI, Bengaluru. IIPR Mini Dal Mill was installed at the utility centre and the demonstration on the operation of dall mill was also given to the members. IIPR Mini Dal Mill is a combination of cleaner-cumgrader, emery roller, rubber steel disk mechanism and cyclone separator. Graded grains are passed through emery roller, for pitting or scratching prior to commonly adopted pre-treatments with oil application. Conditioning for several hours followed by prolong sun drying for several days, loosens the husk. Thus, treated grains are passed through rubber-steel disk vertical chakki for dehusking and splitting. Soft dehusking minimizes the powdering loss. Emery roller helps in better dehusking of pulses. Driven by 2.0 hp single phase motor the mill gives capacity of 75-125 kg/h for different pulses. A medium oil mill for coconut oil extraction and a brush cutter were also supplied and installed at the utility centre under the SCSP programme.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Kannur has extended technical expertise to the Scheduled Caste (SC) farmers of the “Udaya Swayam Sahaya Sangham” to develop and establish their own brand, “Pattuvam.” This brand represents a range of high-quality processed products, including black gram, green gram, and coconut oil.

e) Popularization of mushroom cultivation and beekeeping for the women empowerment and livelihood security of SC farmers

Mushroom cultivation and beekeeping are highly adaptable and low-investment activities with significant potential to empower women and enhance the livelihood security of Scheduled Caste (SC) farmers. Recognizing the importance of these activities, the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kannur, initiated skill development training programs on mushroom cultivation and beekeeping for SC farmers in December 2024. These training programs have garnered considerable interest, with numerous SC women and youth expressing their intent to establish mushroom cultivation enterprises as a means of sustainable income generation.

The popularization of new varieties of spice crops, high-yielding vegetables, precision farming, mushroom cultivation, and beekeeping under the “Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP)” program is a transformative initiative aimed at doubling the income of Scheduled Caste (SC) farmers of Kannur district. By introducing modern agricultural practices, high-value crops, and sustainable livelihood

options, the program has empowered SC farmers to enhance productivity, reduce production costs, and diversify income sources.

Through capacity-building efforts, financial support, and market linkages, this initiative has not only strengthened the economic resilience of SC farmers but also promoted their active participation in sustainable agricultural development. Moving forward, these interventions will serve as a model for inclusive growth, ensuring long-term livelihood security and socio-economic upliftment of SC communities.





ICAR-KVK Kasaragod

ICAR-KVK Kasaragod SCSP and TSP activities conducted for the period April 2024 - December 2024

Apiary was recognized as a potential enterprise for landless as well as farmers with small holdings and hence taken up under SCSP and TSP activities aiming at socio economic upliftment. Under the auspices of ICAR-KVK, Kasaragod, Skill training on Apiary was initially imparted to 11 SC beneficiaries of Badiatka and Muliya Panchayath at KVK Kasaragod during 2024. Fifty two units of bee box with colonies that included 27 meliponiculture units was provided along with apiary tool kits. Exposure visits and off campus trainings were imparted subsequently to equip the trainees on handling of the colonies and its maintenance. Five training programmes under Apiary has been imparted during the period. With the intervention of KVK the trained personnel's have initiated apiary and have been able to reap their first harvest of honey. "World Bee Day" was celebrated with an awareness programme conducted at Nelliadka village on May 22nd, 2024 at Badiadka involving all the trained SC beneficiaries highlighting the theme for the World Bee Day, 2024 "Bee engaged with Youth". Marking the day Shri Vishwanatha of Nelliadka village, Kasaragod a potential beekeeper was encouraged to sell around 11 Kgs of Honey from his first harvest @Rs 400/Kg at the venue of KVK, CPCRI, Kasaragod. He has been a model farmer for other counterparts of his colony and trained group encouraging and motivating them by illustrating its benefit not only through sale of honey but also by sharing his experience with respect to its benefits as a vegetable cultivator by highlighting its potential yield. He has been able to double the colonies of Apis mellifera from 3 to 6 along with around 20 stingless bee colonies. On November, 19th a Flag off programme of Export of Processed Honey from Tulunadu Ecogreen FPC was conducted connecting tribal farmers in Agri Entrepreneurship through FPO at Kuttikol. The first consignment consisting of 360 kg of honey was exported on November 19th, 2024 to Qatar through Golden Net Services and Trading, Qatar. Technical support for the FPC is provided by KVK of CPCRI, Kasaragod.

In a joint effort to promote biodiversity conservation and pollination assistance through honey bees, ICAR-KVK, CPCRI, and the Federation of Indigenous Apiculturists (FIA) organized a two-day "Apiculture farmers conclave and Honey festival 2024" from October 24th- 25th, 2024, at CPCRI, Kasaragod. Technical sessions on "Apiculture for Sustainable Development" and "Honey and Its Value Additions" was held. Progressive apiculture farmers, demonstrated practical techniques and shared insights into the challenges and opportunities faced by apiculturists in the Kasaragod district. Approximately 175 farmers participated in the two-day workshop including trained SC and ST beneficiaries of KVK, Kasaragod.

Nutri Garden for Household Nutrition and food security

Under approved action plan of KVK Kasaragod around 25 SC/ST farm families were encouraged to adopt model nutri garden plots at Madhur and Badiatka and Paivalike panchayaths. Scientific cultivation of Vegetables and fruits in 2.5 acre of homestead area was encouraged through Nutri Garden activity with a objective to achieve economic security through production and consumption of sustainable food source. Vegetable seed kits, AYAR, Pseudomonas and hand sprayer were provided. On October 17th, 2024 around 44 SC beneficiaries of Nileshwar/ chervathur/ kayyur chemeni panchayth have been encouraged to take up or boost the vegetable cultivation through provision of vegetables kits with the aim to foster diverse agricultural systems with reliance to organic farming practices for upscaling nutritional status.

Marking the Jan Jatiya Gaurav Diwas Celebration 3 programmes on Nutri garden for Households was organized on 20th, 21st and 22nd November, 2024 at Kuttikol, Meenja and Kollangana colony at Madhur panchayath respectively to encourage vegetable cultivation as

enterprise among tribal families, for upscaling nutritional status and to encourage revival of indigenous. Vegetable Seed kits was provided as input to 44 ST farmers/farm women. Dependence for vegetables through market purchase is reduced by 40% and its frequency of usage in daily diet is more due to its easy accessibility through farm fresh produce. The activity has empowered women engaging themselves in sustainable farm activities as caretakers of the family benefiting the households economically with reduced market purchases for the same.

On the occasion of World Environment Day celebration on 5th June 2024 an awareness programme on “Land restoration, desertification and drought resilience” under the slogan Our land, Our future was organized wherein tree plantation drive in the campus involving faculties and KVK trained SC beneficiaries were involved. Fruit plants and seedlings such as neem, tamarind, cassia, amla, custard apple, citrus & jack seedlings were distributed to the participants. On the event of Release of 18th installment of PM - KISAN Nidhi and technical session on Nutri- Garden was organized and assorted vegetable seed kits was provided to 37 SC farmers.

Income generation through use of Agri equipments facilitated by KVK.

KVK has been able to facilitate farmers with Agri equipments such as Carbon fibre pole harvester with motorized pump (1 No), Coconut climbing device (20 No), motorized Power sprayer (2 No), Aspee Napsak sprayer (6 No), chain saw (1 No), Weed cutter (3 No) for mobilizing income generating activity among rural youths, agriculture labours and small and marginal farmers. Skill training on Coconut climbing was imparted wherein 20 climbing devices was distributed to 20 SC youths. More than 70 percent of the youths are regularly employed. With an average charge of Rs 40- 50 per palm the trained youths have a potential of earning around Rs 2000 - Rs 2500 covering 50 palms. With a team work around 100 palms can be covered / day with an average income of Rs 5,000 /day. Carbon fibre pole harvester cum sprayer which is handy to use has eased the cumbersome and labour intensive farm operation of spraying and has been the potential source of income for SC youth group engaged in the same. Tulusiri FPO group of Manjeshwar panchayath with a team of youths engaged for the same is earning an additional income of Rs 1800-2000/day. The labour cost of weeding using brush cutter is approximately Rs 150 to 200 /hour. With an average working hour of around 7 to 8 hrs a day an additional amount of Rs 1400 to 1600 is obtained.

Upscaling farm income through introduction of Plantation crops

Marking the occasion of Hon'ble PM's programme of release of two coconut and two cocoa varieties of ICAR-CPCRI on 11th August, 2024, Arecanut (200 No) and Coconut seedlings (60 No) were distributed to SC Farmers at CPCRI, Kasaragod. A beneficiary meet was conducted on 15.10.2024 for distribution of agricultural inputs under Tribal Sub Plan programme in association with the Green Chandragiri Agro Farmers Producer Company Limited at Parish hall of Holy Family Church, Rajapuram. ICAR-KVK, CPCRI, Kasaragod organised a beneficiary meet on 15.10.2024 for distribution of agricultural inputs under Tribal Sub Plan programme in association with the Green Chandragiri Agro Farmers Producer Company Limited at Parish hall of Holy Family Church, Rajapuram. Hon'ble M.P. of Kasaragod Shri. Rajmohan Unnithan inaugurated the programme . A total of 450 coconut and 2250 arecanut seedlings were distributed to 103 ST farmers. At Kadumeni an input distribution programme under TSP was conducted where 100 coconut and 546 arecanut seedlings were distributed to 38 farmers.

As per the declaration of Ministry of Tribal Affairs regarding Celebration of Jan Jatiya Gaurav Diwas between November 15th to 26th, 2024 few programmes have been conducted under the activities of KVK, Kasaragod to highlight the contribution of tribal farmers and to facilitate technological interventions in agriculture and allied fields for the benefit of tribal farmers of

Kasaragod district. Awareness programme, nutri garden training ,advisory services through field visit regarding plant protection and veterinary aspects was conducted. Vegetable seed kits were also distributed marking the occasion at Kollangana Colony of Madhur Grama Panchayath.



ICAR-KVK Gonikoppal has conducted programmes under SCSP-TSP till date. Kodagu district tribal and SC farmers took keen interest in improving their coffee plantation, pepper gardens and paddy fields with respect to yield and quality. They were also taught about scientific techniques in farming and animal husbandry activities so as to improve their economic status. Due to all these interventions their overall crop yield is increased by 1.25 times compared to earlier status. With respect to animal husbandry activities, they shown improvement in quality egg production in backyard poultry farming (67 eggs/ year/ desi cross bird) and increased body weight gain in piggery farming (115 kg/ Yorkshire pig/ year). These outcomes underscore the positive impact of the training and support provided by ICAR-KVK Gonikoppal in elevating the livelihoods of the community.

