



MILLETS Newsletter

(Shree Anna)

Hyderabad . Solapur . Barmer/Balotra

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ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500030

Message from the Director

Dear Readers,

August 2026 marked a vibrant chapter in ICAR-IIMR's journey of innovation, intellectual leadership and inclusive impact, with science moving decisively from laboratories to livelihoods. The month brought a significant thrust on intellectual property and technology



translation, reinforcing our commitment to transforming millet research into scalable solutions and entrepreneurial opportunities. The spirit of Independence Day resonated strongly with our institutional vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat, celebrating not only freedom but also self-reliance through indigenous science, technology and agri-innovation. Our efforts extended from climate-resilient millet production and tribal livelihood development to advanced processing, value addition and market-oriented enterprise creation. The Institute further strengthened the farmer-FPO-startup-industry continuum, enabling knowledge, technology and entrepreneurship to converge around millet-based value chains. Capacity-building initiatives across regions continued to create a network of informed farmers, empowered FPOs and future-ready entrepreneurs. Educational and exposure programmes also connected the next generation with the possibilities of millet science, food technology and agribusiness innovation. Together, these initiatives reflect ICAR-IIMR's evolving identity as a knowledge-to-impact institution, advancing millets as a catalyst for nutrition, climate resilience, rural prosperity and technological self-reliance. As India marches towards a more resilient and self-reliant future, ICAR-IIMR remains committed to making Indian millet innovation globally relevant and locally transformative.

IIMR Scientists Receive Patent for Millet-Based Beer Technology

Scientists from ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (ICAR-IIMR), Hyderabad, have been granted an Indian patent titled "A Process for Preparing a Millet-Based Beer" by the Patent Office, Government of India. The patent has been granted in collaboration with the National Sugar Institute (NSI), Kanpur, with Dr. (Mrs.) C. Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, and Dr. A. V. Umakanth, Principal Scientist, among the inventors. The patent, numbered 597364, was granted for a term of 20 years from the date of filing. The innovation represents an important step towards the value addition and diversification of millets through development of millet-based beverages.

ICAR-IIMR Builds Technical Capacity for Climate-Resilient Millet Production in Odisha

ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, organized a four-day training programme on "Improved Millet Production Technologies for Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Agriculture" for 25 millet stakeholders and FPO representatives under the Odisha Millet Mission Phase-II Project during 11-14 August 2026.



Dr. C. Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, inaugurated the programme and emphasized skill development, value addition and enterprise development. Participants from eight districts received practical training on improved varieties, climate-resilient production, processing, value addition, packaging, branding, market linkages and FPO management. Coordinated by Dr. Sangappa, Senior Scientist, with support from Sh. K. Srinivasa Babu and the FPO-NEST team, the programme aimed to develop field-level resource persons for wider adoption of improved millet technologies in Odisha.

Millet farmers in Hingoli receive technical training and input support from ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad for millets promotion

A training programme on “Millet Cultivation and Value Addition” was organized by Pradnyasheel Taruna Farmers Producer Company Limited (FPCL), Hingoli, Maharashtra, with technical support from ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (ICAR-IIMR), Hyderabad, on 1 August 2026. Under the guidance of Dr. Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Dr. Rafi, Business Expert, provided guidance on improved cultivation and value addition opportunities. Dr. Sangappa, Senior Scientist and PI of FPO projects, guided farmers on millet cultivation and distributed millet seed and tarpaulins to 50 Scheduled Caste (SC) farmers.

FPO-Startup Linkages for Millet Entrepreneurship through EFPM Program

A knowledge session on “Linking Farmer Producer Organizations to Start-ups: Experience of ICAR-IIMR



Hyderabad” was organized during the 4-day Entrepreneurship Foundation Programme in Millets (EFPM) by Nutrihub, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, on 7 August 2026. Dr. Rafi, Agribusiness Expert, FPO Project, ICAR-IIMR, highlighted the role of FPOs in connecting farmers with millet-based start-ups through aggregation, value addition, processing, branding and marketing. Dr. Sangappa, Senior Scientist, ICAR-IIMR, briefed participants on the Institute’s FPO development initiatives and field experiences. The interactive session provided practical insights into farmer-FPO -startup linkages and collaborative business models for strengthening the millet entrepreneurship ecosystem.

