

# ICAR-ATARI Bengaluru NEWSLETTER



July to September, 2023

Volume - 4 : Issue - 3



## Director's Message

## PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Programme

It is a proud moment for all of us to celebrate the success of G 20 Global event organised in our country. We are committed to enhancing global food security and nutrition by strengthening our efforts for transformation towards sustainable agriculture and food systems, which are resilient to crises including climate change and biodiversity loss. G 20 declarations emphasized the need to work together to promote food security and nutrition. We are committed to helping vulnerable countries particularly Net Food Importing Developing Countries (NFIDCs) to achieve it. We recognize that the current crises are multi-dimensional and therefore, require a multi-layered approach combining coherent and effective short, medium, and long-term responses in the spirit of "One Earth, One Family, One Future", tackling all crises with the same urgency.

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation various agriculture development projects such as more than 1.25 lakh PM Kisan Samridhhi Kendras (PMKSKs), launching Urea Gold - a new variety of Urea coated with Sulphur, onboarding 1600 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) on Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), releasing 14th installment amount of about Rs 17,000 crores under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) to 8.5 crore beneficiaries, among other programmes in Sikar, Rajasthan on 27 July, 2023 .

We all have to work together for the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, plants, and the wider environment (including ecosystems) are closely linked and interdependent. We call for an integrated and multi-sectoral "One Health" approach to simultaneously balance and optimize the health of people, animals, plants and ecosystems, and combat antimicrobial resistance (AMR) to reduce the risks from emerging, re-emerging and currently occurring zoonotic diseases with pandemic potential and other threats to global public health security. The same was emphasised in my last issue message calling for collective action.

KVKs pan India arranged live webcasting of the programme . A total of 4061 participants viewed live telecast programme at their respective KVKs of Kerala, Karnataka and Lakshadweep which included the presence of four State Ministers/MLAs and 3817 farmers .

We need to stress the importance of diverse, safe, and sustainably produced nutritious food to improve food security and nutrition. We have to encourage initiatives to promote innovations in crop development, production and consumption patterns including climate-resilient, nutritious, locally adapted, Indigenous and underutilized grains. Emphasizing the significance of research and development to increase agricultural productivity in a sustainable manner, we should also encourage efforts to strengthen our cooperation on climate-resilient and nutritious grains such as millets, sorghum and other traditional crops including rice, wheat and maize.



Let us join our hands towards achieving the sustainable use of all our resources towards the wellness of plant-Animal- Human through our novel programmes of Application research, demonstration, Human preparedness and Approaches

One Earth One Family One Future.

(V. VENKATASUBRAMANIAN)

Contd.....2

# PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Programme

(continued from page 1)



**KVK Gadag**



**KVK Chitradurga**



**KVK Koppal**



**KVK Mandya**

Governor of Rajasthan, Shri Kalraj Mishra, Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister for Law and Justice, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, and Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shri Kailash Choudhary were present on the occasion among others.

Hon'ble Prime Minister mentioned the direct transfer of the installment under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) to crores of farmer-beneficiaries. Speaking about the dedication of more than 1.25 lakh PM Kisan Samridhhi Kendras in the country, Hon'ble Prime Minister said that it would directly benefit crores of farmers at the village and block level. He also mentioned the onboarding of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) on Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) and said that it would make it easier for the farmers to take their produce to the market from any part of the country.

Hon'ble Prime Minister explained how, a new system from seed to market (Beej se Bazaar tak) have been created in the last nine years. He said Kisan Samridhhi Kendras (PMKSKs) will pave the way for the prosperity of the farmers. These Kendras are being developed as one-stop shops for the needs of the farmers. These

will also provide advanced modern information on agriculture-related issues to the farmers and information regarding agriculture schemes of the government also. Hon'ble Prime Minister advised the farmers to keep visiting the kendras and get benefit from the knowledge available there. He informed that an additional 1.75 lakh PM Kisan Samridhhi Kendras (PMKSKs) will be established before the end of the year.

