



# IIMR Millets Newsletter

239 Issue September 2023



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

Hyderabad ■ Solapur ■ Warangal



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

## Foundation Stone for Regional Research Station for Pearl Millet at Barmer, Rajasthan

A momentous occasion in the history of ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad has taken place as the foundation stone for the Regional Research station for Pearl millet in Gudamalani, Barmer, on 27 September, 2023. This



significant project, is aimed to enhance agricultural research and development in the Barmer-Jaisalmer area of Rajasthan. Honorable Vice President of India Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, laid the foundation stone for this research center in the presence of Shri. Narendra Singh Tomar (online), Hon'ble. Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shri Kailash Choudhary, Hon'ble. Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal ji, Minister of Law (Independent Charge), Shri Devji M. Patel, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha, Shri Hemram Choudhary, Deputy Director General, Bhartiya Shri Anna Anusandhan Sansthan, Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary (DARE) & Director General (ICAR), and Dr. (Mrs) C. Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research and other dignitaries.



Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, Hon'ble Vice President of India said that food production through profitable farming is a challenge for the farmers of the arid regions and this is most amplified in the low rainfall regions of Rajasthan where kharif season in characterized by scanty rainfall and high day temperature. Crops such as Pearl millet come to the rescue of farmers in such situations which need less water and can tolerate high temperatures. He also stated that this is a milestone event happening in the history of dryland agriculture of far-reaching consequences for the farming community with the laying of foundation stone for a dedicated research station for Pearl millet and other "shree anna" millets in the heart of arid region of the country.

Shri. Narendra Singh Tomar, Hon'ble. Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare said that for North-Western states of Rajasthan, Haryana and Gujarat, Pearl milled is an integral part of the farming and diet. Now, recognizing the prime importance of Pearl milled that has maximum area and production among millet crops, the leading state in Pearl millet production has been chosen to host the Pearl millet research station under the Shree Anna research institute. This is one of the initiatives of the government to reach out to the well-being of small and marginal farmers in the dry regions of the country and

the efforts towards ensuring food and nutritional security.

Shri Kailash Choudhary, Hon'ble. Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare expressed that the establishment of a dedicated research centre for Pearl millet, the main food crop of the dry zone of Rajasthan had been the cherished dream for decades which is now becoming a reality. He also hoped that the research efforts of the centre located in the region itself will ensure development and dissemination of technologies appropriate for the region, in participation with farmers and the way suitable for the farming community and consumption as well.

Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary (DARE) & Director General (ICAR) opined that this initiative aligns with the government's broader mission to boost millet productivity, improve crop resilience, and empower farmers with innovative techniques and technologies.

Dr. (Mrs) C. Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR-Hyderabad stated that the Pearl millet Regional Research station in Gudamalani is committed to play a pivotal role in advancing research related to bajra (pearl millet) cultivation, which is a staple crop in the region.

This programme was conducted in association with KVK, Gudamalani, CSWRI, Avikanagar, CAZRI, Jodhpur, AICRP-Pearl millet, Jodhpur, and state departments. Drs. D Balakrishna, Vikas Khandelwal, V RaviKumar, P Sanjana Reddy, Ms. Ritu Dalal (SAO), Md. Shaik Rukman, (FAO) from IIMR-Hyderabad coordinated and organized this event.

## Technical Excursion of G20 Workshop on Climate Resilient Agriculture

A total of 35 Agricultural Scientists and Delegates from G20 countries visited ICAR-IIMR on 05 September 2023 for



"Technical Workshop on Climate Resilient Agriculture". Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Hon'ble Secretary DARE and DG, ICAR – led the G20 delegates. Dr. (Mrs) C Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR welcomed the delegation.

At the outset, Dr. (Mrs.) Tara Satyavathi explained the G20 team about the research priorities of IIMR and the activities taken up in the areas of millets crop improvement, value chain and entrepreneurship development programmes. The delegates were shown the facilities and infrastructure at ICAR-IIMR, which includes conservation of millets germplasm in the millets genebank, millets value added products in the Centre for Excellence on millets value addition, Nutrihub - the single window solution for promoting millets entrepreneurs in the country for marketing and commercialization of millet value added products, millet food processing laboratories and machineries. During the interactive session of IIMR Scientists with G 20 Agricultural Scientists, Director - IIMR made a brief presentation on the climate resilient technologies, achievements of ICAR-IIMR and the activities taken up during the International Year of Millets and future plans of IIMR as a Global Centre of Excellence for Millets R&D.

