



IIMR

Millet

Newsletter

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Hyderabad ■ Solapur ■ Warangal



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

International Workshop on Millets Production, Processing and Value Chain Development

ICAR- Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad in collaboration with FAO of the United Nations under the Asia-Africa South-South Cooperation organised a 10 days International Exchange Program on Millets Production, Processing and Value Chain Development from 11-21 December, 2023 with fourteen participants from Ghana, Uganda, Gambia, Nigeria, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan.



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Mr. Ashish Kumar, Agri. Policy & Marketing Specialist, FAO, India, Dr. B. Dayakar Rao, CEO, Nutrihub, ICAR-IIMR and Dr. Swarna Ronanki, Scientist, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad. Mr. Takayuki Hagiwara, Country Representative, FAO, India was the Guest of Honour who addressed the participants on the first day and highlighted the importance of this training programme for enhancing awareness of millets value chain development. The valedictory session of the workshop was conducted on 21 December 2023, with the remarks by Dr. KBRS Visarada, Director In-charge, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, Dr. B Dayakar Rao, CEO, Nutrihub, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, and Dr. Shalini Bhutani, Legal Researcher and Policy Analyst, FAO, India.



The workshop resulted in exchange of technical know-how and development experiences in millet value chains between India and selected countries of Africa and Asia. It aimed at identification of gaps in millet value chain, solutions to come up for building similar value chain in the countries in a collaborative mode through exchange of knowledge, transfer of technology and best practices. The trainees also visited Gene bank and observed the

millet genetic resources displayed and keenly observed the diversity among the millets displayed and observed conservation and characterisation activities at IIMR-Gene bank. This workshop is organized by Course Directors Dr.(Mrs.) C Tara Satyavathi, Dr. B Dayakar Rao, Dr. Swarna Ronanki and was coordinated by Drs. KN Ganapathy, K Venkatesh, N Anuradha, C Deepika, S Srividya, and V Ravi Kumar.

International training on “Advanced Post-Harvest Technologies for Seed Quality Improvement”

An international training on “Advanced Post-Harvest Technologies for Seed Quality Improvement” under the aegis of Indo-German Bilateral Cooperation on Seed Sector Development was jointly organized by ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), Hyderabad and DSST, Seed Centre, TNAU, Coimbatore during 18-21 December, 2023. In the inaugural session, Dr. Manonmani, Professor & Head, DSST, TNAU welcomed the gathering. Dr. B Venkatesh Bhat



Principal Scientist, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad spoke about the training overview. Dr. R Umarani Director, Seed Centre, TNAU, Dr. A Raviraj, Dean Agricultural Engineering, TNAU and Mr. Ekkehard Schroeder Team Leader, ADT Project Consulting, Germany spoke on the occasion. Dr. V Geetha Lakshmi, The Vice Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore, in her special address, emphasized the importance of seed and their post-harvest losses and seed quality maintenance.

The training course covered various topics in the broad areas of post-harvest technologies, seed quality enhancement, application of nanotechnology in seed quality enhancement, Latest advancements in seed quality enhancement, trends in seed coating and pelleting, seed priming and its applications, seed drying, seed storage, etc. The training also provided in depth knowledge on theoretical and hands on experience on practical aspects of seed priming, seed coating etc. The training included field and lab visits to and exposure visit to M/s. Rasi Seeds Pvt. Ltd., to learn and practice post-harvest handling of seed.

A total of 25 participants including officials from the Department of Seed Certification, NSC and SAUs from the states of Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala and representatives from seed

industry participated in the training. Drs. Sooganna, B Venkatesh Bhat, Avinash Singode and Mr. Raghunath Kulakarni coordinated the training programme with the support of Director, IIMR and Professor and Head, DSST, TNAU. Mr. Ekkehard Schroeder, Team Leader, Germany and Dr. Raghavendra Kavali, National Coordinator, Indo-German Seed Sector Development were coordinators from ADT project consulting.

Field day on Millets organized

ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad organized a Field Day on Millets in Chalki and Mungi villages of Sanga Reddy district in Telangana on 5 December, 2023 under Farmer First Project. The main objective of the programme was to monitor the interventions under NRM and horticulture module of



the farmer first project and to collect their feedback on the intervened technologies. Around 50 farmers from above villages participated in this programme. Dr. Swarna explained the importance of NRM modules viz., millets based intercropping, balanced fertilization, seed treatment with bio-fertilizers, line sowing, mulching and dead furrows for soil and moisture conservation and its implementation for increasing the productivity and profitability of millet farmers. Dr. Anuradha interacted with the beneficiaries and collected data to compute the cost benefit analysis of intervened technologies. Drs. Amasiddha and Deepika explained the improved millet cultivars and their potential for increasing the productivity. Dr. Malathi spoke on health and nutritional benefits of millet crops and incorporating millets in daily diet. Drs. Srividhya and Sevanayak explained the importance of water management in avoiding drought stress in millets. Dr. Rajasha briefed about various disease management strategies in millets. It was followed by visit to the farmers' field. The farmers expressed their gratitude for the valuable suggestions and the trial farmers gave a positive feedback on the improved varieties given by IIMR. This field day event was organized by Co-PIs of the Farmers first Project Drs. Swarna Ronanki, N. Anuradha and ICAR-IIMR scientists Drs. C. Deepika, B. Amasiddha, V. Malathi, S. Srividhya, Sevanayak and

G. Rajesha and Project staff of FFP project Spanditha, Soujanya and Bhagat under the guidance of project PI Dr. Rajendra Chapke, ICAR-IIMR.

