



KVK TIMES

A WINDOW TO KVKs OF ICAR-ATARI, ZONE-XI

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ICAR KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA KOLLAM

KERALA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY
THRISSUR

ICAR-AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY APPLICATION RESEARCH
INSTITUTE ZONE XI- BENGALURU,

KVK TIMES

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

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MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to pen these words for KVK TIMES, the monthly e-publication by ICAR-ATARI, Zone XI, Bengaluru. KrishiVigyanKendras (KVKs), widely recognized as Farm Science Centres, serve as the frontline extension structure of our National Agricultural Research System (NARS). Distinguished by their unique mandate, KVKs excel in translating scientific research into field-level reality through the meticulous assessment, refinement, and transfer of technologies tailored to district-specific conditions.

Through institutionalized on-farm trials, impactful frontline demonstrations, and rigorous, need-based training, KVKs are not merely transferring knowledge; they serve as catalysts for agricultural development. These strategic interventions are fundamental to modernizing agriculture and allied sectors, directly augmenting farmers' net income, and fostering self-employment for our rural youth and farm women. Ultimately, these concerted efforts ensure a more resilient and sustainable agricultural economy at the grassroots level.

In today's rapidly evolving landscape, the role of KVKs in skilling and knowledge dissemination is more critical than ever. KVK TIMES serves as a vital bridge for cross-learning, facilitating the exchange of best practices by showcasing the diverse, high-impact activities of all 48 KVKs across the zone. By documenting these successes, the publication fosters institutional synergy, reflecting the shared commitment between ICAR-ATARI, the Directorate of Extension (KAU), and the wider KVK network toward a "farmer-first" future.

I take great pride in commending the Professor and Head of KVK Kollam, along with her entire team, for their tireless dedication in curating this resource. I am confident that KVK TIMES will continue to serve as a beacon of progress, guiding our farming community toward a future that is both resilient and profoundly prosperous.

Thrissur
25-02-2026


Dr. B. ASHOK

Dr. V.VENKATASUBRAMANIAN
Director
ATARI,Bengaluru



MESSAGE

Krishi Vigyan Kendras are playing pivotal role in handholding of farmers through technological backstopping for enhancing the productivity of crops and enterprise keeping in mind profitability and sustainability. 'Believing through seeing' and 'Learning by doing' is most appropriate to the KVKs, as the Scientists and farmers are jointly involved in implementing KVK mandated activities to reach the mission of enhancing the farmers income. KVKs are expanding the horizon from elite extension to innovation, market linkage, FPOs, processing and value addition. 48 KVK's in Zone XI of ATARI placed in states of Kerala, Karnataka and Lakshadweep Union Territory has immensely contributed in enhancing agriculture productivity and farmer income thus ensuring sustainable social and livelihood security of farm families.

A first of its kind virtual platform, KVK TIMES which documents fortnightly activities of each of the 48 KVKs of Zone-XI is gaining a real momentum. The news items covered in issues made an impact that is long lasting. Most of the news items published in the TIMES has got the potential of cross learning among KVKs and worth reading. This should boost the morale of all of us and many such noteworthy efforts of our fraternity in the zone.

I am happy that KVK Kollam is bringing up the seventh issue of third volume of KVK TIMES covering the January month of 2026. I congratulate the KVK fraternity of Zone XI specially Dr. Bini Sam, Senior Scientist and Head and his team of KVK, Kollam for bringing out this unique edition of KVK Times.

Bengaluru
25.02.2026



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MESSAGE

Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) serve as vital agriculture knowledge hubs that bridge the gap between scientific innovation and field-level application. By operating at the intersection of diverse research and extension initiatives, KVKs are instrumental in refining technologies and conducting adaptive research tailored to local agro-ecosystems. This localized approach is essential for enhancing farm productivity, profitability, and long-term sustainability. As Farm Science Centres, these institutions do more than simply share information; they foster institutional convergence and build the capacity of our farmers to thrive in an ever-changing environment.

I commend ICAR-ATARI, Zone XI, Bengaluru, for the launch of KVK TIMES. This monthly e-publication provides a much-needed platform for our KVKs to showcase their diverse interventions and impactful success stories. Beyond mere documentation, this initiative strengthens collective visibility and fosters a spirit of professional camaraderie and cross-learning across the entire zone. By creating a shared record of our institutional achievements, we are better positioned to scale our successes and address the common challenges faced by our farming communities.

It is heartening to see the earnest, well-coordinated efforts of KVK Kollam in curating this edition of KVK TIMES. I extend my sincere appreciation to Dr. Bini Sam, Senior Scientist and Head, and her entire team for their dedication in producing a publication that is both technically robust and exceptionally well-organized. Their commitment to excellence reflects the high standards of our institution, and I am confident that this resource will continue to inspire and inform stakeholders across the agricultural sector.

Mannuthy
25-02-2026

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Binoo', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

DR. BINOO P BONNY

Dr. Bini Sam
Senior Scientist and Head
KVK, Kollam



ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I am extremely happy to place on record my deep sense of gratitude and sincere appreciation to our Honourable Vice-Chancellor, Dr. B. Ashok, IAS, for his visionary leadership, constant guidance, and unwavering encouragement in achieving the mandates of Krishi Vigyan Kendra. His continued support has been a great source of motivation in strengthening farming and extension activities in Kollam district.

I extend my sincere thanks to Dr. Binoo. P. Bonny, Director of Extension, KAU, for her valuable moral support, guidance, and constructive suggestions, which enabled us to confidently and effectively execute all our programmes.

I am deeply grateful to Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ATARI, Bengaluru, for his exceptional support and encouragement in the successful execution of various programmes. My sincere appreciation goes to Dr. K. Gangadhara, Principal Scientist and Nodal Officer, KVK Kollam, for his constant guidance and timely support.

I formally acknowledge with sincere thanks the support extended by ATARI Bengaluru in providing us the opportunity to compile the important activities carried out during month of January 2026. I also extend my appreciation to all KVKs in Zone XI for their timely submission of reports on these important activities.

Finally, I wholeheartedly thank my entire team at KVK Kollam for their dedication in compiling and editing the KVK Times. Special appreciation is extended to Shri Ghee S. Sudha, Scientific Officer (Retd.), for the meticulous and elegant design and layout of this e-publication.

Sadanandapuram
25.02.2026

Dr. BINI SAM

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KVK ALAPPUZHA



Organic recycling of banana crop residues initiated in large scale

Commercial banana cultivation is widely practiced in Bharanikkavu and Mavelikkara blocks of Alappuzha district over an area exceeding 85 ha, generating about 40–45 tonnes of organic residues per hectare annually. These residues are often burnt or buried, leading to wastage. To address this, KVK initiated an intervention on Organic Recycling of Banana Wastes under the NABARD-supported project 'Promotion of Value Chain in Banana', covering 180 farmers in Bharanikkavu block. Demonstrations on composting using vermibeds and EM solution were conducted in Chunakkara

(21.11.25) and Nooranad and Palamel panchayaths (21.01.26). Vermibeds (12 × 4 × 2 ft) were provided to farmers, producing compost within 45–60 days with about 15% recovery of potash-rich organic manure, helping reduce fertilizer use and cost of cultivation.

Foliar nutrition in paddy using drone

Foliar application of the multi-nutrient mixture KAU-Sampoorna using drone was demonstrated in a 20ha paddy field at Purakkari Padasekharam, Edathua Grama Panchayath on 13.01.26 under the NICRA project on Climate Resilient Practices for Paddy in the Kuttanad Region. About 15 farmers, along with the



Agricultural Officer and farmer leaders, participated. Based on the proven success of this technology demonstrated by KVK since 2023 and increasing farmer demand, the Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Kerala has promoted its wider adoption by providing financial assistance during 2024-25 and 2025-26. The technology gained popularity due to ease of application, time efficiency, improved crop nutrition and yield, and reduced environmental pollution, supported by the availability of drones through start-ups.

KVK Expertise in Mushroom Cultivation

The expertise of KVK-Alappuzha in

mushroom cultivation was utilized by various agencies to promote entrepreneurship and sustainable income generation, especially among women and rural youth. Under the Department of Agriculture's "Koon Gramam" project, 79 farmers from Ambalappuzha and Bharanikkavu blocks were trained in two batches on 13th and 20th January as part of the state-wide Horticulture Mission initiative. Additionally, Smt. G. Lekha, SMS, served as a resource person at the "Myco Magic – The World of Mushrooms" workshop at SD College, Alappuzha on 15th January, providing hands-on-training in polybag mushroom cultivation and recycling of agricultural waste.

KVK BAGALKOT



Training Programme on REWARD Data Application

Dr. Vittal Mangi, Scientist (Horticulture), and Dr. Ragini Patil, SMS (Soil Science), ICAR-KVK Bagalkote, participated in a three-day programme on “Application of Scientific Data Generated under REWARD for Planning and Implementation of Development Programmes” at the Centre of Excellence on Watershed Management, GKVK, Bengaluru. Dr. Vittal attended during 6–8 January 2026 and Dr. Ragini during 20–22 January 2026. The programme emphasized the use of scientific and geospatial data from the REWARD project for evidence-based planning, watershed development, and sustainable programme

implementation.

Field Visit to Innovative Apple Orchards

On 14.01.2026, the ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bagalkote team conducted a field visit to innovative apple orchards at Kulali (Mudhol Taluk) and Kalloli (Jamakhandi Taluk). Farmers successfully cultivated heat-tolerant apple varieties such as Anna, Golden Dorsett and HRMN-99, suitable for warm climatic conditions, marking the first instance of apple cultivation in Bagalkote district, a non-traditional apple-growing area. This innovative effort was appreciated by the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi ji, during the Mann Ki Baat programme. Further, Shri Shrishail Teli,



one of the innovative farmers, has been invited by the Hon'ble Prime Minister's Office to attend the Republic Day Celebration at New Delhi.

Animal Health Camp and FLD on Fish Rearing

On 22.01.2026, ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bagalkote conducted an Animal Health Camp and Front-Line Demonstration (FLD) on Fish Rearing in Farm Ponds at Kainkatti village, Badami Taluk. During the camp, 250 sheep and goats were dewormed, and farmers were advised on disease prevention and improved management practices. The FLD was organized at the farm pond of Shri Arjun Kainkatti, where farmers were trained in scientific fish rearing, pond management, feeding practices, and sustainable aquaculture to enhance productivity and income.