## "NGP Rao Memorial Lecture & Lifetime Achievement Award Ceremony"

ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, in cooperation with Society for Millets Research, has conducted the biennial event "NGP Rao Memorial Lecture & NGP Rao Lifetime Achievement Award Ceremony" on 13 September, 2023 at the Auditorium of ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad in hybrid mode.

Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member, NITI Ayog, Government of India, was the Chief Guest on this occasion and delivered the "NGP Rao Memorial Lecture". Dr. N Srinivasa Rao,



Director, NAARM, Hyderabad was the chairman of this program. Dr. (Mrs.) Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR welcomed the Guests, other dignitaries and other participants and briefed about Dr. NGP Rao's research contributions. "

On this occasion, in his lecture Prof. Ramesh Chand emphasized on millets and their health benefits and stressed on the need to put efforts to increase the production and productivity. He also said there is an urgent need to bring these millets to the limelight again, through supporting farmers and popularizing millet health benefits. In his concluding remarks, Dr. N Srinivasa Rao, Director, NAARM, thanked Dr. Ramesh Chand for his valuable suggestions towards the improvement of millet production, productivity and consumption.

This year "NGP Rao Lifetime Achievement Award" was conferred on Dr. Nirmalakumari, Former Small millets breeder, Athiyandal, Tamil Nadu for recognition of her



lifetime contributions in the area of millets research. This biennial award has been instituted by the Society for Millets Research, Hyderabad, in association with NGP Rao Foundation and global seed company Advanta which carries a citation and one lakh rupees' cash prize. Dr. B Venkatesh Bhat, Principal Scientist coordinated and organized this event.

## 21-day Refresher Course on Shree Anna 2023

ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad has successfully conducted a 21-days Online Refresher Course on "Millets (Shree Anna) as Model Crops for Sustainable Farming, Value Addition, Entrepreneurship Development and Nutritional Security" from 07 to 27 September, 2023. This course was designed for scientists of ICAR, SMS of KVKs, Research Scholars, Students, Entrepreneurs, Agriculture Officers, and members of FPOs working on the improvement, production, and popularization of millets. The refresher course served as a platform to link Students-Researchers-Entrepreneurs working on various dimensions of millet crops.

The inaugural programme was held on 07 September, 2023, and opening remarks about the course was presented by Dr. KBRS Visarada, Director In-charge, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad. Dr. Indra Mani (Vice Chancellor, Vasantarao Naik Marathawada Krishi Vidyapeeth, Parbhani) was the Guest of Honour. The inaugural address was delivered by Dr. RC Agarwal, Deputy Director General (Education) ICAR- ICAR, New Delhi.

This course received an overwhelming response of around 380 registrations across India consisting of participants from SAUs, ICAR and Non-ICAR organizations from 25 states across the country, especially active participation from UP and Maharashtra. During this course a total of 43 lectures were delivered by Scientists of various organizations. Guest lectures were delivered by Dr. Manoj Prasad, NIPGR, New Delhi, Dr Muthamilarasan, UoH, Dr Palak Chaturvedi, University of Vienna, Austria, Dr. Dandapani Raju, IARI, Dr. Ranjitkumar and Dr. SP Singh, from IARI, and Dr. Shobana from MDRF, Chennai. This programme also had a virtual exposure tour to IIMR facilities such as labs, millet processing and value addition; demo of digital field book and procedure for Plant Variety Protection and Genetic Stocks Registration. The course also conducted sessions on Statistical tools for Agricultural Experiment and success stories of Millet Start-ups and ventures.

The course was conducted in the loving memory of Late Dr.

M. Elangovan (Principal Scientist, IIMR) who was instrumental in inception of this refresher course. The course was organized under the guidance of Chief Course Director Dr. (Mrs.) C. Tara Satyavathi, and course directors Dr. B Amasiddha, Dr. R Venkateswarlu, Dr. S Srividhya, Dr. VM Malathi, Dr. Jinu Jacob, Dr. Sangappa, Dr. R Swarna, Dr. K Venkatesh from ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad. Mr. Nikhil, Ms. Komal Kute and Mr. Manish Fate from Krushi Shastra, Maharashtra served as Course Coordinators. This refresher course was organized by the Society of Millets Research, ICAR- IIMR, Hyderabad and Krushi Shastra, Maharashtra.

