Hon’ble Lt. Governor Dr. Kiran Bedi visited KVK, Puducherry

Dr. Kiran Bedi, Hon’ble Lt. Governor of U.T. of Puducherry visited KVK, Puducherry on 22 November, 2016. Dr. V. Kumar, Programme Coordinator explained her about the KVK activities. Dr. Sreenath Dixit, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru and Dr. A. Ramamourti, Director of Agriculture, Puducherry were present.

During the interaction, Hon’ble Lt. Governor appreciated the activities of KVK and suggested KVK Puducherry to work in collaboration with Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Veterinary Education and Research (RIVER) and other departments like fisheries, cooperatives etc. in Puducherry. This helps better utilization of resources through convergence as well as for providing effective extension services to the farming community. While appreciating the reduction in consumption of pesticides in Puducherry region, the Hon’ble Lt. Governor suggested to propose a project for converting the municipal bio-degradable waste as a compost/bio-fertiliser.

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ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru observed SWACHHTA PAKHWADA from 15 - 31 October, 2016. All staff of the Institute and KVKs in Zone VIII actively involved in various activities during said period for the cause of Swachhata and organized a total of 501 activities on various aspects such as animal health camps (7), awareness on objective of swachhtha pakhwada to farmers, school children, staff, students and tribals (140), campaigns (16), cleaning activities in and around the office premises, villages etc. (133), creating awareness and demonstration of improved composting technologies (37), demonstration of improved cultivation practices (12), creating awareness and demonstration of eco friendly technologies (12), activities related to health (43), natural resource management (7), positive thinking (4), recycling of bio-degradable and non bio-degradable waste (24), trainings (22), visits (5) and yoga(6).
Award Winning Farmers of the Zone

Farmers Engaged in Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources nominated by ICAR-KVK, Mysuru were awarded Plant Genome Saviour Reward and Recognition 2014 by Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Authority (PPV & FRA), India.

Shri M. Rechanna has been recognized for conserving over 300 paddy varieties, in-situ, most of them being very rare indigenous varieties with medicinal value.

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Shri M.K. Shankar Guru has been recognized for developing his own paddy variety NMS-2, that thrives under minimum management practices and gives high yield.

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Successful Interventions

- Standardization and popularization of redgram transplanting technology
- Introduction and popularization of non-shattering and high yielding greengram variety BGS-9
- Popularization of improved crop varieties viz., BSMR-736 of redgram, DU-1 of blackgram, JG-11 of chickpea, CO-86032 of sugarcane, JS-335 of soyabean and Suhasini of curry leaf, Arkakalyan of onion
- Introduction and popularization of soyabean in the district
- Yield maximization in sugarcane, blackgram, bengalgram and rabi jowar
- Dissemination of weedicides usage in pulses and sugarcane, contour furrow method of irrigation for efficient use of irrigation water, IDM practices in ginger, IPM practices in redgram, drudgery reducing technologies, and bio-fertilizers and bio-agents usage by small and marginal farmers
- Nurturing of dietary patterns, nutrition, health and hygiene among rural women flok
- Fostering healthy competition building among the farming community

KVK, Bidar receiving ICAR Best KVK Award for Zone VIII for the year 2013 during Annual conference of ICAR held on 15 May 2015 at New Delhi

Convergence
Mobilized Rs. 275.61 lakh fund from external agencies during last 5 years through convergence

Revolving Fund
It grew from Rs. 16 lakh in 2011 to Rs. 36 lakh by 2016 through production and supply of technological inputs
New Initiatives

The Farmer FIRST Project as a part of KVK scheme was sanctioned by the Division of Agricultural Extension, ICAR, New Delhi and it was implemented through ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru at four Institutes viz. IIHR and NIANP, Bengaluru, Karnataka; CPCRI, Kasargod, Kerala; TANUVAS, Chennai, Tamil Nadu in Zone VIII. The project focuses on enabling interaction of scientists with the farm conditions and problems; exchange of knowledge between farmers and other stakeholders; integration of technology with different agro-systems; development of rural based institutions; and using the platform of the project having commodity institutions as partners to develop commodity specific contents for e-enabled knowledge sharing.

The progress of each Farmer FIRST project was reviewed by Dr. V. P. Chahal, ADG (Agricultural Extension) ICAR, New Delhi during Zonal Group Meeting held on 15 December, 2016 at ICAR-ATARI, Zone V, Hyderabad.