World Soil Day conducted

ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad organized awareness program on "World Soil Day" on 5 December 2023 at Rukmapur and Chalki villages of Sangareddy District, Telangana State with the theme "Soil and water: A source of life". In this event about 17 farmers from Rukmapur and 30 farmers from Chalki village participated. The program was organised by scientific staff of



ICAR-IIMR – Drs. Swarna, Anuradha, Srividhya, Deepika, Malathi, Sevanayak, Rajesha and Amasiddha along with supporting staff Ms. Spanditha, Soujanya and Bhagat.

The scientists briefed about the importance of soil and water for profitable crop production. Further they explained the need for soil testing, method of soil sample collection, maintaining soil health and measures to prevent soil erosion and degradation. They emphasized the importance of balanced fertilization and soil water conservation measures for sustainable crop production. They also encouraged farmers to take millets cultivation as they are less input and water requiring crops and act as soil preservers with their fibrous root system. The farmers and villagers were encouraged to take initiatives to protect our soils collectively as a community activity. Further, various government programmes on soil management such as, integrated watershed management programme, National Afforestation programme, command area development and water management programme were being made aware to farmers.

Farmers Day on Millets under Swachhta Pakhwada

A Farmer Day on Millets was organised as a part of

Swachhta Pakhwada in a project village; at Zilla Parishad High School, Chalki in Nyalkal mandal of Sanga Reddy district of Telangana State under Farmer's First Project (FFP) on 23 December, 2023. Total 150 participants took part in this programme besides, Mr. Sailu, Head master, ZP School and Sh. U. Rajappa and Sh. Riyazuddin, panchayat members.

During this programme, Dr. N Anuradha, Scientist & Co-PI, FFP, briefed about the importance of maintaining sanitation and informed about how Swachhta Pakhwada programme was started and its significance to our country. She also addressed farmers regarding the importance of millets. Dr. Sevanayak, Scientist told about the effect of climate change on crops and importance of millets to mitigate climate change effects. Dr. Mukesh, Scientist, spoke about health benefits of millets and celebration of International Year of Millets 2023. Mr. Veershetty, CEO, NGO-Bhavani foods briefed about the importance of millets processing and value-addition and also maintaining hygiene and cleanliness at workplace. Literature on latest millets cultivation practices were made available to the farmers. Lastly, Ms. Spanditha, SRF administered the Swachhata Pledge with participants and students and asked them to clean the premises of school and from surroundings areas. This programme was organized under guidance of the project PI, Dr. Rajendra R. Chapke, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad.

Rural Awareness Program on Health Benefits of millets

ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research conducted the Rural Awareness Program on Health Benefits of Millets, Swachhata Pakhwada Program and Kisan Diwas in MPP School, Hemajipur village Balanagar Mandal, Mahaboobnagar District, Telangana on 27 December 2023. Over 100 participants including farmers, students, teachers were attended to this programme. Dr. B. Subharayudu, Principal scientist briefed the importance of Swachhata Pakhwada activities and Kisan Diwas, while focusing his lecture on "Millet production, productivity and marketing". Dr. D. Seva Nayak, Senior Scientist gave a brief overview of International Year of Millets (IYOM)-2023, and benefits of millets in the context of "Global warming and greenhouse gasses and nutria cereals" the farmers were provided the information brochures on millet cultivation practices and value addition.

Field day on Millets

A Field Day on Millets was organized at Rukmapur and Chalki villages in Sangareddy district in Telangana on 12 December, 2023 under Farmer First Project. The main objective of the programme was to observe the performance of the project intervention on rabi sorghum and to introduce wild animal repellent (Herbolive+) under NRM and also to interact with the farmers and to get their feedback. On the occasion of field day, the team IIMR demonstrated the product "Herbolive" to the farmers in Rukmapur and Chalki village along with instructions about its application and benefits. The team visited rabi sorghum field belongs to Sh.



Somala Nayak, a trial farmer wherein the crop was at seedling stage. Later, a trial of red gram was visited at Mungi village where the crop was at maturity stage. Ms. Spanditha, SRF, Ms. Soujanya, FA, Mr. Bhagath, FA, from ICAR-IIMR, and FPO officials; Mr. Rajesh and Mr. Sangmesh along with farmers of the project trails participated in this programme. It was organized under guidance of the project PI, Dr. Rajendra R. Chapke, PS, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad.