Hon'ble Prime Minister said that the present Government is working towards reducing the expenses of the farmers and support them in their time of need. Referring to PM Kissan Samman Nidhi, the Hon'ble Prime Minister said that it is the largest scheme in the world where funds are directly transferred into the bank accounts of farmers. He informed that more than 2 lakh 60 thousand crore rupees have been directly transferred to the bank accounts of farmers so far. He said that the price of urea in the country is an example of the government saving the farmers' expenses.

Hon'ble Prime Minister talked about the promotion of millet and measures like branding millets as Shree Anna. He said that through the promotion of Shree Anna, its production, processing and export are increasing. He recalled the inclusion of millet recipes in the official White House dinner during his recent visit.

# His Excellency the Governor of Karnataka, Shri Thawar Chand Gehlot visits KVK Bagalkote

Shri. Thawar Chand Gehlot, Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka visited KVK, Bagalkote on July 01, 2023. He was accompanied by Dr. Udam Singh Gautam, Deputy Director General (Agriculture Extension), Dr. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR - ATARI, Bengaluru, Dr. P. L. Patil, Vice Chancellor, UAS, Dharwad, and Dr. Indires K M, Vice Chancellor UHS, Bagalkote.

In his address, Hon'ble Governor urged the farmers to get higher yields and income by following good agricultural and horticultural practices. He also briefed about the importance and role of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the prosperity of the farmers.

The Hon'ble Governor also interacted with Shri. Chidanand Nagral, Progressive Farmer from Anadinni village. Hon'ble Governor planted tree saplings, released fingerlings of fish, inaugurated the seed processing unit (seed hub), oil extraction unit, and vacuum packaging unit. He visited the KVK instructional farm and seed production plots of greengram (DGGV-2) and Soybean (JS-335). He also released bio-pesticide *Beauveria bassiana* at bio-control laboratory. His Excellency the Governor released some publications and distributed soil health cards to the farmers.



Smt. K. M. Janaki, IAS, District Commissioner, Bagalkote District and Shri Jayaprakash, IPS Superintendent of Police, Bagalkote District were also present. Dr. D. N. Kambrekar, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK Bagalkote briefed about the progress and the ongoing activities of KVK. More than 50 farmers participated in the programme.



# Secretary (DARE) & Director General (ICAR) visits ICAR-ATARI Bengaluru



**Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary (DARE) & Director General (ICAR) visited ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Bengaluru on 29.08.2023.**



Dr. Himanshu Pathak planted an auspicious/holy plant at ATARI campus, visited various facilities, and interacted with scientists and staff. He complimented the KVKs of Karnataka, Kerala and Lakshadweep for doing good work. He also seen presentation on ARYA network research project and appreciated its output.

# Dr. U. S. Gautam, DDG (AE) visits KVK Belagavi – II



Dr. U. S. Gautam, Deputy Director General (AE), ICAR, New Delhi visited ICAR-KLE KVK, Belagavi-II on 2.7.2023 and interacted with KVK staff, farmers and farmwomen.



Dr.V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ATARI, Bengaluru highlighted the progress made by the KVK in a short period in the service of farming community through technology transfer programmes and production of inputs which are not available elsewhere in the district



DDG along with Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru and Shri B. R. Patil, Chairman, KVK Belagavi-II visited various demo units at KVK instructional farm, museum, exhibition hall, soil testing laboratory, plant health clinic, Kisan Bazar outlet, seed processing unit cum godown and inaugurated livestock feed production unit, farm pond, natural farming input production unit and implements purchased under SCSP project. A booklet on 'Technology Interventions - A boon to farmer's income' was released. On the occasion, tree plantation was also taken up. Exhibition was also arranged in which farmers and farmwomen took part and presented their value added products.



DDG appreciated the efforts made by the KVK for upliftment of farming community by adopting innovative approaches like call to save crop, soil testing at the door step of the farmers, soil fertility index and fertilizer recommendation charts – pasted at prominent locations of the villages, and KVK mobile app to reach un-reach farmers. The seed production programme taken up by the KVK for production of seeds of cereals, pulses and oilseeds suitable for the district grabbed the special attention during the visit. Scientists with the involvement of the farmers should come up with new initiatives/ technologies for climate change as farming sector is affected adversely due to aberrant weather conditions. He emphasized the need for implementation of natural and organic farming, platform for marketing of value added products produced by the farmers/ entrepreneurs. In addition, he highlighted the various schemes of Government of India executed through KVKs for benefit of the farming community.



