



MILLETS (Shree Anna) Newsletter



Hyderabad . Solapur . Barmer . Warangal

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

Empowerment of Tribal Farmers with Millets Processing & Custom Hiring unit at Andhra Pradesh

ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (ICAR-IIMR), Hyderabad, ATARI Zone-X, Hyderabad and BCT -KVK, Haripuram organized millet awareness program to tribal farmers and tribal FPOs under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) component of ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad on 8th July 2025. The program was held at BCT-KVK, Haripuram village, Rambilli Mandal of Anakapalli district, Andhra Pradesh. A total of 10 FPOs and 40 farmers participated in this meeting and FPOs arranged stalls at BCT-KVK during the meeting.

Dr. Shaik N. Meera, ATARI Zone-X Director, Drs. Srinivasa Babu and Sangappa (Scientists ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad), Dr. K. Sailaja (Senior Scientist & Head, BCT-KVK), Dr. TSSK. Patro (Scientist, RARS Vizianagaram) and Dr. Raghuram (Deputy Director, Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University) acted as chief guests and addressed the meeting.

Dr. Shaik N. Meera discussed about the shifts of consumer preferences towards millets and organic products for better nutrition and health. He suggested FPOs to focus on getting organic certification for millets for targeting the nearby markets. Dr. K. Srinivasa Babu highlighted the potential of millet value added products and margins involved in profitability of FPO products. Dr. Sangappa addressed the importance of IIMR in sending free millet to tribal farmers and tribal FPOs under TSP program of IIMR and he highlighted how IIMR-TSP contributed to the empowerment of tribal farmers. Dr. K. Sailaja, Dr. Patro and Dr. Raghuram also addressed gathering and shared their insights in millet cultivation in tribal areas.

Further, as a part of this event, Drs. Shaik N. Meera, Srinivasa Babu, Sangappa, Sailaja, Patro distributed free millet processing and value-added machineries to tribal FPOs under GCoE-TSP component of ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad. Dr. C. Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad through her video message addressed tribal farmers and suggested them to utilise these machines and focus on millet-based value-added products and output marketing through online platforms. Tribal FPOs thanked Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad and other dignitaries of meeting for extending their support to tribal farmers for the empowerment of tribal communities. Dr. Sangappa, Dr. K. Srinivasa Babu, Dr. Rafi and Ms. Chandhini from IIMR coordinated to establish Millet Processing & Custom Hiring Unit at Tribal Areas of Andhra Pradesh.



ICAR-IIMR Exhibits Millets Technologies during 97th ICAR Foundation Day

ICAR- Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad participated and exhibited stall during the 97th ICAR Foundation Day at



Pusa New Delhi on 16th July 2025. Dr. Sangappa Dr. Stanley J, Dr. Shubankar and Mr. Sai Prashanth from IIMR arranged & Participated in Exhibition stall and showcased millet Technologies, FPO millet value added products, publications and annual reports. Hon'ble Agriculture Minister- Shri. Shivaraj Singh Chouhan, along with Shri. Bhagirath Chowdhary and Director General (DG) of ICAR & Secretary of DARE - Dr. Mangi Lal Jat, and Dr. D. K. Yadava, DDG Crop Science visited IIMR stall and appreciated Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad for her efforts in shaping ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad as a global front run institute in the millets promotion. Dr. Tara Satyavathi, Director IIMR along with Dr. J. Stanley, Dr. Sangappa, Dr. Shubankar and Mr. Sai Prashanth has participated in the program.

Book release -"Latest Millets Production and Processing Technologies"

ICAR-Indian Institute Millets Research, Hyderabad published the book entitled "Latest Millets Production and Processing Technologies" with the aim of ensuring food and nutrition security and increase the income of poor farmers despite climate change. Dr. Rajendra R Chapke , Dr. Mahesh Kumar And Dr. C Tara Satyawati are authors of the book. The book was

released by Shri Kishan Reddy, Hon'ble Union Minister of



Coal and Mines, Govt. of India during the Official Language Golden Jubilee Celebration organized by Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India on 11th July, 2025 at Hyderabad. Dr. Mahesh Kumar, Assistant Chief Technical Officer (Official Language) represented the IIMR.

The book includes advanced agricultural techniques of millet crops, processing and value addition techniques of millets have also been included in this book so that coordination can be established between Millets entrepreneurs and farmers and every section can benefit from it. Consumption of Millets will also help in preventing lifestyle related disorders of people.