A project entitled Demonstration of Climate Resilient IFS practices through KVKs under National Mission for Sustainable Agri-culture (NMSA) was implemented through ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru at ten KVKs of Zone VIII in 3 ha area of each with an aim to identify proper IFS models suitable to local Agro Climatic conditions and demonstrate to optimize farm productivity in a sustained manner from small farm units.

The project entitled Skill training through Krishi Vigyan Kendras under Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) was implemented through ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru at nine KVKs of Zone VIII. Under this project each KVK has targeted to organize two skill training programmes with 200 days duration each as per the Cost Norms notified by MSDE during 2016-17.

ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru observed the following during the quarter:

- Vigilance Awareness Week from 31 October to 5 November,
- National Integration Day on 19 November, and
- Constitution Day on 26 November
Orientation of KVK Trainers on Skill Development Programme

The ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru and Agriculture Skill Council of India, New Delhi jointly organized orientation of KVK trainers on Skill Development Programme from 26-28 October, 2016 at Veterinary College, KVAFSU, Hebbal, Bengaluru. Dr. Sreenath Dixit, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Bengaluru inaugurated the programme and briefed about role KVKs can play in skilling India programme.

Topics covered
- Skill courses/areas
- Qualification packs
- Model curriculum for skill development areas
- Common norms of MSDE etc.,

Dr. Keshava, Principal Scientist, Agricultural Extension Division, ICAR, New Delhi sensitized participants in organizing long duration training under skill development as per Cost Norms notified by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) during 2016-17.

At the end, evaluation test was conducted for the participants by experts from Agriculture Skill Council of India, New Delhi.

KVKs in Media

Newspapers covered 470 events related to major activities of KVKs during the Quarter. Further, KVKs gave a total of 67 Radio talks and 16 TV programmes.
Awareness Programmes through Krishi Vigyan Kendras

A total of 43 KVKs of Zone VIII celebrated JAI KISAN JAI VIGYAN DIWAS on 25 December and JAI KISAN JAI VIGYAN WEEK from 23 to 29 December on the birth anniversary of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Late Shri Chaudhary Charan Singh, two former Prime Ministers of India, keeping in view their immense contribution for promoting use of science for the welfare of farmers during which 18449 farmers, 1259 officials and 3221 students participated.

Jai Kisan Jai Vigyan

A total of 70 KVKs from Zone VIII conducted world soil day on 5 December in which 14216 farmers participated. On the occasion, a total of 4744 soil health cards, containing crop wise nutrients/fertilizers recommendations were distributed to farmers.

Rabi Campaign

A total of 31 KVKs of Zone VIII organized Rabi Campaign in order to create awareness among farmers on the latest agricultural technologies. Activities like Kisan Sammelans, Krishi Melas, Kisan Ghoshti, Group meetings, Exhibitions, technology Demonstrations etc., were conducted during the campaign.

World Soil Day

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October - December, 2016
The quarter began with planning meetings in Delhi about taking forward the KVKs after the close of XII Five Year Plan. After this meeting a very good opportunity was provided by the Director of ATARI Zone-I who took all ATARI Directors to some progressive farmers in Sonipat district. Besides, this quarter was packed with several activities both at ATARI headquarters and within the KVKs. Significant among these was the meeting with Hon’ble Dr. Kiran Bedi, Lt.Governor of Puducherry. She visited the KVK, Puducherry, listened to the presentation made by the Programme Coordinator and provided some valuable guidance for taking up organic farming demonstrations at the KVK farm.

I also met some very interesting farmers this quarter in Gadag, Bidar, Ariyalur and Sirsi. All of them very young and practicing farming passionately. It was a great opportunity to visit groundnut oil extraction factory established by the Farmers Producers Company in Erode. Incidentally, ATARI, Bengaluru brought out two important publications on farmer producer organisations giving a KVK perspective. I also traveled to Hyderabad to address the participants of MDP at NAARM. My thanks to NAARM Hyderabad for the opportunity. The newly recruited Programme Coordinators showed great enthusiasm and interest in serving the farmers and engaged in very fruitful discussion during the lecture. Besides, Swachch Bharath Pakhwada was celebrated by the ATARI, Bengaluru from 16-30 October 2016 with utmost sincerity and fervor. Farmer First Project was launched in four Institutes during the quarter. Zone VIII was also the first to host the Orientation of KVK Trainers’ Skill Development Programme in association with the Agricultural Skill Council of India. It was once again the KVKs that actively took part in organizing the World Soil Day on 5th December in which about 15000 farmers participated and 5000 soil cards were distributed to farmers. The quarter ended with successful celebration of Jai Kissan Jai Vigyan week, ushering in the New Year. I take this opportunity to wish all the readers a Very Happy and Prosperous New Year.