KVK BALLARI



Youth Skill Development Training Program to Empower Future Generations

The youth skill development training program on “Opportunities in Agriculture and Allied Sectors,” ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hagari, Ballari, has organized a 25-day youth skill development training program. The training was organized in collaboration with the state department of agriculture, Ballari, and the training program was conducted from 7-01-2026 to 31-01-2026 at KVK Ballari, and the valedictory of this training was on 29th January 2026. The aim of this training program was to develop a skill in unemployed youth in agriculture and allied sectors. About 15 trainees (8 boys and 7 girls) from five different taluks of Ballari district participated in the training program. The program was inaugurated and chaired by Dr. Palaiah, P., Senior Scientist and Head, KVK, Ballari. During his inaugural address, he mentioned the scope and importance of agriculture, and he also mentioned that since there is a big demand for skilled people, he insisted that young people learn

the skills of different agricultural occupations as they provide tremendous employment opportunities in the field of agriculture. Dr. Ravi, S., Scientist (Soil Science), KVK, Ballari, addressed the gathering and stressed the importance of soil for agriculture, and he stressed that healthy soil produces healthy food. Soil fertility and food quality are closely linked to each other. It can enhance productivity, and it leads to increased income for the farmers. Dr. Somasundar, Joint Director of Agriculture, interacted with participants undergoing Integrated Farming Systems (IFS) and other skill development activities under the Youth Skill Development Training Program. The interaction was held with the objective of motivating young people and enhancing their knowledge of sustainable agriculture and livelihood opportunities. Dr. Naveen Kumar, P., Scientist (Agricultural Extension), KVK, Ballari, organized and anchored the program. During his introductory remarks, he briefed on the 25-day training schedule and requested the trainees to utilize the knowledge they are going to obtain during the training program.

KVK BELAGAVI-1



Method Demonstration and Input Distribution on FLD-ICM in Ridge Gourd

ICAR–BIRDS Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Belagavi-1 (Tukkanatti) conducted a Front-Line Demonstration on Integrated Crop Management (ICM) in ridge gourd under the Scheduled Caste Special Programme at Shirgav village, Chikkodi taluka. Critical inputs were supplied to FLD farmers and method demonstrations were conducted on fruit fly trap installation, balanced nutrient management, and need-based pesticide application to enhance crop productivity.

During the FLD period, Shri P. M.

Patil, Scientist (Horticulture), visited the demonstration plots, identified powdery mildew incidence, and recommended suitable control measures along with nutrient application to improve flowering and fruit development. The visit, attended by FLD farmers and the Krishi Sakhi, facilitated field-level problem solving and reinforced adoption of scientific ICM practices.

Training Programme on Household Compost Making

ICAR–BIRDS Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Belagavi-1, in collaboration with Shri Kshetra Dharmasthala Rural Development Project (SKDRDP), Gokak, organized a one-day training programme on Household



Compost Making on 3 January 2026 to promote scientific waste management and sustainable composting practices.

During the programme, R. B. Karabhari, Scientist (H.Sc.), explained the importance of composting, waste segregation, materials required, step-by-step compost preparation, and necessary precautions. The training highlighted the role of compost in improving soil health, reducing chemical fertilizer use, and minimizing household waste. A total of 20 participants, including farm women and rural households, actively took part in the training.

District Level Food Recipe Competition

District-Level Food Recipe Competition was held at Belagavi on 6 January 2026 to promote awareness on nutritious diets and value addition of locally available foods. Rekha Karabhari, Scientist (Home Science), ICAR-BIRDS KVK, Belagavi-1, served as a judge.

Over 100 women participants showcased traditional and innovative recipes using millets, cereals, pulses, and local ingredients, contributing to women's empowerment and promotion of healthy dietary practices.

KVK BELAGAVI-II



Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting

The Eleventh Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting of ICAR-KLE Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mattikopp was held on 8 January 2026 under the chairmanship of Shri B. R. Patil, Chairman, KVK. In his address, he appreciated the KVK's achievements since its establishment in 2011 in effectively transferring need-based agricultural technologies and strengthening farmer-centric extension activities. Dr. Manjunath Chouraddi, Senior Scientist & Head, presented the Action Taken Report, highlighted key achievements, and outlined

the proposed Action Plan for the coming year. The meeting was attended by scientists, departmental officials, and progressive farmers, who actively participated and offered valuable suggestions for extension programmes for 2026-27.

Training cum Awareness programme on Energy Efficient Pumpsets and Water Conservation

A training-cum-awareness programme on BEE-labelled energy-



efficient pumpsets and water conservation was organized at ICAR–KLE Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mattikopp on 28 January 2026 in collaboration with Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited (KREDL), Bengaluru and the Bureau of Energy Efficiency. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Manjunath Chouraddi, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK, who emphasized the judicious use of energy and the importance of water conservation for sustainable utilization. During the technical session, Shri Siddanagouda Naganagouda, KREDL, Dharwad,

highlighted the environmental impacts of non-renewable energy sources and encouraged farmers to adopt BEE-labelled and solar pumpsets for efficient irrigation. On water conservation, Shri S. M. Warad, Scientist (Soil Science), stressed the limited availability of quality water and explained practical conservation measures such as bunding, terrace management, farm ponds, in-situ water harvesting, and efficient irrigation methods to ensure sustainable agricultural production.

KVK BENGALURU RURAL



Visit by the Hon'ble Board of the Management (BoM)

The Board of Management (BoM) of the University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Bengaluru undertook an official visit to Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Bangalore Rural and other important field-

level institutions and progressive farmer field on 5th January 2026 and reviewed the ongoing activities, infrastructure facilities and the impact of extension and research programmes implemented by the University and assessing the effectiveness of technology dissemination, farmer services and institutional functioning at the grassroots level.



Field day on ICM in Chilli

ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra organized a Field Day on Integrated Crop Management (ICM) in chilli at Hosahalli village of Doddaballapura taluk on 09.01.2025 under the SC–SP programme sponsored by the Government of India. The demonstrations were conducted to popularize the high-yielding chilli hybrid Arka Gagan and focused on the integrated use of vegetable special and microbial consortia for improving crop growth and quality, along with the application of bio-control agents such as Trichoderma and Pseudomonas and yellow sticky traps for

effective management of insect pests and diseases.

Central Team, GoI visit to KVK

Mrs. Swathi Sharma, IAS, Joint Secretary, MoRD (NRLM), GoI, other officials of Govt. of India and officials of Department of agriculture, Bengaluru Rural visited to KVK, Bengaluru Rural on 23.01.2026 and reviewed about the women empowerment activities and Krishi sakhis training programmes conducted by KVK.

KVK BIDAR



Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting

The 26th Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting of ICAR–KVK Bidar was held on 29 December 2025 at the KVK campus to review ongoing extension and research activities and finalize action plans for the coming year. The meeting, chaired by Dr. S. V. Patil and Dr. D. V. Kolekar with participation from ICAR officials, line

departments, and progressive farmers, reviewed achievements, trials, trainings, and advisory services, and discussed future strategies on climate-resilient, need-based technologies and farmer capacity building. The meeting also saw the release of three extension leaflets and a technical bulletin on Integrated Crop Management in Ginger, and concluded with constructive suggestions and a commitment to collaborative efforts for sustainable agricultural development in Bidar district.



Strengthening Water User Cooperative Societies (WUCS)

A one-day training programme on Integrated Water Resources Conservation and Management was organized on 23 January 2026 at ICAR–KVK, Janawada, Bidar by the Water and Land Management Institute (WALMI), Dharwad for office bearers, members, and farmers of Water User Cooperative Societies (WUCS) under the IPZ command area of Bidar taluk. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Umesh Barikar, highlighted KVK activities and farmer support services. Presiding over the programme, Dr. Girish N. Maraddi, Director, WALMI, emphasized the role of WUCS in efficient water management, integrated farming systems, and adoption of modern technologies for higher productivity with less water use. Expert lectures were delivered on WUCS functioning and integrated pest and disease management, and the programme was coordinated by Dr.

Chandrakant. The programme witnessed active participation of farmers, WUCS members, and officials, making it informative and interactive.

Awareness Programme on VBG–RAMG Bill, 2025

ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bidar conducted a large-scale awareness and sensitization programme on the VBG–RAMG Bill 2025 on 3rd and 4th January 2026 at the campus. A Sarpanch Samelan with 32 Sarpanches from Bidar district was organized to sensitize participants on the Bill's provisions and implementation. The programme highlighted the role of Gram Panchayats in agricultural planning, community participation, and sustainable rural development, and concluded with a commitment to strengthen coordination between Gram Panchayats and KVK Bidar in line with the vision of Viksit Gram and Viksit Bharat.

KVK CHAMARAJANAGARA



Strategic nutrient interventions for enhancing rice yield in salt-affected soils

To address the critical challenges of rice cultivation in degraded landscapes, ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chamarajnar, conducted an impactful off-campus training and Field Day program at Y. K. Mole village on January 10, 2026. Organized under the Front Line Demonstration (FLD) initiative, the program focused on "Nutrient Management in Paddy for Yield enhancement under Salt-affected (Sodic) Soils." The event was presided over by Dr.

Naresh N. T., Senior Scientist and Head of ICAR-KVK, alongside experts Dr. Hanamantappa Meti (Soil Science) and Mr. Rajath P. (Agro-meteorology). The technical session began with Mr. Rajath P. guiding participants through the complete agronomical operations of paddy, from field preparation and nursery bed management to harvesting. Following this, Dr. Naresh N. T. highlighted the KVK's mission as a vital bridge between university research and field implementation at ground level. He emphasized that scientific adoption is essential for sustainable production and environmental stewardship. Focusing on soil health, Dr. Hanamantappa



Meti discussed the management of sodic soils and the importance of Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) and stressed the importance of Recommended Doses of Fertilizers (RDF) to prevent soil degradation caused by excessive chemical use. This was reinforced by beneficiary farmer Mr. Guru Venkataramu, who shared the benefits of balanced fertilization and applying macro and micronutrients during critical growth stages of the crop. The program concluded with an interactive session where 47

participating farmers expressed enthusiasm for adopting sustainable practices, including green manuring, split fertilizer application, crop rotation and the use of farm yard manure (FYM). This initiative successfully equipped the community with actionable knowledge to achieve healthier soils and more productive harvests. In addition to this also focused on importance of soil testing and maintenance of soil health.

KVK CHIKKABALLAPUR



Training Programme on Millets for Women SHG Members

ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chikkaballapura conducted a three-day training programme from 28.01.2026 to 30.01.2026 for women farmers and SHG entrepreneurs from Odisha, sponsored by SELCO Foundation, with the objective of promoting millet-based entrepreneurship and value addition. Hands-on training on ragi-based value-added products was

provided by Dr. Soumya Hiregoudar, Scientist (Home Science), while Dr. Manohar K. N., Scientist (Agricultural Extension), covered millet entrepreneurship, value chain development and market linkages. Dr. Amoghavarsha Chittaragi, Scientist (Plant Pathology), explained improved millet cultivation practices and pest and disease management. The programme enhanced participants' knowledge, skills and confidence, supporting livelihood improvement and women empowerment.



Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting

The 19th Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting of ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chikkaballapura was held on 23.01.2026 at the KVK campus under the chairmanship of Dr. Y. N. Shivalingaiah, Director of Extension, UAS, Bengaluru, with the participation of officials from ATARI, UAS, line departments, technical experts, progressive farmers and farm women. Dr. M. Papireddy, Senior Scientist and Head, presented the action taken report on the

18th SAC recommendations and highlighted KVK achievements during 2024–25 and 2025–26. The committee emphasized climate-resilient technologies, integrated crop and pest management, crop diversification, value addition, entrepreneurship development, market linkages, enhancement of farmers' income and women empowerment. Extension folders and technical publications of KVK were released on the occasion.

KVK CHIKKAMAGALURU



Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting

The 37th Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting was successfully held at ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mudigere, presided over by Dr. R. C. Jagadisha, Vice-Chancellor, KSNUAHS, Shivamogga. The meeting brought together subject matter experts, scientists, progressive farmers, and committee members to review KVK's extension activities and provide technical guidance for future programmes. Dr. A. T. Krishnamurthy, Head of KVK, presented comprehensive reports on Frontline Demonstrations, On-Farm Trials, training programmes, revolving fund activities, and

extension outreach conducted during 2025–26. The committee offered valuable suggestions to strengthen technology transfer, enhance farmer participation, and address location-specific challenges.

The SAC appreciated KVK Mudigere's efforts in promoting sustainable agricultural practices and farmer capacity building. The recommendations are expected to refine action plans, strengthen research–extension linkages, and support effective implementation of need-based programmes for the development of agriculture and rural livelihoods in the district. The meeting was also attended by Dr. B. T. Raydu (ATARI), Dr. Girijesh G. K. (Director of Extension), and Dr. Srinivas V. (Dean, College of Horticulture, Mudigere).

KVK CHITRADURGA



Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting

20th Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting was conducted on 14.01.2026 at campus. The SAC Meeting was chaired by Honorable Vice-chancellor of KSNUAHS. Director of Extension, Dr. G.K.Girijesh, Board Member, Dr. P.K. Basavaraju Board Member and Dr. K.Gangadhar, Nodal Officer, ATARI, JDA, Chitradurga and Deputy Directors of all line departments

with all members of the SAC were present in the meeting.

The Annual Report of 2025-2026 and Action plan of 2026-27 were presented by Dr. Parashuram Chandravanshi, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK, Hiriyur. All SAC members appreciated the work done and given the technical suggestions. During the SAC meeting, Products developed viz., Value added products, Micro nutrient mixture developed by KVK and the technology boards were displayed.



Empowering Scheduled Tribe Women through Baking Technology for Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Livelihoods

ICAR–KVK Chitradurga organized a training programme on “Economic Empowerment of Scheduled Tribe Women through Baking Technology as an Entrepreneurial Activity – An Approach for Sustainable Livelihood” on 8th January 2026 at KVK, Babbur Farm, Hiriyr. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Parashuram Chandravanshi, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK, Hiriyr, who

highlighted baking technology as a tool for sustainable income and improved living standards.

Dr. Saraswathi J. M., Home Scientist, provided theoretical sessions on preparing healthy bakery products, hygiene practices, and incorporating millets, along with information on startup loan facilities for food-based enterprises. Practical demonstrations included bakery items such as ragi biscuits, butter biscuits, and masala biscuits. The programme saw active participation of 115 Scheduled Tribe women and KVK staff, making it highly interactive and informative.

KVK DAKSHINA KANNADA



SCSP-Based Capacity Development Programme

To enhance the livelihoods of SC farmers, ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dakshina Kannada, in collaboration with ICAR–NBPGR, New Delhi, conducted a Capacity Development Programme with input support under the SCSP at Sullia Taluk, Dakshina Kannada. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. G. P. Singh, Director, ICAR–NBPGR, New Delhi. Kum. Bhageerathi Murulya, MLA, Sullia Constituency, distributed 11 types of farm tools to 265 SC marginal farmers. Opening remarks were

delivered by Dr. K. Pradheep, Principal Scientist and Officer In-Charge, ICAR–NBPGR, Regional Station, Thrissur. Officials from ICAR–NBPGR, KVK, Taluk Panchayath, NRLM staff, Krishisakhis and Panchayath members were present.

Participated as resource person in KRISHI mela at Puttur

ICAR KVK DK scientists participated as resource person in KRISHI mela at puttur today organised by DK Krishik Samaj Mangalore and stressed need of



intensification of paddy cropping systems with pulses and oilseed sesame during rabi and summer season. The mela was inaugurated by Shri Cheluvayaswamy Honble minister of Agriculture GOK and presided by Shri Ashok Kumar Rai Honble MLA puttur.

Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting

The 16th Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting of ICAR-KVK, Dakshina Kannada, and the inauguration of the Krishi Sakhi Module 2 Capacity Development Programme were organized on 28-02-2026. Dr. Basavaraj Awati, Director of Extension, KVAFSU, Bidar, chaired the

meeting. Dr. Somshekar S.R., Associate Director of Extension, KVAFSU, Bidar. Dr. Chandre Gowda, Principal Scientist & Nodal Officer, ATARI, Bengaluru, Honappa Gowda, JDA (DK), Praveen K., JDH(i/c), Dr. Dhananjaya, ADR& KVK Head Bramavara, Dr. Maruthesh, AHRS Ullal station Head, Dr. Manoj, Head KVK, Kasaragod, Mr. Hariprasad Gowda, DPM, NRLM, Dakshina Kannada, and Other development department officials, SAC members attended a meeting and gave valuable suggestions for the welfare of the farming community, and also the training manual of Krishi Sakhi Module-01 were released during the programme.

KVK DEVANAGERE



Skill Training Programme

ICAR-Taralabalu Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Davanagere organized Skill Training on “Kitchen Garden, Terrace Garden and Soilless Agriculture” in collaboration with ATMA Project, Department of Agriculture, Davanagere during 8-1-2026 and 9-1-2026. 50 participants including Senior Citizens took part in this special workshop.

Krishi Mela

ICAR-Taralabalu Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Davanagere organized 9-day Krishi

Mela at Bhadravathi, Shivamogga District, on the occasion of Taralabalu Hunnime Mohotsava-2026 from 24-1-2026 to 01-02-2026 in collaboration with Development Departments, Education Institutions, Industries and SHGs etc. The mela was organized under the theme: Agriculture, Education, Health, Entrepreneurship and Skill Development. Lakhs of farmers, farm women, students, youth from across the state participated in the 9-day mela.



Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting

The 23rd Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting was organized on 12 January 2026 under the chairmanship of Dr. Basavarajappa K. P., Secretary, Taralabalu Rural Development Foundation, Sirigere. The Chairman emphasized the need for Krishi Vigyan Kendras to provide advisory services along with critical agricultural inputs, appreciating ICAR–KVK for initiating ‘Namma Angadi’. He highlighted the importance of convergence among development departments for faster technology dissemination and stressed a comprehensive approach

addressing agriculture, education, health, and entrepreneurship, along with the role of VBGRAMG in Gram Panchayat-level planning.

Dr. Devaraja T. N., Senior Scientist and Head, presented the progress report and Action Taken Report of the previous meeting. The meeting was attended by Dr. G. K. Girijesh, Director of Extension, KSNUAHS Shivamogga, representatives of development departments, progressive farmers, KVK staff, and Dr. Gangadhar K., ICAR–ATARI, Bengaluru, who participated online. Valuable suggestions were received to strengthen KVK programmes.

KVK DHARWAD



Training on Scientific Small Ruminant Management

ICAR- Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Dharwad Dr. Vijaylaxmi I. M, SMS (Animal Science) conducted a training programme on Scientific Rearing of Sheep and Goats on 02/01/2026 at KVK. The programme was organized under the Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) 2025–26 with the objective of enhancing livestock-based livelihood opportunities among SC farmers. During the programme, technical guidance was

provided on scientific management practices, feeding, housing, health care, and disease prevention in small ruminants. As part of the initiative, 15 (14 female+1 male) sheep and 10 (9 female + 1 male) goats were distributed to selected 25 SC farmers of Kalasanakoppa village Khalaghatagi taluk to support sustainable income generation. K. P. Gundannavar, Dr. Airadevi Angadi, Dr. Pallavi T, Dr. Santosh Onte, Smt. Vidya Sangannavar Vijaylaxmi M and Mr. Arun Kinagi were present in the programme.



Training and Distribution of Nutrigarden vegetables seeds kits under SCSP

ICAR KVK Dharwad conducted off campus training programme on Nutrigarden for managing malnutrition and to ensure food security at Kalasinkoppa village of Dharwad taluk on 01.01.2026. Mrs. Vidya V Sangannavar, SMS (Home Science), KVK Dharwad organized a training programme and briefed about the importance of fresh fruits and vegetables grown in nutrigarden in the daily diet. Dr. Pallavi T, SMS (Soil Science), KVK Dharwad explained about

role of nutrition for effective health management. The nutrigarden vegetable seeds kits were distributed to farm women under SCSP for 2025-2026.



KVK ERNAKULAM



Union Minister–Pokkali Farmer Interaction

ICAR–KVK Ernakulam organized an interaction of the Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Ram Nath Thakur, with Pokkali farmers at Nayarambalam, Ernakulam, on 5 January 2026 to highlight issues and opportunities in Pokkali farming. Officials from ICAR–CMFRI and KVK Ernakulam briefed the

Minister on the status of Pokkali cultivation, KVK interventions, and the scope for year-round integrated paddy–fish farming.

The Minister interacted with farmers, emphasized the need for a scientific and legal assessment before policy changes on year-round fish farming, and KVK showcased Pokkali rice and allied products through an exhibition, highlighting the system's biodiversity and livelihood potential.



Student Environmental Awareness and Agriculture Orientation Programmes

ICAR–KVK Ernakulam implemented the third phase of the programme “Harithabhamayam Athijeevanapatham (Green Abundance – The Lesson of Survival)” on 15 January 2026 at Sacred Heart Upper Primary School, Karthedam, in association with Prof. K. V. Thomas Vidyadhanam Trust. The initiative aimed to create environmental awareness among school children and foster interest in agriculture and nature-based livelihoods.

The programme, supported by Cochin Port Trust, Cochin Shipyard Limited and Adani Group, was inaugurated by Shri Loknath Behera, IPS, and presided over by Shri K. N. Unnikrishnan, MLA. About 2,000 curry leaf saplings were distributed to students, 10 fruit tree saplings were planted on the school campus, and 10 saplings were given to a neighboring school, strengthening community participation in greening and sustainability efforts.



Millets and forgotten food preparation competition

ICAR–K.H. Patil Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hulkoti, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, Gadag, organized a Millets and Forgotten Food Preparation Competition during the International Millets and Commercial Fair/ Mela at ICAR-KVK, Hulkoti. The programme was inaugurated by Shri C. N. Shridhar, District Collector, Gadag, who highlighted the nutritional importance of millets in preventing lifestyle diseases.

