

Agripreneurship Development Program (ADP) on Mushroom Cultivation Successfully Concludes

The 5-day Agripreneurship Development Program (ADP) on Mushroom Cultivation, organized by the ZTM & BPD unit in collaboration with the Plant Pathology Division of IARI, successfully concluded on January 24, 2025. The program, inaugurated by Dr. Chinnusamy Viswanathan, Joint Director – Research, IARI, on January 20, attracted many participants, including budding entrepreneurs, students and farmers.



The training focused on equipping participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to pursue mushroom cultivation as an alternative income-generating activity. Over the course of the program, participants gained both theoretical knowledge and practical experience. The training covered various aspects of mushroom cultivation, including production techniques, disease management, post harvesting, packaging and marketing of different types of mushrooms.

In addition to expert-led sessions, the participants had the unique opportunity to engage in practical classes, which allowed them to apply what they learned in real-world settings. One of the highlights of the training was the direct interaction with successful startups already established in the mushroom sector. These entrepreneurs shared valuable insights and business strategies, helping participants understand the potential of mushroom farming as a viable business opportunity.

The program also highlighted the numerous benefits of mushroom cultivation, such as its low investment requirement, minimal land usage and the potential for year-round production.



By diversifying their income sources, farmers can reduce their dependence on traditional crops and mitigate risks from climate change and market fluctuations. Additionally, mushroom farming has the potential to enhance rural economic growth, promote food security and contribute to the country's exports.

Participants were also taken on an excursion to two distinct types of mushroom farms in the Delhi-NCR region, where they had the opportunity to observe the cultivation of mushrooms in both open fields and temperature-controlled rooms.



The training program concluded with a formal valedictory session, graced by Dr. Anupama Singh, Joint Director – Education, IARI, as the Chief Guest. Other distinguished dignitaries included Dr. Renu Pandey, Head of the Division of Plant Physiology; Dr. M.S. Saharan, Head of the Division of Plant Pathology and Dr. Deeba Kamil, Senior Scientist. During the session, certificates of completion were presented to all participants.