▶ 2022 : A total of three capacity development programmes were conducted under SCSP programme

▶ 2023 : A total of four collaborative programmes with various line departments were conducted under SCSP programme. Ten off campus training programmes on Backyard poultry, scientific dairy, piggery, goatary were conducted under TSP programme

▶ 2024: A total of six off campus training programmes on Backyard poultry, scientific dairy, piggery, goatary and field day were conducted under TSP programme. Thirteen off campus capacity development programmes and exposure visits were conducted under SCSP programme, field day on Nutrition garden was conducted under TSP programme, two Exposure visits were conducted under SCSP programme to NHF, Bengaluru and Natural farming unit, Davanagere

A total of 1126 TSP/SCSP farmers were covered under various programmes/schemes/exposure visits at ICAR-KVK Gonikoppal. As a step towards improving the livelihood of Scheduled caste farmers, ICAR-KVK Gonikoppal Kodagu Under the guidance and funding of ATARI Bengaluru established the SC Farmers Implements and equipments Utility Centre at ICAR-KVK Gonikoppal, Kodagu on 27th March 2023. The custom hiring centre was inaugurated by our beloved Director, ATARI Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian. In the programme, Sri. K.A. Devaiah, Head In-charge, staff of ICAR-KVK Kodagu and FPO-Common Service Centre (CSC) trainees were present. The custom hiring centre is equipped with farmer friendly equipments like brush cutters (10 units), pepper climbing ladders (20 units), bag pack sprayers (10 units), coffee pulper (4 units), pepper deconer (2 units), chain saw (6 units), weighing machine (1 unit), power sprayer (1 unit), Tree Trimmer (1 unit), Earth Augur (1 unit), coffee pulper (4 units) etc.

Salient points:

- ▶ Distribution of Avocado grafted plants (1800 nos.)
- ▶ Distribution of Malabar tamarind plants (500 nos.)
- ▶ Distribution of Black pepper cuttings (6650 nos.)
- ▶ Distribution of Coffee plants (150 nos.)
- ▶ Distribution of Arecanut plants (2250 nos.)
- ▶ Distribution on AMC cuttings (2000 kgs)
- ▶ Animal health campaign and distribution of veterinary medicines



ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra Kolar has engaged various kinds of programme including trainings and awareness camps under SCSP project from 2020-21 to till date and paved way for the overall development of SC farmers in the jurisdiction. Resultantly, the Kolar district SC farmers and farm women have mainly improved their livelihood by adapting various techniques demonstrated by KVK. They were thought scientifically to improve their farming there by enhancing quality & yield of the produce and subsequently economy. Accordingly, a wide range of horticulture, and agriculture crops as well as milking quantity & quality in animal husbandry were drastically improved. With the overall interventions of KVK Kolar the income of farm families was almost doubled compared to earlier status making them a self-sustained. The effective impact of trainings and guidance provided by ICAR-KVK Kolar has elevated the livelihoods of the above community. Thus SCSP programme is greatly benefiting for improving the socioeconomic status of the community.

▶ 2020-21: A total of seven capacity development programs were conducted under the SCSP initiative. These included a five-day training for generating additional income for adolescent girls (rural youth), a three-day program on value addition in Mango and Tomato, and a two-day program on the preparation of tamarind lollipops.

▶ 2021-22: During this year two capacity-building programs were successfully organized, one focused on common diseases in livestock and the other on clean milk production.

▶ 2022-23: In all a seven capacity building programmes were organized on soil sample techniques, foliar application of micronutrient mixtures, income generating vocational trainings, improved animal husbandry practices, etc

▶ 2023-24: In this year, cumulatively 12 capacity building programmes were effectively organized on distinct area including soil sampling techniques, soil health management, improved production techniques in Tuberose, eco-friendly management of pests and diseases of crop plants, animal health awareness camps including training for disease management in calf's, sheep & goat, Compost preparation techniques, Mushroom cultivation techniques, Millets processing & value addition, etc. Besides, a 5 days skill development training on preparation of Bio-crafts using waste cocoons was organized for SC farm women and SHGs women for making them self-employed and sustainable.

▶ 2024-25: In the present year, so far 4 capacity building programmes have been accomplished including disease management in calf's, sheep & goat, pests & disease management in crop plants, animal health camps, etc.

With the mediation of KVK Kolar through SCSP programmes nearly 1000 SC farmers were so far benefited under various programmes/schemes/exposure visits. To ease farm mechanization in the fields of SC farmers and others, a custom hiring centre was established at KVK Kolar under the guidance and funding of ATARI Bengaluru where a number of farm implements and equipment's useful to farmers are being kept available for hiring by the farmers. The centre is equipped with farmer friendly equipment's like Ragi reaper, Bed cum mulching machine, Soil auger, Hand tiller, Milking machine, Brush cutter, Chaff Cutter, Power weeder, High power boom sprayer.

Silent distribution:

As a stepping stone to equip, empower and uplift SC farmers a number of inputs including planting material, small implements, milking machines, composting bags, cow mats, chicks, plant protection chemicals, fodder seeds, plants nutrients, animal mineral mixtures, etc were distributed to SC farmers for improving their farm income and achieve sustainability.

- ▶ Distribution of Jamun, Amla, Custard apple, Jackfruit and Lime saplings (125 nos.)
- ▶ Distribution of Fodder seeds COFS-31 (20 kg)
- ▶ Distribution of Sunhemp seeds (3 quintals)
- ▶ Distribution of mango special micronutrient (180 kg)
- ▶ Distribution of pruning saw (30 nos.)
- ▶ Distribution of chemicals (insecticides and fungicides)
- ▶ Distribution of Cow mats (127 nos.)
- ▶ Distribution of improved chick breeds- Swarnadhara (1500 nos.)
- ▶ Distribution of Vermi bags and Azolla beds (67 nos.)
- ▶ Distribution of milking cans (40 nos.)
- ▶ Distribution of Azolla culture (40 kg)
- ▶ Distribution of sticky and pheromone traps
- ▶ Distribution of vegetable special (25 kg)



ICAR-KVK Kollam has conducted programmes under SCSP-TSP till date. **Empowering Communities Through Skill Development and Sustainable Agriculture:**

The SCSP (Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan) training programs conducted by Krishi Vigyan Kendra Kollam from 2021 to 2024 have been instrumental in empowering the Scheduled Caste community by imparting valuable skills, promoting sustainable agricultural practices, and fostering entrepreneurship. These programs targeted diverse areas such as value addition, mechanization, apiculture, waste management, and organic cultivation.

2021: Laying the Foundation

In 2021, KVK Kollam initiated its SCSP training with a focus on essential agricultural skills and value addition.

- ▶ A 10-day training on value addition of fruits and vegetables was conducted, with participation exclusively from 10 women, emphasizing women's role in agro-processing.
- ▶ Coconut climbing and brush cutter training, a 5-day program, was attended by 9 men, reflecting the demand for mechanized solutions in agriculture.
- ▶ One day apiculture training engaged 6 participants, with 5 being women, highlighting the potential of beekeeping for supplementary income.

2023: Expansion to Mechanization and Entrepreneurship

In 2023, the focus shifted toward enhancing mechanization and promoting small-scale entrepreneurship.

- ▶ Operation and maintenance of tractors, a 5-day training, recorded participation from 21 individuals, including 15 women, demonstrating increased female interest in mechanization.
- ▶ Three day mushroom cultivation and spawn production training saw enthusiastic participation from 20 attendees, with women comprising the majority.
- ▶ Training on brush cutter and coconut climber operation, conducted over 2 days, was attended by 15 participants, indicating the growing need for efficient farm tools.

2024: Diversification and Community Outreach

The year 2024 marked a significant diversification in training topics, with an emphasis on sustainable practices and entrepreneurship.

- ▶ Multiple sessions on mushroom cultivation and spawn production, , engaged 20 participants in February and September.
- ▶ A five-day training on the Kubota 4-row walking type transplanter introduced modern mechanization techniques to 10 participants.
- ▶ Capacity development programs on plant propagation techniques, apiculture, and waste management attracted widespread participation, with a combined total of over 100 attendees.
- ▶ Value addition and organic cultivation were key themes, with several training sessions focusing on empowering SC communities, such as the training on enhancing agro-based industries (11 participants) and the organic cultivation of vegetables and bananas (28 participants).
- ▶ NBAIR SCSP training in August 2024 saw a remarkable turnout of 50 participants, reflecting

KVK Kollam's collaborative efforts in disseminating advanced agricultural knowledge.

► Field-oriented programs like the operation of cage wheels in paddy fields at Pattupurakkal engaged local farmers directly in adopting mechanized solutions.

Total Participation and Impact

Across the 25 training programs from 2021 to 2024, KVK Kollam trained a total of 442 participants, including 209 men and 233 women. The high participation of women underscores the centre's efforts toward gender inclusivity in agricultural development. By equipping participants with practical skills and knowledge, these training programs have paved the way for enhanced productivity, income generation, and sustainable farming practices among the SC community.

The SCSP training programs of KVK Kollam exemplify a well-rounded approach to agricultural extension, combining technical training with community-oriented solutions. By focusing on mechanization, value addition, organic cultivation, and entrepreneurship, these initiatives have significantly contributed to the socio-economic upliftment of the SC community in Kollam district.



ICAR-KVK Koppal

ICAR KVK Koppal has conducted programme under SCSP till date. Koppal district is vast area containing both irrigated and dry land areas. Koppal district SC farmers were more interested in improving their livelihood through the integrated farming system. They were also taught about scientific techniques in farming and honey bee rearing activities so as to improve their economic status. Due to all these interventions their overall crop yield is increased by 1.30 times compared to earlier status and elevated the livelihoods of the community.





ICAR-KVK Kottayam: Brief outline on major activities under SCSP and TSP during 2024

1. Entrepreneurship Development Programme in fish & fishery products

KVK Kottayam organised five days 'Entrepreneurship Development Programme in fish & fishery products' from 05.02.2024 to 09.02.2024 sponsored by ICAR- Central Institute of Fisheries and Technology, Cochin under SCSP. Forty participants from Kottayam and nearby districts participated in the certificate training programme. Sessions were conducted on dried fishery products, battered and breaded products, fish pickle, hygienic handling and packaging of fish and fishery products, seafood waste management and high value product from secondary raw material, fish silage and fish feed preparation and entrepreneurship opportunities in fish and fishery products. Scientists and technical staff from CIFT handled the sessions. Hands on training on preparation of dehydrated milk products, frozen milk products, fermented milk products, coagulated milk products and value added products from fruits and vegetables were also conducted in the training programme. Sessions were also conducted on packaging, labelling and branding of products.

2. Capacity building and inputs distribution programme to strengthen the livelihood security of tribal population in Kottayam district under TSP in convergence with ICAR-NBAIR

A training session was organized on 16.03.2024 at Melukavu village aimed at improving the livelihoods of tribal farmers by providing adequate technological support for enhancing farm productivity. Technologies promoting eco-friendly farming techniques were demonstrated to the farmers. One hundred and five farmers from the village attended the training. Four scientists from the disciplines of Agrl. Extension, Soil science, Horticulture and Plant pathology interacted with farmers and suggested solutions for various production, plant protection and marketing related problems of the farmers. The training commenced at 10.30 am in the panchayath hall at Melukavumattom.