Swachhata awareness programme under MGMG

ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research-Hyderabad, carried out the Swachhata awareness programme at Polimera Thanda of Balanagar Mandal, Mahbubnagar District, Telangana on 18 December 2023 as a part of *Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav* programme under Swachhata Pakhawada organized during 16-31 October, 2023. Dr. B Subharayaudu, Principal Scientist, IIMR briefed the



importance of Swachhata Pakhawada Program activities and also about International Year of Millets (IYoM) -2023. In this programme about 100 villagers encouraged to adopt the all agricultural cost effective and appropriate technologies for ecologically safe and sustainable sanitation. Further, farmers were informed about the formation of Self-Help Groups to enhance their farm profit in a big way. They also told about the necessity of clean and green village concept including sanitation, removal of weeds from fields time to time and planting of trees on road sides in villages. Dr Seva Nayak, scientist, IIMR explained farmers about millets millet value addition.

Celebration of Kisan Diwas at Devarkadra FPO

ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad celebrated *Kisan Diwas* -2023 at Devarakadra Farmer Producer Company Limited Baswaipalli

village, Mahbubnagar. The event was graced by Sh. K Srinivasa Babu, Dr. Sangappa, Dr. Rafi and FPO-NEST of ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, Ms. Swathi, AEO, Devarkadra, CEO, BODs and farmers. During the program, scientists from ICAR-IIMR explained advanced agricultural practices and distributed free high-yielding millet seeds to the farmers. Further "Swachhata Pakwada - 2023" awareness program was also celebrated.

Organized a webinar on E-Waste rules:

As a part of the occasion of Swachhata Pakhawada, at ICAR-IIMR-Hyderabad a webinar was organized on 19 December, 2023. Mr Paras Gupta, expert and senior environmentalist from GEM ENVIRO MANAGEMENT P. LTD, New Delhi delivered a lecture on "E-Waste rules as per new guidelines" in a virtual mode. Staff of IIMR and its regional centre-CRS-Solapur staff participated in this



programme. Sh. Paras Gupta explained about the new E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022, which come in to force in India from 1 April 2023 and the aim is to reduce the use of hazardous substances and avoid false claims, set specific recycling targets, and introduce a new EPR regime. This Programme was coordinated by Dr. KBRS Visarada with the help of D Revati, ACTO and Dr. V Ravi Kumar, STO of IIMR.

Millet Winter Half Walkathon

The Millet Winter Half Walkathon was conducted by Peerancheruvu Runners (PCR) Association with the support of ICAR- ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad on 17 December 2023. The Walkathon was aimed at creating awareness and promoting use of millets among the general public. The Walkathon encouraged residents in the



PBEL City and other communities in Peerancheruvu area of Hyderabad to take part in running up to the IIMR Institute located at Rajendranagar, about 10 kms, as a mean to promote an active and healthy lifestyle and awareness on

millet. Dr. (Mrs) C Tara Satyavathi, Director, IIMR addressed the gathering and briefed the need for the changing food habits in this modern living styles and B Dayakar Rao, Principal Scientist, IIMR explained the key role of Millets in maintaining the nutritional food habits in day to day life. Continuing with the tradition of promoting healthy choices, runners were provided with a nutritious millet based breakfast at the end of the run at IIMR. Dr. V Ravikumar, STO coordinated this event in association with other staff of Centre of Excellence and Nutrihub at IIMR.

International Millet Day event

As a part of series of events for the promotion of the International Year of Millets (IYoM) 2023, International Millet Day event was organized on 12 December 2023 at Lulu Mall, Hyderabad. ICAR- Indian Institute of Millets Research and its Nutrihub trained start-ups – M/s. Troo Good, Harika Foods, Inner Being and Health Sutra showcased their products at Lulu Millet fest to promote millet value-added products around the world in association with Lulu Group. Dr. (Mrs) C Tara Satyavathi, Director, IIMR-Hyderabad participated in this event as Chief Guest and emphasized on health and nutritional benefits of millets and urged the public to include a millet in their daily diet.

Swachhta Pakhwada 16-31 December, 2023 Observed

ICAR - Indian Institute of Millets Research- Hyderabad - organized successfully *Swachhta Pakhwada* campaign during 16-31 December, 2023 as a part of 8th *Swachhta Pakhwada* implementation programme in ICAR institutes. On this occasion, ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research took the initiative to follow the Councils guidelines, with meaningful planning and carrying out of *Swachhta Pakhwada* with enthusiastic cooperation from the staff at ICAR-IIMR-Hyderabad and its Research Centre on Rabi Sorghum located at Solapur, Maharashtra. The day to day reports were also submitted to the council as per the directives received in this regard. t

The summary of activities taken up are listed below:

16.12.2023: IIMR staff took the 'Swachhta Shapath' to keep the institute, city, and country neat and clean. This pledge



was administered in Hindi and English, in the presence of Dr.(Mrs.) Tara Satyavathi, Director, IIMR-Hyderabad. On this

occasion Director, IIMR stressed the importance of cleanliness to build a clean, hygienic, and healthy environment at the research fields and institute campus, and work areas.