## Roadshow for "International Convention on Millets (ICoM)

The roadshow for "International Convention on Millets (ICoM)" organized by FICCI in collaboration with Odisha Millets Mission at ICAR-IIMR-Hyderabad on 12 September 2023. Shri. Prem Chandra Chaudhary IAS, Director,



Agriculture and Food Production, Odisha, along with his team participated in the roadshow. Dr. (Mrs.) C. Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, welcomed the group and briefed the Institute's millet research and popularization activities including organizing International seminars, technology dissemination to farmers and capacity building of entrepreneurs and start-ups, awareness campaigns on millet nutritional benefits to students, Home Makers, Self-help groups. Dr. B Dayakar Rao, PS & CEO, Nutrihub, ICAR -IIMR, gave a guided tour to the team. This roadshow provided a platform to all stakeholders in millets to display their products. A total of 60 people participated in this roadshow. Dr. Sangappa and Sh. Srinivasa Babu, organized this road show.

## Training Program for NABARD officers

ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad in association with NABARD's National Bank Staff College (NBSC), Lucknow had organized for a Training Program on



"Financing of Millet Value Chain" at ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad during 25 - 27 September 2023 for 28 NABARD officers from across the country. The program involved lecture

sessions on the entire value chain and also visits to the field and other processing infrastructure facilities available at IIMR. Dr. Raj Bhandari, Member, NTBN handled a session on Nutritional Profile and Health Benefits of Millets. The lecture sessions of three days training programme were held by Drs. B Venkatesh Bhat, J Stanley, Sangappa, Swarna and other Scientists of IIMR. The special session on Financing of Agri-value-chain was handled by Shri R. Anand, General Manager, NABARD, Head Office & Dr. Sudharsan Sambasivam, Deputy General Manager & Faculty Member, NBSC. This training programme was coordinated by Drs. V Ravi Kumar, A Srinivas and Veeresh S Wali of ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad.

## Inauguration of Seed Storage Godown at CRS-Solapur

Dr. (Mrs) C. Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad has inaugurated the Seed Storage Godown facility, constructed under NFSM-Millets Seed hub at Centre



on Rabi Sorghum (CRS), ICAR-IIMR-Hyderabad's regional research centre, Solapur, Maharashtra on 16 September 2023. Director, ICAR-IIMR, along with Mrs. Ritu Dalal, Senior Administrative Officer, Mr. Shaik Rukman, Finance and Account Officer visited CRS, Solapur and reviewed the ongoing activities of the station. Dr. Baswaraj Raigond, Senior Scientist and Officer In-Charge briefed about the research and other activities along with the administrative and financial records, details of expenditure, civil works and details of contractual manpower engaged in the station. In the field, Director has revived the progress of ongoing research and other trials of Kharif 2023. Later, the team also visited the staff quarters to assess its condition. During the visit, Director, IIMR, SAO and FAO planted Coconut saplings in the Shelgi Farm, Solapur.

## IIMR participates in first Global Symposium on Farmers' Rights

ICAR-IIMR participated in the first Global Symposium on Farmers' Rights organized by ITPGRFA, FAO, through DA&FW, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and PPV&FRA, New Delhi held during 12-15 September 2023. During the occasion an Exhibition stall on millets genetic resources was put up by Institute showcasing the indigenous genetic resources of millets collected from different parts of the country, and value-addition along with mandate of IIMR. The Symposium and exhibition was inaugurated by Hon'ble President of India. Participants from ITPGRFA countries along



with local delegates visited the stall and showed keen interest in learning more about millets and activities of IIMR. The Plant Genome Saviour Community awardees from different parts of the country interacted with the scientists and evinced interest on growing millets and reviving them in their locality where previously millets used to be important crops. Drs. A Srinivas, Karnam Venkatesh and Hariprasanna K. from IIMR participated in the event and managed the IIMR exhibition stall.

## ITMC meeting

Institute Technology Management Committee (ITMC) meeting of ICAR-IIMR-Hyderabad was held on 29 September to discuss regarding Intellectual Property Management in the institute. ITMC members including Dr.(Mrs.) C. Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR and Chairman ITMC and external IP expert member of ITMC Dr. Sudhir Soam, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NAARM, Dr. J Stanley, Senior Scientist and Nodal Officer ITMU, IIMR-Hyderabad attended the meeting.

## Hindi Chetana Maas Celebration

ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad is celebrating Hindi Chetana Maas during 14 September – 13 October, 2023. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. (Mrs.) C Tara Satyavathi, Director, IIMR on 20 September,



2023 by lighting the lamp. At the outset, Dr. Jinu Jacob, Scientist & Officer-in-Charge, Hindi Cell welcomed the delegates and highlighted the importance of Official Language Hindi. On this occasion, the video message released on Hindi Diwas by Shri Amit Shah, Honorable Union Minister of Home and Cooperation was displayed. Smt Ritu Dalal, Senior Administrative Officer and Shri Sheikh Rukhman, Finance and Accounts Officer respectively, read out the message and appeal of Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Honorable Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR.

