

Director's Message

During the last two decades, Indian agriculture has largely been influenced by factors such as globalization, trade liberalization and increasing role of private sector. Apart from these the agricultural sector has been challenged by factors like shrinking resource base, changes in demand and consumption pattern, changes in farming systems including increasing diversification to high-value crops and climate change effect. KVK system plays an important role in technology application, demonstration and capacity development of famers in deciding technological options keeping in view of resources in terms of land, water, capital, labour etc.

ICAR-ATARI is making number of efforts to support KVKs in their noble work and "Samridhi" is one such initiative from ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru, to strengthen the functional linkages and partnership between ICAR-ATARI, KVKs and other key stake holders. It is a pleasure for all of us in ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru in bringing this first issue of the newsletter *Samridhi* in the hands of KVK team and we are confident that it will serve and prove as yet another milestone in the journey of KVKs towards empowerment of famers.

V. Venkatasubramanian

Annual Zonal Review Workshop of KVKs Organized

Shri Kailash Choudhary, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare inaugurated the "Virtual Annual Zonal Review Workshop of KVKs of Zone - XI comprising of Karnataka, Kerala and Lakshadweep" organized by ATARI, Bengaluru on 14 July, 2020. Honorable Union Minister of State urged KVKs, ICAR Institutes and State Agricultural Universities to constantly examine farmers problems and continuously engage with farming community in generating and advocating proper solutions to their problems. He also suggested KVKs to bring awareness among farmers about Government's schemes and programmes for the benefit of farmers.

Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary (DARE) & Director General (ICAR) complimented the ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru and KVKs in Zone-XI for carrying out number of innovative activities. He also appreciated the activities carried out in convergence with the Agricultural Universities, ICAR Institutes and State Development Departments.



Dr. Ashok Kumar Singh, Deputy Director General (Agricultural Extension), ICAR emphasized the importance of promoting of concepts and models of Climate Resilient Villages in all the KVK Districts. Dr. R. Chandra Babu, Vice-Chancellor, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur appreciated the KVKs role in empowering farmers and farm women through technology application and demonstrations. Dr. M.B. Chetti, Vice-Chancellor, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, highlighted the salient achievements of KVKs in Karnataka. KVK's achievements in Zone-XI was briefed by Dr. Chandre Gowda M.J., Director (A), ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru. Dr. Randhir Singh, ADG (Agricultural Extension), ICAR along with the senior officials of ICAR Institutes, KVKs, and SAUs participated in the Workshop. ◆



Administrative Building of ICAR-KVK Uttara Kannada Inaugurated

Administrative Building of ICAR-KVK, Uttara Kannada at Sirsi was inaugurated on 17.08.2020 by Shri.B.C.Patil, Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Govt. of Karnataka. During inaugural address, he emphasised the capacity development of rural youth by KVKs and appreciated the role of ICAR and KVKs in supporting farmers and rural youth during difficult situation due to COVID19. Dr. Thri Lochan Mahapatra, Secretary (DARE) and DG(ICAR), expressed that, the network of 721 KVKs spread all over the country are doing extremely good work in terms of reaching farmers and dissemination of new technologies through mandated activities. Shri. Shivaram Hebbar, Hon'ble Minister of Labour, Govt. of Karnataka stressed the importance of creating awareness on scientific agricultural practices among farming community.

Dr. Ashok Kumar Singh, Deputy Director General (Agricultural Extension), ICAR emphasized on role of KVKs in agriculture development and motivated them for fulfilling the huge expectations raised at different levels. Shri. Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri, Hon'ble Speaker, Govt. of Karnataka in his presidential remarks appreciated the close association of KVK, Uttar Kannada with farmers in addressing their problems. Shri. Suresh S Gonasagi, Shri. Shashimouli Kulkarni, Shri. Y.N. Patil, Members, Board of Management, UAS Dharwad and Shri. Shataram Siddhi, MLC graced the occasion. Exhibition highlighting appropriate technologies and live specimen of major crops of the district was arranged on the occasion.