Millets Production training in collaboration with KVK in Belgaum

Dr. Sooganna, Scientist (Seed Science and Technology), IIMR, participated as a resource person in a training programme jointly organized by KVK Mattikoppa and ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad on 25th July 2025 at Yaragatti, Savadatti Taluk, Belgaum District, Karnataka. He delivered an insightful



lecture on "Improved Cultivation Practices in Millets," highlighting scientific crop management techniques, climate-resilient production strategies, and improved varietal options for enhancing productivity and profitability in millet-based farming systems. The session was well received by the participating farmers and extension personnel, who appreciated the practical relevance of the technologies shared.

Training programme on 'Latest Advances in Millets Production, Processing & Value Addition' at ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad

ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad, organized a five-day training program titled Latest Advances in Millets Production, Processing & Value Addition for 33



participants, including farmers, entrepreneurs, and extension workers of Andhra Pradesh during 28 July to 01 August 2025, funded by Andhra Pradesh Community Managed Natural Farming Rhythu Sadhikara Samstha. The training program was inaugurated by Dr. (Mrs.) C Tara Satyavathi, Director. Training programme covered aspects such as Millets' production, protection, processing, value-addition, storage, soil testing etc. Farmers were taken on a guided tour of Millets Gene bank to show millets germplasm diversity, centre of excellence, primary & secondary processing facilities. Apart from this, they were made aware of suitable varieties for Andhra Pradesh, Formation of farmer producer organizations and information related to their benefits is an important part of the training. The training was organized by the Chief Course Director Dr. C Tara Satyavathi, course director Dr. A Srinivas, Senior Scientist, course co-directors - Dr Anuradha Narala, Senior Scientist and Dr. Sevanayak, Senior Scientist. Course coordinator was Dr. Mahesh Kumar, Assistant Chief Technical Officer (Official Language).

IIMR Seed Distribution to Tribal farmers of Girisiri Tribal FPO

Girisiri Tribal FPO, promoted by ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, distributed millet seeds to farmers in Chintada village on 5th July 2025. ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad took this initiative to support tribal farmers by providing quality seeds and thereby



to boost millet cultivation among tribal communities. The distribution focused on promoting sustainable agriculture, enhancing nutrition through millets, and improving the livelihoods of small and marginal farmers. Dr. Sangappa & Dr. Rafi, Business Expert, FPO Projects guided farmers on best practices of millet cultivation for ensuring effective use of

the seeds. This effort was anticipated to yield long-term benefits by increasing productivity and creating market opportunities for millets and millet value added products. The event was coordinated by Dr. Sangappa, Scientist & Principal Investigator, FPO Project ICAR-IIMR, and Hyderabad.

Improved Millet Seeds to Karnataka FPOs

ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad facilitated the distribution of free millet seeds to farmers in Karnataka through its FPOs on 6th July 2025. Bettada Basaveshwara FPO, Mudhol FPO, and Shorapur Taluka Millets FPO in Karnataka distributed 1800 Kgs of seed to farmers in 3 blocks. This seed distribution is a part of ICAR-IIMR's ongoing efforts to enhance millet cultivation and support small and marginal farmers. The distribution aimed to promote sustainable farming practices, spread awareness, increase millet consumption, and strengthen the livelihoods of farming communities. By providing high-quality seeds and technical support, ICAR-IIMR assisted farmers in adopting millet-based agriculture



from the existing commercial crops. Dr. Sangappa, PI FPO Project and FPO-NEST team of ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad facilitated this seed distribution program.

Strengthening millet entrepreneurship: Building synergies between FPOs and Startups

ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad and Nutrihub organized Entrepreneurship Foundation Program in Millets during 14 to 17th July 2025. As a part of this program, Dr. Sangappa and Dr. Rafi from FPO NEST team delivered an insightful session on "Linking FPOs to Startups" on 16th July 2025. Dr. Sangappa shared the experiences of IIMR as CBBO in



promoting millet FPOs across four states. Dr. Rafi briefed the millet FPO details and strategies taken by them for strengthening millet value chain. The business plans

undertaken by millet FPOs was also discussed with entrepreneurs. Further the practical ways to collaborate with millet FPOs for sourcing raw materials, developing value-added millet products, and establishing strong market linkages was shared with entrepreneurs. The session empowered participants with valuable strategies to build sustainable businesses by teaming up with FPOs and leveraging shared resources and networks.

