



MILLETS (Shree Anna) Newsletter



Hyderabad . Solapur . Barmer . Warangal

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

Pearl Millet Technology Demonstration and Farmers' Meet 2025: Towards Developing Gudamalani as a Hub of Research and Farmer Empowerment

The Pearl Millet Technology Demonstration and Farmers' Meet 2025 was organized on 21st September 2025 at the ICAR-IIMR Regional Research Station on Pearl Millet, Gudamalani, Barmer under the SCSP scheme of IIMR. The event aimed at showcasing improved pearl millet technologies through exhibitions and field demonstrations. A total of 30 exhibition stalls were set up by ICAR institutes in Rajasthan, private seed companies, and FPOs. Farmers enthusiastically interacted with



scientists and tasted bajra-based value-added products such as biscuits, cookies, and *rabdi*.

The programme was graced by Hon'ble MoS Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Sh. Bhagirath Choudhary as Chief Guest, and was presided over by Hon'ble Secretary DARE & DG ICAR, Dr. M. L. Jat. Former MoS Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Sh. Kailash Choudhary, DDG (CS) Dr. D. K. Yadava, and Director IIMR Hyderabad Dr. Tara Satyavathi graced the occasion.

The dignitaries reviewed the ongoing administrative and laboratory building works, urging CPWD to expedite completion within this year. They also laid the foundation stone of the Pearl Millet Technology Demonstration Park under the TSP scheme, which will house a modern training hall and demonstration facilities.

In their addresses, Dr. M. L. Jat emphasized developing Gudamalani as a hub of research for region-specific crops like cumin, mustard, castor, and pomegranate, while ensuring enrichment of scientific manpower. MoS Sh. Bhagirath Choudhary assured full support from the Ministry for early infrastructure completion and farmer-centric development. Dr. D. K. Yadava highlighted the centre's importance for pearl millet improvement, while Dr. Tara Satyavathi assured high-quality research for climate-resilient genotypes.

On this occasion, 600 SC farmers received tarpaulins (6x6 m) for grain protection and field use. The event witnessed the participation of over 1000 farmers and stakeholders. In his vote of thanks, Dr. S. N. Saxena, Head, IIMR-RRS Gudamalani, appreciated the dignitaries' encouragement and reaffirmed commitment to establishing the centre as per expectations.

Third Dr. NGP Rao Memorial Lecture and Dr. NGP Rao Memorial Life time Achievement Award Ceremony

Dr. NGP Rao Memorial biennial lecture and Conferring Dr. NGP Rao Memorial Life Time Achievement Award Ceremony was held at ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad, on 23rd September, 2025, under the auspices of Society for Millets Research. On this occasion, Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Director General of the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Patancheru, Telangana was the Chief Guest. He delivered the Dr. NGP Rao Memorial biennial lecture on "Millets for Climate-resilient Agri-Food Systems". He presented the challenges posed by climate change, climatic risks ahead, crop adaptations and how millets are important for climate resilience agriculture. He elaborated on the ways to mitigate the effects of climate change, the efforts of ICRISAT in that regard and the future of sustainable crop production systems in Asia and Africa. The Dr. NGP Rao Memorial Life Time Achievement Award was conferred upon Dr. Hari Prakash Yadav, former Project Coordinator of AICRP on Pearl Millet for his yeoman service in the area of pearl millet research.

The event was organized in hybrid mode with many eminent



personalities attending the meeting in the online mode. Prof. M Jagadish Kumar, Former Chairman-UGC, former Directors and Project coordinators of IIMR and AICRP on Millets graced the function virtually.

The meeting was attended by the members of the Society for Millets Research, including scientists from IIMR and AICRP centres. It was coordinated by Drs B Venkatesh Bhat, Principal Scientist, Sooganna, Scientist, Mr. HS Gawali, CTO, Mr. Raghunath Kulakarni, TO, and Mrs. N Kanaka Durga, Private Secretary.

IIMR participated in Global Strategic Alliance Conference, USA

Dr. (Mrs.) Tara Satyavathi participated as a Special Speaker in the Global Strategic Alliance (GSA) Global Eye Sorghum & Millets Initiative Series 2025, held on 5–6 September 2025 at Yellow Box, Naperville, Illinois, USA. The event was jointly organized by the Department of Food Science, Purdue



University, and the Global Strategic Alliance (GSA). During the event, Dr. (Mrs.) Tara Satyavathi actively took part in panel discussions and delivered an invited talk, sharing her expertise on global strategies and innovations in sorghum and millet research.