Dr. Mahadev B. Chetti
Vice Chancellor
UAS Dharwad
gave welcome.

Dr. Venkatasubramanian
Director
ICAR-ATARI, Zone-XI
Bengaluru
presented vote of thanks.

Digital Discourse Series on Gender and Pandemic

ICAR ATARI, Bengaluru, along with Farmer FIRST centers of ICAR-CPCRI, ICAR-NIANP, ICAR-IIHR and ICAR-CIFT organized digital discourse series on 'Gender and Pandemic: Challenges and Opportunities' during 10-12 August, 2020 with the participation of 160 participants across the country. Dr. Ashok Kumar Singh, Deputy Director General (Agricultural Extension), ICAR in his keynote address highlighted the productive performances of agriculture during this pandemic period indicating the resilience of farming community and technologies. He also encouraged the FFP centres to promote FPO for empowerment of farm women.

Ten eminent scientists and policy makers in the country addressed the issues related to gender sensitization of technology development and transfer, vulnerability of farm women during pandemic period, consequences of reverse migration on income and nutrition, livelihood skill up-gradation, emotional and psychological stress and its effect on women, ICTs for empowering farm women, gender perspectives in Natural Resource Management, policy framework for strengthening farm women during and beyond pandemic and institutional mechanisms for supporting women in crisis management issues.



Dr. M.J. Chandre Gowda, PS (AE) delivered talk on vulnerability of farm women in pandemic era. Dr. D.V. Kolekar, Scientist from ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru coordinated the programme.

Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru briefed about the challenges faced by farm women during COVID-19 and emphasized on maintenance of proper health and emotional stability of farm women and empowerment through technology accessibility, market support, partnership, linkage and policy issues.

Institute Research Council Meeting

ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru organized First Institute Research Council Meeting during 2-3 September, 2020. Dr Randhir Singh, Assistant Director General (Agricultural Extension), ICAR in his virtual inaugural address urged the participants to keep balance between KVK coordination activities and research activities. He highlighted the need to have experts from different disciplines in IRCs and also emphasized to give priority on inter institutional projects due to limited manpower in ATARIs.

Ten research projects, four ongoing and six new research project proposals were taken up for discussion. New proposals broadly covered areas such as Integrated Farming System, Identification and Capacity Development of Farm Leaders, Digitization of Knowledge System Management, Technological and Capacity Needs, and Coordination and Monitoring. Two inter-institutional projects viz. Impact Assessment of Technological Interventions and *Sugarcane*pedia in collaboration with ICAR-IIHR Bengaluru and ICAR-SBI, Coimbatore respectively were also approved.

Invited experts namely, Dr V. Veerabhadraiah, Former DE, UAS, Bengaluru, Dr. G. Eshwarappa, Former DE, UAS, Bengaluru and Dr S. Prabhukumar, Former Director, ICAR-ATARI, Ludhiana virtually participated in the deliberations and guided the scientists for fine tuning of research projects keeping in view the mandate of ATARI. Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru in his concluding remarks emphasized that research proposals are related to mandate of ATARIs & KVK activities so that findings of these projects will benefit in strengthening the KVKs performance.



Rajbhasha Saptaha Celebrated

ICAR- ATARI, Bengaluru organized 'Rajbhasha Saptaha' from 08 - 14 September, 2020. The program was inaugurated by lighting a lamp and started with a poem recitation, oration on the importance of Hindi and a short video show on "COVID-19 awareness and prevention". During this week, Institute organized various Hindi learning activities and competitions. Institute celebrated Hindi Day on 14 September, 2020, the concluding day of *Rajbhasha Saptaha*. The program Chairperson, Dr.M.J.Chandre Gowda, advised the staff members to use Hindi as much as possible in the office. Speaking on the occasion Mr. Malay Bisht, Administrative Officer, ICAR-NBAIR, Bengaluru said that Hindi is an unbreakable part of Indian culture and it has been an effective and powerful medium of national unity and identity. Winners of various competitions were awarded with cash prizes and certificates.



