



IIMR

Millet

Newsletter

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Hyderabad ■ Solapur ■ Warangal



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

Research Advisory Committee Meeting

The 24th meeting of Research Advisory Committee (RAC) of ICAR - Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad was held during 26 - 27 October, 2023 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Arvind Kumar,



Deputy Director General, ICRIASAT, Patancheru to review the progress made under various research projects during the period 2022-23. The Members of RAC present were Dr. OP Yadav, Director, ICAR – Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur; Dr. Sridevi Annapurna Singh, Director, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysuru; Dr. SR Maloo, Former Director of Research, MPUAT, Udaipur; Dr. ST Kajjidoni, Former Dean, College of Agriculture, UAS, Dharwad and Dr. A Nirmalakumari, Former Professor (Plant Breeding and Genetics), Centre of

Excellence on millets, TNAU, Athiyandal; Dr. C Tara Satyavathi, Director, IIMR and Dr. P Rajendrakumar, Principal Scientist and Member-Secretary, RAC. Dr. SK Pradhan, ADG (FFC), ICAR, New Delhi also graced the occasion. Action Taken Report on the recommendations of the previous RAC meeting was presented by the Member Secretary.

Dr. (Mrs.) C Tara Satyavathi, Director, IIMR presented an Overview of Research and Development in Millets during 2022-23.

She briefed about institute's significant achievements under various research programs, seed production at IIMR, externally funded projects, publications, National Nutri-cereal Convention, trainings organized and intellectual property management. She also emphasized the role of the Institute as the Global Centre of Excellence on Millets and the initiatives and activities taken-up by the IIMR. The scientists representing different thematic areas presented the progress, achievements and expected outcome from their projects. The RAC team also visited the field experiments and discussed with the concerned scientists on 27 October 2023. This was followed by visits to Gene Bank, Centre of Excellence on Millets, Primary and Secondary Processing Facilities and Nutri-Hub and the activities undertaken were explained to them. The Chairman and Members appreciated the efforts of scientists and other staff of the Institute for the excellent work and the state-of-the-art infrastructure for processing and value-addition. The Chairman and Members gave valuable suggestions for the improvement of various projects and stressed on the increased efforts and collaborations due to the greater responsibility of the Institute as Global Centre of Excellence on Millets. The proceedings of the meeting are being finalized for the approval of the committee and further submission to the council.



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International training workshop on “ISTA: Seed Quality Assurance”

An international training workshop on “ISTA: Seed Quality Assurance” was organized by ICAR-IIMR, under the aegis of Indo-German Bilateral Cooperation on Seed Sector Development at Telangana International Seed Testing Authority (TISTA), TSSOCA, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad, Telangana during 15-19 October, 2023. This workshop was aimed at providing

knowledge on the quality management system for the seed testing laboratories and dealt with important topics of seed



quality assurance as per ISTA standards, ISTA accreditation, technical and practical aspects of advances in seed moisture, germination and purity testing. International experts from ISTA were the resource persons for the workshop. They included Dr. Florina Palada, ISTA Head of Accreditation and Technical Department, Dr. Joël Léchappé, ISTA Honorary Life Member, Mr. Craig McGill, ISTA ECOM Member & former ISTA President, Dr. G.V Jagadish, Member, ISTA TCOM Vigour and Storage Committee and Technical Advisor (QA), Dr. Malavika Dadlani, Former Joint Director (Research), ICAR-IARI, New Delhi and Dr. Keshavulu Kunusoth, ISTA-President, Director - TSSOCA & TISTA, Hyderabad. A total of 25 participants, drawn across different parts of the country including private and public sector participated in the training. In the inaugural session, Dr. K Keshavulu, President ISTA, Switzerland emphasized the importance of seed testing and quality assurance. Dr. C Tara Satyavathi Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad highlighted the role of Seed Testing Laboratories in India in quality seed supply and seed export. Dr.(Mrs.) C Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad welcomed the gathering and delivered the opening remarks of the programme. Dr. Raghavendra Kavali, National Coordinator Indo-German Seed Sector Development proposed the vote of thanks.

The participants were trained on theoretical and practical aspects of implementing a quality assurance culture, control and check seed testing equipment, products and consumables, via practical examples and demonstrations conducted by the professional instructors from ISTA. The trainees could get a clear understanding of the quality control and quality assurance for an ISTA laboratory accreditation. They also visited the Centre of Excellence, Nutrihub, Common Facilities for value addition and entrepreneurship development at IIMR.