17.12.2023: On the second day campus cleaning programme was taken up and staff of IIMR enthusiastically participated in this event and cleaned the main building premises, waste material removal from the back yards, and old store area.

18.12.2023: Awareness programme and Cleanliness and Sanitation drive at adopted village Polimera Tanda in Mehboobnagar district in Telangana under *Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav Programme*. Villagers and farmers were



briefed about sanitation, personal hygiene, on village cleaning, removal of weeds and planting of trees.

19.12.2023: A webinar was organized on 19 Dec, 2023. Mr Paras Gupta, expert and senior environmentalist from GEM ENVIRO MANAGEMENT P. LTD, New Delhi delivered a lecture on "E-Waste rules as per new guidelines" in a virtual mode.

20.12.2023: An awareness campaign was organized Special drive on Utilization of organic waste to the



homemakers residing in the Bhavani Colony near Rajendranagar on 20 December, 2023. They were briefed about the importance of Swachhta Pakhwada and the activities taken up by the IIMR. They were briefed about the organic cultivation practices for them, to maintain their kitchen gardens on the terraces. The demonstration was also done to how to prepare an organic compost based pot by using their day to day organic kitchen and home wastes such as peels of vegetables etc.

21.12.2023: Recycling of the water and water harvesting pit was prepared at Government Primary School, Hanuman Nagar, Rajendranagar, Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana Research. Staff of IIMR participated in educating the children about the importance of ground water and judicious use of water. It also keeps the premises clean and water will be recharged. Waste water collecting pit was prepared at the school premises to avoid accumulation of sewerage water from toilets in the campus, creating bad odor and nurture of mosquitos. Children were also advised to keep their hands clean with soap after utilizing toilet.

22.12.2023: Campus cleaning and Sanitation drive programme was organized at Government Primary School at Hanuman Nagar, Rajendranagar Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana. Staff of IIMR participated in the cleaning of the school premises and applied white wash to the tree trunks. Children were told to maintain the cleanliness of school campus and also at their residences. They were also made aware of personal hygiene and sanitation. IIMR staff distributed masks and soaps to the children and sanitizer bottle to the teaching staff.

23.12.2023: ICAR-IIMR – Hyderabad organized a Farmer day programme in project village; Chalki in Nyalkal mandal of Sangareddy district of Telangana state under Farmer's First Project on 23 Dec 2023. Total 150 farmers participated.

24.12.2023: ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad celebrated Swachhata awareness day and Kisan Day-2023 at Devarakadra Farmer Producer Company Limited Baswaipalli village, Mahbubnagar in Telangana. The inauguration of Palamuru FPO office and Vegetable procurement center of Palamuru FPO promoted by NABARD & ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad was also started at Tankara village, Hanwada(M) Mahbubnagar. Further the Kisan Day and Swachhata Pakhwada campaign was also conducted.

25.12.2023: The second phases of Cleanliness and sanitation drive was organized at Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan's Vidyashram School, NIRD Campus, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad on 25 December, 2023. Campus cleaning and painting of the tree trunk work was taken up by IIMR staff. Tree plantation job was also done at residential layout of Bhavani colony, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad in association with the colony welfare association.

26.12.2023: An awareness program was organized at the Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan's Vidyashram School, NIRD Campus, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad. Apart from the awareness program a drawing competition on the theme "Garbage free India, Clean India" were also conducted to the students of the school. A tree plantation programme also carried out at the school to beautify the school campus.

27.12.2023: Farm yard cleaning programme was organized and staff of IIMR- Hyderabad and CRS-Solapur participated in cleaning of the fields by removing teared nylon bags, plastic bottles and torn urea bags and cleaned the threshing yard.

28.12.2023: Special drive on Utilization of organic waste

to the homemakers residing in the Manikyamma Nagar Colony near Rajendranagar. They were briefed about the organic cultivation practices in their kitchen gardens. The demonstration was also done at one house to explain in detail - how to prepare ridges and furrows and to use the organic compost in the plots. Water Tanks and Water coolers were cleaned.

29.12.2023: A community demo was conducted by IIMR Staff at the Hanuman Goshala in Kotwalguda village, Rajendranagar Mandal, Hyderabad to build compost pits using organic waste from the goshala, cow dung and soil mud.

30.12.2023: A cleanliness drive was taken up at Ram Mandir near Hanuman Nagar. Bushes and shrubs on the side of Path way were removed and campus was cleaned. The playground located besides the Ram Mandir, at Hanuman Nagar, where the children from the nearby colonies comes to play was cleaned.

31.12.2023: Campus cleaning and landscaping programme was organized at the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan School, NIRD campus, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad. Staff of the school participated in cleaning and observed the lawn plantation, floriculture demo and seed sowing method demo.