In her inaugural address Dr. Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, stressed the need to implement Hindi in day to day work culture. She also advised all the scientists to write at least one popular article in Hindi during Hindi Chetna Maas, which will simultaneously encourage both the official language Hindi implementation and popularization of Millets. Dr. Mahesh Kumar, Assistant Chief Technical Officer (OL) highlighted the important of Hindi Diwas and presented the details of the programmes to be organized during the Hindi Chetana Maas such as Hindi Competitions on Extempore talk, Noting & Drafting, Essay Writing, Quiz, etc. Besides these month long competitions, there is a signature campaign in Hindi during the Hindi Chetana Mass, in which all the officers and employees are signing their official documents in Hindi. The above inaugural programme was coordinated by Dr. Jinu Jacob and Dr. Mahesh Kumar under the guidance of C Tara Satyavathi.

## Regional Advisory Group (RAG) Meeting on Millet Value Chain for FPOs

NABARD AP Regional Office in association with ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research conducted Regional Advisory



Group (RAG) Meeting on Millet Value Chain for FPOs of Andhra Pradesh on 14 September 2023 at ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad. The meeting was chaired by Sh. MR Gopal, Chief General Manager-NABARD Andhra Pradesh Regional Office. Dr. C Tara Satyavathi, Director IIMR, was the chief guest of the occasion. The meeting was attended by representatives from Department of Agriculture, Government of Andhra Pradesh, ANGRAU, APEDA, APCOB, NABKISAN, MANAGE, aIDEA-NAARM, CEOs of FPOs and agency partners along with officers of NABARD and scientists of ICAR-IIMR Sh. K Srinivasa Babu, Dr. Rajendra R Chapke, Dr. Rajesha G and Dr. Sangappa. During the meeting various constraints faced by FPOs in Millet Value chain, Business opportunities for FPOs in millet value chain, export opportunities for Millet FPOs, FPO financing were discussed to get the appropriate feedback for shaping the

policy required to strengthen the millet value chain in Andhra Pradesh.

## Training program

ICAR-IIMR conducted a two-day training program on "Emerging trends in Millets Production, Processing and Marketing" to farmers from Maharashtra during 04-05 September 2023. The training Program facilitated by Department of Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra, and Coordinated by Dr. A Srinivas at IIMR.

## Superannuation

The Staff Recreation Club, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad organized a farewell function to four Skilled Supporting Staff (SSS),



Md. Hayat, Smt. Anasuya Yadaiah, Smt. Salamma Narasimha and Smt. Laxmi Padmaiah on 29 September, 2023. They have rendered services to the institute for about 35 years. Dr. (Mrs.) Tara Satyavathi, Director, IIMR and Chairman, Staff Recreation Club of IIMR felicitated them with a Shawl and a token gift. All the staff recollected their services to the organization and wished all a happy and health retirement life. Dr. B Amasiddha, Scientist & Secretary, SRC coordinated this event.

## Condolence meeting of Dr. MS Swaminathan

Renowned agricultural scientist Dr. MS Swaminathan, also popularly known as the Father of Green Revolution, has passed away on 28 September, 2023, at the age of 98, due to age-related health issues. He was committed to farmers' welfare and upliftment of the poor farmers in the country till the end. Swaminathan was awarded the first World Food Prize in 1987 due to his contributions towards the field of agriculture. He has also been conferred with the Padma Shri (1967), Padma Bhushan (1972) and Padma Vibhushan (1989). He also got the Ramon Magsaysay Award in 1971 and the Albert Einstein World Science Award in 1986. The iconic scientist was also named among one of the 20 most influential Asians of the 20th century by Time magazine.



A condolence meeting was held at ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad on 29 September, 2023. Dr. (Mrs) Tara Satyavathi, Director, IIMR remembered him as a multifaceted personality whose invaluable contributions to the fields of agricultural research and innovation changed the course of history. The other staff of also recollected his contributions to the nation and expressed their deepest condolences on the passing away of Dr. MS Swaminathan.

## Lectures Delivered

**Dr. C Tara Satyavathi**, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad delivered inaugural address at the Biofach India Nürnberg Messe India Pvt. Ltd., Jor Bagh, New Delhi on 7 Sept. 2023

**Dr. P Rajendrakumar**, Principal Scientist (Biotechnology), ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad delivered a Guest Lecture on "Genomics strategies for millets improvement" held at Centre for Plant Breeding and Genetics, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore on 08 Sept. 2023.

