

# ICAR-ATARI Bengaluru NEWSLETTER



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## Director's Message

The new challenge before ICAR is that the potential of research has to be realized by extending it in a manner that leads to new products, services and systems that add value to bring about significant changes in income, employment and livelihood security of people; not only in rural India but also to fuel the entire economy. In other words, bringing knowledge to create value has to be at the centre of the new approach. This can be achieved if entrepreneurs are created in large number and nurtured through appropriate interventions/incentives/investments by generating new technologies, allowing access to latest technologies, arranging required services and supplies to optimally use the technologies, and providing the required entrepreneurship skills. This requires empowering KVKs with an effective innovation management system that nurtures entrepreneurship through networking of institutions in the public and private sectors and also social development organizations/agencies that would interact in the production, processing, diffusion and use of new and economically useful knowledge. In this direction ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru has taken initiative to register a common brand *Kisan Samruddhi* and also for creating an online platform of *Kisan Kart*. It is also planned a Zonal Women Agripreneur meet at Thrissur. The capacity development of FPO members and KVK staff are some of the initiatives of ICAR-ATARI to align the KVK programmes with the vision of our Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to empower our youth with Skilling and Scaling apart from creating awareness and imparting Knowledge. I wish all my KVK team a Happy New Year 2024 and every best in their mission of empowering the farmers with Knowledge and Skill for their socio economic security and prosperity.

(V. VENKATASUBRAMANIAN)

## PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Programme

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi addressed the program marking the celebrations of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, 2023 in Khunti, Jharkhand on 15.11.2023. During the programme, Hon'ble Prime Minister launched 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' and Pradhan Mantri Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups Development Mission. He also released the 15th installment of PM-KISAN. A video message from the President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu was played on the occasion. KVKs pan India arranged live webcasting of PM's programme. A total of 2388 participants viewed live telecast programme at their respective KVKs of Kerala, Karnataka and Lakshadweep. Governor of Jharkhand, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan, Chief Minister of Jharkhand, Shri Hemant Soren, and Union Minister for Tribal Affairs, Shri Arjun Munda were present on the occasion among others.



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# PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Programme (continued from page 1)



**KVK Bagalkote**



**KVK Gadag**



**KVK Kodagu**



**KVK Mandya**

Hon'ble Prime Minister emphasized the need to focus on the four 'Amrit Stambhs of Viksit Bharat' or pillars of a developed India namely, women power or Nari Shakti, food producers of India, youth of the country and India's neo-middle class and the poor. He said that the degree of development in India depends on our capability to strengthen these pillars of development .

Hon'ble Prime Minister recalled the event of Gram Swaraj Abhiyan in 2018 where 1000 government officers were sent to the villages to create awareness about seven prime government schemes and expressed confidence that Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra will become equally successful. Hon'ble Prime Minister further elaborated on his vision of every farmer and labourer joining the pension schemes and the youth availing the Mudra Yojna to realize their dreams. "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is Modi's guarantee for the poor, deprived, women, youth and farmers of India", he said.

Releasing the 15th instalment of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi which was released, Hon'ble Prime Minister informed that more than Rs 2,75,000 crores have now been transferred to the accounts of farmers so far. He also mentioned the Kisan Credit Card for cattle farmers and fishermen, the government expenditure of Rs 15,000 crores on free vaccination of livestock, financial assistance under Matsya Sampada Yojana to promote fish farming, and the formation of 10000 new Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) in the country leading to a reduction in costs for farmers by making the market more accessible. PM Modi also touched upon the year 2023 being celebrated as the International Millet Year and the efforts of the government to take Shri Anna to foreign markets .

Concluding the address, Hon'ble Prime Minister expressed confidence that the four Amrit Stambhs of Amrit Kaal i.e. India's women power, youth power, agricultural power and the power of our poor and middle class will take India to new heights and make India a developed India .

# Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi interacted with beneficiaries of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra on 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 at 4 PM via video conferencing. Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister expressed gratitude for getting the opportunity to flag off the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in the five states of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Telangana and Mizoram, and remarked that the 'Modi Ki Guarantee' vehicle is now reaching all parts of the country. He said that our cities play a significant role in the resolution of a 'Viksit Bharat'. Development, for a long time after independence, was limited to some major cities. However, today we are focusing on the development of Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities. Hundreds of small cities are the ones that are empowering the grand structure of 'Viksit Bharat'. Whether it's the Amrut Mission or the Smart City Mission, efforts are being made to improve basic facilities in small cities. The aim is to continuously upgrade water supply, drainage and sewage systems, traffic systems, and the network of CCTV cameras in these cities. Cleanliness, public toilets and LED street lights—these aspects have seen extensive work in cities for the first time. The direct impact of this is on Ease of Living, Ease of Travel, and Ease of Doing Business. Whether it is poor, middle class, or those who have recently come out of poverty, a new

middle-class family which is emerging, or the affluent families, everyone is benefiting from these increasing facilities.

On this occasion, KVKs web casted the program and briefed about the Government of India's Schemes to the participants. A total of 8180 people in Karnataka and 3739 in Kerala participated in the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra. Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi interacted with beneficiaries of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra on 09<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 through video conferencing. Addressing the gathering, Prime Minister noted the remarkable enthusiasm being witnessed by the 'Modi Ki Guarantee' vehicle in every village. He underlined that the government identified the beneficiaries and then took steps to extend the benefits to them. He said that all Government of India schemes have reached every corner of Bharat. He stated that crores of families in villages across the country have benefitted from some or the other government schemes. He also reiterated that the government is paying attention to the skill development of women. On this occasion, KVKs of Karnataka and Kerala have actively participated in the program. A total of 6694 people in Karnataka and 883 in Kerala have participated in the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra.



**KVK Gadag**



**KVK Belagavi II**



**KVK Malappuram**



**KVK Ramanagara**

# Visit of Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare to KVK, Kottayam



Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Sushri Shobha Karandlaje visited ICAR- Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kottayam on 16.11.2023. Programme Co-ordinators of Krishi Vigyan Kendra Kottayam, Thrissur, Pathanamthitta, ADR of RARS Kumarakom, staff of different KVKs, FPO representatives and farmers attended the programme.

Director, of Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Bengaluru, Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, welcomed the gathering. The Hon'ble Minister visited the newly constructed farmers hostel, sales outlet of KVK, different demonstration units and the KVK farm and gave valuable suggestions.



The Hon'ble Minister inaugurated the distribution of Pearlspot fish seeds to farmers. She enquired the benefits of centrally sponsored Farmer Welfare Programmes. Further she interacted with the representatives of different FPOs about the prospects of their enterprises. She commented that there is immense scope in exporting coconut based value added products and Farmer Producers Organizations should have diverse enterprises utilizing the technologies available with various Research Organizations.



She informed that the Central Government funds can be obtained by submitting projects to RKVY or the Central Sector scheme-Agriculture Infrastructure Fund, for enhancing infrastructure facilities and even for exporting value added products. Programme Co-ordinator of KVK Kottayam offered the vote of thanks.

# Hon`ble Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare inaugurated administrative building & farmers hostel of KVK Yadgir



Hon`ble Union Minister of State Agriculture and Farmers welfare, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje inaugurated administrative building & farmers hostel of KVK ICAR-Yadgir on 13.10.2023 in the presence of Shri Sharanabasappa Darshanapur, Hon`ble Minister of Small-Scale Industries, Public enterprises, Govt of Karnataka. Sushri Shobha Karandlaje appreciated the emerged new technologies in agriculture for surplus food grain production to feed the entire nation & export to the other countries. Agriculture produces from India are being preferred globally and millets are getting significance in the international year of millets she added. She emphasizes the importance of organic farming, natural farming and promotion of eco-friendly agriculture with a budget provision of Rs. 1500 crores from Government of India. She urged to utilize the new technologies, information and training from Krishi Vigyan Kendra to double the income of the farmers. ICAR released more than 1500 varieties suitable for different biotic and abiotic stress management can be adopted by farmers to mitigate climate changes like drought, salinity and flood situation etc. Central government provided Rs. 1.00 lakh crore towards farmers infrastructure facilities can be utilized for processing and value addition.