Dr. K.Thimmappa, Nodal officer, Official Language coordinated various programmes during the week wherein all staff members actively participated.



Dr. V. Venkatasubramanian assumed the charge of Director of ICAR-ATARI, Zone-XI, Bengaluru on 22 July, 2020.

His past experience includes Assistant Director General (AE), ICAR; Zonal Project Director, N-E Region; Managing Director/CEO of Vijaya Dairy, Andhra Pradesh; and Scientific positions in ICAR institutes viz., SBI, Coimbatore, CTRI, Rajamundry, CARI, Port Blair, IVRI, Izatnagar and TANUVAS, Chennai. There are 233 publications to his credit which includes 30 books, seven book chapters and 48 research articles. His work has been recognised nationally and internationally with more than 25 awards and honours.

His academic achievements included University topper in M.S. and PhD with six research fellowships awarded during the period. Young scientists award from NAAS, meritorious invention award of NRDC, NBT awards, Industrial Excellence award, National Award for Corporate leadership and National best Entrepreneurship award 2005 are some of the important awards received by him. In recognition of his meritorious contribution to science and development admitted to fellowships like FIASC(UK), FIAAVR, and FUWAI.

He is also member of academic bodies like board of management, board of studies, academic council, planning board, research council etc. of SAUs and also member of various management and advisory boards of different organizations. He is presently member Governing Board, ASCI, GOI and Expert Committee Member, National Bio Diversity Authority, Board of Director, CEDSI, Extension council, TANUVAS and Member, Ghee Procurement Committee, TTD, Thirupathi.

KVK Spectrum : ICAR-KVK, Bagalkot



Awarded with
Pandit Deendayal
Upadhyay
Rashtriya Krishi
Vigyan Protshahan
Zonal Puraskar
2019

KVK Bagalkot was established during 2005 sanctioned by ICAR and functioning under the aegis of University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad.

KVK has well equipped infrastructure administrative building, farmers hostel, staff quarters, soil and water testing lab, farm pond, bioagents production lab, seed processing unit, seed godown, parking shed, threshing yard, seed storage unit, multicrop horticulture orchard, weather forecasting unit, open drying shed, farm implements, tractor and jeep.

KVK has well established demo units viz., dairy, vermicompost, vermiwash, hydroponic, goat and sheep, poultry, farm pond cum poultry cum fish rearing, medicinal and aromatic plants, nursery, apiary, guava mother plant, drumstick seed production, field crops seed production, kitchen garden, biodigester and vertical garden.

Salient achievements

- Pioneer in dissemination of onion variety Arka Kalyan in the district in an area of 14000 ha, drumstick variety Bhagya (KDM-1) in the fields of 2500 farmers, sorghum variety SPV-2217 in an area of 120 ha and pigeonpea variety TS3-R in an area of 21120 ha .
- Strengthened the knowledge of 5000 farmers under FPO-KVK linkages with respect to cultivation of pomegranate, grape, chilli and onion along with marketing skills.
- Skill up-gradation among 3000 rural youth on sheep and goat enterprise.
- Intervention of dicocum wheat helps farmers to get additional net returns of Rs. 6000/ha.
- Intervention on *Metarrizium anisopliae* for root grub management in sugarcane benefited more than 5000 farmers.
- A total of 35000 soil samples have been analyzed and 6200 soil health cards have been distributed to farmers.
- Produced 1500 q quality seed of pulses including pigeonpea, chickpea and greengram and provided to farmers that resulted in increase in area under pulses.



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

Edited by Dr.D.V.Kolekar

Editorial Board: Dr.M.J.Chandre Gowda

Dr.D.V.S.Reddy

Dr.B.T.Rayudu

Dr.Thimmappa.K

Dr.M.B.Hanji