# Research Advisory Committee for ICAR ATARIs

The first meeting of the re-constituted Research Advisory Committee (RAC) for ICAR Agricultural Technology Application Research Institutes (ATARI) was held under the Chairmanship of Dr. P. Das, Former DDG (Agricultural Extension), ICAR during **04-06 August 2023** at Bengaluru which was hosted and coordinated by ICAR-ATARI Bengaluru.

Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR ATARI Bengaluru welcomed the august gathering and thanked the DDG (AE), ICAR for giving the opportunity to host the meeting in Bengaluru.

Dr. P. Das, Chairman of the Committee focused on the internationally relevant issues like water footprints, food systems, zero-gap in adoption and ecosystem services, which also have huge implications to Indian agriculture and farmers. He emphasised on latest tools and techniques adopted by the researchers worldwide which are to be thoroughly understood and applied as per the demands of the situations. Considering the fact that the KVK system is in its 50th year of existence, it is high time that the innovative models tested and proved in various contexts are scientifically analysed and documented.



Dr U. S. Gautam, DDG (Agril. Extn) in his remarks welcomed the newly constituted RAC of ATARIs and appraised the committee through presentation about the mandate, activities and achievements of KVKs. He informed that the Agricultural Extension Division under ICAR has been given three important tasks of Extension, Research and Teaching. The year 2024 being the Golden Jubilee year of KVKs, our efforts should be to resolve the issues facing KVKs, and make them as vibrant extension institutions. DDG (AE) requested the RAC and ATARIs to come out with new projects addressing the issues and new extension methodologies/models to support the policy makers keeping in view of previously discussed aspects.



# Research Advisory Committee for ICAR ATARIs (continued from page 6)

During the meeting, eight ongoing network projects were discussed and suggestions were given for further improvement. Also, new network project proposals were presented by different ATARIs and discussed in detail. Members of RAC viz. Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah, Former VC, AAU, Assam, Prof. Pravat Kumar Roul, VC, OUAT, Bhubaneswar, Dr. R. Parshad, Former ADG (AE), ICAR (online) and Dr. Ranjay K. Singh, ADG (AE), ICAR New Delhi participated in deliberations. Dr. R. R. Burman, ADG (AE), ICAR New Delhi, directors and principal scientists from ATARIs participated in the meeting. Dr. Chandre Gowda M. J., Principal Scientist and Member Secretary, RAC coordinated the meeting



## Technology Day Celebrated



**KVK Belagavi II**



**KVK Palakkad**



**KVK Mandya**

The ICAR celebrated 95th Foundation Day and Technology Day on 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2023. The event was followed by an exhibition of technologies developed by ICAR Institutes/commodities during 16-18 July, 2023. Technology Day was celebrated at all Krishi Vigyan Kendras on all three days. KVKs put up exhibition and ensured participation of farmers, farm women, rural youth, extension professionals, industry, FPO, SHG etc for wider visibility of relevant technologies. KVKs of Kerala, Karnataka and Lakshadweep organized programmes with participation of 6930 farmers, 139 Public Representatives, and 184 FPOs/Startups/SHGs.



**KVK Dharwad**



**KVK Davanagere**



**KVK Gadag**

# Dr. R. K. Singh, ADG (AE) inaugurated the Millet Recipe Contest

ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Bengaluru Rural District organized Millet Recipe Contest on 06.08.2023 at Melekote village of Doddaballapura Taluk.