Shri Sharanabasappa Darshanapur, Hon`ble Minister of Small-Scale Industries, Public enterprises requested the farmers to utilize the scientists of Krishi Vigyan Kendra for dryland farming, horticulture, animal husbandry and integrated farming system to enhance the income of farmers under increasing population and decreasing land holding of farmers.



Dr. M. Hanamanthappa, Hon`ble Vice Chancellor of UAS Raichur urged the farmers to utilize the irrigation land in Yadgir district to achieve sustainable agriculture and adaption of allied activities to double the income of farmers. Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director ATARI Bengaluru, D. M. Veerangouda, Registrar, Dr. Goudappa, Director of Extension, Mallikarjun D., Hon`ble Board member, department officials and more than 2000 farmers participated in the programme and graced the occasion. For the benefit of the farming community agriculture exhibition, stall fed sheep and goat rearing system, millet processing unit, fodder block, seed production of pigeon pea and paddy, horticulture nursery, application of drone technology in agriculture, Deoni and Kalyana gidda breeds were exhibited in the function.

# Annual Review Meeting of NICRA Project for 2022-23

The annual review 2022-23 of ICAR project “National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture” was organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kottayam on 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2023. The project is being implemented in 14 KVKs of Karnataka, Kerala and Lakshadweep to promote climate resilient technologies and address climatic vulnerability for enhancing farmers’ income. All the forty eight KVKs under ATARI Zone XI, Bengaluru attended the programme. Dr. DV Srinivasa Reddy, Principal Scientist, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru welcomed the gathering. Dr. JVNS Prasad, Principal Investigator of NICRA Technology Demonstration Component, CRIDA Hyderabad presented the achievements of the project in Kerala, Karnataka and Lakshadweep. He stated that integrating technologies at household level helps minimize adverse impacts. NICRA centre of KVK Tumkur-II has been recognized at national level for its achievement.



The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, former Director General of ICAR and the Chairperson of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority. He stressed the need for climate resilient technologies and suggested that integrated farming systems including millets and pulses suitable to each agro ecological conditions to be the best model for overcoming climatic challenges and provide livelihood security. He reiterated the need to conserve indigenous varieties that are more stable to climate change and establish seed banks to ensure availability of planting material. He further stated that NICRA was a part of discussion during G20 summit at Banaras. He appreciated the works done by Krishi Vigyan Kendras in dissemination of technologies and supporting farmers in conserving and protecting the native genetic wealth.

Dr. V K Singh, Director, ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad in his opening remarks suggested that technologies to address soil salinity, acidity, moisture stress have to be promoted for the farmers to attain resilience to climatic vagaries. Dr. Dinesh Kumar Agarwal, Registrar-General, Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers’ Rights Authority, Government of India, New Delhi opined that rains often play a chasing game with crop harvest that adversely affects seed production. He suggested that PPVFRA and NICRA can act on a common platform with the participation of KVKs.

The presentations by the fourteen KVKs on their activity during 2022-23 were critically evaluated by the team with modifications and guidelines for future plan of action.