Inputs distribution:

Bio inputs were distributed among 105 tribal farmers of Melukavu village. The technologies of NBAIR like oil-based formulations of *Isaria fumosorosea*, *Lecanicillium lecanii*, *Beauveria bassiana*, and *Bacillus thuringiensis* along with KAU technologies of *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, *Trichoderma* enriched cow dung, Fish Amino Acid, Cue lure fruit fly trap as well as other inputs of micronutrient mixtures like IISR pepper special, Ayar, Sampoorana multi mix (vegetables) were demonstrated and distributed to the farmers. The importance of scientific crop production techniques and usage of the above bio inputs were emphasized during the training. Also leaflets on the proper usage of bio inputs were provided to ensure maximum benefit.

3. Skill Development Training on processing and value addition of agricultural crops for SC beneficiaries

KVK Kottayam organised two days skill development training on 'processing and value addition of agricultural crops' on 4th and 5th April 2024 exclusively for the scheduled caste (SC) beneficiaries. Fifteen SC farmers from within and nearby districts participated in the training programme. Technology for preparation of minimal and intermediate processing of fruits and vegetables, preparation of non-alcoholic fruit beverages (squash. Syrup, crush, RTS), concentrated

products (jam, jelly, varattu), dehydrated products (figs, chunks, tutti frutti, bar), pickled products, frozen products (sip ups), battered and breaded products (cutlet, rolls, fingers), Fried snacks (tapioca vada, tapioca mixture) and convenient foods (rasam powder, chutney powder, tea bag) were demonstrated. Session on 'Financial Literacy' was arranged to make them aware about the different government schemes for entrepreneurs and the importance of financial discipline. Sessions were also conducted on Cost-benefit analysis, packaging, labelling and branding of products.

4. Training on scientific practices of vegetable cultivation under SC SP programme

One day training on scientific practices of vegetable cultivation was conducted for SC members of Thalayazham panchayath. Thirty Two farmers including eighteen women attended the programme. Technologies to overcome intricacies due to climatic vagaries were discussed in detail. The participants interacted about problems faced by them during vegetable cultivation. Vegetable seeds of high yielding varieties of cowpea, brinjal, and chilli were distributed to the farmers. Importance of integrated approach for pest and disease management was discussed. Bio inputs and bio control agents were also distributed and their benefits and method of application were elaborated to the participants. The farmers were motivated to take nutritive diet and meet their requirement of vegetables from their homesteads.

5. Capacity building programme on post-harvest processing and value addition of agricultural crops under SCSP programme

KVK Kottayam organised an on-campus capacity building training on 'post-harvest processing and value addition of agricultural crops' on 01.08.2024 for scheduled caste participants of Kottayam district. Seventeen farmers participated in the training programme. Technology for minimal and intermediate processing of fruits, storage of fruit pulps, preparation of fruit sip ups, non-alcoholic fruit beverages (squash, syrup, crush, RTS), concentrated products (jam, jelly, varattu), dehydrated products (chunks, tuttifrutti, bar), pickled products, frozen battered and breaded products (cutlet, momos) and convenient foods (rasam powder, nutmeg rind tea bag) were demonstrated. Sessions were also conducted on documentation, packaging, labelling and branding of products.

6. Sri. George Kurien, Union Minister of state inaugurated the Tribal Sub Plan(TSP) activities of KVK Kottayam

During a grand ceremony at the high range village Thalanad, Union Minister of state for minorities, fisheries, animal husbandry and dairying, Sri. George Kurien urged the farmers to utilise all the incentives and schemes from various strata of government for the benefit of agriculture sector. He also emphasized that it is the right of farmers to get all such incentives from governments.

More than 200 farmers from about 150 tribal families of Thalanad village attended the program on 04.10.2024. The program was attended by representatives of district, block and grama panchayaths of the district. Senior scientist and head Dr. Jayalakshmi G. gave the keynote address explaining various activities of KVK under TSP. The Principal Agriculture Officer, Deputy Directors, Assistant Directors and Agricultural officers from the district attended the program. All the SMSs of KVK were also part of the program.

A seminar on use of various bio control agents in pest and disease management of vegetables and plantation crops in the area was handled by Dr. Smitha Revi, Assistant Professor(Plant protection). Another session on scientific practices in vegetable cultivation was handled by Manuel Alex, Assistant Professor(Horticulture). Various bio control agents like Bacillus thuringiensis and Isaria from NBAIR Bengaluru, Trichoderma talc formulation, trichoderma enriched organic manure and micronutrient mixture 'Ayar' were distributed to all farmers in the 'KissanKit' issued from KVK Kottayam.

7. Training on on fish farming and value addition:

KVK Kottayam organized a farmer training on 19.11.2024 under SCSP programme on fish farming and value addition in fish. Scientific practices in backwater fish farming and pond clearing were dealt in the programme. A separate session on processing and value addition in fish was also conducted by home science department. Twenty three SC farmers from the district participated in the programme.



ICAR-KVK, Kozhikode organized diversified activities covering agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries etc. under SCSP programme in various parts of Kozhikode district covering over 200 farmers each year.

1. SCSP programmes during 2022 - 23

A programmes of fruit plants and bio-inputs distribution was held on 25th March, 2023 and Sri. N.P. Babu, President, Perambra Block Panchayat inaugurated while Dr. Pratha Krishnan, Head presided over the function. SCDO, block panchayat members, officials of Department of Agriculture attended the programme. Grafts of mango, jack and sapota plants along with vegetable growing kits were supplied to over 50 SC beneficiaries

An awareness programme on natural farming, millets and distribution of chick cage and chicks was inaugurated by Smt. SheejaSasi, District Panchayat President, Kozhikode by distribution the materials and Presided by Mr N P Babu, President, Perambra block Panchayat. Dr P. Ratha Krishnan, Principal Scientist and Head, KVK, Kozhikode welcomed the participants and explained about the importance of millets and possibility to cultivate in Kozhikode district. Smt. Annu R, SC promoter, Chakkittapara Panchayat delivered vote of thanks. Demonstration of Jeevamirtham making, its usage to get healthy soil, crop and yield was explained by Dr K.M. Prakash, SMS as part of awareness programme on natural farming. The programme was attended by farmers from Chakkittapara and Maruthonkara Panchayats. They were served with millet diet / snacks. The 34 SC beneficiaries selected for distribution of chick cage and chicks were also attended the programme and provided with wooden chick cage and layer chicks.

2. SCSP programmes during 2023-24

"Fish kit" comprised vital components for ornamental fish farming such as live feed cultures (including moina and micro worms) along with the necessary containers and culture mediums for its culture, ornamental fishes, feed, packaging materials, fish medicines, a water pH testing kit, aerator and accessories, scoop net, and field board were distributed to Nine SC beneficiaries and members of FRANK (Fish Rearers Association North Kozhikode), a society established by KVK Kozhikode. A capacity building programme for these beneficiaries was also organized. The same farmers were provided with customized hi-tech fibre tank with inbuilt bio filtration units for fish culture under SCSP programme of ICAR- IISR Kozhikode.

One day training was organised on 29.11.23 on Scientific Nutrient management of coconut benefitting 50 SC farmers selected from Pannikkottur colony. As part of the programme critical inputs such as 10:5:20 Coconut mixture and lime were distributed to all the beneficiaries. The programme was inaugurated by Sri.K. Sunil, President, Chakkittapara Panchayath and presided by Dr. P. Ratha Krishnan, Head, KVK and felicitated by Sri.M.M. Pradeepan, Ward Member. The programme was led by Dr. K.M. Prakash, SMS (Agronomy).

In other programmes, planting materials of fruit plants, plantation crops, vegetable seed kits containing seeds, bio control agents, micro nutrient mixtures etc. were given to 130 farmers of Thiruvallur and Arikkulam gram panchayats. Grama panchayat president, members, agricultural officer and progressive farmers attended the inaugural programme besides participating farmers. These programmes were led by Dr P.S. Manoj, SMS (Horticulture).

Under SCSP (ATARI) fund 2023, ten Melipona bee colonies were provided to five SC farmers at Perambra. The programme was led by Dr K.K. Aiswarya, SMS (Plant Protection)



Training on nutrition garden was conducted at Ekattur in Arikkulam panchayath. Twenty women from BPL families participated in this programme. The main objective of this programme is to impart the knowledge about the importance of vegetables and fruits included in the daily diet. Also conducted a class on zero budget farming like vermicompost making using kitchen waste.

Three trainings on banana fibre extraction and value addition of banana pseudo stem were conducted at KVK in which total 40 SC farmers participated from Perambra block. The programme included demonstrations of fibre extraction using the machine and making of several value-added products, such as rope, mat, packaging material, textile fabrics, bag, table cloth, handicrafts, etc. Also demonstrated other value-added products using the central core like pickle, candy, and soft drink, and organic liquid fertilizer, vermi-compost etc. The machine was also issued to a SC beneficiaries group at Arikulam with MoU for banana fibre extraction at field itself.

Progressive farmers from Kannur District, Kerala were visited KVK to learn about Spices cultivation and attended training on organic vegetable cultivation and distribution of bio inputs viz., fruit plants, vegetable seed kit and bio-control agents They also visited KVK demo units like bush pepper unit, Mushroom production unit, aquaponics, apiary, millet cafeteria and other facilities.

SCSP programmes during 2024- 25

1. Distribution of literature / newspapers and cycles to SC beneficiaries as requested by Schools and BRC, Perambra

Five copies of Malayalam News daily Malayalam Manorama subscription for one year were distributed to SC students through Perambra Plantation GHSS; Fathima UP School, Peruvannamuzhi; St Joseph's H S Chembanoda and Kulathuvayal St George H S. Two cycles were also issued to students from Chakkittapara along with the programme of BRC, Perambra.

2. Training and distribution of inputs for scientific management of Coconut

A one day training was organised on 12.8.24 at KVK on Scientific Nutrient management of coconut for 50 SC beneficiaries of Pannikkottur SC colony. As part of the programme critical inputs such as fertilizers, Lime and Magnesium were also distributed to 15 coconuts each for every selected farmer. The programme was inaugurated by Sri. K. Sunil, President, Chakkittapara Grama Panchayath and presided by Dr. P. Ratha Krishnan, Principal Scientist and Head, KVK and felicitated by Sri. M.M. Pradeepan, Ward Member. The programme was led by Dr. K.M.Prakash, SMS, (Agronomy).

3. Fruit plants distribution at Koothali and Perambrograma panchayats

Planting materials of fruit plants, plantation crops, vegetable seed kits containing seeds, bio control agents, micro nutrient mixtures etc. were given to 100 farmers of Koothali and Perambra grama panchayats. Grama panchayat president, members, agricultural officer and progressive farmers attended the inaugural programme besides participating farmers. The programme was lead by Dr P.S. Manoj, SMS (Horticulture)

Establishment of SCSP Custom Hiring Centre at KVK

This facility provides farmers with access to modern agricultural equipment and machinery on a rental basis. This initiative is designed to support small and marginal farmers who may not have the financial resources to purchase expensive machinery. Under this an implement shed have been constructed to keep and display the equipment like Carbon fibre harvester, Garden Tiller, Banana

fibre extractor, brush cutter, etc. purchased under SCSP. This facility has been used to train about 30 SC beneficiaries and the implements like brush cutter, carbon fibre harvester are under custom hiring through NICRA project CHC. Brush cutter were regularly used by SCSP pepper nursery establishment trainees on weekly basis for KVK campus up keeping.



