



IIMR

Millet Newsletter

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भारत-भारत-भारतीय श्री अन्न अनुसंधान संस्थान
ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research

Hyderabad ■ Solapur ■ Warangal



ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad. 500 030.

Institute Research Council (IRC) meeting

Institute Research Council (IRC) meeting was held at ICAR- Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad during 10, 11 and 14 August, 2023 to review the progress and dialogue on ongoing institute projects. The meeting was chaired by Dr. C Tara Satyavathi, Director IIMR and Chairperson IRC, and attended by the external experts - Dr. VK Singh, Director, CRIDA, Hyderabad, Dr. JV Patil, former Director, IIMR Hyderabad and Dr. A Nirmalakumari, Officer In-charge (Retd.), AICRP on Small Millets, Aathiyandalal, Tamil Nadu, R Madhusudhana, In-charge PME cell, IIMR and Dr. IK Das, Member Secretary-IRC, IIMR besides the scientists of the institute.



During deliberations in the first 2-days held on 10 and 11 August, 2023 a total of 45 ongoing projects were thoroughly reviewed and discussed. The RPPs were presented by the principal investigators. A total of 10 new project proposals were presented and discussed on 14 August, 2023. In addition to new proposals, three ongoing projects, which were suggested for mid-term corrections, were also presented and discussed. Details about the presentations of the projects and comments and suggestions received during the meeting will be available in the proceedings of the meeting.

"Millets FIRST" mobile app developed

ICAR- Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad has recently launched a mobile application named "Millets FIRST" to create awareness among the public about importance of millets and latest know-how of the production, processing technologies and market information. This app is developed by Dr. Rajendra R. Chapke, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad mainly for providing millets advisory to all the users namely, millets growers, extension officers, entrepreneurs, students, academicians, and policy makers, across the country and enhancing farmer's income and to achieve the goal of food and nutrition security. This app has got copyright registration (Diary No. 3725/2022-CO/Sw). It was enlisted in agri-innovation of ICAR technologies and certified by the ICAR. It will be available in public domain shortly.

Sad Demise

With profound grief and sorrow it is to inform the sad demise of **Dr. M Elangovan** (54), Principal Scientist-Economic Botany, ICAR - Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR) on 21 August, 2023 due to cardiac arrest. Dr. Elangovan- a passionate germplasm scientist, had many credentials such as millet germplasm collection, characterization, conservation, registrations with NBPGR, PPV&FRA and ITMU & ZTMU activities, publications, books, awards to his credit. He was the key person to establish the Gene bank at IIMR. He was a great trainer, a philosopher, spiritual, and above all, a good human being. His untimely demise is a great loss to the ICAR, and IIMR in particular. The entire IIMR family expressed deep condolence to the bereaved family.



Startup Ignition Program

IIMR, Hyderabad organized two Startup Ignition Programs entitled "Business opportunities in Millets processing sector" during 14 and 24 August, 2023 respectively. A total of 86 participants from the states of Telangana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, New Delhi, Rajasthan, and West Bengal participated in the event. Sessions were taken in related to primary and secondary millet processing facilities. A guided tour to Centre of Excellence, Common Facility Centre and Nutrihub was conducted. The session on Incubation facilities, various available technologies and licensing procedures at IIMR was handled by Dr. J Stanley, Senior Scientist. An interactive session with participants related to business opportunities in millets sector was conducted by Dr. B Dayakar Rao, Principal Scientist and CEO Nutrihub. These training programmes were coordinated by Dr. V. Ravi Kumar, Technical Officer.



Short Course on “Recent Advances in Millets Crop Production, Processing, Value Addition & Marketing”

ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad organized 10 days online Millets short course on “Recent Advances in Millets Crop Production, Processing, Value Addition and Marketing” during 16 - 25 August 2023. Dr. C. Tara Satyavathi, Chief Course Director & Director of ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad and Chief Guest of the program Dr. RC Agrawal, DDG (Education), ICAR, New Delhi jointly inaugurated the short course. Around 500 participants from various disciplines of agriculture and allied sectors joined the short course. Participants include Agriculture Officers, Agriculture students, SMS, KVK staff, Assistant Professors, Dean, Retired Scientists, FPO staff, young entrepreneurs from all over the India. The Course Director outlined the theme of short course and flow of course designed on the aspects of crop improvement, production, popularization, commercialization and market linkages of millets. Dr. Sangappa along with FPO-NEST coordinated this 10 days training program.