Besides above events the following activities were also taken up and taken care:

- Displayed Swachhata message and activities taken place at IIMR –Hyderabad on the **Website** of IIMR.
- Displayed Swachhata messages through **billboards** in entire campus.
- Utilized the Social Media i.e **Face book** and **Twitter (X)** to generate awareness.
- Strictly adhered to the standard norms of Guidelines concerned **COVID** circulated by the Government of India.

Dr.SN Saxena joined IIMR

Dr. Shailendra Nath Saxena, Principal Scientist (Plant Physiology), in compliance of Council's appointment joined as Head, Regional Research Station on Pearl Millet of ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, located at Gudamalani, Barmer, Rajasthan on 01 December, 2023. *IIMR welcomes him to the millets family.*

Visitors Dignitaries

Padmasree **Khader Vali**, who is working obstinately in reviving millets (Shri Anna) for nearly 20 years from Mysuru, Karnataka and Padmasree **Subash Palekar**, who pioneered the concept of Natural Farming in the country from Amravati, Maharashtra along with Sh. Durga Prasad, Ex-MLA, Samasthipur, Dr. Gangi Reddy and Sh. Rambabu, Millet Entrepreneurs, visited ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad on 12 December 2023. Dr. (Mrs.) Tara Satyavathi, Director, IIMR explained them about the ongoing research activities, action



plans being practiced at IIMR to increase the output. The group also visited Nutrihub, Technology Business incubation centre of ICAR-IIMR and observed the millet processing units and value added technologies at food processing lab. Dr. B Dayakar Rao, Principal Scientist, CEO – Nutrihub also interacted with the team. Dr. J Stanley, Sr. Scientist, coordinated this visit at IIMR.

Farmers

From Hameerpur & Banda, Uttar Pradesh: Eighty farmers of Rashtriya Asahara Sevashram Parishad, Hameerpur and Banda districts of Uttar Pradesh under the leadership of Shri Arun Diwadi visited ICAR-IIMR on 04 December, 2023 under



the inter-State Exposure visit. They were briefed about the millets cultivation, availability of varietal technologies, Millets Germplasm, millet value addition and processing machineries. Dr Mahesh Kumar, ACTO (OL) coordinated the visit.

From Raibarali, Uttar Pradesh: Forty-five farmers under the Millets Punarrudhar yojana karyakram from Raibareli, Uttar



Pradesh under the leadership of Shri Vijay Tiwari visited ICAR

-IIMR on 05 December, 2023 under the inter-State Exposure visit. They were briefed about the millets cultivation, availability of varietal technologies, Millets Germplasm, millet value addition and processing machineries. Dr. Sangappa, Scientist provided them information about FPO activities. Dr Mahesh Kumar, ACTO (OL) coordinated the visit.

From Bellampalli Andhra Pradesh: To learn about the latest millet technologies, 40 farmers from KVK- Bellampally, Andhra Pradesh visited ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad on 7 December 2023. During the visit, participants gained knowledge about the available improved varieties of millets, along with valuable information on business opportunities within the millet sector. Dr. Sangappa, and his project team coordinated the visit.

From Chhindawara, Madhya Pradesh: Forty farmers of ATMA, Agriculture Department, Chhindawara, Madhya



Pradesh under the leadership of Shri Yogesh Chopde visited ICAR-IIMR on 27 December, 2023 under the inter-State Exposure visit. They were briefed about the millets cultivation, availability of varietal technologies, Millets Germplasm, millet value addition and processing machineries. This visit facilitated by Dr. Mahesh Kumar, ACTO (OL), Dr. V Ravi Kumar, Technical Officer and coordinated by Dr Mahesh Kumar.

From Odisha: A total of 25 Farmers from Odisha state visited ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, witnessed millet genetic diversity being conserved at Genebank on 14 December, 2023. The visit was co-ordinated by Dr Karnam Venkatesh, Senior Scientist, and interacted with the farmers and showed millet germplasm diversity.

From KVK Warangal, Telangana: Eleven Women farmers of Krishi Vignyan Kendra Mamnoor (PVNRTUV), Warangal, Telangana under the leadership of Dr. Arun Jyothi, Scientist visited ICAR-IIMR on 28 December, 2023. They were briefed about the IIMR activities and primary & secondary processing of Millets. This visit facilitated and coordinated by Dr. Mahesh Kumar, ACTO with the help of Nutrihub team.

From Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh: Fifty farmers of Rashtriya Asahara Sevashram Parishad, Mirzapur districts of Uttar Pradesh under the leadership of Sh. Arun Diwadi visited ICAR-IIMR on 27 December, 2023 under the inter-State Exposure visit. They were briefed about the millets cultivation,



availability of varietal technologies, Millets Germplasm, millet value addition and processing machineries. This visit facilitated and coordinated by Dr. Mahesh Kumar, ACTO.