Dr. R. K. Singh, ADG (AE), ICAR, New Delhi inaugurated the programme and explained the importance of minor millets, processing, value addition, branding and marketing. Dr. Subrata Kumar Roy, Director, ATARI Pune, and Dr. Shaik N. Meera, Director, ATARI Hyderabad graced the occasion. Sri Srinivas, Chairman, Melekote Grama Panchayath encouraged the farmers to grow nutri millets and market the millets after processing and value addition to get more income in his presidential remarks. Dr. B. G. Hanumantharaya, Senior Scientist & Head coordinated the event.



30 SHG members participated in millet recipe contest and exhibited around 85 recipes made from various millets. The best 5 SHG members were awarded. The chief guests and other participants tasted the products and appreciated the nutritious millet products.



An exhibition on millets was also organized along with various departments of UAS, Bangalore viz., Bakery training unit, AICRP on millets, Post Harvest Engineering and Technology Centre of Excellence on Minor millets and Arkavathi FPO, Hadonahalli. Totally 150 farmers and farm women, KVK and other line department staff were participated

## Interaction meet with participants of skill development programme on mushroom cultivation



ICAR – Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pathanamthitta organized five days *‘Skill Development Training in Mushroom cultivation’* exclusively for SC community as part of the SCSP programme from 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> July 2023. The training was funded by ICAR-National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM). An interaction meet was organised on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2023 at KVK, wherein Dr. Srinivasa Rao, Director ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad along with Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru, Dr. M. Balakrishnan, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad had face to face interaction with the ex-trainees to evaluate the effectiveness of the training and the problems faced by farmers in initiating the mushroom enterprise.



As part of the SC sub plan 2022-23, a coconut oil extraction unit is set up at ICAR-KVK, Pathanamthitta. KVK extend the facility of extracting oil free of cost to the SC community. The unit was jointly inaugurated by Dr. Srinivasa Rao, ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad and Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2023 in the presence of Dr. M. Balakrishnan, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad, Rev. Money Varughese, Director, CARD and Dr. C P Robert, Senior Scientist and Head, ICAR-KVK, Pathanamthitta

# Inter-KVK Cross Learning Exposure Visit

ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru organised Inter-KVK cross learning exposure visits to Kerala state covering ICAR-KVKs Pathanamthitta, Alappuzha and Kollam from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> August 2023. The visit intended to provide exchange of experiences and excellent mutual learning opportunity for both the host KVKs and the visiting KVKs. The exposure visit commenced from ICAR-KVK, Pathanamthitta. Dr. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad inaugurated the programme in the presence of Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru. Heads of 12 ICAR-KVK's from Karnataka state ( Belagavi-1, Mysore, Gadag, Uttara Kannada, Belagavi-II, Udupi, Kolar, Bengaluru Rural, Kalaburagi-I, Dakshina Kannada, Davanagare and Chikkamagaluru) and Kerala state (Thiruvananthapuram) participated in the programme.

On 16.8.2023, the team also participated in the inauguration of coconut oil extraction unit set up at KVK Pathanamthitta as part of the SC sub plan 2022-23 by Dr. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad in the presence of Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru. It was followed by an interaction meet with trainees of 5 day 'Skill Development Training in Mushroom cultivation' organized exclusively for SC community as part of the SCSP programme. The team also visited the various labs, demonstration units and instructional farm of KVK Pathanamthitta and had technical discussions with the SMSs and Farm Manager.



KVK Pathanamthitta

On the following day, Director ATARI, Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, delivered the key note address in the 'Karashakadinam" (Farmers' day) celebrations at Pandalam Thekkakara Panchayath, also visited entrepreneurs of ARYA project and launched the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan project for the year 2023-24 at Athrappattu Colony of Chennerkkara Panchayat in the Elanthoor block of Pathanamthitta district



KVK Alappuzha

The programme on 17.08.2023 in Alappuzha district began with an interaction with the Director and Board Members of the Onattukara Spices Farmer Producer Company (OSFPC) promoted by KVK Alappuzha at the processing and value addition unit of the company. Then the team joined the 'Karashakadinam" (Farmers' day) celebrations of the Bharanikkavu Grama Panchayath where the President, Members and Agricultural Officer of the Panchayath received them with great enthusiasm. On reaching the KVK, they were exposed to the NICRA project activities through the video and photo exhibition and also went around the demonstration units and had technical discussions with the SMSs and Farm Manager. In the Agro Processing