**Dr. C. Tara Satyavathi** delivered inaugural address as Chief Guest of online Inauguration ceremony was of the training programme entitled "Hands on Training on Cultivation, Seed Production, Value addition and Marketing of Millets" organized by AKS University, Satna on 11 September, 2023.

**Dr KBRS Visarada** delivered the keynote address on "The Millets, cultivation, consumption and commercialization" at the training programme entitled "Hands on Training on Cultivation, Seed Production, Value addition and Marketing of Millets" organized by AKS University, Satna on 11 September, 2023.

**Dr. P Rajendrakumar**, Principal Scientist (Biotechnology), ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, delivered an online talk on "DNA marker-assisted improvement of Indian sorghums for food and biofuel uses" in Centre for Sorghum Improvement Seminar, conducted by Kansas State University, USA on 12 September 2023.

**Dr. Anuradha Narala**, Senior Scientist delivered lecture on "Economic Scenario of Millets" on 14 September 2023, as a resource person for the Online Refresher Course On "Millets (Shree Anna) as Model Crops for Sustainable Farming, Value Addition, Entrepreneurship Development and Nutritional Security", 07 – 27 September, 2023 conducted by ICAR-IIMR.

**Dr. C Tara Satyavathi**, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad attended and delivered the inaugural address at the Inauguration of Common Incubation Centre for Millets, MPIC, PG&RC, PJTSAU, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad on 15 September 2023.

**Dr C Tara Satyavathi**, Director, ICAR-IIMR, delivered her Valedictory address emphasized the need to focus on millet farmers at the Millet conclave 2023 organized by the Hindu-Business Line and NABARD, at Hyderabad on 15 September 2023.

**Dr. B Dayakar Rao**, PS & CEO, Nutrihub participated in the "National Seminar on Nutritional and Nutraceutical

Properties of Millets" and delivered a key note address on 16 September 2023 at Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

**Dr. Hariprasanna K.**, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IIMR delivered an invited lecture on the topic "Millets in India: Present Scenario and Way Forward" during A National



conference on 'Millets: Key to Food and Nutritional Security for the Past, Present and Future' was organized by Bishop Heber College (Autonomous), Tiruchirappalli on 22 September 2023. More than 300 PG students, research scholars, teaching faculty, millets processing industry representatives, and Agri and food entrepreneurs participated in the conference.

**Dr. B Dayakar Rao** participated in the "Poshan Maah Celebrations 2023" and as a keynote speaker on "Health benefits of Millets and Entrepreneurship in Millet Era" at the Avinashilingam University for Women, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu on 26 Sept. 2023.

**Dr. KBRS Visharda**, Principal Scientist delivered a special lecture on Millets to the participants at the meeting of the Town Official Language Implementation Committee-2, Hyderabad organized by the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Hyderabad on 26 September, 2023. About 50 Central Government offices participated in this meeting.

**Dr. C Tara Satyavathi**, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad delivered the Keynote lecture on "ICAR-IIMR as Global Centre of Excellence – Achievements and focus areas of research" on 26 September 2023 at the online Seminar on "Millets – How to unlock their potentials to address nutritional, agricultural and climate changes" by Japan International Research Centre for Agril. Sciences (JIRCAS), Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Tokyo, Japan.

**Dr. Sangappa**, scientist, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad delivered a lecture on "How FPOs can establish market linkages by enhancing the millet value chain and role of FPOs in marketing the millet value added products" at webinar on "Role of FPOs in millets promotion and Value addition" organized by MANAGE, Hyderabad on 26 September 2023.

**Dr. Sangappa**, Scientist from ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad delivered a lecture on "Agripreneurship Opportunities in millets sector" during the training programme on "Agripreneurship Development for Senior Officials of

Department of Agriculture, Odisha" organized by MANAGE, Hyderabad on 26 September 2023.

**Dr. Sangappa**, Scientist from ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad delivered a virtual lecture on "Role of FPOs in promotion of millets through public private partnership" during the Workshop on "Promotion of Millets in Bihar through FPOs under changing climatic conditions" organized by RPCAU, Pusa, Bihar on 26 September 2023.

**Dr. Anuradha Narala**, Senior Scientist delivered a lecture titled 'Millets Scenario: Future crops for food and nutritional security' as lead speaker in the national conference on "Transdisciplinary Research in Millets for Food Security and agricultural Sustainability" on 27 September, 2023 at Nehru Arts and Science College, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu organized by School of Life Sciences, Department of Food Science and nutrition and School of Creative Science, Department of Catering Science and Hotel Management.

