



PUSA KRISHI

This Issue:

HIGHLIGHTS

PUSA KRISHI VIGYAN MELA 2021

AGRI INDIA HACKATHON

INCUBATION ACTIVITIES

SAMARTH REVIEW WORKSHOP

TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALISATION

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIPS

NEWS AND AWARDS

Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela 2021

Pusa Kisan Mela 2021, also called Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela 2021, kicked off from February 25-27, at ICAR-IARI New Delhi, the hotspot of India's Green Revolution. The Chief Guest of the event was Union Agriculture Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar Ji. The event has also seen elite presence of Shri Purshottam Rupala and Shri Kailash Chaudhary, Ministers of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, who were the Guests of Honor. The event was presided over by the Director General of ICAR and Secretary of DARE, Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra. Pusa Kisan Mela is an annual event that showcases the achievements, research done, and innovations developed during the entire year in the agriculture sector across the country.



Startup from Pusa Krishi were also given an opportunity to present their innovation during these three days. Startups who participated during IARI mela were Zigmo Agro, Kyari Innovations, Bonfarmo Captech, Bluetickmark, Modiant Solutions, Natura Crop Care, Krishi Tantra, Agsmartic Technologies, Leaf Era, Maclec.



Hon'ble Agriculture Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar Ji along with Shri Kailash Chaudhary Ji, Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare visits Mela



Dr Amarjeet Singh from Pusa Krishi explaining the benefits of new Basmati Variety PB 1692



Mr. Dalci Bagolin, Agricultural Attaché of the Embassy of Brazil in New Delhi visits Pusa Mela



Mr Sandeep Kondaji, Founder, Krishi Tantra giving a video byte for DD Kisan Channel



Dr Neeru Bhooshan discussing about innovations and technology commercialization



2. Agri India Hackathon

In our previous issue of Taksay (Oct- Dec 2020) we have covered the complete launch of Agri India Hackathon which was launched on 31 Dec 2020 at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi by Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Shri Narendra Singh Tomar Ji along with Shri Kailash Choudhary Ji, MOS (Agri.& Farmers Welfare), Shri Parshottam Rupala Ji, MOS (Agri.& Farmers Welfare).



2.1 Partnerships under Agri India Hackathon

Agri India Hackathon enabled the new talent & veterans, industry & government, thinkers & doers to come together with a unifying aim of building Atmanirbhar Bharat. The collective force of all of us combined together along with the support of the government shall channelize a new revolution in agriculture. The Agri India Hackathon built several strategic partnerships with Government bodies, RABIs & KPs, development partners, corporates, media, startups & student bodies, and other influencers to ensure that the mission reaches to every single citizen of the country. These partnerships helped the programme scale from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, and Kutch to Kohima, across the country, as well as educated & informed the masses about the development in agriculture.

Partnerships and Associations



2.2. Marketing Activities and Brief of Applications under AIH

The last date for application registration was 20 Jan 2021. We are happy to share that more than **6000 applications** were received across India after **3 Cr + print media** circulation across India and promotions/ campaigns on **Social Media along with FM**. From the very start, Agri India Hackathon was envisioned as a programme of participative development. The mission to build Smart Agriculture for Self-Reliant India cannot be achieved without the participation of the majority of citizens. And hence, the team at Pusa Krishi, ICAR-IARI along with the support of MyGov and other government agencies focused upon reaching out to the masses, engaging in meaningful conversations via Agri India Hackathon, involving youth as student ambassadors, and various other push & pull methods.

Reach and Publicity

S.No.	Name of Paper	Circulation
1	Times of India	67,99,879
2	FM Radio	6500000
3	Danik Jagran	3594636
4	Rajasthan patrika	2989685
5	Krishak Jagat	2500000
6	Malayalam Manorama	2411402
7	Daily Thanthi	1710351
8	Gujarat Samachar	1442789
9	Sakshi	1425202
10	Deccan Chronicle	934848
11	Prabhat Khabar	930871
12	Nava Bharat	919660
13	Vijayavani	838034
14	Nava Bharat	738754
15	Punjab Kesari (HINDI)	718515
16	AJIT (PUNJABI)	495615
17	Odisha Bhaskar	167699
TOTAL		3,51,17,940



Social Media and Emailer Marketing



Print | Digital | Electronic Media

The collage displays a variety of promotional materials for the Agri India Hackathon. It includes newspaper clippings from 'Krushak Jagat' and 'Deccan Chronicle' discussing the event. There are also social media posts and banners featuring the Agri India Hackathon logo and details such as the application deadline (20 Jan 2021) and contact information. The content is presented in a grid-like fashion, showcasing the multi-channel marketing strategy.