The training was coordinated by Drs. Sooganna and B Venkatesh Bhat under the guidance of Director ICAR-IIMR, Dr. C Tara Satyavathi. The training was executed by (TISTA), TSSOCA, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad under the leadership



of Dr. Keshavulu Kunusoth, Director, TSSOCA. Mr. Ekkehard Schroeder Team Leader, ADH Project Consulting, Germany and Dr. Raghavendra Kavali, National Coordinator, Indo-German Seed Sector Development were coordinators from TSSOCA and ADT project consulting respectively.

QRT meeting

The QRT team comprising of Dr. SL Mehta, Former Vice-Chancellor (Maharana Pratap Agricultural University & Technology, Udaipur)-Chairman and the other members Dr. K. Ganesamurthy, Former Director, Centre for Plant Breeding and Genetics, TNAU, Coimbatore; Dr. O.P.



Govila, Former Project Coordinator, AICRP on Pearl Millet; Dr. NK Bajjal, Director Extension, BUAT, Banda; visited IIMR on 17 and 18 October to finalize the QRT report of IIMR and also rescheduling of the centres visit in the light of addition of review of AICRP on Pearl Millet. The team had a formal interaction with Dr.(Mrs.) C Tara Satyavathi, Director, IIMR. The team also had discussions with various scientists of IIMR individually. Dr. Prabhakar, Former Project Coordinator, AICRP on Small millets, Bengaluru participated in the deliberations through virtual mode. Dr. AV Umakanth, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IIMR Member Secretary, Hyderabad coordinated this meeting.

IAC meeting on Farmer FIRST Project

An Institute Advisory Committee (IAC) meeting of Farmer FIRST project (FFP) was organized on 3 October, 2023 under the chairmanship of Dr. (Mrs.) C Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyd. The other committee members who participated were: Drs. C Aruna, B Venkatesh Bhat, G Shyam Prasad, K Hariprasanna, KN Ganapathy, N Anuradha, C Sangappa, P Hemasankari and Co-PIs of FFP project - Swarna Ronanki, and A Srinivas, besides Dr. Rajendra R. Chapke, Principal investigator and member secretary of the IAC and other project team members. Mr. Veershetty, CEO, NGO-Bhavani Foods and local coordinator along with his associate also actively participated. Dr. Chapke presented the progress report of 2022-23 and technical programme for the current year 2023-24. Mr. Veershetty explained the progress of his contribution under crop and enterprise module, productivity enhancement and best performance of dehuller equipment. The advisory committee suggested that since the interventions were performing well, there is a need to prepare success story on each module needs to be popularized through video films subject to the availability of funds.

IRC reviewed Special Projects

Progress of the externally funded projects that are running in IIMR and funded by different funding agencies were

reviewed in a meeting on 20 October 2023. The meeting was chaired by Dr. (Mrs.) C Tara Satyavathi, Director IIMR and attended by the principal investigators of the projects, the senior administrative officer and the finance and accounts



officer of the institute. A total of 20 projects were presented and discussed in the meeting. Project-wise progress, funding status and fund utilization were discussed in detail.

Hindi Chetana Maas concluded

Hindi Chetana Maas was celebrated during 14 September – 13 October, 2023 at IIMR, Hyderabad. Dr. (Mrs.) C Tara Satyavathi, Director, IIMR declared the beginning of the programme by lighting the lamp on the inaugural day. During the Hindi Chetana mass various competitions were



held such as Extempore talk, Noting and Drafting, Essay writing, Translation, Interview, Antyakshari, Quick recognition of Hindi Alphabets, Hindi Text reading, Poster Presentation and Quiz. The staff of IIMR including Scientists, Technical, Administration, RAs, SRFs, JRFs and contractual staff participated in the competitions with great enthusiasm. Besides, there was a Hindi signature campaign observed during the month, where all employees signed their official documents in Hindi.