About 73 participants from across Gadag district showcased a wide variety of millet-based sweet, savoury, and forgotten food recipes. Winners were selected in three categories, and prizes along with participation certificates were distributed to all contestants.

ICAR-NAARM sponsored training program

A six-day training programme on “Operation and Maintenance of Tractor and Farm Machinery and Overview of Drones in Agriculture” was conducted at ICAR-KVK, Gadag from 19–24 January 2026 in collaboration with ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad under the SC Sub Plan. The programme aimed to skill 30 rural SC youths in farm mechanization and emerging agricultural technologies.

The training included lectures and hands-on sessions on tractor operation and maintenance, farm machinery, post-harvest equipment, and applications of drones in agriculture, along with a live drone sprayer demonstration and an exposure visit to farm machinery industries.



Experts emphasized the role of mechanization in addressing labour scarcity and improving rural livelihoods. The programme concluded with appreciation from Dr. B. Nirmala, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NAARM, for its innovative and practical approach.

Agricultural technologies and machinery exhibition

ICAR-K.H. Patil Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Gadag organized an Agricultural Technology and Machinery Exhibition on 28 January 2025 at Kailash Ashram, Hulkoti, to create awareness among farmers on recent agricultural technologies and machinery. The exhibition was inaugurated

by Jagadguru Sri Sri Sri Jayendrapuri Mahaswamiji and Shri D.R. Patil, Chairman, ASF, Hulkoti, and was coordinated by Dr. Sudha V. Mankani, Senior Scientist and Head, ICAR-KVK, Gadag.

The exhibition showcased improved technologies in agronomy, plant protection, natural and organic farming, dryland horticulture, food processing, value addition, and farm machinery, with live demonstrations and expert guidance. Nearly 3,000 farmers from across Gadag district participated actively, making the programme a successful extension activity promoting scientific and sustainable farming practices.

KVK HASSAN



Swachhata Action plan activities

ICAR-KVK, Hassan conducted several programmes under Swachhata Action plan (SAP) 2025 with a focus on personal hygiene, clean atmosphere and organic waste management in Agri and allied sectors. Under SAP several training programmes, method demonstrations, swachhata shramadana, awareness programmes and introduction of novel technologies for efficient management of farm waste were organized to various stakeholders in the district. To highlight few, demonstration of microbial compost consortia were distributed in adopted villages, SCSP & TSP villages and even distributed vermibags to the progressive

farmers to promote the solid waste management practices in agriculture. Further, Several training programmes on vermi-compost, awareness programme about swachhta, crop residue management, demonstration of technologies on waste to wealth, cleaning of villages programme with farmers participation, orientation of school children on various topics like hygiene, sanitation, cleanliness, cleaning of offices and campus and disposal of scraps, space freed, etc. Dr. Shrinivas Deshpande, Scientist (Agri Engineering) KVK,

Hassan has organized the above programmes and put together 193 (farmers, staff, dignitaries and school children) participants were participated in the said programmes.

KVK HAVERI



Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting

The 48th meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) for ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Haveri (Hanumanamatti) was successfully held on January 27, 2026, at KVK, Haveri. This meeting was led by Dr. P. L. Patil, the Honorable Vice-Chancellor of UAS, Dharwad., along with the other key officers from UAS Dharwad namely Dr. M. V.

Manjunath, Director of Extension, Dr. Krishnaraj P. U, Director of Research, Dr. C. P. Mallapur, Associate Director of Extension (ADE), Dr. Gangadhar K, Nodal Officer of ICAR-KVK, ATARI, Bangalore (Participated online), Dr. Nagaraju P., Nodal Officer (KVK) and Dr. K. V. Basavakumar, Dean College of Agriculture, Hanumanamatti. Additionally, Dr. Mallikarjuna K, Joint Director of Agriculture (JDA) Haveri, Mr. Kariyallappa K, Deputy Director of Agriculture (DDA) Ranebennur, Dr. Shivayogi Yali, Deputy Director of the



Veterinary Department, Mr. Anil G. Badni, Assistant Veterinary Officer (AHO) Ranebennur, Smt. Nirmala M, Senior Extension Officer (SEO) Department of Sericulture Ranebennur, Mr. Shankar Gowda Patil, a Progressive Farmer, Smt. Madhura Navale, an Agri-entrepreneur from Haveri, and various other stakeholders actively engaged in the meeting.

Dr. A. H. Biradar, Senior Scientist and Head of ICAR-KVK, Haveri, presented the progress report. The meeting addressed

district issues concerning agriculture, horticulture and livestock, with recommendations for action on these matters. All scientists and staff from ICAR-KVK, Haveri were present in the meeting.

During this meeting, folders developed by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Haveri were unveiled and the inauguration of the NABL Accredited soil and water testing laboratory took place. The meeting was presided over by the Honorable Vice Chancellor of Dharwad, Dr. P. L. Patil, along with the meeting's members.

KVK IDUKKI



Field Visit and Interaction by the Director, ICAR-ATARI Zone XI

Dr. V. Venkasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI Zone XI, Bengaluru, visited KVK Idukki to review key extension and technology demonstration activities. During the visit, he inspected Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs) on Integrated Crop Management in bitter gourd and IISR Bactolime demonstrations in small cardamom, interacting with farmers and providing practical guidance on crop, soil, nutrient, and pest management, as well as

marketing and sustainability practices.

Accompanied by Dr. R. Marimuthu (Senior Scientist & Head) and Subject Matter Specialists Ms. Ashiba A (Agronomy) and Ms. Preethu K Paul (Agricultural Extension), briefed on the objectives, progress, and impact of the demonstrations. He also held an interactive session with KVK staff, reviewing ongoing programmes, offering suggestions for improving technology dissemination, farmer outreach, and convergence with line departments, and motivating the team for result-oriented agricultural extension. The



visit concluded with a tour of the instructional farm and demonstration units of KVK Idukki.

Training on Natural Farming

ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Idukki successfully conducted three additional second-batch Institutional Trainings for farmers under the National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) in January 2026, promoting sustainable, low-cost, and eco-friendly farming practices. The trainings were held at Vazhathope Cluster (Idukki Block) on 1st January and Mangulam

Cluster (Devikulam Block) on 22nd January, focusing on farm-based inputs such as Jeevamrith, Beejamrith, Ghana Jeevamrith, botanical extracts, mulching, and other organic approaches for restoring soil health.

The KVK team assured continued guidance through field visits, demonstrations, and farmer-to-farmer learning, enhancing farmers’ capacity to adopt greener practices. The programmes were coordinated by Ms. Manju Jincy Varghese (SMS, Soil Science) and Ms. Ashiba A (SMS, Agronomy), KVK Idukki.

KVK KALABURGI-I



Six days 3ed Module training programme for Krishi Sakhi

ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kalaburagi-I organized four six-day training programmes on Agricultural Livelihood Community Resource Persons (Krishi-Sakhi) in collaboration with Sanjeevini–KSRLPS and Zilla Panchayat, Kalaburagi from 20.12.2025 to 20.01.2026. Dr. Raju G. Teggelli highlighted the role of KVK and the importance of Krishi Sakhis in delivering latest agricultural technologies at farmers' doorsteps. Dr. Yusufali explained the roles, responsibilities, selection process, and soil

health management under the third module. Each batch attended 24 sessions by university experts and participated in exposure visits to progressive farmers' fields and KVK/ZARS units. A total of 255 Krishi Sakhis actively participated and benefited from the programme.

Diagnostic field visit and Field Day

A Diagnostic field visited to Chrysanthemum and Rose field of Smt. Eramma Basavaraj at Rummangud village of



Kalagi taluka and organized field day on Safflower under CFLD programme on 30.01.2026. Dr. Shreenivas, B. V, Scientist (Soil Science) explained about the nutrient management of both the crops also suggest the soil and water test for application of fertilizer based on soil test report. At Rajapur village of Kalagi taluka organized one day field day on safflower crops which was distributed seeds, safety kit, nutrients and pesticides to the beneficiary farmers crop in good pod filled condition and healthy in condition. Gave information on Safflower variety ISF 764 its performance in Dryland condition and

important aspects such as medium duration which comes for harvesting in 130 to 135 days, suitable for zone II, resistance to pest and disease, oil content (33%) and high yield also highlighted the health benefits of safflower as edible oil. After the programme, demonstrated on safe usage of chemicals during spraying of the chemicals through use of safety kit. More than 65 farmers and KVK staff Niranjan Dhanni, Saidappa, Umakant and Swamy were presented and got benefitted from the programme.

KVK KALABURGI-II



Exhibition Stall at Scientific Conference

A three-day scientific conference organized by the Karnataka State Scientific Research Council was held at Yadgir with the objective of promoting scientific temper and eradicating superstition among students, rural youth and farmers. Scientists from ICAR-KVK, Raddewadgi, Dr. Vasudev Naik, Senior Scientist and Head, and Dr. Mallappa, Scientist (Agronomy), participated and delivered lectures on sustainable agriculture and modern agricultural technologies. Representing

UAS, Raichur, they also set up an exhibition stall showcasing farmer-friendly technologies and innovations aimed at improving productivity, sustainability and farm income. The stall was inaugurated by Shri Sharanbasappa Darshanapur, Hon'ble Minister for Small Scale Industries and District In-charge Minister, Yadgir, along with Shri Satish Jarakiholi, Hon'ble Minister for PWD, Govt. of Karnataka. The stall attracted wide participation from students, youth and farmers, facilitating effective interaction and dissemination of scientific knowledge, thereby strengthening science-society linkages.



Visit to Seed Production and CFL Demonstration Plots

Scientists from ICAR-KVK, Raddewadgi conducted field visits to seed production and Cluster Front Line Demonstration (CFLD) oilseed plots in the operational villages during January 2026. The visit assessed seed production plots of red gram varieties GRG-811 and GRG-152, and CFLD plots of sunflower, safflower and groundnut. Joint inspections were carried out with the Seed Certification Officer,

Karnataka State Seeds and Organic Certification Agency, to ensure adherence to seed production standards. Farmers were found to be following recommended practices such as proper isolation, rouging and field sanitation. The CFLD plots exhibited better growth and vigour compared to local varieties, and farmers expressed satisfaction with the demonstrated technologies and confidence in achieving higher yields. The visit highlighted the role of scientific guidance, quality seed production and CFLDs in enhancing productivity and farmer confidence.

