

Agripreneurship Development Program – "From Seed to Storage: Ensuring Quality in Field & Vegetable Crops" Concludes Successfully

The ZTM & BPD Unit, in collaboration with the Division of Seed Science and Technology, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), successfully organized a six-day Agripreneurship Development Program (ADP) titled "From Seed to Storage: Ensuring Quality in Field and Vegetable Crops" from 22nd to 27th September 2025. The program aimed to provide participants with in-depth knowledge and skills essential for seed quality assurance, a crucial element in enhancing agricultural productivity.



Inaugural Session

The program commenced on 22nd September with a formal inauguration at the ZTM & BPD Unit, IARI, where Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director of IARI, graced the occasion as the chief guest. Dr. Rao emphasized the importance of quality seed production and its impact on crop yield and food security. Dr. Gyan Mishra, Head of the Division of Seed Science and Technology and Dr. Akriti Sharma, Incharge of the ZTM & BPD Unit, along with other esteemed scientists from IARI were also present at the event.

Program Highlights

The ADP covered a wide range of topics related to seed quality assurance. Key subjects included the principles of quality seed production in lentil, seed supply systems in India, hybrid seed production in field crops and procedures for physical purity testing. Additionally, the program explored cutting-edge topics such as seed quality improvement through new technologies, diagnostic techniques for seed-borne pathogens and the recent advances in root vegetable seed production. A significant portion of the

curriculum also focused on the post-harvest handling and safe storage of seeds, which is vital for ensuring seed longevity and quality.



Field and Industrial Visits

To offer practical knowledge, the program included several field visits inside the IARI campus in Pusa, New Delhi, allowing participants to observe real-world seed production techniques and practices. Additionally, an industrial visit to Haryana provided insights into the operations of seed production units, giving participants a comprehensive understanding of the seed industry from both academic and commercial perspectives.





Valedictory Function

The program officially concluded on 26th September with a Valedictory Function, where Dr. D K Yadav, Deputy Director General (Crop Science) at ICAR, was the chief guest.



During the ceremony, Dr. Yadav lauded the participants for their active engagement and emphasized the importance of seed quality in ensuring sustainable agricultural practices. He also highlighted several government schemes that could provide valuable support for the participants' future endeavors. The ceremony ended with the distribution of certificates to the participants.