# Orientation workshop on Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Act



One day workshop for sensitizing farmers and officials of KVKs from Kerala, Karnataka and Lakshadweep on Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Act was organized by Kishi Vigyan Kendra, Kottayam on 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2023. Dr. Venkatasubramanian, Director ATARI Bengaluru welcomed the gathering after briefing the need to conserve, protect and register the plant genetic resources of the country. Dr. Dinesh Kumar Agarwal, Registrar-General, Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Authority, Government of India, New Delhi described the activities of PPVFRA. He proudly stated that out of the 18192 applications received for registration under PPVFRA, 60% are of farmers' varieties. He opined that KVKs can be entrusted with tapping the genetic resources and mapping farmers' varieties in each District and further KVKs or FPOs can facilitate multiplication of seeds. In his address, Dr. V K Singh, Director CRIDA opined that the climatic constraints have great variations in the country. Organic farming has high potential for carbon sequestration and makes the farm climate resilient. In this context, PPVFRA and NICRA have common future goals.

Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Chairperson, Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Authority, Government of India, New Delhi in his keynote address stated that farmers of the country have a unique collection of germplasm that are more stable to the climatic changes. He appreciated the role played by KVKs in protecting the genetic wealth available with the farmers and supporting them for getting it registered. Around twenty selected farmers were honoured for their contribution in conserving, protecting and cultivating indigenous crop varieties



Dr. Jacob John, Director of Extension, KAU, Thrissur proposed the vote of thanks and further assured to conduct workshop for scientists and farmers on protection of plant varieties and farmers rights. Dr. Ravi Prakash, Technical consultant, PPVFRA and Dr. Elsy, C. R. former in-charge of IPR cell of Kerala Agriculture University detailed the PPVFR Act 2001 and elaborated the guidelines for registering farmers varieties. An exhibition on indigenous plant varieties, seeds and planting material, and value added products from Karnataka and Kerala was also arranged. Around thirty farmers and scientists of forty eight KVKs from Karnataka, Kerala and Lakshadweep participated in the programme.



# Review cum Action Plan Workshop of Framers FIRST Programme

The ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Bengaluru organized the Review cum Action Plan Workshop and Zonal Programme Management Committee (ZPMC) meeting of Farmer FIRST programme on October 03, 2023. Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Chairman, ZPMC & Director, ICAR-ATARI Bengaluru welcomed and elaborated about implementation of Farmers FIRST Programme through three ICAR institutions namely ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru, ICAR-CPCRI, Kasargod (RS, Kayamkulam) and ICAR-NIANP, Bengaluru and the project appraisal techniques that are ought to be followed. He emphasized that innovation research and technology plays an important role in the Farmers FIRST to reorient ourselves toward the changing needs. He urged to record implementation strategy, monitoring mechanism of all the three centers in one document as well as issues addressed in the programme since documentation of our achievements, impacts and outcomes are important. He also asked to revisit all efforts to strengthen, to redefine methodology. He suggested to make field visit to make the programme more successful and focused.



Dr. R. R. Burman, Assistant Director General (AE), ICAR, New Delhi in his opening remarks suggested to prepare Farmers FIRST Review report well before National workshop. Three years back new villages were identified and analyzed to find issues; those new villages should be concentrated and 75 percent of the resources could be allocated to them, remaining 25 percent could be spent on already existed villages. It has been already six to seven years since the project was initiated, it is time to review components after identification of needs, assessing new research issues. Developing business models, bio fortified varieties, value chain system, mobilization, product documentation should be given more importance. Large scale replication of successful models could be done. Based on the performance of the clusters or villages, review critically the units which have reached the saturation or not performing well could be stopped.



Dr. H. Phillip, Former Director of Extension, TNAU, Coimbatore and Member ZPMC emphasized that the most important thing is documentation which is the key factor in any implementation to an extension scientist. It is also important to highlight previous years result and finding. During the field visits actual part of farmers programme can be seen.



Dr. A. K. Mehta, Former ADG (AE), ICAR HQ, New Delhi and Member ZPMC also stressed the basis of documentation and focus on saturated units could be shifted to other areas. National workshop is a good opportunity to showcase the results obtained and he appreciated efforts of the team.