UPCAR team visited ICAR-IIMR

The team from U.P. Council of Agricultural Research (UPCAR)

led by Dr. Sanjay Singh, Director General, UPCAR along with members Dr. Permendra Singh, Deputy Director General, UPCAR, Dr. Rajarshi Gaur, Deputy Director General, UPCAR and Dr. Rinni Singh, Scientific Officer, UPCAR visited ICAR- IIMR on 5th September 2025 to deliberate on the collaborative project on "Improving the adaptability and productivity of millets in Uttar Pradesh". The visit was co-ordinated by the PI, Dr. P. Sanjana Reddy along with IIMR Scientists, Drs. K Hariprasanna, K Venkatesh, Amasiddha, KN Ganapathy, A Srinivas and V Ravi Kumar.

PI, Dr. P. Sanjana Reddy presented an overview of research activities taken up in the project. during the first year. Future plans, collaborations, and the socio-economic benefits for marginal farmers were discussed in the meeting. The team visited the experimental plots featuring breeding trials, pipeline cultivars, and germplasm collections in all millets. The delegation was shown upcoming Global Centre of Excellence (CoE) at IIMR, envisioned as a hub for advanced research, innovation, and capacity building in millet-based systems. The team also visited the Nutri-Hub, IIMR's Technology Business Incubator, supporting startups in millet value chains. Demonstrations highlighted millet-based food processing, value addition, and analytical facilities for nutritional testing and quality control. The visit provided a comprehensive understanding of IIMR's research and infrastructure and gave insights on building an innovation network under the Millet Revival Programme for Uttar Pradesh.

Training programmes organized

Latest Advances in Millets Production, Processing and Value Addition

Five-day training programme on "Latest Advances in Millets Production, Processing and Value Addition" was organized by ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), Hyderabad. The programme, conducted from 8th to 12th September 2025, was specially designed for 11th and 12th standard school children and teachers from Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) and Telangana Residential Schools.



The Chief Guest of the training, Smt. M. Radha Reddy, Additional State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, Telangana, appreciated ICAR-IIMR's initiative in sensitizing school children and teachers on the importance of millets and their value addition potential. Dr. C. Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, highlighted the institute's efforts in promoting millet-based technologies and value chain development to strengthen nutritional security. She stressed that school children are effective ambassadors in

spreading the nutritional and health benefits of millets in their communities.

The training programme was coordinated by Dr. A. Srinivas, Senior Scientist & Training Course Director, who briefed the gathering about the sessions conducted on millet cultivation, processing technologies, product development, and hands-on practical demonstrations. He also appreciated the enthusiastic participation of students and teachers throughout the programme. Dr. Ravichandran, Professor, NCERT,



underlined the role of experiential learning and capacity building among students and teachers in the education system. The training concluded with distribution of participation certificates to the students and teachers. Participants expressed that the programme was highly beneficial in enriching their knowledge about millets and motivating them to promote healthier food choices.

Millet Seed Production and Quality Assurance

A four-day training programme on “Millet Seed Production and Quality Assurance” was organized by ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR), Hyderabad, during 9–12 September, 2025, under the aegis of the Odisha Shree Anna Abhiyan. The programme aimed to build capacity among stakeholders in seed production, processing, and quality assurance to strengthen the millet seed sector in Odisha.

The inaugural session was graced by Dr. G. Shyam Prasad, Director (I/c), ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad, who delivered the opening remarks. He highlighted the pivotal role of quality seed in enhancing productivity and the importance of ensuring its availability to farmers. The training course encompassed a wide range of topics under the broad areas of millet seed science and technology, including Principles and practices of seed production in millets, Seed processing, drying, and storage, Seed certification systems and quality control measures, and post-harvest handling and value addition aspects. The programme provided a balanced mix of theory sessions and hands-on practicals. Participants were trained through lectures, demonstrations, laboratory exercises, and field visits.

A total of 22 participants attended the training programme. The group included officials from the Department of Agriculture, Assistant Professors from Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology (OUAT), and representatives from Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) of Odisha. The training programme was conducted under the overall guidance of Dr. C. Tara Satyavathi, Director, ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad. The event was effectively coordinated by Drs. Sooganna, B. Venkatesh Bhat, K Srinivasa Babu, K.N Ganapathy and Sangappa.