Training Program on Improved Millet Production, Processing & Value Added Technologies

A group of 40 enthusiastic participants hailing from Seoni district in Madhya Pradesh, along with the staff of ATMA attended a training program on Improved Millet Production, Processing & Value Added Technologies organized by ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad during 22-24 August, 2023. They were exposed to improved production practices in barnyard millet crop. Dr. Amasiddha B. took the lead in demonstrating the improved production technologies to enhance the productivity of Barnyard millet and explained advanced cultivation techniques and improved technologies developed for cultivation in India, especially in Madhya Pradesh state and encouraged the farmers to take up cultivation of improved cultivars. The farmers were informed about the new varieties of Barnyard millet and appraised about the availability of quality seed. Dr. Sangappa, Scientist, briefed them about Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) benefits and procedures to establish processing units and value addition of the Barnyard millet.

Parthenium Awareness Week Observed

Parthenium Awareness Week was observed at ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, and its regional station at Solapur from 16-22 August, 2023. This program was started on 16 August, with brief remarks by Dr. C. Tara Satyavathi, Director, IIMR. On that day, the office premises were cleared of Parthenium weed. All the staff including Scientific, technical, administrative,



supporting staff and staff working in various projects were engaged in plucking the young and grown-up Parthenium plants from research fields, office campus and other areas, following the precautions for anti-allergic irritations from the pollen from

plants. The uprooted weeds were kept at a place in each farm for conversion into vermicomposting. At CRS, Solapur also everyday all staff participated in uprooting parthenium from office and farm premises during this week. The program was coordinated by Dr. B. Gangaiah and team members Drs. R. Swarna, B. Amasiddha, Sh. K Srinivasa Babu, Sh. Vilas Aghav and Sh. J Bhagavantham at IIMR Hyderabad and R Basavaraj and P Parashuram at CRS - Solapur.

Observance of Vigilance Awareness campaign

ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad commenced 3 months' Vigilance Awareness campaign (16 August, 2022 to 15 November, 2023) as a precursor to forthcoming Vigilance Awareness week, 2023, as per ICAR circular. The IIMR has intended to take up a number of activities during this 3-months period with a special focus on awareness building about “Public Interest Disclosure and Protection of Informers” (PIDPI) Resolution, arranging talks, public interactions, gram sabhas, Arranging training to the staff on Preventive Vigilance measures in the areas of Procurement, Ethics and Governance, Systems and Procedures of the Organization etc. Dr. C Aruna PS (IIMR) Hyderabad, and Dr. Basavaraj- SS- (CRS) Solapur are the coordinators of this event.

Memorandum of Understanding

ICAR-IIMR has signed MoU with Karnataka State Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University, Gadag, Karnataka for providing facilities for students' research signed by Prof. Basavaraj L Lakkannavar Registrar and Dr. C Tara Satyavathi, Director ICAR-IIMR on 25 August, 2023.

Independence Day Celebrated

The Nation's 77th Independence Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm and gaiety on 15 August, 2023 at ICAR-IIMR. Dr. C Tara Satyavathi, Director hoisted the national flag and addressed the staff. Dr. Tara Satyavathi stressed on the need to rededicate ourselves with commitment to meet the challenges of



food and nutritional security in India. She appreciated the hard work of IIMR Staffs who brings laurels to the institute. She also highlighted the activities being organized to mark the International Year of Millets 2023. Though a good progress has been achieved during last few years, there are new challenges to be overcome with focused research in the light of elevation of IIMR as Global Centre of Excellence for Millets R&D by the union Government, she said. The children of IIMR staff also actively participated in the celebrations and sung patriotic songs. Mr. Vilas D Aghav, Farm superintendent and Mr. J Bhagawantam, Technical Assistant were the coordinators of the event.

Cooking with Millets

Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad conducted

training program on “Cooking with Millets” on 23 August, 2023. Total 30 participants from various states like Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Delhi attended the event. Participants were given hands



on experience on millets recipes viz., Foxtail Bisbilabath, Millet cake, muffins, cookies and so on. Cooking tips were shared among the participants. The live demonstration of millet recipe preparation was conducted by Ms. Vijaya Lakshmi and training programme was coordinated by Dr. V. Ravi Kumar, Technical Officer.