Concluding and prize distribution ceremony was organized on 16 October, 2023. Dr. (Mrs.) C Tara Satyavathi, distributed the cash prizes and certificates to the winners of

various competitions. She also honored the judges and felicitators with mementos and certificates. Smt. Ritu Dalal, Smt. VSG Parvathi and Smt. G Saraswati received the incentives in recognition to their use of Hindi language in daily office correspondence. During this ceremony, Director said that all the employees should respect Hindi language and use extensively in their daily work. This is an important link in establishing unity in diversity. Finally, the ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Mahesh Kumar and the national anthem. The entire Hindi Chetna Maas celebrations were conducted and coordinated by Dr. Jinu Jacob and Dr. Mahesh Kumar.

Vigilance Awareness Week commenced

ICAR-IIMR commenced "Vigilance Awareness Week" from 30 October 2023 for spreading awareness against corruption and to encourage measures to improve the overall functioning in the institute as per Councils instructions. The theme of this year's Vigilance Awareness Week is "Say no to corruption, commit to the nation". The observance of this week commenced with a pledge administered by the Senior Administrative Officer in Hindi



and Director, IIMR in English to all the staff on 30 October 2023 in the Conference Hall. To mark this Awareness Week, IIMR is going to organize essay writing, quiz, poster and debate competitions for all the staff of IIMR.

Swachh Bharat Special Campaign 3.0

IIMR-Hyderabad organized special Swachhta Campaign 3.0, a nationwide cleanliness campaign initiated by Indian Government encompassing pendency identification, record management, cleanliness campaigns and scrap disposal from 2 October to 31 October, 2023 commemorating the Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti. On this occasion, staff took the 'Swachhta Shapath' to keep the country neat and clean. All employees of the institute enthusiastically participated in this event and cleaned the main building premises, waste material removal from the field, and campus cleaning. The pending files at administration were also cleared. The program was coordinated by Dr. B Subbarayudu, Nodal Officer, SBM, IIMR, Hyderabad.

Special awareness campaign at Polimerathanda To mark this occasion, a team of scientists from IIMR-Hyderabad Drs. B. Subbarayudu, Nodal officer (Swachh Bharat Program) and D Seva Nayak, visited the Polimerathanda, in Mahaboobnagar District of Telangana on 9 October, 2023 to generate awareness among the villagers about the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and organized a cleaning programme of village streets and school campus.

Dr. B. Subbarayudu, highlighted the importance of Swachh Bharat program activities and Dr. D Seva Nayak briefed about the ongoing activities of International Year of Millets (IYoM)-2023 at IIMR. They distributed the information brochures and pamphlets to the farmers for dissemination of millet technology. Overall, the people were sensitized on village cleaning, removal of weeds and planting of trees, trash-bins and disposal of waste, and sanitation to avoid the diseases and maintain healthy environment. They urged farmers to grow millets to save water, soil health and health of rural people.

Training Programs organized

ICAR-IIMR organized a one-day Start-up Ignition training program on 13 October, 2023 for various start-ups from all over the states like, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Kerala, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh etc.

ICAR-IIMR conducted Startup Ignition Training Program – Business opportunities in processing of Millets sector, at its



Nutrihub to 33 participants from various states like Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, and Delhi on 27 October, 2023. The participants were shown millet field and common processing facilities at IIMR. Lectures were delivered on primary and secondary processing (value addition), Incubation and Technology licensing. Dr. B. Dayakar Rao, Principal Scientist interacted with the participants. This training programme was coordinated by Dr. V. Ravi Kumar, Technical Officer.

ICAR-IIMR organized one-day training program for ICAR-CRIDA farmers on Millet value addition on 11 October, 2023 to explore the opportunities in the value chain export and value addition of millets. There were 28 participants in this programme.

Cooking with Millets Training Program

Nutrihub, ICAR-IIMR conducted Cooking with Millets training program to 21 participants from various states like Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, and Delhi on 26 October, 2023. This training program demonstrated millet recipes viz., Cake, Muffin, Roti, Stuffed Idly, Sweet by giving hands on experience to the participants.

International interactions and perspectives

Dr. (Mrs). C Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR was

invited participant in the virtual Roundtable session on "Harnessing science innovations for a sustainable, equitable and nourishing food system as part of Borlaug Dialogue of the World Food Prize Foundation organized by Murdoch University, Centre for Crop & Food Innovation & WA State Agriculture Biotechnology Centre of Food Futures Institute, Australia.