Advanced Millet Training and Exposure Visit to Udyogini Officials of Madhya Pradesh

ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad organized three-day training-cum-exposure visit to 12 officials of Udyogini NGO, Madhya Pradesh from 16th to 18th July 2025. The program was inaugurated with an enlightening orientation by Drs. Shyam Prasad, In charge Director, ICAR-IIMR Hyderabad. The program was briefed by K Srinivasa Babu, Senior Scientist. Dr. Amasidha B Scientist, delivered a detailed and



informative session on millet cultivation and management techniques for millet farming. Hands on experience of millet primary processing units & millet value added products was given to participants at Shree Anna processing unit, PJTAU Incubation center, Shatabdi Organics (millet pasta making) and GMRK Foods (millet chikki preparation). Dr. Srinivasa Babu and Dr. Sangappa distributed free millet seeds to farmers and encouraged them to cultivate millets and build market linkages. Dr. Sangappa, Dr. Amasiddha B, Dr. Rafi, & Ms. Meghana coordinated this Training Program.

ICRISAT scientists visit IIMR

Dr. Kuldeep Singh, Principal Scientist & Head, Genebank, ICRISAT and Dr. Vetriventhan Mani, Senior Scientist (Genetic Resources), ICRISAT visited ICAR-IIMR on 11 July 2025 to discuss about the possibility of taking forward the Network Project Proposal entitled: "Characterization, Evaluation, Genetic Enhancement and Generation of Genomic Resources of Small Millets for Augmenting Food and Nutritional Security". After a brief discussion with Dr Tara Satyavathi, Director ICAR-IIMR, the team visited the facilities under development under GCoE and Nutrihub.



Execution of Memorandum of Agreement / Understanding

Date	Second Party/Licensee	Purpose of MoA
03.07.25	Guruswad Foods Agriculture and Food Association, Maharashtra	Licensing of 2 millet value added technologies i.e. sorghum puffs & sorghum namkeens (Chivda)
03.07.25	Urban Firman Nutrient India Pvt Limited, Andhra Pradesh	Licensing of 6 millet value added technologies i.e. sorghum multi grain atta, pearl millet puffs, sorghum muesli, foxtail millet vermicelli, multi millet cookies & finger millet-based energy bar
03.07.25	Unistem Sales and Marketing LLP, Hyderabad	Licensing of 2 millet value added technologies i.e. multi-millet cookies & finger millet based energy bar
04.07.25	Hora Millets and Organics Private Limited, Hyderabad	Licensing of 6 millet value added technologies i.e. sorghum puffs, sorghum eggless muffins, sorghum muruku, protein rich sorghum muesli, finger millet-based energy bar & ragi choco chip cookies



MoA with Guruswad Foods Agriculture and Food Association, Maharashtra



MoA with Urban Firman Nutrient India Pvt Limited, Andhra Pradesh



Hora Millets and Organics Private Limited, Hyderabad

Trainings organized

S. No.	Title of training	Sponsoring agency	Dates	Duration	Number of Participants	Category of Participants
1	Training Programme on Millet Processing and Value Addition for Agricultural Officers of Kerala	Govt. of Kerala	30-06-2025 to 02-07-2025	3 Days	16	Agricultural Officers, Govt. of Kerala
2	SAMAADHAN Webinar Series – I “Startup Pitch Mastery – A practical guide to Millet based startups” by Ms. Vinutha Rallapalli	NutriHub	14-07-2025 (Virtual)	1 Day	33	Nutrihub Incubated Startups
3	Entrepreneurship Foundation Program in Millets	NutriHub	14 th to 17 th July 2025	4 Days	39	Employees, Entrepreneurs, Students etc
4	Exposure visit cum training program on “Millets Production, Processing, Value Addition, Branding & Marketing” to Udyogini NGO Officials	Udyogini NGO, Madhya Pradesh	16 th to 18 th July 2025	3 days	10	Subject Matter Specialists, Programme Associates, Community Resource Persons, MEL Associate, and Partner from Udyogini NGO.
5	Mid-Season Orientation Training on Improved Millets Production	Division of Agril. Extn., ICAR, New Delhi	23.07.2025	01	50	Participatory farmers of FFP project
6	Latest advances in millets production, processing, and value addition for Scheduled Caste farmers	ICAR-IIMR	23.07.2025	1	100	Farmers
7	Cooking With Millets	NutriHub	24-07-2025	1 Day	19	Employees, Entrepreneurs, Students etc.
8	SAMAADHAN Webinar Series – II “Latest Advancements in Applications of Millets in Extrusion” by Dr. Rajan Sharma PhD, PAU, Ludhiana	NutriHub	25-07-2025 (Virtual)	1 Day	50	Nutrihub Incubated Startups