ICAR-KVK Lakshadweep

ICAR-KVK Lakshadweep attempt in Reaching the Unreached through “ Initiative of Women and Coconut” KVK-Lakshadweep with the funding of ICAR-ATARI and with the technical expertise of ICAR-CPCRI worked on value addition and processing of coconut using different extension methods have been promoted considerably in the island. The works have been towards a rapid survey with ICAR-CPCRI towards understanding the status of coconut cultivation in the island. Demonstration of improved practices in value addition and processing, promotion of FPOs and others have been carried out. The derived data informed about the declining trend of coconut production in the island which formed the basis for the need to work on development interventions. This contribution of KVK and ICAR-CPCRI formed the basis for the Department of Agriculture and other organisations to establish a data on the production and productivity of coconut in the island.

Several capacity building initiatives have been undertaken by KVK involving 512 farmers in different instances on promotion of value addition and processing in coconut. During 2023-24, KVK took an attempt to reach the unreached by organising a Capacity building initiative as an interaction “ Women and Coconut “. The KVK organised this meet involving 113 members of the Self Help Group (SHGs) representing all the islands of Lakshadweep. The SHGs are designated as Neighbourhood Groups (NHGs) in Lakshadweep and governed under the Island Level Federation (ILF) in each of the 10 islands. The interaction on Women and Coconut had the involvement of all the 10 ILF and 113 members of the group. The NHGs of the islands who were unreached were reached by this attempt. This is the first of its kind in the island. The interaction had a food fest, exhibition to display their activities, market their product and establishing the market linkages. The Department of Rural Development, UT administration of Lakshadweep supported this initiative.

The foundation of this initiative was laid on 19 November, 2024 and continued by KVK, ICAR-ATARI and other partners. The initiative was inaugurated by Dr. U. S. Gautam, DDG (Agricultural Extension) in the presence of Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Dr. K. B Hebbar, Director, ICAR-CPCRI, Mr. Saleem, Department of Rural Development and others. Dr. P.N. Ananth, Principal Scientist and Head, KVK coordinated the activities.



ICAR-KVK Malappuram has conducted programmes under SCSP-TSP till date.

SC and ST special programmes of KVK Malappuram. Aiming at the overall betterment of the socially and educationally backward SC and ST communities of the district, many development programmes are being carried out over the last five years covering various aspects of crop production, animal husbandry, value addition of agricultural commodities, food processing and so on. The programmes were intended to ensure nutritional security and increase employment opportunities. Over and above the participation of SC communities in the general KVK programmes, SCSP programmes specifically targeted SC communities utilizing separate funds provided by ICAR ATARI. On the contrary, tribal settlements being located far away from the KVK, and tribes' people are hesitant to come forward to utilize services through the main stream institutions including KVK, they were purposefully reached for implementing the special programmes under the TSP funding.

SCSP programmes conducted during the year 2021-22 involved six trainings on cultivation of vegetables, rice and tubers, along with INM and IPDM practices, and distribution of cultivation input kits to 200 farmers. These interventions has really added boost to their interest in farming through increased productivity and more profit. Funds allotted during 2022-23 were used to strengthen the available custom hiring unit with more machineries. These items were made available to be used free of cost (for SC farmers) either by reaching at KVK or taking away as and when needed, thus facilitating the usage of these items by more number of people.

In 2023-24, some more machineries / equipment having high demand were added to the custom hiring unit. Further, under trainings, besides cultivation practices, INM and IPM of vegetables, pulses, cereals and tubers, more emphasis was also given on mushroom cultivation, value addition of vegetables, fruits, and tubers, mechanization, dairy poultry farming, and nutri-garden setting and honey bee rearing. Distribution of relevant inputs and machineries, and front line demonstrations on new practices/ varieties were also included, and the interventions are reflected by a scale up of productivity and agricultural income. In 2024-25, besides the training topics of the previous year, more components are included such as millet cultivation, demonstration of rare varieties, productivity enhancement, budding and grafting, nursery management and composting, intended to enhance the skills and earnings of the community members.

TSP programmes are being implemented from the last year and under the programme, various machineries and agricultural implements were distributed for enhancing the income of tribal people. Trainings were also provided covering the effective usage of machineries provided, scientific cultivation practices and nutri-garden setting as an important means to enhance the nutritional status of tribal families residing remote villages. Relevant inputs for boosting cultivation and inputs for nutri-garden were also provided. More programmes are being implemented for the current year as well. These special programmes centered around the promotion of agricultural activities and employment opportunities provides better scope for overall improvement, uplifting health, nutrition, income and welfare of the SC and ST communities.



ICAR-KVK Mandya

ICAR-KVK, Mandya initiated the programme during 2023-24 under SCSP and programmes are conducted till date

Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) is the programme employed with an objective to empower the individual and improving livelihood of the community. To enlighten and strengthen the farmers with improved technologies in the field of agriculture. A survey was conducted to identify the farmers under community involved in agriculture in order to enlighten and reduce the cost of cultivation and increase the income of the farmers and also to escalate their interest towards value addition of products after harvest of crops and creation of income generating activities. Demonstrations with respect to different technologies (9 demonstrations during 2023-24 and 14 demonstrations during 2024-25) viz., Integrated crop management in paddy, finger millet, cowpea, blackgram, field bean, improved composting utilizing waste decomposer, establishment of improved fodder varieties for balanced nutrition in livestock and use of mineral mixture for improving milk yield, establishment of nutri-garden for year round availability of vegetables and fruits, integrated crop management in coconut, Use of green manures for improving soil health, Use of cowpea for enhancing soil fertility in paddy fallow, insitu trash management in sugarcane using microbial consortium, integrated nutrient management in mulberry and improved silk worm rearing practices covering 651 beneficiary. By adopting the improved technologies there was an increase in yield upto 17 to 18 percent and on an average the farmers could harness an increase in income upto Rs.26000/ha. Further, two animal health camps (95 beneficiary), two exposure visits (105 beneficiary) and three field days (109 beneficiary) were organised. To strengthen with the upgraded knowledge and skill in various aspects in agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry a total 20 capacity development programmes were conducted.

As a step forward to improve the livelihood of Scheduled caste community ICAR- Krishi Vigyan Kendra under guidance and funding by ATARI, Bengaluru established custom hiring centre with the motive to provide facility of availing the farm machinery and equipment for use in their land especially small and marginal farmers so that the crop yield and productivity can be increased by reducing the drudgery in farming. The following accessories viz., power sprayer (2 units), power reaper (1 unit), brush cutter (1 unit), chaff cutter (3 units), chain saw (1 unit), pruner/ trimmer (2 units), water pump (2 unit), nylon tarpaulin (4 Nos), single wheel barrow (6 units) are available for the use of the farmers of the community and the farmers are harnessing the benefit from the project.



ICAR-KVK Mysuru

ICAR-KVK Mysuru has conducted programmes for Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) to uplift the unreached communities in the district. We have focussed on enhancing their agricultural practices, ensuring nutritional security, and improving their livelihoods. By addressing critical issues such as malnutrition, traditional crop productivity, and capacity building, the programmes have brought transformative changes in the lives of Scheduled Caste and tribal populations.

The district's Scheduled Caste farmers have benefited from resource mobilization initiatives, including nursery establishment, infrastructure for processing units, and demonstrations of improved farming techniques. Similarly, tribal communities in Nanjangud taluk areas have gained access to nutritional resources, agricultural tools, and income-generating opportunities.

Achievements:

Input Distribution:

- ▶ Distribution of improved seed varieties viz., ragi and cow pea (250Kg)
- ▶ Distribution of nursery plants and slips (25025 Nos)
- ▶ Distribution of Honeybee colonies (10Nos)
- ▶ Distribution of poultry chicks (250 Nos)
- ▶ Distribution of Small and Medium equipment's (15)
- ▶ Distribution of Micronutrients (1360 Kgs)
- ▶ Distribution of vermicompost (6000Kgs)
- ▶ Distribution of IFS inputs (5 Nos)
- ▶ Distribution of nutri-garden inputs (30Nos)
- ▶ Distribution of literature (3000 Nos)

Impact: Improved varieties viz., ragi (var. KMR316) and cowpea (Var. KBC 9) has been spread horizontally about 25ha. Nursery plants vz., Mango (var. Alphonso and Rasapuri) and fodder slips inputs have improve their livelihood in future. Livestock (poultry chicks) for financially sustainability. Honeybee colonies has been well maintained and extract the honey. This leads to attract neighbour farmers, and they ordered extra honeybee colonies. The usage of micronutrients and vermicompost for their Nutri Garden and crop field to improve the soil health management.

Apart from this, we have purchased Tractor mounted slasher, paddy weeder, Shredder cum pulveriser, Chaff cutter, double wheelbarrow and sprayers for providing SCSC and TSP farmers on rental basis in free of cost. The nominal cost has been charged for other farmers to maintain the same. The evaluation of the usage of funds from the M/s JSS Consultants, Mysuru

KVK Mysuru initiative to improve the livelihood of SCSP and TSP farmers to make transformative impacts and sustainable development and resilience among them.





ICAR-KVK Palakkad

KVK Palakkad has implemented several impactful programmes under the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) to uplift the marginalized communities in the district. These efforts have focussed on enhancing agricultural practices, ensuring nutritional security, and improving livelihoods. By addressing critical issues such as malnutrition, traditional crop productivity, and capacity building, the programmes have brought transformative changes in the lives of Scheduled Caste and tribal populations.

The district's Scheduled Caste farmers have benefited from resource mobilization initiatives, including nursery establishment, infrastructure for processing units, and demonstrations of improved farming techniques. Similarly, tribal communities in Attappady and Parambikulam areas have gained access to nutritional resources, agricultural tools, and income-generating opportunities. These interventions underline KVK Palakkad's commitment to sustainable development and resilience.

Key Achievements:

- 1. Crop Improvement and Input Distribution:**
 - ▶ Introduction of improved varieties like groundnut and cool-season vegetables.
 - ▶ Hybrid varieties of vegetables and growth promoters such as Arka microbial consortium
 - ▶ Expanded millet cultivation in tribal areas.
 - ▶ Distributed seeds, industrial mixies, and fruit pulp concentrators to SC farmers.
- 2. Animal Husbandry:**
 - ▶ Provided BV-380 chicks and Malabari goats to tribal hamlets.
 - ▶ Established model cages for poultry and goat farming.
- 3. Training and Capacity Development:**
 - ▶ Conducted over 60 trainings across SCSP and TSP programmes, covering diverse topics such as food processing, millet value addition, mushroom cultivation, bee keeping, value addition in honey, nursery management, floriculture and integrated pest and disease management.
 - ▶ Exposure visits to agricultural expos and technical knowledge-sharing events.
 - ▶ Awareness campaigns and method demonstrations in management of quick wilt in pepper in tribal colony of Parambikulam
- 4. Nutrition and Livelihood Security:**
 - ▶ Distributed 80 boxes with bee colonies and improved honey extractors.
 - ▶ Promoted traditional dietary practices using millets, eggs, and honey in community kitchens.
 - ▶ Established perennial nutrigardens in anganwadis under the Poshan Maah initiative.
 - ▶ Established PEFR Coup system with poultry in anganwadies in tribal areas of Attappady
- 5. Infrastructure Development:**
 - ▶ Built nursery units and infrastructure for processing SC groups
 - ▶ Empowered tribal Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) with machinery like LPG roasters and snack-making equipment (Given to ATFAM FPO)
 - ▶ Provided agricultural implements
 - ▶ Pop corn making machine to ecoshop owned by tribal community

Outreach and Impact:

- 1. Programmes and Participation:**
 - ▶ Reached over 3,000 participants through training, awareness campaigns, and demonstrations between 2020-2025.