Dr. (Mrs) C Tara Satyavathi Director, ICAR-IIMR and Dr. B Dayakar Rao, PS and CEO-Nutrihub were invited lead speakers at the First G.S.A. North American Round Table Summit on International Year of Millets 2023 held on 27 October, 2023 at the Department of Food Science, College of Agriculture, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA. Dr. Tara Satyavathi delivered online talk on "Global Centre of Excellence of Millets Overview" and Dr. B Dayakar Rao spoke on innovations in the Nutricereals Sector and shared his experience in nurturing Startups, incubated under ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, NUTRIHUB, Hyderabad, India.

Dr. (Mrs) C Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, delivered a key note address during Global Micronutrient Summit 2.0, conducted by International Zinc Association LSC, Pushpa Vihar, New Delhi on 6 October, 2023.

Guest of Honour

Dr.(Mrs) C Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR delivered a talk as Technical Expert during the discussion at online meeting of Initial Screening Committee (ISC) arranged by India-Israel Industrial R&D and Technological Innovation Fund on 09 October 2023 and organized by Technology Development Board, Dept. of Science & Technology, Delhi.

Dr. B. Dayakar Rao, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IIMR & CEO, Nutrihub, participated in the panel discussion session of International Conference on "Biochemical and Biotechnological Approaches for Crop Improvement" (IBBACI 2023) at Bharat Ratna C Subramaniam Auditorium, New Delhi, on 31 Oct, 2023.

Lectures delivered

Dr. B Dayakar Rao, Principal Scientist -ICAR-IIMR delivered a Keynote address on "Millets - Sustainability, Health and Wellness" at the College of Home Science Nirmala Niketan - Department of Foods, Nutrition and Dietetics, University of Mumbai on 6 October, 2023

Dr. KBRS Visarada delivered an invited talk on "Healthy eating and millets-Suposhan", during the training program organized by Samskruti Foundation, Hyderabad on 7 October, 2023. It was trainers training programme to explain the benefits of millets so that it reaches the youth of 100 colleges in Telangana state.

Dr. (Mrs.) C. Tara Satyavathi delivered talk on "Mainstreaming millets for food and nutritional security" during the Agricultural Science Congress, organized by ICAR-CMFRI Cochin, focusing on the theme "Transformation of Agri-Food Systems for Achieving Sustainable

Development Goals" from 10-13 October, 2023.

Dr AV Umakanth, Principal Scientist-ICAR-IIMR attended the International Conference on Sugar Industry Modernization and Diversification for sustainability held at NSI, Kanpur and delivered a lecture on "Sweet sorghum for biofuel production in sub-tropical India" on 11 October, 2023.

Dr. Sangappa, Scientist ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad delivered a lecture on "Business opportunities in Shree Anna (millets)-processing & value addition for sustainable FPOs in the training program on "Market driven Agri, Horti & forestry technologies for creating sustainable FPOs in Karnataka" jointly organized by MANAGE, Hyderabad and College of Forestry, Ponnampet, KSNUAHS Shivamogga on 11 October, 2023.

Dr. Sangappa, Scientist ICAR-IIMR, delivered a lecture on "Millets FPOs for Sustainable Millets Farming" on 13 October 2023 at online Seminar on "Exploring the global potential of millets: Food security, health & sustainability" organized by Dhanalakshmi Srinivasan University (DSU), Tamil Nadu.

Dr. Sangappa, Scientist ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad delivered a lecture on "Millets for Food & Nutrition Security in Changing Climate Scenario" on 16 October, 2023 during a National symposium on "Save the food with advanced technology SFAT-2023" on the Eve of World Food Day & IYM-23, organized by School of Agriculture, SR University, Warangal.

Dr. P. Sanjana Reddy, Principal Scientist -ICAR-IIMR delivered an invited talk on "Strategies for Millets cultivation during rabi season" in the workshop on "Rabi Preparedness" organized by ANGRAU on 17 October, 2023 at ANGRAU, Guntur which was attended by Principal Scientists of major crops working in different Research Stations, Programme Coordinators of KVKs, and Coordinators of DAATT Centers in Andhra Pradesh.