MoU exchange between ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad and MIT Vishwapravayag University, Solapur

ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, and MIT Vishwapravayag University, Solapur, signed an MoU to promote academic and research



collaboration in millets. Dr. C. Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, signed the MoU on 29 July 2026, with the MoU exchange held on 13 August 2026. Dr. Parashuram Patroti, Senior Scientist, ICAR-IIMR Regional Station, Solapur, represented ICAR-IIMR at the ceremony. The MoU will facilitate collaborative research, student training, skill development, knowledge exchange, and access to research facilities, strengthening cooperation in millet research, innovation, and value addition.

One-day training cum Awareness program on millets and input distribution at Amalapuram

A One-Day Training-cum-Awareness Programme on Millets and Input Distribution was organized by ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, under the GCoE-SCSP initiative on 13 August 2026 at Amalapuram, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Konaseema District, Andhra Pradesh, for promoting improved millet cultivation among SC farmers. The programme was organized by Dr. C. Deepika, Scientist, and Dr. N. Anuradha, Senior Scientist, ICAR-IIMR. Dr. C. Deepika highlighted improved millet cultivation practices and nutritional benefits, while Dr. N. Anuradha emphasized the role of millets in sustainable agriculture and improving farmers’ livelihoods. Essential inputs, including power sprayers, tarpaulins, wheel hoes, and finger millet seed (KMR 310), were distributed to 100 SC farmers. The programme facilitated interaction with farmers and encouraged the adoption of improved and sustainable millet production practices.

One day training cum Awareness program on millets and input distribution at Tanukuwada village in Kakinada

ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, organized a One-Day Training-cum-Awareness Programme on Millets and Input Distribution on 14 August 2026 at Tanukuwada village, Kakinada District, Andhra Pradesh, under the GCoE-SCSP initiative. Dr. N. Anuradha, Senior Scientist, and Dr. C. Deepika, Scientist, conducted technical sessions on sustainable millet cultivation, improved production practices, and nutritional benefits. Essential agricultural inputs, including power sprayers, tarpaulins, wheel hoes, and finger millet seed (KMR 310),

were distributed to 150 SC farmers to support improved millet production and reduce farm drudgery.

Independence Day Celebrations at ICAR-IIMR

The 80th Independence Day was celebrated at ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (ICAR-IIMR), Hyderabad on 15th August 2026 with patriotic fervor. Dr. C. Tara Satyavathi,



Director, ICAR-IIMR, hoisted the national flag and addressed the gathering. In her speech, she paid tribute to freedom fighters and emphasized the institute's role in promoting millet research and contributing to national food and nutrition security. Staff and students participated in the celebration, which included cultural performances and patriotic songs.

Mancherial Farmers Gain Practical Knowledge on Millet Technologies

A group of 45 farmers from Teekanpalli village, Telangana, visited ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, on 17 August 2026 under the



SC Sub-Plan for practical exposure to millet cultivation, processing and value addition. The programme was facilitated by Dr. A. Srinivas, Senior Scientist, under the guidance of Dr. Shyam Prasad, Director-in-Charge, with support from GCoE. Dr. D. Seva Nayak and Dr. Laxmi Prasanna provided technical guidance on crop production,

nutrient and water management, pest and disease management, and processing. Power sprayers were also distributed to support efficient crop protection and reduce drudgery.

Online Lecture on Advances in Millet Processing at NIFTEM-T

Dr. Vikas Kumar, Senior Scientist (Food Technology), ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, delivered an online lecture during the National Webinar on "Cereals, Pulses & Millets Processing Technologies" organized by NIFTEM-T, Thanjavur, under the PMFME Scheme, on 18 August 2026. The lecture provided valuable insights into emerging processing technologies and their potential for commercialization. The session was followed by an interactive discussion with participants from the food-processing sector, entrepreneurs, researchers and other stakeholders.

Encouragement of SC Farmers for Millet Cultivation in Ramanagara District

ICAR-KVK, Ramanagara, in collaboration with Kanakapura



Organics FPO, conducted an initiative on 18 August 2026 to encourage SC farmers to adopt millet cultivation and strengthen FPO participation. Foxtail millet seeds and tarpaulins were distributed to fifty farmers. Dr. Sangappa, Senior Scientist and Principal Investigator, FPO Projects, interacted with farmers and created awareness on millet cultivation, suitable inputs, and improved crop management practices.