**Dr. Jinu Jacob**, Senior Scientist delivered an invited lecture on the topic 'Millet biotechnology: Status and Prospects' on 29 September, 2023 to the students and faculty of Department of Biotechnology, School of Biological Sciences, CMS College, Coimbatore on virtual mode. Around 50 students of PG and PhD and 10 faculty members attended the programme.

**Dr. C Tara Satyavathi**, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad delivered a technical talk on "Nutrition and health benefits of millets" during the Session-I of online National Conference on "Millets for Military Rations and Specific Nutritional Requirement" organized by Defense Food Research Laboratory, Mysuru on 29 September 2023.

## FPO News

### 3 days training program to Madhya Pradesh Farmers

ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad organized 3 days training program to Madhya Pradesh farmers on cultivation, production, processing and value addition aspects of millets from 4th September to 6th September. 25 farmers from ATMA SAMETI, Balaghat, Madhya Pradesh participated in this intensive training. As a part of the training program, Dr. Venkateshwarlu Ronda (Senior Scientist), Er. Hemashankari, (Scientist), Dr. Sangappa (Scientist), Dr. Anila Kumari (Assistant Professor) and Dr. Rafi (Research Associate) delivered elaborative and informative session on nutritional value of millets, primary and secondary processing techniques in millets, market linkages through ONDC, schemes associated to establish millet processing units and cultivation of millets.

### NCDC FPO- CBBO review meeting

Dr. Sangappa, Scientist ICAR-IIMR presented the progress of Yeldurthy and Tekmal FPOs at the review meeting organized by NCDC - CBBO with panel experts ICAR-ATARI Hyderabad on 7 September 2023.

### Visit of Manager South head, SBI (ABU)

Mrs. Karunashree, Manager South head, SBI (ABU), visited FPO-NEST, ICAR-IIMR unit on 8 September 2023, and discussed about credit linkages and schemes (PMFME, AIF) that are helpful to the FPOs promoted by IIMR. Dr. K.

Srinivasa Babu, Dr. Sangappa and FPO Nest team interacted with SBI team regarding scheme convergence, subsidy and interest subvention etc.

### Visit of Ex-Service Officials

A total of 50 Ex-service Govt. officials along with MANAGE, Hyderabad representatives visited ICAR-IIMR on 8 September, as a part of "Jai Jawan Kisan" Program to explore various opportunities in Millet cultivation, processing, value addition and marketing. Dr. Sangappa, Scientist, ICAR -IIMR, Hyderabad coordinated this program.

### G20 Spouses event, New Delhi

The Aland Bhootali Millets Farmer Producer Company was established through a central sector scheme by ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, in the Aland block of the Kalaburagi district.



The company presented its FPO products, which represent the state of Karnataka, alongside women farmers at the G20 Spouses event held at New Delhi on September 9 and 10, 2023.

Women Farmers from Lambasingi Tribal FPCL promoted by ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad also showcased their organically grown millets products during this event. Dr. (Mrs) C. Tara Satyavathi, Director visited their stall.

### Visit of Tamil Nadu Farmers

About 20 farmers from ATMA, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu, visited ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad as a part of exposure visit on September 11, 2023. This visit created awareness among the farmers about millet cultivation, processing techniques and effective marketing strategies.

### Ph D awarded

Mr. RANGA BHUKYA has been awarded doctorate from department of genetics, Osmania University on 13 September 2023. He did Ph. D research work in DBT project, during the year 2011 to 2016 under the supervision of Dr. CV. Ratnavathi, Principal scientist, department of biochemistry, IIMR. *Congratulations Dr. Ranga Bhukya!*



## Visitors

### FAO team

A high level team of delegates from FAO Nepal, Government of Nepal and Government of Namibia visited ICAR-IIMR-Hyderabad on 12 September 2023. Dr. C Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, interacted with them and



made presentation on ICAR-IIMR and Global Centre of Excellence on Millets (Shree Anna).

### **Dignitaries**

**Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra**, Chairperson, Protection of Plant



Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority (PPVFRA), Former Secy. DARE & DG, ICAR, Dr. C. Viswanathan Joint Director (Research), IARI and Dr. R.M. Sundaram, Director, ICAR-IIRR visited IIMR and Nutrihub on 2 September 2023. Dr. C Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, and Dr. B. Dayakar Rao, CEO, Nutrihub, ICAR-IIMR facilitated the detailed guided tour to all the facilities like Centre of Excellence, Nutrihub and Common Facility Centre.

**Dr. A.K. Singh**, Director IARI, New Delhi visited IIMR and



Nutrihub on 3 September, 2023. He visited the millet fields, Common Facility Centre, Nutrihub and Centre of Excellence on Millet Value addition and Processing.