Dr. Sangappa, delivered key note on "Empowering FPOs: IIMR Contribution in Building Extension Support Systems" on



18 October, 2023, during the training programme organized by MANAGE, Hyderabad for various district officials of Odisha.

Dr. VM Malathi Scientist-ICAR-IIMR served as resource person for a session on 'Nutrition and health benefits of Millets' in Malayalam, as part of the one-day farmer training on 'Importance of Millets' on 18 October, 2023 organized

by the ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research, Kozhikode, Kerala.

Dr. B. Dayakar Rao, Principal Scientist-ICAR-IIMR delivered a Keynote address at "National conference on millet processing, value addition, safety and sustainability", on 19 October, 2023 at SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankullathur, Tamil Nadu.

Dr. VM Malathi Scientist -ICAR-IIMR delivered an invited lecture on 'Harnessing millets for improved nutrition and good health' as part of the National Conference on 'Magic millets: Sowing Sustainable Future-2023', held on 19 October, 2023 organized by SAFI Institute of Advanced Studies, Malappuram, Kerala.

Radio talk

Dr. VM Malathi Scientist-ICAR-IIMR delivered a radio talk on the nutritional value and health beneficial attributes of finger millet and little millet as part of 'Vayalum veedum' program, aired through the All India Radio-Malayalam on 27 October, 2023.

Poster presentation in International CGIAR Gender Conference

Dr. Rajendra R Chapke, Principal Scientist and PI of FFP project presented the poster entitled "Assessment and remedies of reducing the drudgeries of women farmers in post-harvest operations of millets" during the International conference on "From Research to Impact: Towards just and resilient agri-food systems" held at C. Subramaniam auditorium, NASC complex, Pusa, New Delhi during 9-12 October, 2023. The International conference was inaugurated by the Hon'ble President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu in presence of higher officials of CGIAR Gender impact platform and ICAR and attended by around 50 participants from India and other countries. The selected poster abstract was also published in conference book of abstracts by organizer of the CGIAR Gender Conference 2023.

Award

Dr. B. Dayakar Rao, Principal Scientist-ICAR-IIMR and CEO-Nutrihub received the "First Sheila Isaac Memorial Oration Award" on 6 October, 2023 at the College of



Home Science Nirmala Niketan - Department of Foods,

Nutrition and Dietetics, University of Mumbai for his exemplary vision, outstanding contribution, and powerful leadership in the field of Foods, Nutrition and Dietetics.

Award of Doctorate Degree

Dr. P Mukesh, Scientist, IIMR has been awarded a Doctorate Degree in Computer Science and Engineering from Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad recently, for his thesis entitled "Automatic Gene Identification through sequence Analysis in Crop Plants Using Machine Learning Techniques". He did his Ph. D. work under the supervision of Prof D. Vasumathi, Director, Directorate of Foreign Relations, JNTU-Hyderabad. *The IIMR family congratulates him for this achievement.*



Sorghum Stall

ICAR-IIMR set up a Millets stall and showcased improved



production and processing technologies of millets during the XVI Agricultural Science Congress, organized by ICAR-CMFRI Cochin during 10-13 October, 2023. Many dignitaries visited IIMR stall and appreciated the technologies developed from the institute. More than 200 farmers and dignitaries from various organizations visited the stall. This stall was organized by Dr. Sangappa, Scientist, IIMR.

Promotion

As per the Departmental Promotion committee recommendations, **Sh. HS Gawali**, ACTO (Photographer) IIMR has been promoted to the next level as Chief Technical Officer (CTO). *The millets family congratulates him for this achievement.*



International Training attended

Dr. Deepika Cheruku, Scientist, IIMR-Hyderabad has attended the medium-term training programme on "Speed breeding technology" at Centre for Crop Science, Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation at University of Queensland, Australia from 17 July, 2023 to 01 October, 2023. She gained knowledge on speed breeding technology on millet crops to increase the rate of genetic gain and deliver varieties rapidly, under mentorship of Prof. Lee Hickey and his team. The financial support for the entire program was provided by the Excellence of

Breeding (EiB), CIMMYT, Mexico.

Visitors

Dignitaries

Ms. Hari Chandana Dasari, IAS, Director, Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy



(AYUSH) along with her team visited IIMR on 16 October, 2023 to have first-hand information on latest millet processing and value addition technologies. Dr. (Mrs.) Tara Satyavathi, Director, IIMR explained her about the ongoing research activities, action plans, and monitoring techniques being practiced at IIMR to increase the research and scientific output. The team also visited millet food processing units, Nutrihub facility and Value added products developed by ICAR-IIMR.