Dr. Parashuram Patroti Honoured with Late Vasantrao Naik "Krishi Prerana Puraskar - 2026"

Dr. Parashuram Patroti, Senior Scientist, ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (ICAR-IIMR), Regional Station, Solapur, was honoured with the prestigious 20th State-Level Late Vasantrao Naik "Krishi Prerana Puraskar - 2026" for his

contributions to agricultural research and development. The award was presented on 19 August 2026 at Nashik by



Agrocare Krushi Manch, Nashik, under the Agrocare Group of Companies. The recognition acknowledges Dr. Patroti's continued contributions to agricultural research, innovation, technology dissemination, and strengthening the agricultural ecosystem.

Parthenium Awareness Week Observed at ICAR-IIMR

ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, observed Parthenium Awareness Week from 16-22 August 2026 to create awareness about the harmful effects of Parthenium hysterophorus and promote



appropriate weed-management practices. The programme highlighted its impacts on human health, livestock, biodiversity and agricultural productivity, emphasizing collective efforts for a clean and healthy agricultural environment.

QCI Visit to ICAR-IIMR Promoted FPOs in Karnataka

The Quality Council of India (QCI) visit to FPOs promoted by ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (ICAR-IIMR), with support from SFAC, was successfully completed across Karnataka from 17 to 28 August 2026. Shri Vinod Singh, QCI, conducted inspections covering FPO functioning, documentation, infrastructure, business activities, and other relevant aspects, with participation from the respective Boards of Directors. The visit assessed the progress of the FPOs and identified areas for further improvement. The inspections were coordinated by Mr. Abbuseth and Mr. Anup from the FPO-

NEST Team, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad.

Educational Visit of TIME School Students to ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad

ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), Hyderabad, hosted 140 Class X students of TIME School, Hyderabad, on 25 August 2026, providing practical exposure to millet cultivation, genetic resources, research, processing and value addition. Ms. Charishma and Chandralekha from FPO Nest guided the students through the crop fields, while Dr. Rafi



explained millet processing technologies and post-harvest handling. The students interacted with IIMR scientists and learned about millet nutrition, processing and innovative product development. The visit was coordinated by Dr. Sangappa, Dr. Vikas Kumar and Dr. Santosh Gupta, Senior Scientists, ICAR-IIMR.

Exploring Opportunities for Millet-Based Enterprise Development

To strengthen awareness of millet processing and enterprise



opportunities, Dr. Sangappa and Dr. Rafi, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, coordinated an exposure visit for Agriculture Officers and Assistant Directors of Agriculture (ADAs) from seven districts of Andhra Pradesh to the Shree Anna Processing and Training Unit at ICAR-IIMR on 28 August 2026. The officials were familiarised with millet processing, value-addition technologies, and diversified product development, along with opportunities for supporting farmers and FPOs in commercially viable millet-based enterprises.

Palakol Farmers Explore Millet Processing and Value-Addition Opportunities at ICAR-IIMR

Farmers from Palakol, West Godavari, visited the Shree Anna Processing and Training Unit at ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, on



28 August 2026. The visit was coordinated by Dr. Rafi, Ms. Meghana and Ms. Rashmitha from the FPO NEST team under the guidance of Dr. Sangappa, Senior Scientist and PI, FPO Projects. Farmers gained practical exposure to millet processing, value addition and diversified product development, highlighting opportunities for market-oriented enterprises and collective ventures through FPOs.

Input distribution to tribal farmers of ASR District of Andhra Pradesh

Sri Matsyadevatha FPO distributed 60 tarpaulins to tribal millet farmers of G. Madgula Block, Alluri Sitharama Raju District, with support from the GCoE-Tribal Sub Plan (TSP)



component of ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad. The tarpaulins will facilitate threshing, drying and safe post-harvest handling, helping reduce losses and maintain grain quality. Dr. Sangappa, Senior Scientist, Dr. Rafi, Agribusiness Expert, and Ms. Rashmitha, ICAR-IIMR, provided technical guidance and coordinated the intervention, strengthening millet value chains and sustainable livelihoods among tribal farming communities.

Stakeholder Consultation with Green Edge Farmer Producer Company, Solapur for Strengthening Millet Value Chains

A meeting with Green Edge Farmer Producer Company (GEFPC) was held on 30 August 2026 at ICAR-IIMR Regional



Station, Solapur, to discuss millet seed production, processing, training, and capacity building. The meeting was organized by Dr. Parashuram Patroti, Senior Scientist, and attended by Dr. Srinivas Babu; Dr. J. Stanley, Principal Scientist; Dr. Baswaraj Raigond, Senior Scientist; Dr. Umar Supate, Chairman, GEFPC; Dr. Dilip D. Kulapkar, Member, GEFPC; and farmers from Mangalwedha taluk, Solapur. Discussions focused on strengthening the millet value chain through scientific interventions, value addition, skill development, and farmer-led enterprises.