Inauguration of Hindi Chetana Maas celebrations at IIMR, Hyderabad

ICAR- Hindi Chetana Maas celebrations was inaugurated today on 16 September, 2025 at Indian Institute of Millets Research, Hyderabad. The programme started with the ICAR Song. Dr. G. Shyam Prasad, Director- in-Charge , ICAR-IIMR inaugurated the celebrations by lighting the lamp in front of



Maa Saraswati. Dr. Jinu Jacob, Scientist and Officer-in-Charge, Hindi Cell welcomed the officials and said that this celebrations is a good opportunity to bring every cadre on one platform and our official language is also doing the same work. Thereafter, Dr. Shyam Prasad administered the official language pledge to all the personnel of IIMR.

On this occasion, Smt. Ritu Dalal, Senior Administrative Officer and Shri Sheikh Rukman, Finance and Accounts Officer respectively read out the message of Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan, Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, and the appeal of Dr. Mangi Lal Jat, Secretary, DARE & Director General, ICAR. Dr. Mahesh Kumar, Assistant Chief Technical Officer (Official Language) threw light on the importance of Hindi Day and told about the growing dominance of Hindi all over the world. Dr. Shyam Prasad while addressing on this occasion congratulated the officials of the institute for successful organization of Hindi Chetna Maas Samaroh. He said that the significance of our work can be proved only when its users i.e. farmers can use it and this can be achieved only through the use of Hindi and local languages. The programme was coordinated and conducted by Drs. Jinu Jacob and Mahesh Kumar, under the guidance of Director, IIMR, Dr. C Tara Satyavathi.

Recognitions

Dr C Tara Satyavathi, Director

In recognition of her outstanding contributions,

Dr. (Mrs.) Tara Satyavathi was honoured with the United States House of Representatives – US Congressman 1st District Medal. Dr. (Mrs.) Tara Satyavathi was conferred with the highest accolade from the American Multi-Ethnic Commission (AMEC), marked by the ceremonial presentation of the AMEC Colors in Chicago, USA.



Trainings organized

S. No.	Title of training	Sponsoring agency	Dates	Duration (in days)	No. of Participants	Category of Participants
1	Online Title of training Bio-fortification-A Frontier Novel Approach to Enrich Micronutrients in Millets to Encounter Food and Nutritional Security in India”, organized	MANAGE-Hyderabad	1 to 3 September 2025	3	194	Scientific staff, subject matter specialist, lecturers, agriculture/Hort /extension officers)/students in ICAR, SAUs, CAUs and State Departments including (SAMETIs), Extension Education Institutions (EETIs in India and abroad)
2	Millet Scientists -Scheduled Caste Farmers Interface Meeting & Input Distribution Program held at ICAR-KVK, Banavasi	GCoE SCSP, IIMR	08/09/2025	1	150	Scientists, Extension officials, Farmers, FPOs
3	Millets production, processing and value addition technologies to SC farmers at UAS Mandya organized by AICRP Sorghum and Millets	AICRP Sorghum & Millets	19/09/2025	1	50	Scientists, KVKs, Extension officials, Farmers, Professors, and stakeholders
4	Millets Seed Production and Quality Assurance	OMM Project	9-12 Sept, 2025	4	22	Assistant Professors, Agriculture officers

Execution of Memorandum of Agreement / Understanding

Date of Agreement	Licensee	Purpose of MoA
11.09.25	Providence Health & Lifestyle Private Limited, Hyderabad	Licensing of 2 millet value added technologies i.e. Finger millet jag-gery cookies & finger millet (nut) delight bar
11.09.25	Rallis India Limited, Mumbai	Licensing of sweet sorghum variety CSV 49SS
11.09.25	Rallis India Limited, Mumbai	Licensing of sweet sorghum hybrid CSH 22SS
11.09.25	Mahyco Private Limited, Mumbai	Licensing of Sorghum hybrid CSH 24MF
17.09.25	Wholly Good Farms, Andhra Pradesh	Licensing of 7 millet value added technologies i.e. Multigrain atta, multimillet instant idli mix, sorghum instant upma mix, sorghum puffs, sorghum jeera cookies, finger millet premium cashew cookies & protein-rich jowar muesli