KVK KANNUR



KVK Kannur's Training, Capacity Building, and Outreach Activities

KVK Kannur conducted a series of training, workshop, and outreach programmes during January 2026. A six-day On-the-Job Training programme for 175 VHSE students (7–12 January) provided job-role-based theoretical and practical exposure in gardening, agricultural extension, organics, micro-irrigation, and floriculture, along with exposure visits to Mayyil FPO, Padanakkad College, and the Horticulture Nursery. Additionally, 36 B.Sc. Agriculture students from Ambalawayal and Vellanikkara underwent RAWE training (12–29 January), gaining hands-on experience in value addition, soap making, farmer field visits, expert interactions, and FPO functioning. KVK also organized multiple farmer-focused programmes, including value addition training for

Scheduled Tribe farmers, NICRA training with FPO inauguration and bio-input distribution, IFS farm plan validation workshops, and an Agri-Next problem-scouting workshop under the KERA project. Several off-campus trainings on mango pest management, mushroom cultivation and value addition, and coconut cultivation were conducted across Kannur district, benefiting farmers and students through expert-led sessions.



KVK KASARAGOD



Capacity Building Program on Scientific Coconut Cultivation and Coconut Climbing

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) successfully organized a training cum Hands-on Experience on 'Scientific cultivation of coconut and Coconut climbing' on January 27, 2026. The primary objective was to build confidence among the participants, transitioning them into skilled coconut technicians through a deep understanding of scientific cultivation and practical experience on Chemberi climbing device.

The programme was attended by 23 trainees, including 15 from Scheduled Caste (SC) communities, as part of an effort to bring modern technology to vital sectors of the rural workforce. The training sessions integrated the theoretical safety protocols with intensive practical demonstrations, allowing each participant to master the equipment firsthand. This will significantly promote entrepreneurship in this sector and minimize the occupational risks in coconut climbing. Under the Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) of ICAR-KVK, CPCRI, Kasaragod, 15 SC trainees received Chemberi climbing devices as part of their training.



Scaling Up Amaranthus Production with 'Vlathankara' in Kasaragod

Kolavayal in Kanhangad block, Kasaragod, is a traditional Amaranthus-growing area, but farmers faced stagnant returns due to declining demand for local varieties. To revive cultivation, ICAR-KVK, CPCRI, Kasaragod introduced the farmer-developed 'Vlathankara' variety through On-Farm Trials in 2023, followed by Frontline Demonstrations in 2024 with

scientific management practices, including drone-based foliar application of vermiwash.

The variety gained rapid acceptance due to its bright red colour, better palatability, and higher yield, fetching a premium of ₹3–5 per kg over traditional types. Its success led to a significant expansion of Amaranthus cultivation in Kolavayal from one acre to nearly 20 acres, transforming the crop into a profitable enterprise and enhancing farmers' income in the region.

KVK KODAGU



Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting

The 56th Scientific Advisory Committee meeting of ICAR, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gonikoppal held under the Chairmanship of Dr. S. Sriram, Head, Division of Crop Protection, Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bengaluru on 19th January 2026. Dr. Muralidhara B.M. Senior Scientist & Head, KVK Gonikoppal welcomed all the guests, members and invitees to the meeting. Dr.

Gangadhara K, Senior Scientist, ATARI, Bengaluru briefed on the importance of SAC meeting.

Dr. Muralidhara B.M presented the Action taken report of last SAC meeting to the august body and got approved. Later he presented the progress report of KVK activities for the year 2025-26 to the members and requested for valuable suggestions for drawing suitable action plan for the year 2026-27 and strengthening of over all activities of the



Kendra. On the occasion, KVK contact farmers (2 no.) who helped in implementation of KVK activities in the village and their achievement in the field of agriculture were felicitated. The meeting was attended by more than 20 members and invitees

The Chairman, in his presidential remarks, lauded the efforts of KVK team in extended the support to farmers through different

farm science-based activities with the available resources. Further, he assured all the support will be extended in filling of vacant posts, strengthening of farm, technologies to cater to reach the unreached farmers in the district.

The meeting came to end with a Vote of thanks by Mr. Prabhakara B, SMS (Horticulture) and singing the National Anthem.

KVK KOLAR



Special training programme on Agrivoltaics

A special training programme on Agrivoltaics was conducted at ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Kolar on 02 January 2026. The programme was graced by Dr. R. K. Mestha, Dean, College of Horticulture (COH), Kolar, Shri Kumarswami, Joint Director of Horticulture, Dr. Nachegowda, Dr. Shivanand Hongal, Senior Scientist and Head, ICAR–KVK, Kolar, Shri Chandrashekar Nenamanahalli, Progressive Farmer, experts from CSTEP and KREDL, scientists from ICAR–KVK Kolar and COH

Kolar, and officials from the Department of Horticulture, along with a large number of farmers.

The programme created awareness on the concept of agrivoltaics and its potential benefits in enhancing farm income and sustainable resource use. Farmers benefitted from in-depth technical discussions and interactive sessions with experts.

District Flower Show

ICAR–KVK Kolar successfully showcased its technologies by setting up a stall during the District Flower Show held at



Kolar from 26th to 28th January 2026. The stall displayed latest agricultural and horticultural technologies, improved practices, and extension materials for the benefit of farmers and visitors.

The Honourable MLA, Kolar, MLC, President, District Krishik Samaj, Deputy Commissioner (DC), Chief Executive Officer (CEO), and Superintendent of Police (SP), Kolar visited the KVK and College of Horticulture (COH) staff, appreciating the extension and demonstration efforts.

The stall attracted a large number of farmers and visitors and effectively

disseminated scientific technologies, creating awareness on improved agricultural practices.

Buyer–Seller Meet

A Buyer–Seller Meet was organized at ICAR–KVK, Kolar on 21 January 2026 in association with S M Sehgal Foundation, with participation from input companies, FPOs, SHGs, buyers, and farmers. The programme facilitated one-to-one interactions, market linkage, and business networking, and was well appreciated for promoting agri-entrepreneurship and benefiting all stakeholders.

KVK KOLLAM



KARSHIKAKARMASENA: SKILL & STRENGTH

A five-day skill-development training programme was conducted for 15 members of the KarshikaKarmasena of Anchal Grama Panchayat, Kollam district, from 17–21 November 2025. The programme provided comprehensive, hands-on exposure to a range of modern agri-mechanization tools essential for efficient farm operations viz., operation, routine maintenance and field application of key agro-machineries, including coconut climbers, two-stroke and battery-operated brush cutters, mini tillers, power weeders, 24 HP mini tractor and 42 HP tractor, along with pole pruners, chainsaws, and earth augers. In addition, practical sessions on scientific propagation techniques enhanced their nursery management

capabilities. The training significantly strengthened the technical proficiency and confidence of the KarshikaKarmasenamembers, enabling them to deliver more efficient, mechanized agricultural services at the panchayat level.

“One Home, One Hive” – A Sustainable Campaign to Revamp Honey Bee Populations for Food Security and Biodiversity Conservation in Kollam.

Campaign Vision- “Nature Thrives Where Bees Hive”

The “One Home, One Hive” concept seeks to address the present decline in pollination service providers — the bees. Through this initiative, we aim to encourage individual homesteads across Kollam district to maintain at least one honey bee hive, reaching an ambitious yet feasible target of 7 lakh homes. The core idea behind the



campaign is to transform each homestead into an ambassador and basic unit of food security, as homesteads are largely pesticide-free and rich in diverse flowering plants, including fruit trees, medicinal plants, vegetables, and ornamentals. This initiative not only fosters ecological balance through enhanced pollination but also brings livelihood opportunities to households. It serves both as a functional habitat and a living reminder of the vital role bees play in sustaining our ecosystems and ensuring food security. The UNESCO celebrates May 20 as World Bee Day. On this occasion, Krishi Vigyan Kendra Kollam launched the visionary campaign titled “One Home, One Hive” in response to growing ecological concerns and agricultural challenges. The initiative aims

to equip households for honey bee conservation so that they can directly benefit from honey production and indirectly enhance agricultural productivity through improved pollination. The programme was implemented with the support of ICAR by utilizing funds from the SCSP Programme 2025. Under this scheme, SC farmers were provided with stingless bee boxes to improve the nutritional status of their families and to indirectly support agricultural productivity through enhanced pollination. To further strengthen this mission, we introduced the “One School, One Hive” concept to promote hands-on learning opportunities for students, thereby empowering children to become future custodians of biodiversity.

KVK KOPPAL



Pest and Disease surveillance for Rabi crops

ICAR-KVK, Koppal Scientists Dr. Raghavendra Yaligar, SSH and Revathi R M, Scientist (Plant Pathology) conducted pest and disease surveillance for Rabi crops such as Groundnut, Chickpea, , Cowpea, Horsegram, Tomato and Papaya in different villages of Koppal district., viz., in Talakal, Hirevankalakunta, Chikvankalakunta, Hulihyder, Agoli, Gunnala etc. Groundnut

and Chickpea were the major cultivated crops under rainfed conditions contributing major area in Koppal district. Collected the information about pest and disease incidence in groundnut bud necrosis, leafspot were the major diseases observed in groundnut. Whereas, in chickpea dry root rot, wilt were the major diseases. Scientists gave the information about the improved varieties which are tolerant to pest and diseases and also integrated pest and disease management aspects in these crops.



Awareness Programme on VBG-RAMG

ICAR-KVK, Koppal organized awareness programmes on the VBG-RAMG scheme, a significant rural employment initiative replacing MGNREGA, at multiple villages in Koppal district, including Hirevankalakunta, Churchanagudda Tanda, Challuru, and Yardona. Dr. Raghavendra Yaligar, Senior Scientist & Head, highlighted the scheme's features: increasing guaranteed wage employment from 100 to 125 days per

household, integrating Viksit Gram Panchayat Plans with PM Gati Shakti, and focusing on water security, rural and livelihood infrastructure, and disaster mitigation.

The scheme ensures a 60-day agricultural pause during peak farming, supports farmers in off-season conditions, promotes income stability, and strengthens rural infrastructure. Conducted in collaboration with Agriculture Department faculties, the programmes benefited over 150 farmers, enhancing awareness of technology-driven, income-generating rural works aligned with national priorities.

KVK KOTTAYAM



Field visits by NABARD

A field visit was conducted by NABARD officials on 09.01.2026 at Puthiyeri padashekaram, Tiruvarpu panchayath to assess the progress of NABARD project 'Climate Smart Village for strengthening resilience in flood prone areas of Kottayam district'. As part of the project, ecofriendly pest and disease management and integrated nutrient management practices were adopted along with climate smart

technologies. Sri Kiran V S A.G.M. NABARD, Miss Yamuna K. Assistant Manager, NABARD, Sri Reji Varghese DDM, NABARD witnessed the drone spraying of KAU Sampoorna and the field placement of trichocards along with Dr. Jayalakshmi G. Dr. Smitha Ravi, PI and Co PI of the project.



Participation in National Science Expo

Kerala State council for Science, Technology and Environment (KSCSTE), Government of Kerala conducted a National Science Expo as part of 38th Kerala Science Congress at St. Alberts College, Ernakulam from 30/01/2026 to 02/02/2026. KVK Kottayam participated in the Science expo by setting a stall to showcase the various activities and technologies of Krishi Vigyan Kendra. A large number of farmers, students, entrepreneurs, and officials visited and interacted with the KVK team.