**Ms. Alka Arora**, Additional Secretary and Finance Advisor (DARE - ICAR) visited IIMR on 4 September, 2023.



Dr. C Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Ms. Ritu Dalal, SAO, Shri. Rukman Shaik, FAO were present in the discussions. The team visited all the facilities like Centre of Excellence, Nutrihub.

**Dr. Shawn Ryan Castellino**, Head of Corporate Strategy and Business Development, Oman Flour Mills S.A.O.G.



(Group), Oman visited IIMR on 19 September 2023. Dr. C Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, interacted with him and briefed about the ongoing research activities of ICAR-IIMR in the light of International Year of Millets.

### **Students**

62 Agricultural Students from Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar



College of Agriculture, Jamkhed, Dist. Ahmednagar, Maharashtra visited Nutrihub, ICAR-IIMR on 6 September 2023 to learn about latest millet processing and value addition technologies in millets.

**Twenty-five students** from Telangana and Odisha visited Nutrihub, ICAR-IIMR on 14 September 2023 to learn about various business opportunities in millets. The visit was facilitated by NIMSME (National Institute for Micro Small



and Medium Enterprises), Hyderabad.

**95 students** (M.Sc & Ph d) of various departments from B.A College of Agriculture (BACA), Anand Agricultural University (AAU), Gujarat visited ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad on 15 September, 2023. Dr. Sangappa, Dr. Avinash singode, Dr. Sooganna, Dr. N Anuradha, ICAR-IIMR shared valuable insights on millet production, market linkages, startup facilities, marketing and value addition. These students also visited Centre onm Rabi sorghum, IIMR, Solapur, Maharashtra on 18 September, 2023. Drs. Basavaraj and Parasuram , Scientists briefed this group about the research activities of the centre.

**More than 400 Students** (Nursery to Grade 10) from MIT Vishwashanti Gurukul School, Solapur visited CRS, IIMR-Solapur, Maharashtra as a part of the agriculture exposure visit on 21 September 2023.

**36 Students** from Government Arts College, Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu visited ICAR-IIMR on 22 September 2023 to learn the latest millet processing and value addition technologies. The visit was facilitated by Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA).

**73 Students** of B.Sc. Biotechnology from Walchand College of Biotechnology, Solapur visited CRS, IIMR-Solapur, Maharashtra as a part of their educational visit on 22 September 2023. Live millet crops, cultivation practices, scope, health benefits. and seed production plots were shown and briefed about activities on Millets R&D by Drs. Basavaraj and Parasuram, Scientists, IIMR.

### Farmers

Twenty farmers from Tamil Nadu visited ICAR-IIMR on 12 September 2023 to learn about millet value added technologies and business opportunities in millet sector. The visit was facilitated by Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA), Hyderabad.

22 Farmers from various districts of Tamil Nadu visited Nutrihub, ICAR-IIMR as a part of Inter-state exposure visit on 26 September 2023 to learn about business opportunities in Millet Sector. The visit was facilitated by ATMA, Hyderabad.

### Trainees:

**41 Participants** of "Jai Jawan Jai kisan" training program from MANAGE visited ICAR-IIMR on 8 September 2023 to learn about business opportunities in millets sector. The visit was facilitated by MANAGE.

**18 Millet** Entrepreneurship trainees from MANAGE visited ICAR-IIMR on 26 Sept. 2023 to learn about latest millet processing and value addition technologies. The visit was facilitated by MANAGE.

**15 Faculty** from four agricultural universities who were undergoing training at NAARM visited ICAR-IIMR on 29 Sept., 2023. Dr. J. Stanley, Senior Scientist, ICAR-IIMR explained them regarding research activities and visited CoE, Facilities and Nutrihub.

**21 Trainees** from NiMSME visited ICAR-IIMR on 29 September to learn about business opportunities in millet sector. The visited was facilitated by National Institute for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (Ni-MSME),

Hyderabad, Telangana.

## Millet Stalls

ICAR-IIMR-Hyderabad setup Millets exhibition stall during G20 Technical workshop held at Novotel, Hyderabad during 4-6 September 2023 and showcased all value added millet health food products and commercial technologies of IIMR. G20 delegates visited the ICAR-IIMR stall. Dr. Sangappa explained the importance millets and the role of IIMR as Global Centre of Excellence on Millets.

An Exhibition stall showcasing indigenous Millets genetic resources and value-added products was set up by ICAR-



IIMR-Hyderabad at ICAR Convention Centre, NASC Complex & PPV&FRA, New Delhi during the Global Symposium on Farmers' Rights, held during 12-14 September, 2023. more than 5000 participants including Foreign delegates, Farmers, Researchers, Govt. officials, Students, Industry representatives visited our stall. Dr. Karanam Venkatesh, Scientist, IIMR organized the stall.

