

Empowering Agripreneurs: ADP on Soil Testing and Water Quality Assessment Concludes Successfully

Zonal Technology Management & Business Planning and Development (ZTM & BPD) Unit, in collaboration with the Division of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, ICAR–Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi, successfully organized an Agripreneurship Development Program (ADP) on “**Soil Testing and Water Quality Assessment**” from 2nd to 9th July 2025.



The week-long training aimed to enhance awareness and technical proficiency among participants in modern soil and water testing techniques, with a strong focus on entrepreneurship development. The program was inaugurated by Dr. R.N. Padaria, Joint Director (Extension), IARI and concluded with a valedictory session graced by Dr. R.R. Burman, ADG (Agricultural Extension), ICAR.



Throughout the eight-day schedule, participants were immersed in both theoretical and practical sessions led by eminent scientists and technical experts. Topics of discussion included soil sampling methods, determination of pH, EC, organic carbon, available nutrients (N, P, K, S), micronutrients (DTPA-extractable) and assessment of irrigation water quality.



The training also emphasized the establishment and maintenance of soil testing laboratories and the use of modern instruments like the Pusa STFR Meter for rapid macro and micronutrient estimation. The final session focused on entrepreneurial opportunities and technology commercialization in soil and water testing, further reinforcing the program's agripreneurial focus.

One of the key highlights was a hands-on exercise session that allowed participants to directly engage with advanced analytical instruments and lab techniques. Moreover, visits to the Bio-fertilizer Production Unit and Biomass Utilization Unit provided useful information on allied agribusiness opportunities.

By the end of the program, participants had acquired practical skills in soil and water analysis, data interpretation, report formulation and gained a deeper understanding of the scope for self-employment and entrepreneurship in the field.



The ADP served as an ideal platform for promoting science-based agripreneurship, equipping participants with both knowledge and motivation to contribute to sustainable agriculture through precision soil and water management.