Three implementing centers viz. ICAR-CPCRI, Kasargod (regional station, kayamkulam), ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru and ICAR-NIANP, Bengaluru presented progress of the year 2022-23 and action plan 2023-24. Dr. D. V. Kolekar, Scientist and Member Secretary, ZPMC coordinated the event.

# ZPMC visits Farmer FIRST Villages



Team consisting of Dr. S. Prabukumar, PMC member of FFP & Former Director of ATARI Bengaluru and Ludhiana, and Dr. H. Philip, Former Director of Extension, TNAU Coimbatore and Member ZPMC, Dr. D. V. Kolekar, Scientist and Member Secretary, ZPMC and Dr. Letha Devi G, Senior Scientist and P. I., FFP of ICAR-NIANP Bengaluru visited FFP centre of NIANP Bengaluru on 05.10.2023 and visited adopted villages viz. Lakshmidvipura, Thimmojanahalli, S. Nagenahalli, Gangasandra, Karnala of Bengaluru Rural district. The team interacted with farmers about the technological interventions and their benefits of Farmers FIRST project in the village. During the meeting various scientific activities of FFP such as fodder production, mastitis management, infertility management, lameness management, ragi production, clean milk production, vegetables production were discussed and suggestions were given. They also visited field activities and discussed with farmers. Suggestions were given for documentation, making feedback videos, telecasting of successful technologies, creating FPOs, startups etc.



Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Chairman ZPMC & Director, ICAR-ATARI Bengaluru, Dr. R. R. Burman, Assistant Director General (AE), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. H. Phillip, Former Director of Extension, TNAU Coimbatore and Member ZPMC, Dr. A. K. Mehta, Former ADG (AE), ICAR New Delhi and Member ZPMC, Dr. S. Prabhu Kumar, Former Director, ATARI Bengaluru and member of PMC, Dr. D. V. Kolekar, Scientist and Member Secretary, ZPMC, Dr. B. Balakrishna, Principal Scientist and PI, FFP, ICAR-IIHR, Dr. D. Rajendran, Principal Scientist, (Animal Nutrition), ICAR-NDRI Bengaluru, Dr. Krishnappa Balaganur, Scientist and Dr. Letha Devi G, Senior Scientist, and P.I., FFP of ICAR-NIANP Bengaluru visited FFP centre of IIHR Bengaluru on 06.10.2023 at FFP cluster villages alongwith farmers of FFP cluster villages in Kanakapura taluk, Ramanagara district. ZPMC team visited FFP fields to understand various technological modules and activities of the FFP, to evaluate them and to provide suggestions for refinement of project to the implementation team. The team visited demonstration plot of improved variety ragi transplanted field, sericulture rearing house, chilli and tomato demonstration, small ruminant technology module, mushroom RTF bag production unit etc. After the visit ZPMC team had given suggestions for further improvement in implementation of FFP programme, such as out scaling, convergence, apiary promotion, bakery unit promotion, documentation of social benefits, marigold introduction in tomato, marketing, documentation etc.

# Tractor driver with a difference from Vettikkavala, Kollam

Reeja a gritty young girl (19 years) from Vettikkavala Panchayath of Kollam District is aiming to become a professional tractor driver. Reeja comes from a non-agriculturist family. Her father Shri. Anni is a daily wager, mother Ms. Shyni is a homemaker and elder brother is also a daily wager. Even though Reeja is a trained Ayurvedic therapist, her love for mechanical operations motivated her to take part in vocational training on “Operation and Maintenance of Tractor” under SCSP programme for 2023-24. The programme aims at the upliftment of the under-privileged section of the society. The training programme was organized for five days from 13.11.2023 to 17.11.23 at ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kollam.