Mass Tree Plantation Programme Organized on the Occasion of Hariyali Amavasya

On the auspicious occasion of Hariyali Amavasya, Vriksha Mitra Parivar organized a Mass Tree Plantation Programme in the presence of Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture &



Farmers Welfare, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan. Officials and staff of ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), Hyderabad, participated virtually and undertook tree plantation activities. The programme reinforced the message of "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" and highlighted collective responsibility towards environmental conservation, climate resilience, and a greener future. The initiative also emphasized the importance of maintaining a clean and healthy agricultural environment.

Execution of Memorandum of Agreement / Understanding

Date of Agreement	Second Party/ Licensee	Purpose of MoA/ MoU	Signatory Authority	Witnessed by
			Second party	
13.08.26	M/s. Hastiin Valley LLP, Hyderabad	MoA for the licensing of six millet value added technologies i.e. sorghum flour, ragi flour, sorghum instant idli mix, sorghum instant upma mix, little millet instant idli mix, multi-grain atta, multi-millet instant idli mix and sorghum instant Pongal mix	Mr. Kuskuntla Suresh Reddy, CEO	Dr. Amasiddha B
13.08.26	M/s. Krismillo LLP, Andhra Pradesh	MoA for the licensing of one millet value added technology i.e. sorghum extruded snacks	Dr. Nilophar Khan, Designated Partner	Dr. Amasiddha B



MoA with Hastiin Valley LLP, Hyderabad



MoA with Krismillo LLP, Andhra Pradesh

Trainings Organized during August 2026

S. No	Title of the training	Sponsoring Agency	Date	Duration in Days	Number of participants	Category of participants
1	Advanced millet production technology adaptation to Chitradurga Farmers	International Competence Centre for Organic Agriculture	6 th August 2026	1 day	35	FPOs, Farmers, SHGs
2	Training programme on millet processing and value addition	ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad	22-23 August 2026	2 day	100	Tribal FPOs, Farmers, SHGs

Participation in Meetings/Seminar/Workshops/Conferences

S. No.	Name of Employee	Title of the meeting / Workshop etc. (If paper etc. presented mention the title)	Organized by	Venue Place /	Online / Physical	Dates
1	Amasiddha B	Keynote speaker in the National Conference on "Climate Resilient Strategies for Tribal Empowerment through Agricultural Transformation"	GIET University, Gunupur, Odisha.	GIET University, Gunupur, Odisha.	Physical	1-2 August 2026
2	Dr. C. Tara Satyavathi	Attended Research Advisory Committee (Agriculture) meeting of National Innovation Foundation-India, New Delhi	National Innovation Foundation-India, New Delhi	PPV&FRA, New Delhi	Online	3.8.2026

Participation in Meetings/Seminar/Workshops/Conferences

S. No.	Name of Employee	Title of the meeting / Workshop etc. (If paper etc. presented mention the title)	Organized by	Venue Place /	Online / Physical	Dates
3	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Attended 267 th Meeting of Governing Body of ICAR Society as a Member	ICAR, New Delhi	NASC Complex, New Delhi	Physical	8.8.2026
4	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Attended a Consultation meeting with various stakeholders of millet-value chain under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Crops), DA&FW at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi	DA&FW, New Delhi	DA&FW, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi	Physical	11.8.2026
5	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Delivered Key Note Address as Chief Guest at International Conference on Integrating Innovations and Sustainability in Food Technology, Agriculture and Nutrition (ICIIS-FTAN-2026)	Loyola Academy, Hyderabad	Loyola Academy, Hyderabad	Physical	12.8.2026
6	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Attended 97 th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the ICAR Society as a Member on the General Body of the ICAR Society.	ICAR, New Delhi	NASC Complex, New Delhi	Physical	18.8.2026
7	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Participated in the online interaction meeting under the Chairmanship of DG, ICAR regarding National Mission on High Yielding Seeds (NMHYS)	ICAR, New Delhi	ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad	Online	22.8.2026

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All India Research Project on Pearl Millet / Sorghum / Small Millets

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