Smt. Mangala Thakur, AGM QA & R&D, Parle Products Pvt. Ltd, along with her team visited the facilities of ICAR-IIMR including CoE, CFCs & Primary processing unit to know about value added products developed by ICAR-IIMR.

International delegates

Delegates from African countries visited ICAR-IIMR on 19 October, 2023 to learn about business opportunities in millets sector. The visit was facilitated by National Institute



for Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (ni-msme), Hyderabad, Telangana.

Farmers

About 40 Farmers from Tamil Nadu visited ICAR-IIMR on 4 October, 2023 to learn about latest millet value addition technologies. The visit was facilitated by ATMA, Tamil Nadu.

A total of 40 farmers from Tiruppur and Sivagangai districts of Tamil Nadu visited ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad on 9 October, 2023. During this visit, farmers were taken to field



demonstrations at ICAR-IIMR and this helped them to observe various millet varieties, growth stages, and recommended cultivation practices of millets. Later they were exposed to millet processing units, techniques and value-added products in millets.

About 23 farmers from Chitradurga and Holalkere, Karnataka visited ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, on 10 October, 2023 as a part of the exposure visit. During this visit, farmers were taken to millet fields, and Dr. Amasiddha explained the cultivation practices of millets and showed the processing unit. This visit helped farmers to learn about the latest millet technologies and best practices in millet cultivation, processing, and value-addition.

Forty farmers from Chitrakoot district of Uttar Pradesh visited IIMR on 11 October, 2023. Demonstration fields of various millets, processing facilities were shown. Package of practices were explained.

Twenty farmers from ATMA Tamil Nadu visited, Nutrihub,



ICAR-IIMR on 9 October, 2023. The purpose of the visit was to explore the facilities including primary processing and common facility centres. The visit was coordinated by Dr. Hemasankari, Scientist, ICAR-IIMR.

Farmers from Tamil Nadu visited Nutrihub, ICAR-IIMR on



19 October, 2023 to learn about millet processing technologies. The visit was facilitated by Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Tamil Nadu.

A total of 70 Farmers in two groups from various districts of Tamil Nadu visited ICAR-IIMR to learn about latest millet production technologies on 30 October, 2023. The visit was facilitated by ATMA, Hyderabad.

Fifty farmers from Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh visited ICAR-IIMR to learn about various business opportunities in Millets



sector on 30 October, 2023. The visit was facilitated by government of Uttar Pradesh.

Students

A total of 124 Students from The Gaudium school, Hyderabad, Telangana visited ICAR-IIMR on 05 October 2023 to learn about millet processing and value addition technologies.

Seventy students from Vignan University, Telangana visited IIMR on 9 October, 2023. They were taken around demonstration field, Nutrihub facility, were given a small lecture on millet nutritional value, and a short film was played.

About 180 students of Tenth standard from Sentia Global School, Hyderabad visited IIMR on 10 October, 2023. They were shown the crops in the field, a short film and the processing facilities at Nutrihub.

Sixty students of Vasudhatai Deshmukh College of Agriculture (PDKV), Amaravati, Maharashtra visited IIMR on 11 October, 2023 as part of their educational tour.

One hundred twenty-four students from Annie Besant women degree college, Hyderabad visited ICAR-IIMR to



learn about millet processing, business and startups on 11 October, 2023.

Forty-six students from Sree Vidyanikethan Degree College, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh visited ICAR-IIMR on 11 October, 2023 to learn about millet processing & value addition technologies.

About 105 students of Agricultural School, Solapur, affiliated to MPKV Rahuri visited ICAR-IIMR-CRS-Solapur centre on 10 October, 2023. Different millet seed, panicle samples and live plants were shown to the students. Students were taken to seed multiplication plots of millets and other research fields and briefed about the center's research activities.

Officers / Trainees

A total of 25 Agricultural officers from Department of



Agriculture and Farmers welfare, Govt. of Odisha visited ICAR-IIMR facilities on 10 October, 2023 to learn regarding millet processing and value added products.

Agricultural Officers from Odisha who were attending



training programme at MANAGE, Hyderabad visited ICAR-IIMR on 19 October, 2023 to learn about latest millet cultivation practices and millet processing and value addition technologies.