It was mainly practical orientation and the participants were able to operate the Kendra’s two tractors (Mahindra 45 Hp and Kuboto 24 Hp) for five hours daily. The training programme aimed to enhance the theoretical and practical knowledge of participants on different components and systems of tractor, tractor driving, its maintenance schedule etc. They were taught about different parts of tractor engine, ignition system, fuel supply system, lubrication system, cooling system, power transmission, hydraulic system of tractor along with trouble shooting and repair maintenance schedule of tractor. They were trained on tractor driving on road and field condition with different implements like rotavator cultivator etc

In addition, the trainees were also trained in taking H test and road test for taking license. Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian , Director ATARI Bengaluru distributed certificates to the participants. Out of the 20 participants, Reeja was the youngest of the group. Her motivation and love for agriculture helped her to handle the Kendra’s Mahindra 45 Hp and Kuboto 24 Hp tractor with skill and courage. She is planning to get tractor driving license for supporting the farming community and for the betterment of her family .

# Celebration of Institute Foundation Day



ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute Zone XI, Bengaluru celebrated its Foundation Day on November 01, 2023 along with Karnataka Rajyotsava. Dr. Mruthyunjaya, former Assistant Director General (Economics, Statistics, Marketing; Policy Planning; Plan Implementation and Monitoring), ICAR, New Delhi graced the occasion as Chief Guest of the function. Dr. M. R. Dinesh, former Director, ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru was also present as Guest of Honor. At the outset, Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru welcomed all the dignitaries along with staff, KVK Heads and former staff who joined the program through offline and online mode. On the occasion, he briefed about significant capacity building, extension and research activities carried out by the Institute in the year 2022-23.



The cultural programs were organized to celebrate Karnataka Rajyotsava. The technical, administrative and supporting staff were felicitated by the dignitaries for their contribution towards the growth of the Institute. It was followed by felicitation of the staff who won prizes in competitions held to celebrate the Foundation Day of the Institute. Later, the dignitaries released the publications developed by KVKs.



The Guest of Honor, Dr. M. R. Dinesh, former Director, ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru shared his experiences during his association with the Institute and he appreciated the institute and KVKs achievements in taking the new technologies to the field.

It was followed by Chief Guest of the function, Dr. Mruthyunjaya, former National Director, NAIP, Director NCAP and Assistant Director General, ICAR, New Delhi delivered the Foundation Day Lecture. In his address, he said that KVKs under this Zone are doing well. He pointed out that being good is not enough, but the performance should be consistently and continuously be on the top which should be the aim. He advised how to transform the organization performance towards the excellence by following “5As”: aspire, assess, architect, act, and advance.

# Annual Swachhata Hi Sewa (SHS) fortnight



ATARI Bengaluru



KVK Davanagere



KVK Idukki

The annual Swachhata Hi Sewa (SHS) fortnight was organized as a part of Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen and Urban during 15 September - 02 October 2023. The theme of SHS-2023 was 'Garbage Free India' with focus on visible cleanliness and welfare of Safai Mitras. Spirit of cleanliness activities was voluntarism/shramdaan. The focus of these swachhata drives was on high footfall public places like bus stands, railway stations, beaches, tourist places, zoos, national parks & sanctuaries, historical monuments, heritage sites, river fronts, ghats, drains and nallahs etc. in both rural and urban areas. A total of 5188 participants participated in Swachhata Hi Sewa activities at their respective 48 KVKs of Kerala, Karnataka and Lakshadweep.

## Special Campaign 3.0

The Special Campaign 3.0 was organized in 48 KVKs of Kerala, Karnataka and Lakshadweep during 2-31 October, 2023. Under this, 1721 physical files were reviewed out of which 717 files were identified for weeding and weeded out after 20.09.23. Also, 429 outdoor campaigns were conducted during the Special Campaign. Total of 22.41 tonnage office scrap disposed, 41094 Sq. ft. space freed and Rs. 9200 revenue generated during this period by KVKs of zone.



KVK Pathanamthitta



KVK Dakshina Kannada



KVK Belagavi II



KVK Idukki



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

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