## MoUs

ICAR-IIMR-Hyderabad signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with M/s. GSA Vision Asia, Chennai, for collaborative research and promotion of millets. Dr.(Mrs) C. Tara Satyavathi Director, IIMR signed the MoU on behalf



of IIMR-Hyderabad and Mr. Vijay G Prabhakar, Chairman, for GSA Vision Asia, Chennai in the presence of IIMR Scientists Drs. P Sanjana, Dr. Hemashankari and J Stanley, on 11 September, 2023.

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

S. No.	Name of Employee	Programme details	Type	Organized by	Date
1.	C Tara Satyavathi & C Sangappa	G20 technical workshop on climate resilient agriculture organized by ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad	Technical Workshop	Novotel, Hyderabad	4 Sept., 2023
2	C Tara Satyavathi	meeting of preliminary discussion on nutritional profiling and certification of value added millet recipes	Virtual Meeting	Odisha Millets Mission, Govt. of Odisha.	8 Sept., 2023
3	C Tara Satyavathi	G20 Leaders' Summit Spouse Programme at Delhi	G20 spouse event.	New Delhi	9 Sept., 2023
4	C. Tara Satyavathi	Inauguration ceremony of "Hands on Training on Cultivation, Seed Production, Value addition and Marketing of Millets".	Online Training	AKS University, Satna	11 Sept., 2023
5	C. Sangappa	"MILICON-2023, International Conclave on Millets" organized by JAIN University, Bangalore and ICAR-ATARI.	International Conclave	JAIN University, Bangalore	12-13 Sept., 2023
6	C Tara Satyavathi	G20 discussion under the Chairmanship Additional Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture	Online meeting	DA&FW, MoA, New Delhi	14 Sept., 2023.
7	Mahesh Kumar	Hindi Diwas and a two-day Third All India Official Language Conference for all Central Government Offices	Conference	Chatrapati Shivaji Sports Complex, Balewadi, Pune	14 -15 Sept., 2023
8	KBRS Visarada	World food India, Hyderabad	Summit	Min of food processing industries, Govt. of Telangana Hyderabad	15 Sept., 2023.
9	C Tara Satyavathi & V Ravikumar	Celebration of Hyderabad Liberation Day 2023	Celebration event	Ministry of Culture, Archaeological Survey of India, Hyderabad.	17 Sept., 2023.
10	C Tara Satyavathi	Meeting with DG, ICAR, to discuss on the establishment of Global Centre of Excellence on Millets, MAHARISHI and programme on Foundation Stone laying of Regional Research Station on Pearl millet at Barmer.	Online meeting	ICAR-New Delhi	19 Sept., 2023.
11	KBRS Visharada, HS Gawali and Mahesh Kumar	Meeting of TOLIC-2 Hyderabad organized by NIRDPR, Hyderabad	Meeting	CSD, Hyderabad	26 Sept., 2023
12	Tara Satyavathi, D Balakrishna, P Sanjana Reddy, A Srinivas, Ritu Dalal and Rukman Shaik	Foundation stone laying ceremony of Regional Research Station on Pearl Millet of IIMR-Hyderabad	Foundation stone laying ceremony	Gudamalani, Barmer	27 Sept., 2023
13	C Sangappa	"Workshop on Entrepreneurship development on Millet processing, value addition & Marketing"	Workshop	College of Food Science and Technology, Pulivendula, AP.	29 Sept., 2023



**Compilation & Editing**  
**Dr. KV Raghavendra Rao & Dr. B Venkatesh Bhat**

**Photos, Design & Lay-out**  
**HS Gawali**

**Publisher & Chief Editor**  
**Director**  
**ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research**

### ICAR- Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR) All India Research project on Pearl Millet / Sorghum / Small Millets

**Hq. Rajendranagar, Hyderabad, 500 030**  
Tel: 040-24599300  
Fax: 040-24599304  
Email: millets.icar@nic.in  
Website: www.millets.res.in

**Centre on Rabi Sorghum (IIMR), NH 9**  
Bypass, Shelgi, Solapur - 413 006 (Mah.)  
Tel: 0217-2373456 Telefax: 0217-2373456  
E mail: solapur@millets.res.in

**Sorghum Off-Season Nursery, Warangal**  
Officer-In-Charge  
Indian Institute of Millets Research, RARS,  
(PJTSAU) Mulugu Road, Warangal.