Agriculture Officers from Paderu block Andhra Pradesh visited ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad on 20 October, 2023 for understanding the millet processing technologies developed by ICAR-IIMR. Dr. Sangappa, scientist ICAR-IIMR guided the FPO Nest team officers and demonstrated the working process of Millet primary processing machinery.

FPO News

Training Programme at KVK, Kalburgi

ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, UAS Raichur and ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra Kalburgi jointly organized 3 days' capacity building program to CEOs, Accountants and BODs of Karnataka FPOs

at Kalburgi from 9-11 October, 2023. As a part of this training program, importance of FPOs to link farmers to market, millets and its nutritional benefits, role of CEOs, BODs in connecting the dots between the buyers and sellers for market linkages, business opportunities for FPOs were discussed by the scientists and subject experts. Group activity on business plan, hands on training on drone spraying, visit to APMC Mandi, Kalburgi were highlights of the training program.

Distribution of Millet Seed to Shroddha FPCL, West Bengal.

In alignment with the commitment to promote millets at tribal areas ICAR-IIMR distributed 120 kgs of free millet seed to the Shroddha Farmer Producer Company Limited, West Bengal on 18th October, 2023. This significant step encouraged interested millet growers to cultivate millets in the region. The seed was distributed from the NFSM FPO project with the coordination of Dr. Sangappa, PI, Sh. K. Srinivasa Babu, Co-PI of FPO project, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad.

Inauguration of Millet processing unit of Shorapur Taluka Millets FPO

Ms. Shobha Karandlaje, Hon'ble Minister for state MoA & FW, and Shri Sharanbasappa Gouda Darshnapur, Hon'ble Minister for SCIPE, Government of Karnataka, inaugurated millet processing unit at Shorapur Taluka Millets FPO promoted by ICAR IIMR on October 13, 2023. During this inauguration event, Mr. Kailash from ICAR-IIMR FPO unit explained the FPO activities undertaken by IIMR.

Review meeting

The online weekly progress review meeting was conducted on 13 October, 2023, by FPO Nest team for AP FPOs promoted by ICAR-IIMR Hyderabad. During the meeting the CEOs and accountants shared their progress about the LMS registration, share capital mobilization, business activities undertaken, credit linkages and licenses. Progress of the audit was discussed by the accountants. Process of LMS training and certificates was also discussed in this meeting.

MoUs

M/s. Taptapani Farmers Producer Company Limited, Odisha signed MoU with ICAR-IIMR-Hyderabad for the licensing of six millet value added products on 17 October 2023 at IIMR-Hyderabad. Dr.(Mrs.) C Tara Satyavathi, Director, IIMR signed the MoU on behalf of the institute and Ms. Priya Wilmor, Managing Director, signed the MoU for M/s. SP Food products

M/s. Sai Sadan Argo Private Limited, Hadapsar, Pune signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Nutrihub, ICAR-IIMR on 26 October, 2023 for mutual collaboration on promotion of millets and especially for technologies of Jowar cookies and Jowar instant kichadi mix. Mr. Ajit Kumar Sahoo, CEO, signed the MoU for M/s. Taptapani Farmers Producer Company Limited, Odisha and Dr. (Mrs.) C Tara Satyavathi, Director, IIMR signed the MoU on behalf of the institute in presence of Dr. J Stanley.