Nutri garden Project at Moonilavu Panchayat

A field visit was conducted by KVK team as part of nutri garden programme at Moonilavu panchayat on 19.01.2026 to assess the field level establishment of vegetable seedlings distributed as part of nutri garden programme. As part of this programme, 25 ST households were selected and inputs were distributed and training on vegetable production technology were given to the beneficiaries.

KVK KOZHIKODE



Empowering youth with freshwater ornamental fish breeding and culture

A two days capacity building programme on breeding and culture of freshwater ornamental fishes was organised at KVK Kozhikode on 13th and 14th of January 2025 in which 23 individuals participated. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. P. RathaKrishnan, Principal Scientist and head of KVK. Dr. Pradeep B, SMS Fisheries of KVK took class on various aspects of ornamental fish breeding and culture

including fish feed preparation, feeding, live feed culture, aquatic plant propagation, aquarium setting, disease and water quality management. Practical demonstrations were shown and hands-on training was provided to them. These trainees included 17 SCSP beneficiaries under NICRA and ATARI SCSP programme of KVK 2025-26 who were interested to do ornamental fish farming. These trainees were provided with scrap fridge boxes, ornamental fishes (Guppy varieties), fish feed, net, air pump and accessories for establishing low investment backyard ornamental fish units at their backyard.



Capacity building programmes

Ten capacity building programmes were conducted in January 2026 by KVK Kozhikode. These included three trainings in natural farming and one on vermicomposting, handled by Dr. K M Prakash and Dr. Aiswariya K K, SMS of KVK. These trainings were organized at Quilandy, Kakkur, Kallachi and Arikkulam of Kozhikode district in collaboration with State Agricultural Dept. Other capacity building programmes included training on breeding of freshwater ornamental fishes for VHSC – fisheries students at KVK and fish culture in artificial tanks at Kunnumal block, handled by Dr. Pradeep B, SMS-

Fisheries. Ms. A Deepthi, SMS Home science had organized training on value addition in spices and nutri garden. Training on quail and poultry rearing were organized at KVK under SCSP programme with the support of Dr. S. Shanmughavel SMS Animal science (Ret.) of KVK. A total of 437 individual attended these capacity building programmes. In all these programmes awareness about The Viksit Bharat—Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB—G RAM G) Bill, 2025 was given to participants apart from this a separate awareness programme on VB G RAM G bill was organized Maruthomkara of Kozhikode by Dr. P.S. Manoj SMS Horticulture.

KVK LAKSHADWEEP



Matsyamela 2026: Fusing Lakshadweep's Marine Legacy with Blue Economy Progress

The pristine island of Kavaratti hosted the three-day Matsyamela 2026, a mega Fish Festival that blended tradition, science, and enterprise. Jointly organized by KVK-Lakshadweep, ICAR-CMFRI, ICAR-

ATARI Bengaluru, NFDB Hyderabad, and other partners, the festival drew over 11,000 visitors to 72 stalls showcasing marine technologies, value-added products, and island handicrafts. More than 350 fishermen, 200 Self-Help Group members, and 200 experts from premier institutes like ICAR-CMFRI, ICAR-CIFT, FSI, and NIFPHATT, CUSAT, MPEDA, NFDB participated, bridging research and practice.

Matsyamela opened with Farmer-



Scientist Interfaces that enabled direct dialogue on sustainable tuna harvesting, climate resilience, and deep-sea fishing opportunities, and smoothly transitioned into Technology Transfer sessions showcasing modern navigation aids, advanced fishing gears, and eco-friendly processing machinery. The event further emphasized entrepreneurship promotion by highlighting emerging sectors such as ornamental fisheries and seaweed farming to empower youth and women, while

cultural exchange programs celebrated Lakshadweep's rich maritime traditions and strengthened community pride.

Fish Food Recipe Competition celebrated innovative local marine cuisine. Inaugurated by Dr. S. B. Deepak Kumar, IAS, and attended by top fisheries officials, the mela underscored sustainable fisheries, livelihood enhancement, and blue economy growth for the island community.

KVK MALAPPURAM



Training on Natural farming for farmers conducted by KVK, Malappuram

A two-day Natural Farming Training Programme was successfully conducted on 08/01/2026 and 09/01/2026 under the National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF) 2025–2026 at the Edavanna Panchayat Hall, Manjeri Block. The programme was organized and implemented by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Malappuram for the benefit of farmers of Manjeri Block.

The technical sessions were

handled by Dr. Sreena K. S., Assistant Professor (Agronomy), KVK Malappuram. She delivered detailed lectures on the concepts of natural farming, including soil biology, crop nutrition management, natural inputs, and eco-friendly pest and disease management practices. In addition to the classroom sessions, hands-on training was conducted by CRPs (Community Resource Persons). The practical sessions focused on the preparation and application of natural farming inputs, enabling farmers to gain first-hand experience and practical skills. Farmers actively participated in the demonstrations and clarified their doubts during the training.



ARYA Training Programme conducted at KVK Malappuram on 'Nursery Management'

ARYA training programme was conducted at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Malappuram, from January 28 to February 2 with the objective of enhancing the skills and knowledge of rural youth in agriculture and allied sectors. The programme was organized under the guidance of Dr. Lilia Baby, Assistant Professor (Home Science), and Dr. Swathi B. S., Assistant Professor (Horticulture).

The training sessions covered various important topics related to horticulture and farm management. Classes on nursery management were handled by Dr. Swathi B. S., who provided practical insights into raising healthy planting materials and maintaining nurseries effectively. Dr. Visakh N.U (Assistant Professor, Agricultural entomology) had taken classes on pest and

disease management under nursery which was mostly required for emerging youth in Agripreneurship. In addition, expert resource persons from outside institutions delivered sessions on landscaping, composting, budding, and grafting, focusing on improving technical skills and promoting sustainable practices.

The programme was interactive and practice-oriented, enabling participants to gain hands-on experience along with theoretical knowledge. The training helped the participants to develop entrepreneurial skills and encouraged them to adopt innovative agricultural practices.





Integrated pest and disease management in chrysanthemum: A demonstration for sustainable yield

Chrysanthemum is one of the important flowering crops being grown in Mandya. Recent day farmers are facing problem in chrysanthemum production due

to increased pest and disease incidence like thrips, whiteflies, fusarium wilt, rust etc. Farmers are ending up with indiscriminate & unscientific use of pesticides to control this. This in turn leads to increased cost of production, increase in soil degradation & environmental pollution. Keeping this in view, ICAR-KVK, VC Farm, Mandya conducted demonstration on integrated pest and disease management in chrysanthemum. During which, farmers were trained with scientific way of



chrysanthemum cultivation, using eco-friendly practices for integrated pest and disease management strategies and. Further, the field day was conducted on 19.01.2026 in the field of Sri. Shivappa S/o Kalappa at Menagara village, Pandavapura Taluk. During field day, farmer expressed his experience on demonstration, where he used, sticky trap, neemsoap, trichoderma, pseudomonas, timely and proper application of chemical sprays & opined that cost of cultivation also reduced as compared to the previous years.

Dr. Darshan, R., Scientist (Plant protection) explained integrated pest and disease management strategies, Dr. Divya, B., Scientist (Horticulture) explained cultivation aspects of chrysanthemum. Dr.Kamalabai Koodagi., Senior Scientist and Head urged the farmers to adopt integrated pest and disease management strategies for sustainable yield and income. The officials from the department and other farmers were present.

KVK MYSURU



Workshop on Scientific Farming Practices, Marketing Facilities and Export Opportunities

A workshop on scientific cultivation, marketing, and export prospects of traditional crops was held on 07 January 2026 at ICAR JSS Krishi Vigyan Kendra in collaboration with APEDA, Bengaluru. Dr. B. N. Gnanesh, Senior Scientist and Head, ICAR JSSKVK, highlighted KVK's support for Mysuru district farmers in cultivating traditional crops and ongoing efforts to export Nanjangud Rasabale and Mysuru Mallige with APEDA. Officials from APEDA, Bengaluru, and the Department of Horticulture, Nanjangud, participated in the programme.

Export of GI Tag crops

On 15 January 2025, His Holiness Jagadguru Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Mahaswamiji flagged off the export of GI-tagged Nanjangud Rasabale and Mysuru betel leaves at ICAR JSS KVK, Suttur. The programme was organized in collaboration with APEDA, Bengaluru, the Department of Horticulture, Mysuru, and ICAR JSS Krishi Vigyan Kendra. His Holiness expressed happiness over the export to the Maldives and encouraged farmers to adopt large-scale organic farming to meet global demand. Dr. B. N. Gnanesh, Senior Scientist and Head, ICAR JSS KVK, officials from the Department of Horticulture, staff, and farmers participated, and the event was live-telecast nationwide by APEDA.



Technology Week

Technology Week was organised at Suttur from 15–20 January 2026, showcasing traditional and modern agricultural technologies. Farmers were exposed to over 250 crop varieties, including cereals, pulses, oilseeds, fodder, legumes, exotic vegetables, flowers, and horticultural crops, along with demonstrations on sericulture, micro-irrigation, and natural farming. Mysuru's GI crops such as Nanjangud Rasabale, Mysurubetel leaves, and Eernagere brinjal were displayed with QR-code-based crop information.

Major attractions included a One-Acre Integrated Farming System model

highlighting self-sufficiency for small and marginal farmers, a DESI Breeds Expo featuring indigenous livestock and fish varieties, and an agricultural exhibition with over 130 stalls from universities, research institutes, departments, NGOs, SHGs, and agri-input manufacturers. A seminar on Women in Agriculture: Sustainable Development and Food Security was held, books edited by Dr. B. N. Gnanesh were released, and progressive farmers and farmwomen from Mysuru and Chamarajanagar districts were honoured. The event also featured a start-up workshop for rural youth, along with cultural and skill-based competitions for women farmers.

KVK PALAKKAD



Inauguration of 5th batch of DAESI

The inauguration of the 5th batch of the Diploma in Agricultural Extension Services for Input Dealers (DAESI) programme was held at the Grama Panchayat Hall, Palakkad, on 29 December 2025. The programme was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Shri V. K. Sreekandan, who highlighted the importance of the DAESI programme in strengthening the knowledge and advisory capacity of agricultural input dealers for the benefit of farmers. Felicitations were also offered.

On Job Training Programme for Vocational Higher Secondary Students

An on-the-job training programme was conducted for students of GVHSS THS, Palakkad, and GVHSS for the Deaf, Ottapalam, with participation from 32 students. The programme provided hands-on training in gardening, floriculture, and key horticultural operations, effectively enhancing the students' practical skills, confidence, and vocational competencies.