Meeting of Official Language Implementation Committee

The 66th meeting of the Official Language Implementation Committee (OLIC) of the Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad was held on 25 August, 2023. The meeting began with a welcome address by Dr. C. Tara Satyavathi, Chairperson of OLIC. The other members present were: Dr. Jinu Jacob, OIC,



Hindi Cell, Dr. B Dayakar Rao, OIC, Website & Information Technology, Dr. R Madhusudana, OIC, PME Cell; Dr. B Venkatesh Bhat, OIC, Technical & Medial Cell; Dr. Soogana, OIC, Library, Smt. Ritu Dalal, SAO, Shri Shaik Rukman, FAO and Member Secretary, Dr. Mahesh Kumar, ACTO (OL). The member secretary presented various issues related to Official Language implementation at IIMR. It was decided to celebrate Hindi Chetana Maas in a grand way during the month of September and to conduct various competitions, signature campaign in Hindi and to organize a Hindi workshop. Apart from this, the committee discussed various issues related to increasing the use of official language in day to day communications. The meeting concluded with vote of thanks by Dr. Mahesh Kumar.

Honours

Dr. C Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, attended the International Conference on Mighty Millets for Food, Nutrition, and Health Security at MSSRF, Chennai held during 6-8 August 2023. She delivered a talk on “Millets improvement in India”. Dr. C Tara Satyavathi has also Chaired



one session on “Harnessing and Strengthening Value Chains of Millets in India”.

Dr. C Tara Satyavathi, Director ICAR-IIMR and **Dr. B Dayakar Rao**, PS & CEO, Nutrihub, ICAR-IIMR Participated in the “Nestle a+ Masala Millet Products Launch (Bajra) Veggie and Tomato flavours by Nestle India” at the hotel Westin Gurgaon, New Delhi on 31 August, 2023. Dr. Tara Satyavathi in her address stated that millets significantly contribute to human diets owing to their high levels of vitamins, minerals and dietary fibres. Millets, also known as ‘Sri Anna’, are making a resurgence in line with the IYoM. The growing demand for millets and millets based food products from rural and urban populace will certainly boost the market of millet food industry in India with their Ready to Cook and Ready to Eat value added products.

Dr. B. Dayakar Rao, PS, represented the ICAR-IIMR at the launching programme of “Bal Poshan Yojana” by ITC Ltd. on 31 August, 2023. He had discussions with the CEO of ITC and his team regarding millet health food technologies and recipes. Additionally, discussions took place about the establishment of a millet centre in New Delhi by ITC, where Nutrihub of ICAR-IIMR will serve as the Knowledge Partner.

Dr. Mahesh Kumar, Assistant Chief Technical Officer (Official Language), IIMR, Hyderabad was invited as an expert by Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (DMI), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India, Hyderabad during 7-8 August, 2023 for guiding them regarding Inspection by Committee of Parliament on Official Language. The inspection of DMI, Hyderabad was done successfully. The In-charge of DMI, Hyderabad appreciated the guidance given by Dr. Mahesh Kumar through a mail to Director, IIMR, Hyderabad.

Award

Dr. B Dayakar Rao, Principal Scientist, IIMR bagged the “**Best CEO – Agri Food Tech Incubators in India**” award during the “Food Safety & Nutrition Summit” held at Hotel Taj Vivanta, Dwarka, New Delhi on 24 August, 2023 for his remarkable services to Nutrihub – the technology incubator facility of ICAR-IIMR. Dr. Dayakar also delivered his key note address on this occasion.

Lectures delivered

Dr. B Dayakar Rao, PS & CEO, Nutrihub, ICAR-IIMR delivered a talk in the International Conference on “Mighty millets for Food, Nutrition and Health Security” organized by Dr. M S Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), Chennai “on 8 August, 2023. The conference aimed to address vital aspects of millets in enhancing food security, nutritional well-being, and public health.

Dr. Swarna Ronanki Scientist, IIMR delivered a talk on "Improved production practices of small millets" to the trainees of short course on "Recent advances in millets crop production, processing, value addition and Marketing" on 23 August, 2023.

Dr. S Srividhya, Scientist, IIMR delivered a lecture on "Millets for climate resilience: exploiting key traits" on 19 August, 2023 to the participants of short course on 'Recent advances in millets crop production, processing, value addition and marketing'- RAMCPP-2023, held from 16-25th August, 2023 conducted by IIMR, Hyderabad.

Dr. Amasiddha B., Scientist, delivered a lecture in Hindi language on the topic "Recent innovative production aspects in millets" to the farmers and staff of ATMA officers of Madhya Pradesh state on 24 August, 2023 in the CAT exposure visit of Madhya Pradesh state to ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad.

Dr. Sangappa from ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad delivered a lecture on Nutritional significance and business opportunities of millets to sensitize the participants of the webinar organized by MANAGE; Hyderabad on 4 August, 2023.