▶ Key activities include millet recipe contests, awareness on nutrition, and sessions on modern farming practices.

2. Collaborative Work:

- ▶ Partnered with the Kerala Forest and Wildlife Department to distribute agricultural tools and honey-processing equipment.
- ▶ Partnered with Department of Agriculture and Farmers' welfare for training programmes, millet processing and demonstrations in crops
- ▶ Commemorated tribal freedom fighters during Janjatiya Gaurav Divas and uplifted Sholayur as a 'Honey Village'.

KVK Palakkad's SCSP and TSP initiatives continue to make transformative impacts, fostering sustainable development and resilience among the Scheduled Caste and tribal communities.





ICAR-KVK Pathanamthitta

Empowering Scheduled Caste Communities Through SCSP

The Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) project supported by ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru is a focussed initiative aimed at promoting the socio-economic development of Scheduled Caste (SC) communities. Scheduled Caste Sub Plan project for the year 2023-24 of KVK, Pathanamthitta was launched on 16th August 2023 at Athrappattu Colony of Chennerkkara Panchayat in the Elanthoor block of Pathanamthitta district. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru and was presided over by Sri. George Thomas, President, Chennerkkara grama Panchayat. The project emphasizes empowering SC farmers and entrepreneurs by providing essential resources, capacity-building programs, and training to enhance their livelihoods. It aims to ensure equitable access to modern agricultural practices, entrepreneurship opportunities, and sustainable development initiatives, fostering self-reliance and improved living standards among SC stakeholders.

As part of the SC sub plan 2023-24, a coconut oil extraction unit is set up at ICAR-KVK, Pathanamthitta. KVK extend the facility of extracting oil free of cost to the SC community. The unit has a capacity of loading 10 kg copra at a time. The unit can be simultaneously used to extract oil from nuts and oil seeds. The unit at KVK farm was inaugurated by Dr. Srinivasa Rao, ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad on 16th August 2023 in the presence of Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru, Dr. M. Balakrishnan, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad, Rev. Moncy Varughese, Director, CARD and Dr. C P Robert, Senior Scientist and Head, ICAR-KVK, Pathanamthitta.

The SCSP project of KVK during the year 2023-24 (first year) has had a significant impact on the livelihoods of Scheduled Caste beneficiaries. Various activities have been implemented, each focusing on different agricultural and livelihood interventions, showing diverse outcomes.

Vegetable Production and Brush Cutter Operations stand out with exceptional B.C Ratios of 10.00 and 6.00, respectively, highlighting high returns on investment and cost-effective operations. Vegetable production through small-scale grow bags is an excellent model for self-sufficiency, providing fresh produce to households with minimal investment. Similarly, the brush cutter operation generated significant income for the groups involved, showing the power of mechanized interventions in agriculture. Poultry rearing in cages and Coconut oil production showed moderate returns with B.C Ratios of 1.46 and 1.60, respectively. Beekeeping shows significant scalability potential. The modest returns in the first year (B.C Ratio of 2.86) indicate a sustainable and low-cost venture.

The project has not only enhanced economic empowerment by providing new income streams but also created employment opportunities. Group-based activities like the brush cutter operation contributed to job creation, while the others, such as poultry and vegetable production, provided additional household income. Beneficiaries have gained skills in modern agricultural practices, enhancing their self-sufficiency and enabling them to generate additional income from various ventures.

As part of the SCSP 2024-25 initiative, an awareness campaign was conducted on 22nd August 2024 at Eraviperoor Panchayat, involving active participation from SC community members across Thekkekallimala, Botthakuzhi, and Ambedkar Nagars. The program was inaugurated by Sri Giji Mathew, District Panchayat member, and presided over by Sri Sashidaran Pillai K.B, President of Eraviperoor Panchayat. Dr. C.P. Robert, Senior Scientist and Head of ICAR-KVK, Pathanamthitta, delivered a keynote address, emphasizing the scheme's role in empowering SC communities through resources and training. Dr. Shana Harshan, SMS (Home Science) and nodal officer of the project, outlined the scheme's objectives and benefits, including livelihood support initiatives. The event concluded with an interactive session, benefiting 49 participants.

In addition to these efforts, a capacity-building program on microgreens cultivation was organized under SCSP 2024-25. The initiative introduced SC stakeholders to high-value and sustainable agricultural practices, featuring training sessions and hands-on demonstrations led by entrepreneur Mr. Sinu Saji. Dr. Sindhu Sadanandan, SMS (Agricultural Extension), coordinated the program, which included distributing microgreens cultivation kits to participants, empowering them to begin cultivation practices.

A frontline demonstration on bypass protein in dairy cows was also conducted as part of the initiative. This demonstration focussed on showcasing the benefits of bypass protein in enhancing milk production, improving animal health, and reducing feed costs. The practical demonstration provided participants with insights into modern dairy management practices, enabling them to adopt these techniques to improve their dairy farming enterprises. These collective efforts under SCSP 2024-25 aim to uplift SC communities by providing practical solutions for improved livelihoods and sustainable growth.

Empowering Tribal Communities Through Tribal Sub Plan 2024-25

The Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) 2024-25 project of ICAR-KVK Pathanamthitta aims to uplift tribal communities through targeted interventions in agriculture and allied sectors. As part of this initiative, a series of training programs were planned, focusing on vegetable gardening, scientific beekeeping, ginger and pepper cultivation, and poultry management. Among these, activities related to vegetable gardening and ginger and pepper cultivation have been successfully completed. The training on vegetable gardening introduced tribal farmers to improved cultivation techniques, emphasizing the use of quality seeds and organic inputs to enhance yield and ensure sustainability.

The ginger and pepper cultivation training focussed on equipping participants with knowledge about modern planting techniques, pest and disease management, and the use of organic fertilizers. To further demonstrate these practices, innovative methods such as cultivating ginger in grow bags and bush pepper varieties for homesteads were showcased. These demonstrations aimed to inspire tribal farmers to adopt advanced practices that are not only efficient but also eco-friendly, helping them to maximize productivity within limited spaces. With a total budget of ₹5,00,000, the project is implemented to promote sustainable practices and improve livelihoods.

As part of Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) 2024-25, a Soil Health Campaign was held on 22nd November 2024, among tribal farmers of Kurumbanmoozhy and Manakkayam colony in Naranamoozhy grama panchayat of Ranni block in Pathanamthitta district. This initiative aimed to raise awareness about sustainable farming practices and soil health coinciding with the celebration of Jan Jatiya Gaurav Diwas 2024. The event focussed on educating the tribal farming community about the importance of soil sample analysis for improving agricultural productivity and promoting eco-friendly farming techniques. The Soil Health Campaign was inaugurated by Smt. Mini Domenic, Ward Member, Naranamoozhy grama panchayat. The programme was conducted among the tribal people with the help of tribal community promoters and local people to popularize the concept of soil test based nutrient management. The campaign emphasised the significance of soil test based nutrient and fertilizer application to minimise the use of chemicals to improve soil health and to sustain soil microbes. In addition to this, a method demonstration on soil sample collection from the field was also conducted to create awareness about the topic. It was an effort to empower the local farmers with knowledge and tools that can contribute to their livelihood and environmental conservation.

ICAR-KVK, Pathanamthitta, celebrated World Soil Day 2024 along with the launch of the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) 2024-25 on 5th December 2024 at Kurumbammoozhy ward of Naranamoozhy Panchayat, Ranni block. The event, funded by the ICAR aimed to create awareness among the tribal community about the importance of soil health and sustainable agricultural practices. The

program was inaugurated by Smt. Sonia Manoj, President of Naranamoozhy Grama Panchayat, and presided over by Shri Mathew Kanattu, Ranni Block Panchayat Member. Dr. C.P. Robert, Senior Scientist and Head of KVK, detailed the significance of the Tribal Sub Plan and the role of soil health in enhancing agricultural productivity and sustainability. Soil Health Cards were also distributed to mark the occasion of World Soil Day, emphasizing the importance of soil testing in maintaining soil fertility and productivity. The combined celebration of World Soil Day and the Tribal Sub Plan 2024-25 launch successfully raised awareness among the tribal community about the importance of soil health.



ICAR-KVK Raichur

ICAR -KVK foundation day celebration, cum input distribution programme under SC/SP Scheme

ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Raichur has conducted more than 15 skill oriented training programmes from 2022-23 to till date under SCSP Scheme. Under the SCSP scheme developing the SC farmers, KVK, Raichur organized the different training programmes viz., integrated farming system, integrated pest management in Cotton, Paddy, Groundnut, Chilli etc, integrated nutrient management in Cotton, honey bee farming, self-employment generation through skill development programme like Sheep and Goat rearing trainings on value addition in bakery products, nursery techniques in horticulture crops. Along with training programmes, KVK, Raichur also organized the exposure visit to the SC farmers to Research Stations and progressive bee keeper's fields to acquaint with the new technologies.

After the trainings programme, beneficiary farmers were distributed the inputs viz., Bio-inputs (Pseudomonas, Trichoderma etc) Sprayers, Nutrients, Chemicals Seedlings, polythene covers, pulse magic and chickpea magic on eve of ICAR foundation day and also during other seasonal programmes. Distributed gramapriya backyard poultry bird to specially for SC woman farmers. Seedlings like cashew nut, guava, mango etc also distributed as a multi stored cropping system.

The group also educated on human nutritional aspects by providing nutri-garden seed kits to the beneficiary farmers'. Establishment & management of nutria garden for nutritional security for farm families throughout the year at Shriramnagara camp. Demonstration of cotton shredder and paddy baler was also done for SC paddy and cotton cultivars.



ICAR-KVK Ramanagara

ICAR- KVK Ramanagara to improve the livelihood of scheduled caste families on a sustainable basis and enabling them to participate in the development process in an equitable manner and to ensure flow of both targeted financial and physical benefits implemented Strategy of the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan in Hakkinalu colony village of Magadi (t), Ramanagara district where 56 households belongs to the scheduled caste with population of 197 members with the literacy rate 58% , having land area of 168.44 ha out of which 85.40 ha is cultivable land. In order to uplift SC farmers, ICAR-KVK Ramanagara through its breakthrough technologies has always bridged the gap between farmers and sustainable production by creating linkages among researchers and farmers.