Training cum Incubation Centre (APTIC) of the KVK, the team interacted with the entrepreneurs promoted by the KVK, and learned process of handholding provided to them. Later the team members had a detailed interaction with the team-KVK-Alappuzha describing the prospects and potential of each of their KVK/ District and achievements. This helped all the participants to have an understanding of the flagship activities of each of the KVK. Finally the team visited Kuttanad region, where below mean sea level farming is practiced, to the locations of implementation of the NICRA project and saw the climate resilient goat sheds, cage culture of fish, and the dewatering system (Petti and Para) in place for paddy cultivation in the region.

Contd.....11

# Inter-KVK Cross Learning Exposure Visit

(Continued from page10)

On 18.08.2023, the team visited KVK Kollam and the day began with an informal discussion with Dr. Jacob John, Director of Extension, KAU. The interaction succeeded in bringing out the similarities, strengths and challenges of each KVK participating in the visit. This was followed by visit to various units of the KVK especially bio control lab and production unit, agro processing lab and incubation unit, poly house and seedling production unit, organic input and micro nutrient production unit, incubation and processing unit for rice and pulses, egger nursery unit, aquaponics unit, hydroponics unit, mushroom spawn production unit and mushroom house, plant health clinic, agro machinery training hub and SC farmer's utility centre, goat unit etc. A field visit to master IFS farmer Shri Jacob Thomas, Mamoottil house and Valakom was arranged.



## Juice counter of Ollur Krishi Samridhi Farmer Producer Company inaugurated



Dr. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI Bengaluru inaugurated a juice counter of Ollur Krishi Samridhi Farmer Producer Company 24 August, 2023. This FPO is trained and handholded by KVK Thrissur at Nadathara, Thrissur. Dr. Jacob John, Director of Extension, KAU Thrissur graced the occasion.

# Zonal Committee Meeting of Attracting & Retaining Youth in Agriculture (ARYA) organized



ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru organized Zonal Committee Meeting of Attracting & Retaining Youth in Agriculture (ARYA) on September 07, 2023. Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Co-Chair, Zonal Committee & Director, ATARI Bengaluru briefed about the importance of ARYA project and emphasized the generation of employment in the rural area to check the migration of rural youth to cities. Dr. K. Narayana Gowda, Chairman, Zonal Committee highlighted the importance of

publication of ARYA entrepreneur's success stories in newspapers and mass media to inspire other youth of the district to take up similar enterprises. Heads of six ARYA project implementing KVKs of Karnataka & Kerala presented Annual Progress Report (2022-23) and Action Plan (2023-24). Critical suggestions were given by the committee members for effective implementation of the project.

## Rajbhasha Saptaha Celebrated



ICAR-ATARI Bengaluru organized 'Rajbhasha Saptaha' from 04 - 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023. The program was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Smt. Sunita Sharma, Director, Division of Agricultural Extension, ICAR, New Delhi. The program was graced by Guest of Honour, Shri. Balraj Singh, Under Secretary, Division of Agricultural Extension, ICAR, New Delhi. Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI Bengaluru advised the staff members to use Hindi as communication language in the office.

On the occasion of Hindi Saptaha, Chief Guest, Smt. Sunita Sharma said that Hindi is an unbreakable part of Indian culture and it has been an effective and powerful medium of national unity and identity. She also encouraged the use of Rajbhasha in official work. On this occasion, ATARI staff actively participated and graced the event with their presence.



हर कदम, हर डगर  
किसानों का हमसफर  
भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद

Agriseach with a human touch

Published by Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director ICAR-ATARI Bengaluru  
Editors : Dr. D. V. Kolekar, Dr. B. T. Rayudu and Yamuna N.  
Editorial Board: Dr. M. J. Chandre Gowda, Dr. D. V. S. Reddy,  
Dr. B. T. Rayudu, Dr. Thimmappa K.,  
Dr. D. V. Kolekar and Dr. M. B. Hanji