MoA with Wholly Good Farms, Andhra Pradesh

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	Delivered Valedictory address during the Collaborative Online Training Program on "Biofortification-A Frontier Novel Approach to Enrich Micronutrients in Millets to Encounter Food and Nutritional Security in India" in collaboration with MANAGE, Hyderabad and ICAR-IIMR	MANAGE, Hyderabad.	MANAGE, Hyd.	Online	03.09.2025
2	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Global Strategic Alliance Global Eye Sorghum & Millets Initiative Series 2025 organized by the Department of Food Science at Purdue University and the Global Strategic Alliance (GSA) during 5-6 September 2025 at Yellow Box, Naperville, Illinois, USA	GSA Millets Series Initiative, USA	Yellow Box, Naperville, Illinois, USA.	Physical	5-6 September 2025
3	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Dialogue NEXT-India	World Food Prize Foundation, CIMMYT, the Borlaug Institute for South Asia (BISA) and ICAR	ICAR Convention Centre, New Delhi.	Physical	8-9 September 2025
4	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Chaired the Online meeting as Nodal Officer for Telangana State on Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan (VKSA) Rabi campaign	ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad.	ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad.	Online	11.09.2025
5	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Guest of Honor and Panel speaker during Session 8: Role of Research and Development in Advancing Seed Technology at the India-Africa Seed Summit 2025 on 12 September 2025 organized by the Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture (ICFA), New Delhi.	Indian Chamber of food and Agriculture (ICFA), New Delhi	Hotel Marigold, Begumpet, Hyderabad.	Physical	12.09.2025
6	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	National Conference on Agriculture for Rabi Campaign 2025 called by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, New Delhi at NASC complex	Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi	NASC complex, New Delhi	Physical	15-16 Sept. 2025

Meetings & Conferences attended by Director

7	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	National Conference on Agriculture for Rabi Campaign 2025 called by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, New Delhi at NASC complex	Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi	NASC complex, New Delhi	Physical	15-16 Sept. 2025
8	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi and team	Participated in the Research Collaboration meeting with Hon'ble Vice-chancellor and Director of Research, PJTAU and ICAR-IIMR team.	PJTAU, Hyderabad.	ICAR-IIMR, Hyderabad	Physical	23.09.2025
9	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Participated in the Inaugural program of Stakeholders Consultation Meeting for RuTAG 2.0 Innovations organized by ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad.	ICAR-NAARM, Hyd.	ICAR-NAARM, Hyd.	Physical	24.09.2025
10	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Participated in the VKSA RABI 2025 - online meeting is scheduled to be held under the chairmanship of Secretary DARE & DG ICAR.	ICAR, New Delhi	ICAR, New Delhi	Online	24.09.2025
11	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Guest of Honour during the 2 nd International Conference 2025 on "Frontiers in Science and Technology for Agricultural Transformation" (FSTAT -2025) organized by FSTAT at ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad.	FSTAT	ICAR-NAARM	Physical	25-26 Sept. 2025
12	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Participated in the Online Review meeting on Genome Editing EFC organized by IARI, New Delhi.	ICAR-IARI, New Delhi.	ICAR-IARI, New Delhi.	Online	26.09.2025
13	Dr. C Tara Satyavathi	Participated in the Online EFC presentation of Pulses & Oilseeds organized by IARI, New Delhi.	ICAR-IARI, New Delhi.	ICAR-IARI, New Delhi.	Online	29.09.2025

ICAR- Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR)
Global Centre of Excellence on Millets(Shree Anna)
All India Research Project on Pearl Millet / Sorghum / Small Millets

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Dr. B Venkatesh Bhat & D Revati

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HS Gawali

Publisher & Chief Editor
Director

ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research
Global Centre of Excellence on Millets
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad

Centre on Rabi Sorghum (IIMR), NH 9
 Bypass, Shelgi, Solapur - 413 006 (Mah.)
 Tel: 0217-2373456 Telefax: 0217-2373456

Sorghum Off-Season Nursery, Warangal
 Indian Institute of Millets Research, RARS,
 (PJTAU) Mulugu Road, Warangal.

Regional Research Station on Pearl Millet
 Gudamalani, Barmer, Rajasthan

E mail: barmer@millets.res.in