FPO News

Capacity building Program for CEOs and accountants of AP and Telangana FPOs

ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad organized two-day "Capacity building and training program to CEOs and accountants of AP and Telangana FPOs" from 31 August to 1 September, 2023. During this training one on one interaction with CEOs, Accountants, Chairmans, Directors of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh FPOs was engaged in practical discussions. Practical business opportunities for FPOs were discussed by Dr. Prasad, Senior Scientist, DAATTC, Nandyal, ANGRAU. All participants actively participated in activity games related to FPOs and shared their interest in establishing business. Dr. Sangappa, Shri. Srinivasa Babu along with FPO-NEST team coordinated this training program.

Awareness program for bankers & prospective entrepreneurs (AIF)

FPO Nest team from ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad attended online awareness program on subsidy schemes associated to FPOs organized by project monitoring unit (PMU), AIF, NABCONS, NABARD, Hyderabad on 3 August, 2023.

Review meeting for SFAC FPO CEOs

FPO Nest team, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad conducted review meeting to SFAC FPOs and CEOs promoted by ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad in Karnataka on 4 August 2023.

Meeting on FPO Uniform Branding by WDD

FPO Nest team attended FPO uniform branding meeting under the chairmanship of WDD Commissioner on 4 August, 2023. Formation of federation of FPO, Uniform branding, value addition and labelling of all FPOs were discussed.

Review meeting for TS FPOs by NABARD, TS, RO

NABARD TS-RO, Hyderabad conducted CBBO review meeting on 8 August, 2023. Smt. Susheela Chintala (CGM), Smt Usha Rani (GM) and Smt. Sunaina chaired the program. FPO-Nest team of ICAR-IIMR along with FPO staff attended the quarterly review meeting and presented the progress of FPOs. Difficulties faced by the FPOs in availing credit linkage schemes like AIF, convergence with PMFME were discussed with the NABARD officials.

Review meeting of Dharwad Taluka FPC

FPO-Nest visited Dharwad Taluka FPC, Alnavar Taluka FPC and Annigeri Taluka FPC of Karnataka promoted by ICAR-IIMR,



Hyderabad during 12-15 August 2023 and reviewed the progress of FPOs.

Meeting for TS CEOs organized by NAARM

NABARD TS RO and NAARM, Hyderabad organized meeting on Agribusiness Management Development Programme (ABMDP) on 5 August, 2023 and FPO Nest team of IIMR – Hyderabad attended.

Review meeting for TS & AP FPOs

Dr. Srinivasa Babu and Dr. Sangappa scientists, ICAR-IIMR along with FPO-Nest team conducted review meeting to TS & AP FPOs promoted by ICAR-IIMR 24 - 25 August, 2023. During this review meeting FPO wise activities were discussed and suggested all the CEOs to focus on member mobilization, convergence with central schemes, business expansion.

Review meeting and Audit related discussion with SFAC FPO CEOs

On 22 August 2023, FPO Nest team conducted a review meeting for the SFAC FPOs CEOs promoted by ICAR-IIMR,



Hyderabad. During the meeting the present progress of FPOs were assessed and future action plans regarding farmer's mobilization, business activities and awareness drives to be conducted were given to CEOs. Audit related queries were solved by Mr. Supradeep Anand, Chartered accountant. FPO-Nest team of ICAR-IIMR coordinated the meeting.

Session on ONDC Overview

FPO Nest team of ICAR-IIMR attended the meeting organized by ONDC-Mysore on 31st August, 2023. The meeting focused on addressing the problems faced by e-commerce sellers, exploring strategies for ONDC to overcome these problems .

Visitors

AIIMS, Bibinagar Team

Dr. Vishaka Jain, Additional Professor and Head of Medicine, Deputy Medical Superintendent and Nodal officer – IYM 2023 along with a team of Doctors from All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Bibinagar, Telangana visited IIMR, Hyderabad on 30 August, 2023. The team met Dr. C Tara



Satyavathi, Director, IIMR, Hyderabad and discussed about potential research collaborations and explored strategies to further enhance scientific cooperation. Dr. B. Dayakar Rao, CEO, Nutrihub, IIMR explained them the health benefits of millets and shown the food processing units, Nutrihub facilities. Dr Mahesh Kumar, Assistant Chief Technical Officer (OL) coordinated the visit.

Akshay Patra foundation

Mr. Anant Arora, Chief sustainability and communication officer, Akshay Patra foundation, along with his team visited ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad on 25 August, 2023 to discuss the potential collaboration with IIMR for mutual promotion of millets and is value added products.