Officers from Dept. of Agriculture, Madhya Pradesh

Sh. RP Jhariya, Project Director, ATMA, Anurag Patel, Assistant Director, Ramendra Singh, SDO(Ag), SK Minj, Assistant Director & Pradeep Kushwaha, Senior Agriculture



Development Officer from Madhya Pradesh visited ICAR-IIMR on 11-12 December, 2023 to know how about Millets cultivation technology & its value addition. They were briefed about the millets cultivation, availability of varietal technologies, Millets Germplasm, millet value addition and processing machineries. Dr Mahesh Kumar, Assistant Chief Technical Officer (OL) coordinated the visit.

Students

Thirty-three students of B.Sc. Agriculture IV year from Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agriculture University, Jhansi visited IIMR, Hyderabad on 13 December, 2023 under leadership of Dr. Saurabh Singh, Assistant Professor to gather the knowledge about Millets cultivation, processing & value addition as a part of their all India educational tour. They were briefed about the millets cultivation, availability of varietal technologies, primary & secondary processing & value addition of millets. This visit was facilitated by Dr. Mahesh Kumar, ACTO (OL), Shri Raghunath Kulkarni & Shri Rajappa, TO's and coordinated by Dr Mahesh Kumar.

Trainees

Twenty-Five officers from Odisha State undergoing training at MANAGE, Hyderabad visited ICAR-IIMR on 28 December, 2023 under the leadership of Ms. Sai Sree, Consultant, Manage, Hyderabad. They were briefed about the IIMR R & D, Nutrihub, CoE activities and primary & secondary processing of Millets. This visit facilitated and coordinated by



Dr. Mahesh Kumar, Assistant Chief Technical Officer (OL) with the help of Nutrihub team.

Meeting of Official Language Implementation Committee

The 67th meeting of the Official Language Implementation Committee (OLIC) of the Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad was organized on 29 December, 2023. The meeting began with welcome address by Dr. (Mrs.) C. Tara Satyavathi, Chairperson of OLIC. The other members present during the meeting were Dr. Jinu Jacob, OIC, Hindi Cell, Smt. Ritu Dalal, SAO, Shri Shaik Rukman, FAO and Member Secretary, Dr. Mahesh Kumar, ACTO (OL). Various issues related to Official Language implementation presented by the member secretary were discussed and it was decided, it should be ensured that boards and banners of IIMR programme should be prepared in bilingual.

Lectures Delivered

Dr. Swarna Ronanki, Scientist, delivered a lecture on improved production practices of millets to trainees of International Workshop on Millets Production, Processing and Value Chain Development jointly organised by FAO and ICAR-IIMR on 20 December, 2023.

Dr. Sangappa C, Scientist from ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad delivered a lecture on "Market linkages and entrepreneurship development" during an International Conference on Millets Organic and Natural Farming (ICMOF-2023), held at Kankapura by UAS, Bangalore on 11 December, 2023 and suggested strategies in promotion of millets through FPOs.

FPO News

Session Delivery in NIMSME, Hyderabad

Dr. Rafi, project staff from ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad delivered a session on business opportunities with millets at National Institute for Micro Small Medium Enterprise (NIMSME), Hyderabad as a part of Millet Management Development Program (MMDP) on 6 December 2023 to 25 millet entrepreneurs.

Evaluation of Mahbubnagar FPOs

Sh. Srinivasa Babu and Dr. Sangappa, Scientists, IIMR along with FPO Nest team visited Mahbubnagar FPOs on 8 December, 2023 and monitored the progress of Devarkadra FPO, Balanagar FPO & Palamuru Vegetable FPO. Discussions were held with the CEOs, Accountants, and



Board of Directors for evaluating their operational and financial status.

FPO team visit to Dundubi FPCL

Dr. Rafi, Project Staff from ICAR-IIMR visited Dhundubi Farmers Producer Company Limited at Midjil promoted by ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad on 11 December 2023 to review and monitor the activities of FPOs.

FPO team visited to Manyam Devarakadra (FPCL)

Mr. Ramakiran from FPO-Nest of ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad visited Manyam Devarakadra Farmer Producer Company Limited on December 11, 2023 for revamping the office setup. Later future business plans and output business of FPO was discussed with CEO, Accountant & Agriculture Officer of Manyam Devarkadra.

Millet Exhibition stall

Lambasingi Tribal Products FPC Ltd. and Jewargi Taluka Millets FPCL promoted by ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad participated and displayed their millet value added products



in "International Round Table Meeting on Millets for Global Food Security" organized by African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) in collaboration with MANAGE, Hyderabad on 12 December, 2023.

FPO participation ASEAN-India Millet Festival at New Delhi

Lambasingi Tribal Products FPC Ltd. promoted by ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad has participated and showcased their products in "ASEAN India Millet Festival" organized by Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, New Delhi from 14 -15 December, 2023. This event helped Lambasingi FPO to expand their business by building international linkages with ASEAN member states.

Training and awareness program on Millet cultivation practices

Farmers from Odisha Integrated Irrigation Project for Climate Resilient Agriculture (OIIPRA) visited ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad on 13 December 2023 as a part of training and awareness program on millet cultivation practices. The participants were taken to gene bank for understanding the millet biodiversity and PJTSAU millet incubation center.