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

S. No.	Name of Employee	Details	Category	Mode	Dates
1	C Tara Satyavathi, RR Chapke C Aruna, B Venkatesh Bhat, G Shyam Prasad, Hariprasanna K, KN Ganapathy, N Anuradha, C Sangappa, P Hemasankari Swarna Ronanki, and A Srinivas	Institute Advisory Committee (IAC) meeting of Farmer First Project at ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad.	Meeting	Physical	03 Oct., 2023
2	C Tara Satyavathi	Crop Weather Watch Group meeting organized by Crop Forecast Coordination Centre, D/o. Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Economic, Statistics & Evaluation, New Delhi.	Meeting	Online	03 Oct., 2023
3	C Tara Satyavathi	87th Annual Convention of the Indian Society of Soil, organized by Indian Society of Soil Sciences, Bhopal and delivered lecture on "Natural resources management for healthy millets and healthy people" during the Special Symposium on "Natural Resources Management for Sustainable Millet Production in India".	Conference	Online	04 Oct., 2023
4	C Tara Satyavathi	Meeting on Delineation of potential areas for Millets and discuss on millet area mapping proposal organized by ICAR-National Bureau of Soil Survey & Land Use Planning, Nagpur	Meeting	Online	06 Oct., 2023
5	C Tara Satyavathi	1st Advisory Committee meeting on International Convention on Millets (ICM) organized by SPMU Cell (Odisha Millets Mission) Director of Agriculture & Food Production, Krishi Bhawan Bhubaneswar-Odisha	Meeting	Online	06 Oct., 2023
6	C Tara Satyavathi	National Millet Expo 2023 at Cuttack organized by ICAR-National Rice Research Institute, Cuttack, Odisha and delivered Online talk on "Climate resilient varieties and hybrids of millets".	Conference	Online	06 Oct., 2023
7	C Tara Satyavathi	Global Micronutrient Summit 2.0 organized by International Zinc Association, New Delhi and delivered talk as Lead Speaker on Millets during the Technical session.	Conference	Online	06 Oct., 2023
8	C Tara Satyavathi	Initial Screening Committee (ISC) meeting of India-Israel Industrial R&D and Technological Innovation Fund. Technology Development Board, Dept. of Science & Technology and Delivered a talk as Technical Expert.	Meeting	Online	09 Oct., 2023
9	C Tara Satyavathi and C Sangappa.	Agricultural Science Congress on "Transformation of Agri-Food Systems for Achieving Sustainable Development Goals" organized by ICAR-CMFRI Cochin.	Conference	Physical	10-13 Oct., , 2023
10	AV Umakanth, R Venkateswarlu and VM Malathi	International conference on 'Sugar industry modernization and diversification for sustainability' at Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, Kanpur	Conference	Physical	11-12 Oct., , 2023
11	C Tara Satyavathi	XVI Agricultural Science Congress & ASC Expo organized by ICAR-CMFRI, Kochi as Convener for the Symposia IYM 2023: Mainstreaming Millets scheduled on 12 October 2023 and delivered talk on "Mainstreaming millets for food and nutritional security".	Conference	Physical	11-13 Oct., 2023
12	C Tara Satyavathi	Program of NAAS World Food Prize Foundation organized by ICAR, New Delhi	Meeting	Online	17 Oct., 2023
13	Mahesh Kumar	A Hindi workshop on Aaudhunik Takanik aur Rajabhasha organized by IARI, New Delhi	Workshop	Online	17 Oct, 2023
14	B Dayakar Rao	National conference on millet processing, value addition, safety and sustainability at SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankullathur, Tamil Nadu.	Conference	Physical	19 Oct., 2023

S. No.	Name of Employee	Details	Category	Mode	Dates
15	C Tara Satyavathi	Roundtable session on "Harnessing science innovations for a sustainable, equitable and nourishing food system as part of #Borlaug Dialogue of the World Food Prize Foundation organized by Murdoch University, (Centre for Crop & Food Innovation & WA State Agriculture Bio-technology Centre of Food Futures Institute	Conference	Online	19 Oct., 2023
16	VM Malathi	National Conference on 'Magic millets: Sowing Sustainable Future-2023', organized by SAFI institute of Advanced Studies, Malappuram, Kerala.	Conference	Physical	19 October 2023
17	C Tara Satyavathi	First G.S.A. North American Round Table Summit on International Year of Millets 2023 organized by Department of Food Science, College of Agriculture, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA and delivered online talk on "Global Centre of Excellence of Millets Overview"	Conference	Online	27 Oct., 2023
18	C Tara Satyavathi	11th meeting of Core Committee to review the "Strategy and Action Plan for International Year of Millets (IYM) – 2023 organized by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, DA&FW, New Delhi.	Meeting	Online	30 Oct., 2023
19	C Tara Satyavathi	International Conference on Biochemical and Biotechnological Approaches for Crop Improvement organized by ICAR-IARI, New Delhi. Also Chaired a session on "Millets and Nutraceuticals" and delivered a talk on "Transformation of Millets (Shree Anna): From Traditional Foods to Nutraceuticals"	Conference	Physical	31 Oct., 2023

Thought for the month

When our imperfect judgments are aggregated in the right way, our collective intelligence is often excellent.

-James Surowiecki



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