KVK PATHANAMTHITTA



One-Day Workshop on Export Opportunities for Agri-Entrepreneurs

ICAR-KVK Pathanamthitta, in collaboration with the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Kochi, organized a one-day workshop on “Export Opportunities and Market Potential for Agri-Entrepreneurs” on 12 January 2026 at the KVK campus, with the participation of 43 agri-entrepreneurs from across the state. The programme focused on creating

awareness about export-oriented agriculture, value addition, quality compliance, and institutional support mechanisms, including APEDA registration and government schemes.

Technical sessions highlighted export procedures, certification requirements, branding and packaging, food processing opportunities, and the export potential of jackfruit and allied products, thereby encouraging agri-entrepreneurs to explore global markets for agricultural and processed food products.



Promotion of IISR Pragati turmeric

ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) promoted IISR Pragati turmeric in the district through the Koipuram Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) by implementing need-based interventions covering production, processing, and value addition. The short-duration variety (180 days) is well suited to the local agro-climatic conditions and enables faster returns with reduced production risk. IISR Pragati recorded superior quality traits, including high dry recovery (5.95%) and

curcumin content (5.02%), making it suitable for domestic use and value-added processing. Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs) conducted by KVK recorded a yield of 34 t/ha, demonstrating the variety's yield potential and economic viability. FPO members were trained on quality attributes and scientific processing techniques such as curing, drying, polishing, and packaging. These integrated interventions enabled the FPO to move towards value-added, market-oriented turmeric products, strengthening the turmeric value chain and enhancing farmers' income.

KVK RAICHUR



Enhancing Pulse Productivity and Farmers' Income through Integrated Crop Management

Under the National Food Security Mission (NFSM), ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Raichur organized a Cluster Frontline Demonstration (Pulses) field day at Kalmangi village, Sindhanur taluk, Raichur district to enhance pulse productivity and farmers' income. Beneficiary farmers were

earlier supplied with the improved redgram variety GRG-811 along with bio-agents, bio-fertilizers, pheromone traps, and need-based insecticides promoting integrated crop management. During the programme, scientists educated farmers on major insect pests, Integrated Pest Management practices, improved redgram varieties, and recommended agronomic practices. The field day strengthened farmers' knowledge on scientific and sustainable pulse cultivation, with participation of about 200 farmers.



Promotion of Mustard Cultivation in Paddy Fallows under NMEO–Oilseeds: A Cluster FLD

The National Mission on Edible Oils–Oilseeds (NMEO–Oilseeds), implemented under NFSM–Oilseeds, aims to enhance edible oil self-reliance by increasing oilseed production and productivity. In Raichur district, where oilseed cultivation is mainly confined to groundnut, sunflower, safflower, and sesamum, mustard is

traditionally grown only as a mixed crop with limited productivity. To utilize the large extent of paddy fallows after kharif harvest, ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Raichur conducted Cluster Front Line Demonstrations on mustard in paddy fallows over 25 acres at Kalmala hobli, Raichur taluk. The intervention included supply of improved varieties, quality seed, plant protection inputs, and farmer trainings, promoting crop diversification, efficient resource use, and enhanced farmers’ income while supporting sustainable oilseed production.

KVK RAMANAGARA



Krishi Sakhi Training Programme

ICAR-KVK Ramanagara, in collaboration with Sanjeevini-NRLM, Bangalore South (Ramanagara), organized a one-week capacity building programme on Agro-ecological practices (Module-3) for the 4th batch of Krishi Sakhi participants from 29.12.2025 to 03.01.2026. The programme covered pest and disease management, soil health and soil testing, livelihood orientation, women's role in agriculture, ecological farming methods, agronomic practices, water management,

nutrition and malnutrition management through expert lectures and practical demonstrations by KVK scientists. Participants also visited ICAR-KVK Hirehalli, Tumkur-2 for hands-on exposure to mushroom cultivation, micronutrient and biofertilizer production. The training concluded with sessions on seed selection and seed treatment, followed by distribution of certificates to Krishi Sakhis from various panchayats of Ramanagara district.



PKVY natural farming training

ICAR–KVK Ramanagara, in collaboration with the Department of Horticulture, organized a PKVY natural farming training programme for Community Resource Persons. The programme was inaugurated by watering plants, followed by an address by Dr. Swetha, B.S., Senior Scientist and Head, who emphasized the importance of natural farming to reduce chemical fertilizer use and highlighted health, nutrition, and dietary diversity. Mr. Santosh, Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, Magadi, explained the PKVY cluster approach covering 500 ha in Magadi and the role of Community Resource Persons.

KVK scientists delivered technical sessions on principles and benefits of natural farming, soil health and nutrient management, water management, integrated farming systems, preparation of bio-inputs such as Jeevamrita, Beejamrita, Ghanajeevamrit, Neemastra, Agniastra, and Dashparni, pest and disease identification, and extension methods. Practical demonstrations included soil sampling, interpretation of soil health cards, and use of traps. Mr. Akash, Head, Eco private organization, briefed participants on PKVY scheme implementation, natural farming practices, and marketing aspects. A total of 40 participants were trained and benefited from the programme.

KVK SHIVAMOGGA



Students visit to Krishi Yana Agro-tourism Centre

Students from Indo Kids School visited the Krishi Yana agro-tourism centre at ICAR-KVK, Shivamogga. During the visit, students were oriented about various aspects of agriculture and horticulture, including KVK demonstration units, the honey bee park, vermicomposting, sheep and goat rearing, poultry unit, rabbit rearing, farm walk, cashew technology centre, organic farming, and fisheries. The students gained hands-on experience in nursery activities and seed ball preparation. They also enjoyed traditional games and actively participated in the learning sessions. The visit was highly informative and enjoyable, providing students with

practical exposure and valuable learning experiences related to farming and allied activities.

Exhibition at Malnad crafts and millet Mela

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Shivamogga exhibited a technology stall at the Flower show, Malnad crafts and millet Mela from 24 to 26th January, 2026 at freedom park Shivamogga organized by Zilla Panchayath, Shivamogga. Honourable Former Chief Minister of Karnataka, Shri B. S. Yediyurappa, who visited the University stall and interacted with the scientists. He appreciated the efforts of KSNUAHS, Shivamogga and ICAR-KVK Shivamogga in promoting farmer-oriented technologies and sustainable agricultural practices.



Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting

ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Shivamogga conducted the 19th Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting on 16 January 2026 under the chairmanship of Dr. R. C. Jagadeesha, Vice-Chancellor, Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, Shivamogga. The meeting was attended by members from ICAR–ATARI, line departments, progressive farmers, and other stakeholders.

The programme was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, who highlighted the pivotal role of KVKs in addressing farmers' problems through need-based trainings, demonstrations, and

field interventions. Dr. B. T. Rayudu, Principal Scientist and Nodal Officer, ATARI, Bengaluru, emphasized the role of KVKs as district-level institutions providing timely technical solutions to field-level issues. Dr. G. K. Girijesh, Director of Extension, briefed the members on the objectives of the SAC meeting.

The Action Taken Report of the 18th SAC meeting and the achievements of KVK activities during the previous year were presented by Dr. Sunil C., Senior Scientist and Head, KVK Shivamogga. The members offered valuable suggestions to strengthen future programmes. A total of 22 members participated, and the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks.

KVK THRISSUR



On Job Trainings

On-job training programmes were conducted at KVK Thrissur during January 2026 for four batches of Vocational Higher Secondary School (VHSS) students to enhance practical skills and job readiness in Floriculturist and Gardener courses. A total of 90 students participated, comprising 45 Floriculturists and 45 Gardeners. Floriculturist students received hands-on training in commercial floriculture practices, including potting mixture preparation, seedling transplanting, terrarium and kokedama making, dry flower craft, flower arrangement, ornamental plant identification and nursery management. Gardener students were trained in garden maintenance operations, lawn and landscape management, plant propagation techniques and nursery practices. Exposure visits to the Department of Floriculture, College of Agriculture, Vellanikkara and ATIC, KAU provided experiential learning. The programme equipped students with

practical competence and skills for wage and self-employment in the horticulture sector.

Institutional training on Natural Farming

Under the National Mission on Natural Farming (NMNF), a practical training programme was organized for selected farmers from six blocks of Thrissur district to demonstrate the preparation and use of key bio-inputs for natural farming. The training included step-by-step demonstrations on Jeevamrutham, Beejamrutham, Ghana Jeevamrutham, Brahmasthra, Neemasthra and Agniasthra, covering their ingredients, preparation methods and application. Emphasis was laid on improving soil health, managing pests and diseases through botanical formulations, and reducing dependence on chemical inputs. The programme strengthened farmers' skills in adopting low-cost, eco-friendly and sustainable natural farming practices.

KVK TUMAKURU-I



One Day workshop on millets production, processing and value addition

ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tiptur (Tumkur–I) organised a one-day workshop on Millets Production, Processing and Value Addition in collaboration with SELCO Foundation, Bengaluru. The programme focused on improving farmers' knowledge on scientific millet cultivation, processing technologies, value addition, and entrepreneurship. Technical sessions covered improved production practices, locally suitable millet varieties, nutritional benefits, value-added products, and processing methods, with special emphasis on women-led enterprises. Awareness was

also created on the G RAMG programme for village-based rural development. Officials from SELCO Foundation highlighted financial and institutional support for establishing millet processing units. The workshop benefited 110 farmers through enhanced technical and entrepreneurial insights.

External Evaluator for “Siridhanya Paka Sparde”

Dr. Ganavi, B. R., Scientist (Home Science), ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tiptur, Tumkur–I, served as an external evaluator for the “Siridhanya Paka Sparde” (Millet Cooking Competition) conducted as part of Siridhanya Mela 2026 at Tumkur. The



competition aimed at promoting nutritious millet-based recipes, encouraging creativity in millet cooking, and creating awareness about the health benefits and culinary diversity of millets among the public.

Field Day on Red Gram under CFLD – Pulses

ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tiptur (Tumkur–I) organised a Field Day on red gram under CFLD–Pulses at Marenadu Palya village, C. N. Halli taluk, in association with Kalpamitra FPO, Huliya. Dr. Darshan M.

E., Scientist (Agricultural Extension), explained the objectives of CFLD–Pulses, highlighting cluster-based demonstrations, improved varieties, scientific crop management, and the role of FPOs in input procurement and value-based marketing. The field day enabled farmers to interact with scientists, observe demonstration plots, and gain practical exposure to improved red gram production technologies.