Director, ICAR-CRIDA

Dr. Vinod Kumar Singh, Director ICAR-CRIDA along with his team visited ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad on 23 August, 2023. Dr. C Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR presented a guided tour to Centre of Excellence, Common Facility Centre and Nutrihub.

Director, ICAR-CIAE

Dr. CR Mehta, Director ICAR-Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering (CIAE), Bhopal visited Indian ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad on 26 to have first-hand information about latest millet processing technologies.

Trainees

Total 57 Agri. Startups under the RKVY-RAFTAAR Scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India



from MANAGE visited IIMR, Hyderabad on 25 August, 2023 as a part of their training to learn about latest millet processing and value addition technologies and business opportunities in the millet sector.

30 Agricultural Scientists and faculties from various agricultural Universities, ICAR Institutes, KVVs, colleges, officers of developmental departments, NGOs and Incubation Centre Team members visited IIMR, Hyderabad on 22 August, 2023 to understand about millet ecosystem and business opportunities in the millet sector. The visit was a part of "National Faculty Development Program on Innovation and Incubation Ecosystem

to Support Agri-Startups and Entrepreneurship" by MANAGE.

22 Regional Officers of the Directorate of Marketing and Inspection from Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Telangana and Kerala visited Nutrihub, ICAR-IIMR on 29 August, 2023 to have firsthand information about business opportunities in the millet sector.

Farmers

About 20 Farmers from Tamil Nadu visited ICAR-IIMR on 07 August, 2023 to learn about gene bank facilities and various



millet processing and value addition technologies. The visit was facilitated by ATMA, Tamil Nadu.

Students

A total of 68 Students from Vignan University, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh visited IIMR, Hyderabad on 21 August, 2023 to learn about latest millet processing and value addition technologies.

A total of 125 Students from Brahmam Talent High school, Hyderabad, Telangana visited ICAR-IIMR on 08 August, 2023



to learn about various entrepreneurial opportunities in the millets sector.

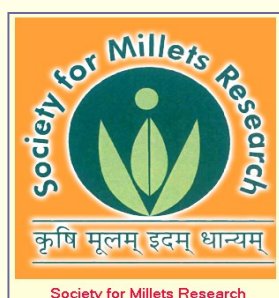
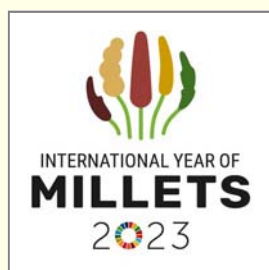
A total of 63 Agricultural students from College of Agriculture, Palem, Telangana visited IIMR, Hyderabad on 22 August, 2023 to know about recent innovation in millet crops as a part of practical curriculum.

A total of 62 Students from College of Agriculture, Vilad Ghat, Ahmednagar visited ICAR-IIMR on 25 August, 2023 to learn about latest millet processing and value addition technologies.

All above visits were coordinated by Scientists Drs. M Elangovan, VM Malathi, Hema Sankari, A Srinivas and V Ravi Kumar and staff of Nutrihub.

Online Meetings (M) / Workshops (W)/ Trainings (T) Conferences (C) attended

S. No.	Name of Employee	Programme details	Type	Organized by	Date
1	C Tara Satyavathi, B Dayakar Rao, C Sangappa, S Srividhya, Swarna Ronanki	International Conference on Mighty Millets for Food, Nutritional and Health Security	International Conference	MSSRF, Chennai	6-8 Aug., 2023
2	C Tara Satyavathi	Virtual meeting to discuss about Scientists' Conference.	Meeting	Brahma Kumaris', Mehdipatnam	9 Aug., 2023
3	C Tara Satyavathi	Virtual meeting on "Sensitization for reporting and reviewing in SPARROW for scientific cadre"	Meeting	ICAR, New Delhi	9 Aug., 2023
4	C Tara Satyavathi	The 7th Convocation 2023	Conference	MANAGE, Hyderabad	12 Aug., 2023
5	AV Umakanth	International Webinar on "Unleashing the power of millets: innovation, challenges, and opportunities"	Webinar	CIMMYT-Kenya	24 Aug, 2023
6	Mahesh Kumar	Technical Hindi Workshop organized by TOLIC-Hyderabad-2	Workshop	IIR, Hyderabad	24 Aug., 2023
7	Swarna Ronanki	BISA-CIMMYT inception workshop	Workshop	ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad	21-22 Aug., 2023
8	C Tara Satyavathi and B Dayakar Rao	Lunching programme of "Nestle + Masala Millet Products" by Nestle India.	Conference	Hotel Westin Gurgaon, New Delhi	31 Aug., 2023



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