With constant efforts for socioeconomic upliftment of SC Farmers, the KVK has implemented SCSP Programme with following objectives:-

1) **To demonstrate and replicate proven technologies:** KVK Ramanagara has introduced technologies like demonstration of improved medium duration finger millet variety KMR-301, integrated crop management in Maize, introduction of multicut fodder sorghum variety (COFS-31), demonstration of leguminous fodder crops for sheep and sheep, scientific beekeeping, scientific backyard poultry etc.

2) **To promote knowledge on modern agricultural techniques:** In order to develop knowledge and skill of SC Farmers by identifying and addressing the technological grievances in the field of agriculture and allied field, KVK Ramanagara has conducted various capacity building programmes like scientific beekeeping, scientific animal husbandry, nutri garden: a way to manage food, health and nutritional security, cultivation practices of finger millet var. KMR-301 for delayed sowing conditions, demonstration of multicut fodder crops for dairy and sheep and goat rearing farmers, handling and maintenance of bee colonies, backyard poultry for nutritional and livelihood security etc. And also some campaigns like animal health and soil health campaigns etc.

3) **To explore the possibility of value addition:** As part of skill upgradation of rural youths, trainings under honey extraction, malt mix, jam preparation etc. was provided for value addition and marketing initiatives to enable and empower SC population

4) **To provide farm machinery:** In order to access farm machinery, reduce drudgery, reduce cultivation costs, use resources efficiently and conduct farms operations on time KVK Ramanagara has established CHC with equipments like Tractor drawn fertilizer-seed drill, chain saw, earth auger, tractor mounted sprayers, pole saw, cultivator bed maker, hand drawn seed driller, battery operated sprayers etc.

5) **To organise exposure visits:** For seeing real life examples, sharing knowledge and experiences KVK Ramanagara organised exposure visits to University of Agricultural Sciences Bangalore Krishimela and National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources etc.



ICAR-KVK Shivamogga

ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Shivamogga has conducted 18 skill development training programmes from 2022-23 to till date under SCSP Scheme.

Under the SCSP scheme developing the SC farmers, KVK, Shivamogga organized the different training programmes viz., integrated farming system, integrated pest management in Black pepper, integrated nutrient management in arecanut, honey bee farming, self-employment generation through organic fertilizer production and marketing linkages, mushroom cultivation and its processing, value addition in bakery products, nursery techniques in horticulture crops. Along with training programmes, KVK, Shivamogga also organized the exposure visit to the SC farmers to Research Stations and progressive farmers' field to acquaint with the new technologies.

After the trainings programme, beneficiary farmers were distributed to the inputs viz., subsidiary enterprise like honey bee colony, mushroom spawn, plastic drum, polythene covers and giriraja poultry bird. Seedlings- arecanut, black pepper, nut mug as demonstration of multi stored cropping system. Bio agents-AMC liquid and fruit crop like sapota seedlings.

The group also educated on human nutritional and soil health nutrition by providing nutri-garden seed kits, and soil and water health report to the beneficiary farmers'.

Totally 1050 farmers were benefited from this scheme.



ICAR-KVK Thrissur

The Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) and Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) initiatives of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Thrissur are focussed on skill development, upscaling of agricultural activities, agri infrastructure development to upgrade marketing facilities and increase visibility of the efforts of marginalized communities. These programmes aimed to empower the target communities by enhancing agricultural productivity, income, and overall livelihood sustainability. KVK Thrissur implements a range of activities including capacity building programmes, demonstrations of improved farming technologies, distribution of quality seeds and planting materials, and the promotion of livestock and poultry rearing. It also strives to foster food security and improve the living standards of the tribal and Scheduled Caste population in the region.

Under the TSP programme, physical and infrastructure facilities provided by KVK, Thrissur empowered tribal communities by supporting multiple ecoshops. Improved storage conditions for forest products ensured better preservation of perishable items, reducing spoilage and waste. It enabled the systematic and efficient sale of forest products, contributing to higher income for the tribal communities managing the shops. Additionally, equipping the ecoshops with modern tools and technology enhanced service delivery and attracted more customers. The distribution of vegetable seeds and farm implements provided farmers with access to quality seeds and planting materials, enabling them to diversify crops and enhance productivity. The provision of farm tools improved efficiency in farming activities, reducing labor efforts and increasing output.

The Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) program implemented by ICAR-KVK, Thrissur, during 2023 and 2024 also had a significant impact on improving the livelihoods of Scheduled Caste (SC) farmers by addressing their agricultural, livelihood, and capacity-building needs. The establishment of a Farmers' Implements and Equipment Utility Centre, equipped with modern agricultural tools, enhanced access to advanced farming technologies. This reduced dependency on external services, improved operational efficiency, and lowered costs for SC farmers. Initiatives such as livestock distribution, stingless bee colonies, and vegetable cultivation diversified income sources, providing farmers with additional opportunities to boost their earnings. Extensive training sessions and educational materials equipped SC farmers with practical knowledge, motivating them to adopt innovative farming methods. Practical demonstrations, including the use of power sprayers and advanced animal husbandry practices, further encouraged farmers to embrace efficient and sustainable technologies. Additionally, a strong focus on training and supporting SC women fostered gender inclusivity, empowering them to engage in independent agricultural and entrepreneurial activities.



Interventions of KVK Trivandrum for the Socio Economic Upliftment of SC Farmers

From 2021 to 2024, KVK Trivandrum has made impactful interventions for the socio economic upliftment of SC farmers in the district. The interventions include front line demonstrations, training programs and extension activities which covered a wide range of topics such as operation of farm machineries, apiculture, mushroom cultivation, value addition of fruits and vegetables, Integrated Crop Management (ICM) in vegetables, black pepper cultivation and on-farm production of bio-inputs.

Vocational Training Programmes

Banana Fibre Extraction and Handicraft Making: KVK Trivandrum conducted a 5-day vocational training on banana fibre extraction and handicraft making from 27th February to 2nd March 2024, under the SCSP programme. Fifteen women from across the district attended the training programme. The participants were imparted hands on training on banana fibre extraction and preparation of handicrafts.

Farm Machinery Operation: Vocational training on farm machinery operation was conducted for 51 rural youths in 3 batches during 2023-24. The participants were given practical training on the operation and maintenance of tractor, power tiller, power weeder, chain saw, earth auger, brush cutter, hedge trimmer, coconut climber, semi manual cassava harvester and tree pruner. Two exposure visits conducted to Research, Testing & Training Centre in Vellayani and Assistant Executive Engineering Office in Kollam were organized for the trainees so as to provide hands-on experience and insights into advanced agricultural practices. A task force by the name “Aryanad Agro Yenthra” was formed by including the participants of the training so that they can utilize the facility of the custom hiring centre being established at KVK under SCSP. The task force now generates income by taking up mechanized farm operations for which they hire farm machineries from the CHC at nominal rates.

Homestead Vegetable Cultivation: KVK in collaboration with Department of Agriculture Development & Farmers Welfare organized several training programs on organic vegetable cultivation in homesteads under the SCSP in Aruvikkara, Kallikkad, Vembayam, Kulathoor, Vellanad, Neyattinkara, Nagaroor and Aryanad panchayaths of Thiruvananthapuram District for 300 farmers during 2023-24. Vegetable seeds, seedlings and bio inputs were supplied to the participants in connection with the trainings.

Organic manure production: During 2023-24, KVK conducted training on vermi composting at Maranalloor Panchayath under SCSP. The training had the participation of 32 women farmers. This initiative facilitated the conversion of biodegradable waste into organic manure, which can be used for vegetable cultivation, income generation, and proper waste disposal.

Black Pepper Cultivation: Capacity Development Programme on Pepper Cultivation was conducted for 25 SC women at Venganoor Panchayath during 2024-25. Conventional and rapid multiplication techniques for pepper were demonstrated to the participant farmers. Various propagation methods like Serpentine layering, Trellis method & bush pepper cultivation were imparted to the participants in connection with the training. Bio-inputs, bush pepper plants, and rooted pepper cuttings were distributed to participating farmers to facilitate easy adoption of the technology.

Entrepreneurship Development in Apiculture: An Entrepreneurship Development programme on Apiculture was conducted for 11 SC farmers during 2024-25. A rigorous 8-month long skill-oriented training program on apiculture was initiated at KVK on September 2024. The objective was to empower the participant farmers with practical expertise on colony maintenance, optimal feeding practices, honey harvesting techniques & creation of value-added honey products along with business insights for establishing and managing apiculture ventures. Participants were provided with bee colonies and accessories so to equip them with the skills and confidence needed to succeed as entrepreneurs in beekeeping.

Custom Hiring Centre (CHC)

KVK has established a custom hiring centre under SCSP scheme, with the objective of providing

agricultural machinery on hire to small and marginal farmers at reasonable rates. The vision is to promote custom hiring of small farm machineries and implements along with skilled labour force for carrying out various agricultural operations. Power tiller, power weeder, chain saw, brush cutter, portable sprayer, earth auger and other small farm machines are maintained under one roof of CHC. The hiring cost of the machineries varies from Rs.250 to Rs.450/day. CHC is found to be useful for cost-effective farming practices, timely farm operations, income diversification and labour use efficiency.

CHC for value addition: The Minimal Processing Unit has been providing food processing and packaging machinery, including coconut milk extractors, coconut scrapers, pulverisers, and foil sealers, to farmers through the Custom Hiring Centre (CHC). Since June 2023, 182 beneficiaries have utilized these facilities for the processing and packaging of various food products. Farmers have also used the CHC to enhance their market presence by showcasing their products at different exhibitions. The CHC has empowered farmers with access to modern machinery, enabling them to add value to their products and expand their reach in the market.

Sponsored SCSP Programmes

ICAR-IIRR: KVK conducted 5 training programmes on “Promotion and Production of Bio Inputs for Paddy farmers” during 2022-23 with the funding support of ICAR-IIRR. The training programmes covered 100 paddy farmers from SC community across the district. The five days long training programme included hands-on sessions on mass production of bio-fertilizers and bio pesticides. Exposure visits were organized to IFSRS, KAU, District Agriculture Farm, Peringamala and Jordan Valley agro Farm.

National Fisheries Development Board: A training program on "Market Opportunities for Value-Added Fish Products" was held on 17th December 2021 with the funding support of NFDB in collaboration with MANAGE, Hyderabad. The training was conducted at Aryanad Panchayath for 50 participants with the objective of providing scientific insights into market opportunities for value-added fish products and to explore new avenues in fish product processing.

Rubber Board: KVK in collaboration with the Rubber Board conducted skill development training on mushroom cultivation for 25 SC farmers from Karavaram village from 9th to 11th August 2023. Participants were provided with essential inputs, including spawn paddy straw and polypropylene covers, to initiate mushroom cultivation as an income-generating activity.

Linkage with ATMA

In linkage with ATMA, KVK conducted integrated trainings in various panchayaths including Vellanad, Aruvikkara, Aryancode, and Vembayam on use of organic manures, biofertilizers, inorganic fertilizers, and bio-inputs for enhancing crop productivity, skill development training on value addition of fruits, vegetables, coconut, banana, and mushroom cultivation and on-farm production of bio-inputs.