Inauguration of Vegetable Collection Center

The inauguration of Palamuru FPO office and Vegetable procurement center of Palamuru FPO promoted by NABARD & ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad was started on 22 December 2023 at Tankara village, Hanwada (M) Mahbubnagar. The event was graced by scientists and IIMR team (Mr. Srinivasa Babu, Dr. Sangappa, Dr. Rafi, Ramakiran, Charishma, Meghana) and IFDC team (Mr. Shankar and Mr. Sai) along with BoDs, CEO, Sarpanch, MPP, MPTC and farmers. The operational procedures of vegetable collection center and maintenance of FPO was explained by IIMR & IFDC team. Further the Kisan Day and Swachhta Pakhwada was also celebrated.

AGRI EXPO at New Delhi

ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad promoted Lambasingi Tribal Products FPC Ltd of Chintapalli block, ASSR district, AP has participated and showcased their products in the AGRI EXPO event in New Delhi from 27 -29 December, 2023.

Telangana State Level Yuva Utsav

FPO-Nest team from ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad arranged a stall during State Level Yuva Utsav-2023 at Co-operative Training Institute, Rajendra Nagar, Hyderabad from 28 - 29 December, 2023. During this state level exhibition different state and central developmental departments displayed their achievements and innovations to the youths through their stalls. In this connection, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad received recognition for their outstanding contributions in Millet sector during the State Yuva Utsav-2023.

Demonstration of Millet Primary Processing Units

Mr. Ramakiran from FPO-Nest demonstrated the working procedures of millet primary processing center facilities available at ICAR-IIMR to Agriculture Officers of Odisha on



12 December, 2023. The demonstration encompassed a comprehensive overview of the operational procedures of millet primary processing centers, latest technological advancements and best practices in millet processing.

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

S. No.	Name of Employee	Programme details	Type	Organized by	Dates
1	C Tara Satyavathi	Online Meeting of ICAR Regional Committee No. III	M	ICAR, New Delhi	1 Dec, 2023
2	C Tara Satyavathi	Seminar on "Familiarization with Millets" and delivered talk as Guest Speaker.	S	Secunderabad Cantonment Board, Secunderabad.	1 Dec, 2023
3	C Tara Satyavathi	Online meeting of IARI-Mega University-Hyderabad Hub	M	ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad	1 Dec, 2023
4	C Tara Satyavathi & Swarna Ronanki	Crop weather watch group meeting	M	Crop Forecast Coordination centre, New Delhi.	04, Dec, 2023
5	C Tara Satyavathi	International Training on Agriculture in Future & Future in Agriculture. delivered online talk on "Millets for food and nutritional Security"	T	RVS KVV Gwalior, MP.	04, Dec, 2023
6	C Tara Satyavathi	Training Program on Nutri- Sensitive Agriculture and delivered lecture on "Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture a viable concept for promotion of Millets among small holdings"	T	Extension Education Institute (Southern Region), Directorate of Extension, DA&FW, New Delhi	05, Dec, 2023
7	C Tara Satyavathi	Agri-Tech 2023. Participated Online as Chief Guest for the "Millets – Nutri-foods" session and delivered Chief Guest address.	S	ANGRAU, Guntur.	05, Dec, 2023
8	C Tara Satyavathi	Mega University-Hyderabad Hub meeting to discuss the roadmap for Undergraduate / PG / Ph.D academic program activities for academic year 2023-24.	M	ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad.	06, Dec., 2023
9	C Tara Satyavathi	Online review meeting of ATR of ICAR Institutes	M	ICAR, New Delhi.	07, Dec., 2023
10	C Tara Satyavathi	Annual Seminar with the theme "Innovations in Fertilizer and Agriculture Sectors". Delivered Online talk on "Role of millets in Food and Nutrition Security"	S	Fertilizer Association of India, New Delhi.	07, Dec., 2023
11	C Tara Satyavathi	Zoom meeting on International Exchange Programme FAO Training	M	ICAR-IIMR-Hyderabad	09, Dec., 2023
12	C Tara Satyavathi	Training program on "Advances in experiment designs and genomics for tailoring horticultural crops and delivered lecture on "Opportunity for Millet Crops as a nutraceutical in Horticulture Crops"	T	Division of Fruits & Horticultural Technology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi	11, Dec., 2023
13	C Tara Satyavathi	National Conference of Plant Physiology 2023. Chaired Session X: Millets for Nutrition and Climate Resilience and delivered talk as Lead Speaker on "Millets: The climate resilient nutria-cereals".	C	ICAR-IARI, New Delhi	11, Dec., 2023
14	C Tara Satyavathi	Online Review Meeting of ATR of ICAR Institutes	M	ICAR- New Delhi	12, Dec., 2023