Meetings & Conferences attended by Director

S. No.	Name of Employee	Title of the meeting / Workshop etc.	Organized by	Venue / Place	Online / Physical	Dates
1	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Participated in the meeting with Minister of Agriculture, Govt. of Telangana regarding the AgriTech 2025. Meeting called by Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Telangana.	Department of Agriculture, Government of Telangana	Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad.	Physical	03.07.2025
2	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Participated as Speaker in Session 4: Industry-Academia Partnerships for Agriculture during the 16 th Agriculture Leadership Conclave organized by Agriculture Today Group, New Delhi.	Agriculture Today Group, New Delhi.	Ballroom, The Oberoi, New Delhi	-	09.07.2025
3	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Participated in the Interaction Session of Local ICAR Directors with 114 th FOCARS organized by NAARM, Hyderabad.	ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad.	Conference Hall, NK Ananth Rao Administrative Building, NAARM, Hyd.	-	12.07.2025
4	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Participated in the First MAHARISHI Steering Committee meeting as Member Secretary for the meeting called by Secretary (DARE) & DG (ICAR), New Delhi.	ICAR, New Delhi.	DG Committee room, ICAR, New Delhi	-	14.07.2025
5	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Participated in the 97 th Foundation Day of the ICAR organized by ICAR, New Delhi.	ICAR, New Delhi.	Dr. C Subramanian Auditorium, NASC complex, Pusa, New Delhi.	-	16.07.2025
6	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Attended the Curtain Raiser of MAHARISHI Initiative organized by ICAR, New Delhi.	ICAR, New Delhi.	ICAR, New Delhi	-	16.07.2025
7	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Delivered Online talk during session on "Biofortification of millets vis-à-vis Biotechnological approaches during the three days online training on "Promotion of Biofortified Crops for Nutritional Security" organized by MANAGE, Hyderabad.	MANAGE, Hyderabad.	MANAGE, Hyderabad.	Online	18.07.2025
8	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Participated in the Felicitation Ceremony to Dr. ML Jat, Secretary (DARE) & DG (ICAR) organized by ICRISAT Hyderabad.	ICRISAT Hyderabad.	ICRISAT Hyderabad.	-	18.07.2025
9	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Participated in the Brainstorming workshop on "Climate Science Delivery: Reaching the Unreached" organized by ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad.	ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad.	Conference Hall -2, CRIDA, Hyderabad.	Physical	19.07.2025
10	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	As Speaker during the Webinar on Millets – Agrospectrum organized by AgroSpectrum Asia & India; NUFFOODS Spectrum Asia.	AgroSpectrum Asia & India; NUFFOODS Spectrum Asia	AgroSpectrum Asia & India; NUFFOODS Spectrum Asia	-	21.07.2025

Meetings & Conferences attended by Director

S. No.	Name of Employee	Title of the meeting / Workshop etc.	Organized by	Venue / Place	Online / Physical	Dates
11	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Participated in the meeting called by the DG, ICRISAT to have Focused discussion on Millet Research Collaboration along with team from ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad.	ICRISAT, Hyderabad.	ICRISAT, Hyderabad	Physical	23.07.2025
12	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Chaired a meeting to deliberate on the Network Project Proposal entitled: "Characterization, Evaluation, Genetic Enhancement and Generation of Genomic Resources of Small Millets for Augmenting Food and Nutritional Security" at ICRISAT, New Delhi.	ICRISAT, Hyderabad.	ICRISAT, Hyderabad	Physical	23.07.2025
13	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Participated in the Committee meeting of Supplementary Nutrition Program on Arogya Lakshmi programme called by Women Development and Child Welfare Department, Telangana.	Women Development and Child Welfare Department, Telangana.	Conference hall, O/o Director, WD & CW, Telangana, Hyderabad.	Physical	25.07.2025
14	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Participated in the Online meeting called by the Hon'ble Agriculture Minister regarding release of 20 th Instalment of PM-Kisan Scheme organized by Farmers Welfare Section/ Division Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare, Govt. of India, New Delhi.	DAFW, New Delhi.	DAFW, New Delhi.	Online	30.07.2025
15	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Participated in Online meeting with KVKs called by ICAR HQ, New Delhi.	ICAR, New Delhi	ICAR, New Delhi	Online	30.07.2025

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

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