Through these diverse training and development initiatives, KVK Trivandrum has made significant strides in empowering SC farmers, enhancing their skills, promoting sustainable agricultural practices, and providing avenues for income generation. The vocational and skill-oriented training programmes have equipped participants with the knowledge and tools necessary for improving their livelihoods and contributing to the agricultural development of the region.



ICAR- Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Konehalli, Tumakuru - I, has been at the forefront of empowering farmers, particularly those from marginalized communities, by providing them with the necessary resources and knowledge to improve their agricultural practices. In India, Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) farmers often face significant challenges in terms of access to quality resources, modern farming techniques, and financial support. These barriers contribute to lower productivity, limited income generation, and poor nutritional security.

In response, KVK has focussed on reaching out to these unreached communities, offering tailored programs, seed distribution, animal husbandry training, and soil management techniques to uplift the socio-economic conditions of SC and ST farmers. Through targeted interventions, KVK strives to ensure that these farmers not only have access to modern agricultural practices but also gain better control over their livelihood, leading to improved food security, health, and income generation. The goal is to bridge the gap between these farmers and the opportunities available, ultimately promoting their sustainable growth and development in the agricultural sector.

Swarnadhara chicks, a high egg-yielding breed, were distributed to SC and ST farmers to enhance their nutritional and health status, as well as to generate additional income. Cow rubber mats, Vimeral, and Fentas Plus bolus were provided to maintain animal health, ensure easy cleaning, and promote hygienic practices in cattle sheds, preventing contamination and mastitis. Plastic cans, which were recognized as unsafe for both humans and the environment, were replaced with steel milk cans to ensure the supply of safe milk to consumers. Animal fodder seeds, Cofs-31, which are perennial, were given to SC farmers to guarantee a year-round supply of green fodder, ultimately boosting milk production and increasing fat content in milk. To improve nutritional security and prevent hidden hunger, nutri-gardens were established by providing seed kits and seedlings. Establishing nutri-gardens ensures better nutritional health while also generating income. Avare HA-4 and Sun hemp were distributed to improve soil fertility, encourage seed production, and promote inter-cultivation in coconut farming. Coconut and arecanut, recognized as commercial crops, were provided to raise the standard of living among SC families. Excess green fodder was stored in silage bags for efficient use during the summer. School bags were distributed to SC children to encourage regular school attendance and promote uniformity. Siridhanya health mix and ragi malt were given to ensure food and nutritional security, improving the health status of SC and ST farmers. Soil analysis was conducted free of charge for SC farmers to assess soil health, recommend suitable nutrient management practices, and advise on appropriate crop cultivation. Bioagents like Trichoderma and Pseudomonas, which help prevent fungal diseases in plants, were distributed to maintain plant health. Ragi MR-6, an improved, drought-tolerant, high-yielding medium-duration variety, was distributed to SC and ST farmers to ensure food security. Sun hemp, a green manure crop, was promoted to enhance soil properties, build organic matter, and sequester carbon in the soil.

2022 - A practical demonstration was conducted on the operation and benefits of various agricultural equipment, including a tractor-drawn slasher, chaff cutter, coconut climber, mini paddy mill machine, multi-oil seed extraction machine, and petrol-operated inter-cultivator machine. These materials have been specifically maintained for the use of SCSP beneficiaries, aiming to empower them by enhancing efficiency, reducing manual labour and improving productivity in agricultural and allied activities.

2023- 24 : A total of 10 off campus and one on campus capacity building training programme with respect to Integrated crop management, Scientific dairy, poultry and soil health management under SCSP programme. - A practical demonstration was conducted on the operation and benefits of various agricultural equipment and processing equipments including hydraulic and electric items, ARS Arecanut plates making machine, bike trolley ready, double wheel trolley, mizuki purple, brush type brush cutter, agrimet coconut shredder, tender coconut cutting machine. These

materials have been specifically maintained for the use of SCSP beneficiaries, aiming to empower them by enhancing efficiency, reducing manual labour and improving productivity in agricultural and allied activities

2024-25: A total of 10 off campus capacity building training programme with respect to Integrated crop management, Scientific dairy, poultry and soil health management under SCSP programme and 3 off campus training programme for ICM practices and scientific dairy under TSP Project



ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Tumakuru II, has successfully conducted training programs from 2021-23 to date under the Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP)/ Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) scheme. These initiatives aim to uplift Scheduled Caste farmers by enhancing their skills and knowledge in various agricultural practices and enterprises.

Training Programmes

KVK Tumakuru II organized diverse training sessions tailored to the needs of SC farmers. These included:

- ▶ **Integrated Farming System:** Promoting sustainable and diversified farming practices.
- ▶ **Integrated Pest Management in Black Pepper:** Educating farmers on eco-friendly pest control techniques.
- ▶ **Integrated Nutrient Management in Arecanut:** Teaching optimal nutrient application for enhanced crop yield.
- ▶ **Honey Bee Farming:** Encouraging apiculture as a supplementary income source.
- ▶ **Self-Employment Generation:** Focusing on organic fertilizer production and establishing marketing linkages.
- ▶ **Mushroom Cultivation and Processing:** Training in mushroom farming and value-added products.
- ▶ **Nursery Techniques in Horticultural Crops:** Training on raising healthy seedlings and managing nurseries.

Exposure Visits

To complement the training programs, the KVK organized exposure visits for SC farmers to ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru, ICAR - NBAIR, Bengaluru, research stations and progressive farmers' fields. These visits aimed to provide hands-on learning and introduced farmers to innovative agricultural technologies.

Distribution of Inputs

Following the training programs, beneficiary farmers received essential inputs to implement the skills they acquired. These inputs included:

- ▶ Subsidiary enterprises such as honeybee colonies and mushroom spawn
- ▶ Demonstration materials like seedlings of arecanut, and coconut to establish multi-storied cropping systems.
- ▶ Bio-agents like AMC liquid for crop protection.
- ▶ Fruit crop seedlings, such as Jamoon, Siddu Jack, Papaya for diversification.

Focus on Nutrition and Soil Health

The program emphasized human nutrition and soil health by providing:

- ▶ Nutri-garden seed kits to establish home gardens for better nutritional intake.
- ▶ Soil and water health reports to guide farmers in maintaining soil fertility and water quality.

Impact

A total of 223 farmers have benefited from these initiatives under the Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP)/ Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) scheme. By equipping them with practical skills, exposure to new technologies, and essential inputs, KVK Tumakuru II has significantly contributed to the socio-economic development of SC farmers in the region.



ICAR-KVK Udupi has been reaching Scheduled Caste communities through SCSP programs for last two years. The community in partnership with KVK Udupi took several initiatives to uplift the socio-economic conditions of the community in the coastal districts. The SC community in the area have limited land holdings or of small farmers. Within the available land, several families are trying to generate income through back yard poultry, dairy and Udupi mallige crops.

Lack of knowledge and skill in agricultural practices, their yield per crop and thus income has been meagre. Hence intervention of ICAR KVK was required in training them in scientific practices of agriculture. Several trainings were conducted for SC farmers in integrated farming systems, scientific dairying, back yard poultry, mallige krishi, jack value addition etc.

Some of the farmers who had land upto 1 acres were chosen to adapt integrated farming system. Crop yield has increased among SC farmers who took training and adapted scientific practices. Poultry meat yield has shown to have increased among those who adapted scientific practices in backyard poultry farming. Milk yield has increased among several SC farmers who considered scientific feeding and rearing practices of dairy animals.

Several of such initiatives by KVK Udupi has strengthened SC community in raising their socio-economic status with better income avenues.

- ▶ A total of five capacity building training were conducted for SC community
- ▶ A total of 820 chicks, 850 kg feed, 1040 areca, 170 banana, 315 jasmine, 386 sapota, 600kg compost, 186 mango, 127 jack planting materials were distributed during 2023-24. For current year 2024-25 process is under progress for distribution of several need based critical inputs
- ▶ Two field trips were taken – one to NHF at IIHR, Bangalore and one to AHRS, Ullala, Mangalore as study tour
- ▶ Under SCSP capital fish nets, baby tiller, battery sprayer, digger, chain saw, backsprayer, were purchased for use among SC community for custom hiring.



ICAR-KVK Uttara Kannada

ICAR- KVK Uttara Kannada has been implementing the SCSP and TSP programme to enhance the skill, food security, livelihood and economic status of the tribal and SC farmers of Uttara Kannada. In order to achieve this, we have focussed mainly on skill upgradation, technology backstabbing, soil health management to reduce pest and disease incidence, cost of cultivation and to enhance yield in Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal husbandry sector. Entrepreneurship development in Backyard poultry farming, Apiary, Nursery raising, mushroom cultivation, processing and value addition to Banana fibre, Garcinia Gummi-gutta has received immense interest among farmers. The crop diversification was improved with provision of Arecanut (450), Nutmeg (500), Cardamom (200), Black pepper (300), Coffee (200) seedlings. As a result of skill upgradation and technology backstabbing and animal health camp the incidence of pest and disease has drastically reduced and the crop yield has increased about 1.18, 1.29 and 1.10 times in paddy, plantation crops and milk yield.

Introduction of Vanashree and Kaveri breed of improved backyard poultry (1800 chicks) along with probead EC OFT has resulted in reduction of mortality rate by 88.6% in chicks, and growth recorded was 1.85 KG and Egg production was 72/bird with total income generation for the financial year 2023-24 was Rs/- 2,85,000, which helped them to repay 2.8 Lakhs loan and got additional loan of Rs. 7 Lakhs for the SHG group activities. Bee farming has made way for pure honey production and marketing to elite society from 50 SC and tribal families. Three SHG groups are involved in Banana fibre value addition, Garcinia Gummi-gutta butter production, Honey processing and home scale production of food products. In addition, Mushroom cultivation and small scale nursery raising activities together has generated job opportunities and acting as additional source of income to SC and Tribal families.

In order to render the easy availability of inputs and services to SC and tribal families, with the support of ATARI-Bengaluru, established small scale hatchery unit at KVK, Sirsi to supply chicks and created four custom hiring centres of farm implements and processing equipments. One unit established at KVK and remaining are at Sridevi FPO Yellapur, Nisarga Sparsha Sanjeevini Pravasodyama tribal group at Lingadabailu and Sanjeevini group Vaddala. The implements include, Rotavators (2), Drum seeder (1), Oil expeller (1), Flour mill (1), HTP power sprayer (1), Bonneffer tiller (1), Wet grinder (1), Tray drier (1), Telescopic Doti (1), Wheel cart (2), Refrigerators (2), and Battery sprayers (11). 25 sets of Nursery implements and 25 sets of home products preparation small implements were provided. The main services rendered through these centres are spray and Arecanut harvest using carbon doti, inter cultivation, paddy seeding, oil extraction, spices powdering, cocoa butter preparation etc.