KVK TUMAKURU-II



Celebrating Women's Empowerment with Millet Value Addition

As part of the preparatory activities for the International Millet Mela 2026, a District-Level Millets Recipe Competition was successfully conducted on 31 December 2025 at the JDA Office, Tumakuru. Tumakuru, being a native region of several minor millets, was identified as a key district to promote millet-based value addition and entrepreneurship. The competition functioned as a selection

platform for identifying innovative millet-based recipes and talented participants for the state-level event, in alignment with the objectives of enhancing millet consumption and market opportunities.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from over 80 members, predominantly women and rural entrepreneurs, who presented a diverse range of traditional and innovative millet recipes. The entries were evaluated by Mrs. Radha R. Banakar, Subject Matter Specialist (Home Science), ICAR-KVK, Hirehalli, Tumakuru, based on nutritional value, innovation, taste, processing methods,



presentation and market potential. The programme provided an effective platform to enhance culinary creativity, nutritional awareness and entrepreneurial skills, while strengthening grassroots participation and contributing to the broader goals of the International Millet Mela 2026.

On-campus training on Millets and Jackfruit processing and value addition

An on-campus training programme on millets and jackfruit processing and value addition was conducted on 30

December 2025 at ICAR–KVK, Hirehalli, with participation of 30 women trainees. The programme included a technical session on the nutritional importance of millets and jackfruit, followed by hands-on training on preparation of value-added products such as millet laddu, mixture, vermicelli, papad, biscuits, and jackfruit seed powder chocolate. Emphasis was given to hygienic processing, recipe standardization, packaging, and shelf-life enhancement. The training enhanced women’s skills, nutritional awareness, and confidence to adopt millet and jackfruit-based income-generating activities.

KVK THIRUVANANTHAPURAM



Strengthening Farmer-Centric Research: Honourable Minister's Visit to ICAR-CTCRI

The Honourable Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shri Ram Nath Thakur, visited ICAR-Central Tuber Crops Research Institute (CTCRI), Thiruvananthapuram on 06 January 2025 and interacted with scientists, ICAR-KVK staff, and progressive farmers. The Minister emphasized the crucial role of agricultural research and extension in ensuring food and nutritional security, appreciated the farmer-centric activities of ICAR-KVK Thiruvananthapuram, and stressed the need to enhance awareness of central government schemes among farmers

Dr. G. Byju, Director, ICAR-CTCRI,

briefed the Minister on key research achievements and highlighted the need for a National Tuber Crops Mission considering the climate-resilient nature of tuber crops. Er. Chithra G., SMS (Agricultural Engineering) presented the achievements and extension initiatives of ICAR-KVK Thiruvananthapuram, including frontline demonstrations, farmer trainings, promotion of natural farming, drone spraying in paddy, women-led entrepreneurship, bio-input production, and dissemination of ICAR-CTCRI technologies. Progressive farmers were honoured for their contributions to tuber crops cultivation. The Minister assured continued support for strengthening agricultural research and extension systems

KVK UDUPI



Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting

The 19th Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting of ICAR–KVK Brahmavar, Udupi district was held on 21 January 2026 at the KVK training hall under the chairmanship of Dr. B. Hemla Naik, Director of Education, KSNUAHS, Shivamogga. The meeting commenced with Raitha Geethe and the ICAR anthem, followed by welcome remarks from Dr. Dhananjaya B., Senior Scientist and Head, KVK Brahmavar, and inauguration by Dr. B. M. Dushyanthakumar, Director of Research, KSNUAHS, by lighting the lamp.

Dr. Gangadhar K., Nodal Scientist, ICAR–ATARI, Bengaluru, addressed the meeting virtually and highlighted the importance of SAC in reviewing past activities and planning future programmes. Dr. G. K. Girijesh, Director of Extension, KSNUAHS, released the KVK newsletter and appreciated the extension efforts of the KVK. During the meeting, the Action Taken Report of the previous SAC was presented. In his presidential address, Dr. B. Hemla Naik emphasized planting material production of avocado, exotic fruits, dwarf coconut varieties, conservation of local chrysanthemum cultivars, and demonstrations on coconut plant



protection. The meeting concluded with remarks by the Director of Extension and a vote of thanks.

Front Line Demonstration on Drone Assisted foliar application of nutrients

ICAR-KVK Brahmavar initiated a Front-Line Demonstration (FLD) on drone-assisted foliar application of Pulse Magic in black gram. Pulse Magic is a scientifically formulated nutrient and plant growth regulator complex designed to enhance

pulse productivity by 20–22%. The formulation comprises nitrogen (10%), phosphorus (40%), micronutrients (3%), and plant growth regulators (20 ppm), which collectively minimize flower abscission and enhance pod setting. The demonstration was conducted in farmers' fields at Padukere village, covering an area of 10 acres. The black gram crop was at 30 days after sowing (DAS) at the time of application. Foliar spraying was carried out using an agricultural drone with a spray volume of 50 L ha⁻¹ and a Pulse Magic concentration of 4% (w/v).

KVK UTTARA KANNADA



Capacity Building of Farm Women on Spices Value Addition

ICAR–Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Uttara Kannada, Sirsi, successfully conducted an Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) on Spices Value Addition on 20.01.2026 at the KVK campus, Sirsi. The programme was designed to promote entrepreneurial skills among farm women through value addition in spices.

The training programme comprised both theoretical and practical sessions, focusing on enhancing participants' technical and entrepreneurial competencies. During the programme,

detailed demonstrations were conducted on the preparation of value-added spice products, including chicken mix, mutton mix and fish gravy mix.

Participants were provided with hands-on training along with technical inputs on processing methods, packaging, labelling, and sealing techniques to ensure product quality, shelf life, and market readiness.

A total of 15 farm women actively participated in the programme and exhibited keen interest and enthusiasm throughout the training. To support their entrepreneurial initiatives, participants were also provided with packaging materials such as standing pouches of different sizes and zipper pouches.

KVK VIJAYAPURA-I



Krishi Mela 2025-26

Krishi Mela 2025–26 was jointly organized by the College of Agriculture, Vijayapura campus and the State Department of Agriculture (KSDA), Vijayapura from 4 to 6 January 2026, and was inaugurated on 4 January 2026. The inaugural function was presided over by Hon'ble MLA Shri Vithal Dhondiba Katakadhond, Naghathan Constituency, in the presence of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Dr. P. L. Patil, UAS, Dharwad, and members of the Board of Management. The mela featured exhibition stalls, consultancy services, flower show, and an agricultural mechanization exhibition.

In his address, the Hon'ble MLA emphasized adoption of advanced agricultural technologies such as AI and drone technology and encouraged natural and organic farming practices. The Vice-Chancellor highlighted recent research achievements, including the nationally recognized rabi jowar variety CSV-29R and development of short-duration, drought-tolerant pigeonpea varieties in collaboration with ICRISAT. Several technical publications were released, and Krishi Pandit awardee farmers were honoured for their achievements. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. S. B. Jagginavar, Dean (Agri.) and Chairman, Krishi Mela, College of Agriculture, Vijayapura.

KVK VIJAYAPURA-II



Kagzi Magic in a Cup: Parvathi's Lemon Tea Driving Rural Empowerment

From the sun-drenched lime orchards of Indi taluk in Karnataka's Vijayapura district—home to over half the state's prized Kagzi lime production—comes a refreshing success story that blends tradition, innovation, and government-backed empowerment. Parvathi a resilient local entrepreneur, has turned a simple cup of lime tea into a thriving micro-business, showcasing how targeted support can transform rural lives and spotlight regional specialties.

The Spark: A Unique Fruit Meets Opportunity

Building on the skills gained through the EDP, Parvathi started a small Kagzi lemon tea and beverage point, transforming a locally abundant GI-tagged crop into a steady livelihood. By blending fresh Indi Kagzi lime with hygienic preparation, attractive presentation, and affordable pricing, her venture quickly gained popularity among local customers. The enterprise not only increased her household income but also created awareness about the nutritional and commercial value of the GI-tagged lime. Parvathi's success stands as a strong example of how value addition, institutional support, and women's entrepreneurship can convert a regional specialty into a tool for rural empowerment and economic resilience.

KVK WAYANAD



Training Programme on Value Addition of Mushrooms for Income Generation

A training programme on value addition of mushrooms was conducted on 29th January 2026 for farmers from Kozhikode district with the objective of enhancing their knowledge and skills in processing mushrooms into value-added products for improved income generation. The programme emphasized the importance of value addition in increasing shelf life, improving marketability, and reducing post-harvest losses, while also creating opportunities for small-scale entrepreneurship among farmers.

During the programme, a hands-on practical session was organized in which participants were introduced to the preparation methods of various mushroom-based products. A total of four value-added products were demonstrated and prepared, namely

mushroom soup, mushroom pakoda (bhaji), mushroom pickle, and mushroom momos. The demonstrations focused on hygienic processing practices, use of locally available ingredients, and simple techniques suitable for household as well as small commercial production.

Farmers actively participated in the preparation process and gained practical exposure to product formulation and handling.

The programme helped in improving participants' understanding of mushroom value addition, developing practical skills in product preparation, and building confidence to adopt these techniques at the field level. It also created awareness about the economic potential of processed mushroom products and encouraged farmers to explore income-generating activities through value-added mushroom enterprises. Overall, the training programme was found to be highly beneficial, contributing to skill development, livelihood enhancement, and sustainable utilization of mushroom produce.

KVK YADGIR



Training program on cotton mulcher

ICAR–KVK, Yadgir (Kawadimatti) organized an off-campus field day programme on 28 January 2026 at Beeranur village. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Jaiprakash Narayan R. P., Senior Scientist and Head, KVK Yadgir, with participation of Dr. Mallappa, Scientist (Agronomy), KVK Raddewadagi, and progressive farmers. The scientists explained the importance and working principles of the cotton mulcher, highlighting its role in cotton stalk management, soil health improvement, moisture conservation, and control of pink bollworm after harvest. The field

day enhanced farmers' awareness on sustainable cotton residue management, and a large number of farmers participated and benefited from the programme.

One-Day Training on PKVY and Organic Farming

ICAR–KVK, Yadgir organized a one-day off-campus training programme on 23 January 2026 at Biofuel Park, Tintani, in association with the Department of Horticulture. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Jaiprakash Narayan R. P., Senior Scientist and Head, KVK Yadgir, with participation of Department of Horticulture staff and farmers.

During the training, Dr. Jaiprakash



Narayan explained the key features of the Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), which promotes organic farming through a cluster-based Participatory Guarantee System approach under the National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture. The scheme's role in supporting chemical-free, eco-friendly farming and production of nutritious, marketable produce was highlighted. A large number of farmers attended and benefited from the programme, and KVK staff also created awareness about Krishi Mela-2026.

One-Day Training on Organic Cut Flower Cultivation

ICAR-KVK, Yadgir organized a one-day off-campus training programme on 20 January 2026 at Hoskera village, in association with the Department of Horticulture, Shahapur and Susagri Development Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Jaiprakash Narayan R. P., Senior Scientist and Head, KVK Yadgir.

During the training, the importance of cut flower cultivation, organic farming practices, and the role of the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) in organic certification and local marketing were explained. Emphasis was laid on sustainable flower production, soil health, biodiversity, and eco-friendly pest and disease management. Farmers actively interacted with scientists and benefited from the programme.

