Agripreneurship Development Program on "Innovative Processing Technologies and Functionalized Food Products" Starts Today

The Agripreneurship Development Program (ADP) on "Innovative Processing Technologies and Functionalized Food Products" started today, August 5, 2024. The training, organized by the Division of Food Science & Post-Harvest Technology (FS & PHT) in collaboration with the Zonal Technology Management & Business Planning and Development (ZTM & BPD) Unit of ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, was inaugurated by Dr. R.N. Padaria, Joint Director (Extension), IARI.

This six-day program aims to enhance agripreneurs' skills and knowledge in advanced processing techniques for developing functional foods. The training will focus on adherence to good manufacturing and handling practices, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) regulations and quality assurance standards. It will also provide guidance on obtaining necessary licenses and certifications.

Upon completion of the ADP, participants will gain hands-on experience in processing a range of products developed by the FS & PHT Division, including bio-colourant extraction, minimally processed fruits and vegetables, instant noodles, baked goods, extruded puffs, and flakes. The program is designed to cultivate entrepreneurial skills, offering insights into new startup opportunities, food safety roles, product formulation, processing machinery requirements and quality assurance practices such as HACCP, GMP and GHP.

The training will also feature practical exposure to novel and innovative technologies for functional food development. Participants will have the opportunity to visit a manufacturing plant, broadening their understanding of industry operations and plant layout. This program is set to help agripreneurs diversify their product ranges, enhance the quality of existing products and build confidence to remain competitive in the rapidly evolving market of highly nutritional and functional food products.