Totally we have organized 12 skill trainings to SCSP and TSP covering Soil health management, Bee keeping, Backyard poultry farming, Green manure crops, little millet production technologies, Nursery raising, Mushroom cultivation, Vermicomposting, Banana fibre and Garcinia butter processing and value addition and organized 2 animal health and 2 soil health camps. Totally 726 SC and tribal families were benefited till today from the project.



ICAR-KVK Vijayapura - I

ICAR-KVK Vijayapura - I, as per the SCSP 2022-23 fund (NRC grants) KVK installed oil processing unit at KVK Vijayapura-I, providing services SC farmers for processing of ten different types oils with technical guidance. KVK reaching farmers through demonstrations, trainings, group discussion and social media. SC community in Vijayapura district getting benefits and technical guidance from KVK. We are promoting brand registration, food license and marketing support to farmers who extract the oil from KVK oil extraction unit.

ICAR-KVK Vijayapura -01 during 2023-24 based on the PRA techniques and methods analyzed the felt and unfelt needs of the SC farmers in Sindantha village (adoptive village) of Vijayapura district. Farmers have lack of awareness about the organic manure production, scientific sheep and goat rearing methods, importance of soil & water testing, innovative technologies in agriculture and horticulture. So, KVK to bring desirable changes in the suitable livelihood of SC farmers organized below mention activities during 2023-24 in Vijayapura district.



ICAR-KVK Vijayapura - II

ICAR-KVK (Vijayapura-II), Indi, has successfully conducted various programmes under the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP). Farmers from Indi taluk, particularly from the Scheduled Caste community, showed keen interest in enhancing their lime, grape, and pomegranate plantations, along with improving the yield and quality of crops such as redgram, chickpea, foxtail millet, sorghum, and dicoccum wheat etc.

The KVK introduced farmers to scientific farming techniques and animal husbandry practices aimed at improving their economic status. Under the SCSP initiative, KVK Indi provided critical inputs, including quality seeds, seed treatment chemicals, and bio-agents like Rhizobium, Azospirillum, Azotobacter, Trichoderma, Pseudomonas, PSB, KSB, Bacillus, and Metarhizium. Farmers also received technical guidance from KVK scientists on crop production, protection, and value addition in different crops.

These interventions led to a significant improvement in productivity, with overall crop yields increasing by 1.60 times compared to the previous status. Furthermore, the introduction of "Citrus Special," a product developed by KVK Indi, boosted lime production. This product enhanced flowering, increased lime size and flavour, and reduced flower drop, resulting in a 15-20% yield increase in lime crops. These outcomes highlight the positive impact of the training and support provided by ICAR-KVK, Indi, in improving the livelihoods of the farming community in vijayapura district.

2023-24: A total of three capacity building programme were conducted under SCSP programme. Nine On campus training programme on ICM in redgram, Chickpea, rabi crops ICM in lime, root grub management in sugarcane, backyard poultry, importance of soil sampling and testing, value addition of lime crops and sheep and goat farming. Conducted FLDs on different crops. Two Field days on ICM in pumpkin and ICM in Redgram were conducted.

2024-25: On campus training on ICM in sunflower, groundnut, sugarcane, redgram, lime, pomegranate and fodder crops and there are eleven off campus trainings were conducted on different technologies in agriculture and horticultural crops. Conducted FLDs on Redgram, chickpea, lime, sorghum, dicoccum wheat crops. Skill development training on Organic farming and propagation techniques for Horticultural crops under SCSP programme

A total of 353 SCSP farmers were covered under various programmes/schemes at ICAR-KVK, Indi. As a stem towards improving the livelihood of schedule caste farmers. ICAR-KVK, Indi under the guidance and funding of ATARI Bengaluru provided the equipment's power operated sprayers (01), multipurpose chaff cutters (01), pulveriser (01), oil extractor (01) cycle weeder (13) and battery operated sprayers (16) under capital budget.

Following inputs were provided to SCSP beneficiaries

Lime seedlings (500), Pomegranate saplings (190), Dragon seedlings (1560), chickpea seeds (12 q.) Sorghum seeds (6 q.) Redgram seeds (5.2 q.) pumpkin (0.2q.) Foxtail millet (0.7 q.) Vegetable seeds (0.2 q.) Fodder slips (15000) and Citrus special (4.2 tonnes).



ICAR-KVK Wayanad

ICAR-KVK Wayanad Programmes under SCSP

Distribution of Agricultural Machinery, Chick and Goat under SCSP : KVK Wayanad distributed agricultural machinery, chicks and goats for SC beneficiaries at Puthankunnu SC colony. Sri. Aravind V.A, Research Assistant, KVK Wayanad explained the aim and activities of the project and distributed hand propelled trolley, spade, portable power sprayer, Honda brush cutter, chain saw, coconut climber for SC beneficiaries. Around 60 farmers actively participated in the event.

Agricultural Machinery distribution and Training on Mushroom cultivation: KVK Wayanad distributed agricultural machinery and conducted a training program on mushroom cultivation at Neervaram, Panamaram, The event was presided over by Sri. Ummachan, President of Krishikootam, Neervaram, and was inaugurated by Smt. Mercy Benny, Chairperson of the Panamaram Block Panchayat. Sri. Muhammad Jamia, Agricultural Officer, welcomed the gathering. Dr. Safia N.E., Senior Scientist and Head of KVK Wayanad, explained the scheme to farmers. Dr. Deepa Rani C.V., Assistant Professor, delivered the training on mushroom cultivation. Sri. V.T. Vinoy, Assistant Director of Agriculture, felicitated the gathering. The Agriculture Society Coordinator, Sri. Johny K.V. proposed the vote of thanks. Around 40 farmers got benefitted from the programme.

Vegetable seedlings, seeds and fertilizer distribution: Vegetable seedlings, seeds, micro nutrients and fertilizer distribution programme was conducted by KVK Wayanad as a part of SCSP project at Chittoorkunnu, Nenmeni. Dr. Safia N E, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK Wayanad, welcomed the gathering. Smt. Jayalalitha Vijayan, VIII Ward Member, Nenmeni, delivered the presidential address. Smt. Sheela Punchavayal, Nemeni Panchayath President, inaugurated the programme and distributed vegetable seedlings, seeds, micro nutrients and fertilizer to the farmers and Dr. Deepa Rani C V, Assistant Professor, Plant Pathology led the classes and described about the programme. Sri. Tigi Cheruthottil, Panchayath Vice president, Nenmeni offered felicitation to the gathering. Vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Deepa Surendran, Assistant Professor, Animal Science. 26 farmers actively participated in the event.

Events under TSP

Agricultural Machinery distribution: KVK Wayanad distributed agricultural machinery to representatives of the Arsha Bharath NGO. During the event, Dr. Deepa Rani C.V., Assistant Professor at KVK Wayanad, outlined the objectives and activities of the project and facilitated the distribution of agricultural equipment, including hand-propelled trolleys, portable power sprayers, and coconut climbers, to the NGO representatives for further distribution to ST beneficiaries.

Distribution of Goats: As part of the Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) Project of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Wayanad, goats were distributed for farm labourers at Chettiyalathur ST Colony, aimed at strengthening food security, nutrition, and livelihoods for Scheduled Tribes. Dr. Arularasan G.S., Assistant Professor at KVK Wayanad, welcomed the gathering. Dr. Deepa Surendran, Assistant Professor at KVK Wayanad, presided over the event and took a class on goat rearing. Approximately 15 farmers actively participated in the event.

Vegetable seedlings, Bio control agents and Bio pesticides distribution to Tribal farmers at Malankara, Nenmeni

ICAR KVK Wayanad conducted one day training programme on vegetable cultivation and pest management in vegetables in households at Malankara, Nenmeni. Smt. Ashitha M.R, Assistant Professor, KVK Wayanad welcomed the gathering. The programme was inaugurated by Sri. Tigi Cheruthottil, Vice President of Nenmeni Grama Panchayat. During this event, bio control agents, Bio pesticides and Vegetable seedlings of cabbage, cauliflower, chilli, tomato, brinjal, onion were

distributed to the tribal families in order to overcome the malnutrition and for sustainable vegetable production. The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Smt. Sruthi Krishnan, Research Assistant, KVK Wayanad and Smt. Anju Jacob, DAESI Facilitator also participated in the event. Around 90 farmers actively participated in the event.



ICAR-KVK Yadgir

ICAR-KVK Yadgir, Kawadimatti supported 1491 TSP/SCSP farmers under various programmes conducted during 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. As a step towards improving the livelihood of Scheduled caste Scheduled tribe farmers, ICAR-KVK Yadgir, Kawadimatti introduced IFS by supplying perennial fruit plants, backyard poultry farming, fodder bank establishment, sheep and goat rearing techniques, nutri gardens, front line demonstrations, field day, capacity development programmes and exposure visits to Krishi Mela, Horticulture Fair and progressive farmers field visits based on the need of the farmers. The salient achievements of ICAR-KVK Yadgir, Kawadimatti are as follows.

- ▶ Supplied 2000 mango plants and established orchards in 400 acres of plantation in Shorapur block
- ▶ Supplied 1000 Jamun plants and planted as an intercrop in groundnut fields of Shorapur block
- ▶ Supplied 4000 guava plants and established high density plantation in gurmitkal block
- ▶ Supplied 4000 acid lime plants and established 250 acres of plantation in wadigera block
- ▶ Supplied 1000 coconut plants, 2000 drumstick and nutri garden kits for homestead gardening and nutritional security
- ▶ Conducted 200 FLD on pigeon pea and ground nut by providing improved varieties and advanced techniques like nipping and use of pulse magic in pigeon pea, mechanisation in groundnut for natural resource management and enhanced the productivity to an extent of 25-30 per cent above the normal yields
- ▶ The custom hiring centre is equipped with farmer friendly equipments like cotton shredder, multi crop mulcher, ground nut digger cum elevator, dal processor and other garden tool kits for demonstrations and made available locally.
- ▶ Conducted skill training programmes on plant propagation, training and pruning of horticulture plants, Scientific sheep and goat rearing, Backyard poultry management and Scientific bee keeping enhanced the knowledge of the farmers

These outcomes had positive impact on farming community with ICAR-KVK Yadgir, Kawadimatti for providing technical and financial support in elevating the livelihoods of the Scheduled caste Scheduled tribe farmers. The establishment of perennial fruit plants will bring sustainable income and provide economic security in future.







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KISAN SAMRIDDHI ONLINE MARKET PORTAL

REVOLUTIONIZING INDIAN AGRICULTURE THROUGH DIGITAL VYAPAR NETWORK (DIVYAN)

-  Direct Online Sales Portal for seeds, planting materials, bio-products, value-added products, and technological products produced by KVKs, FPOs, entrepreneurs, and SHGs.
-  Promotes wider reach, transparency, market access, and fair pricing.
-  Operational in Karnataka, Kerala, and Lakshadweep, connecting KVKs, farmers, agri-entrepreneurs, and consumers to foster entrepreneurship and market access.
-  The portal aims to establish a Digital Vyapar Network (DIVYAN) for efficient agricultural marketing.
-  Developed by ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru and managed by KVK, Pathanamthitta.