15	C Tara Satyavathi	Inaugural program of the event on International Millet Day	M	Lulu International shopping Malls Pvt. Ltd, Hyderabad	12, Dec., 2023
16	C Tara Satyavathi	Online Review Meetings of ATR of ICAR Institutes	M	ICAR- New Delhi	13, Dec., 2023
17	C Tara Satyavathi	Closing ceremony function on International Millet Expo and Conclave 2023 and delivered Chief Guest address.	M	Millet Foundation and Tan-millet's, Chennai	13, Dec., 2023
18	C Tara Satyavathi & S Srividya	International Roundtable Meeting on "Millets for Global Food Security"	M	Organized by AARDO and MAN-AGE at MANAGE, Hyderabad.	13 - 14 Dec, 2023
19	Swarna Ronanki	International roundtable meeting on 'Millets for global food security by on Dec 14, 2023.	M	Jointly organized MANAGE and AARDO, Hyderabad	14, Dec, 2023
20	C Tara Satyavathi	Online Review Meetings of ATR of ICAR Institutes	M	ICAR- New Delhi	14 & 15, Dec., 2023
21	C Tara Satyavathi	Online Meeting on monitoring advance planning of CFLDs, KRishi Mapper app, seed-hubs under NFSM	M	NFSM, DA&FW, New Delhi	15 Dec., 2023
22	C Tara Satyavathi	Online Meeting with DDG (CS) on budget and other divisional issues.	M	ICAR- New Delhi	15 Dec., 2023
23	Swarna Ronanki	Meeting on Preparation of millet commodity profiles	M	ICAR- National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research (NIAP), New Delhi	18 Dec., 2023
24	C Tara Satyavathi	Online Review Meetings of ATR of ICAR Institutes	M	ICAR- New Delhi	16-23 Dec., 2023
25	C Tara Satyavathi	Meeting for commodity profile.	M	Directorate of Marketing and Inspection, Faridabad.	18 Dec., 2023
26	C Tara Satyavathi	Online Expenditure Review Meeting.	M	ICAR- New Delhi	19 Dec., 2023
27	C Tara Satyavathi	International Conference on Technology-driven Agriculture to Face the Imminent Future Challenges (ICTA 2023).	C	Galgotias University, School of Agriculture, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh.	19 Dec., 2023
28	C Tara Satyavathi	Attended 2nd Governing Body Meeting of Assam Millet Mission in Online mode.	M	Assam Millet Mission, ARIAS Society, Guwahati	20 Dec., 2023
29	C Tara Satyavathi	Conference on International Year of Millets 2023: Outcome and the future roadmap.	C	NAAS, New Delhi	20 Dec., 2023
30	C Tara Satyavathi	14th Agriculture Leadership Conclave. Served as Moderator	C	Agriculture Today Group, New Delhi.	21 Dec., 2023
31	C Tara Satyavathi	Online Meeting of XVIII Working Group meeting of All India Coordinated Research Project for Dryland Agriculture & X Annual Review meeting of AICRPDA-NICRA. Chaired Technical Session-II on Cropping Systems and alternate Land Use	M	ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad	22 Dec., 2023

32	C Tara Satyavathi	Online Closing Ceremony of Intl. Year of Millets 2023 – “Millet Marvel: Decades of innovation and advancement”. Delivered a Lecture on “Millet Milestone Gala – Agriculture Perspective”	M	PJTSAU, Hyderabad	22 Dec., 2023
33	C Tara Satyavathi	CAFT Training program on “Agri-derived Nutrients and Nutraceuticals for Innovative Health Foods: Tools and Strategies” and delivered a lecture.	T	ICAR-IARI, New Delhi.	26 Dec., 2023
34	C Tara Satyavathi	Online awareness workshop on “Intellectual Property Management” for scientists of ZTMC of South Zone Crop Science Institutes of ICAR. Delivered opening remarks on “Importance of IPR”.	W	ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad	27 Dec., 2023
35	C Tara Satyavathi	Online seminar for the event Millet & Fish and delivered Chief Guest address.	S	CMFRI, Kochi.	28 Dec., 2023
36	C Tara Satyavathi	Online meeting of the Committee for reviewing the implementation of the Global R&D Hub for Millets	M	ICAR, New Delhi	29 Dec., 2023

Memoranda of Understanding

The following Memoranda of Agreement / Understandings were made through ITMU, ICAR-IIMR, signed at ICAR-IIMR during the December 2023. Dr. C Tara Satyavathi, Director – IIMR on behalf of IIMR signed the agreements. The details are as follows:

Date of Agreement	Second Party/ Licensee	Purpose of MoA/ MoU	Signed by Second party	In the presence of
05 Dec., 2023	M/S. Momai Trading, Gujarat	Licensing of Sorghum hybrid CSH 24 MF	Mr. Amit Dhanak, Director	Drs. Avinash Singode & J Stanley
28 Dec., 2023	Sri. Guru Govind Singh, Tricentenary University, Gurugram, Haryana.	Student Research	Dr. Joginder Yadav, Registrar	Drs. P Sanjana Reddy & J Stanley



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