FM Reach



2.3. Agri India Meets

In our previous issue (Oct-Dec 2020) we have covered our 1st Agri India Meet. Now we would be covering six more Agri India Meets which were a meaningful conversations & connections with the most important people in agriculture — from Businesses, Start-ups, Industry to Policy, Education, Media, and others. These meets have created a buzz word around ecosystem which has encouraged participation under Hackathon.

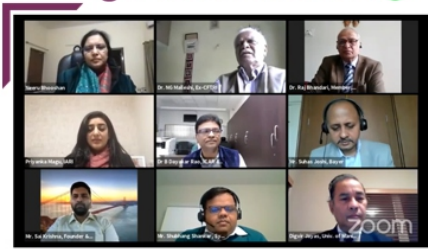
Below are all the meets which were organized by Pusa Krishi. All these Agri India Meets are recorded and can be streamed online by visiting our YouTube channel from our website (<http://pusakrishi.iari.res.in/>)

- Agri India Meet 1:** Future of Farm Mechanization & Precision Farming (30 December 2020)
- Agri India Meet 2:** Insights on Post Harvest, Food Technology & Value Addition (8 January 2021)
- Agri India Meet 3:** Farm to Fork: Market Linkages, Supply Chain & Logistics (11 January 2021)
- Agri India Meet 4:** Startup Stories: Actions for Atmanirbhar Bharat (18 January 2021)
- Agri India Meet 5:** Industry Connect: The Business of Agriculture (3 February 2021)
- Agri India Meet 6:** Investor Connect: Money Matter (4 February 2021)
- Agri India Meet 7:** Insights with Policymakers (5 February 2021)

Agri India Meet 1 ✓



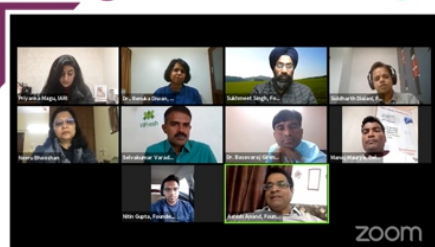
Agri India Meet 2 ✓



Agri India Meet 3 ✓



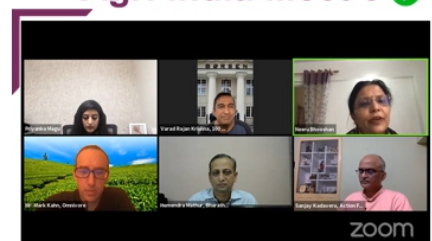
Agri India Meet 4 ✓



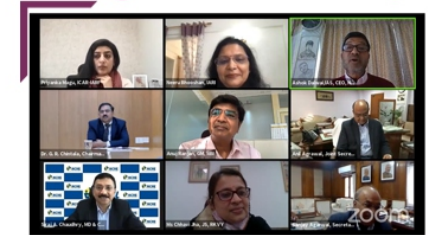
Agri India Meet 5 ✓



Agri India Meet 6 ✓



Agri India Meet 7 ✓



Insights with Policymakers

Date: 05th February 2021 Time: 4:00 - 5:30 PM

Keynote Speaker



Shri. Sanjay Agarwal
Secretary, MoA&FW, Govt.

Session Chair



Shri. Ashok Dalwai
CEO, National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA)

Panelists



Shri. Anil Agrawal
Joint Secretary, DPIIT, Govt.



Dr. G. R. Chintala
Chairman, NABARD



Shri. R Ramanathan
Mission Director, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog.



Shri. Siraj A. Chaudhry
MD & CEO, NCM.



Shri. Anuj Ranjan
General Manager, Reserve Bank of India.

...many more

AGRI INDIA MEETS

Insights on Post Harvest, Food Technology & Value Addition Recent Development

Date: 08th January Time: 4:00 - 5:30 PM

Keynote Speaker

Mr. Digvijay S. Jays
Vice-President (Research and International), University of Saskatchewan, Canada

Dr. B. Dayakar Rao
Principal Scientist, ICAR-IHAR & CEO, Hyderabad, ICR

Panelists

Dr. Raj Bhandari
Member, National Technical Board for Nutrition, Govt.

Mr. Shubhang Shankar
Managing Director, Spingento Ventures

Mr. Suhas Joshi
Head - Sustainability & Business Stewardship, Bayer Group

Dr. N. G. Mallesh
Former Head - Health Sciences & Technology, CTR

Mr. Sai Krishna Popuri
Founder & CEO, Health Sutra

2.4 Three Day Virtual Hackathon (3-5 Feb 2021)

After receiving more than 6000 applications across India, major activity was screening of applications for which we have on boarded more than 100 evaluators from ICAR institutions, State Agricultural Universities along with partners and associate members from startup ecosystem. The complete process of screening/marketing was done virtually on Cunosial platform which kept complete record and tracking of application across Hackathon.

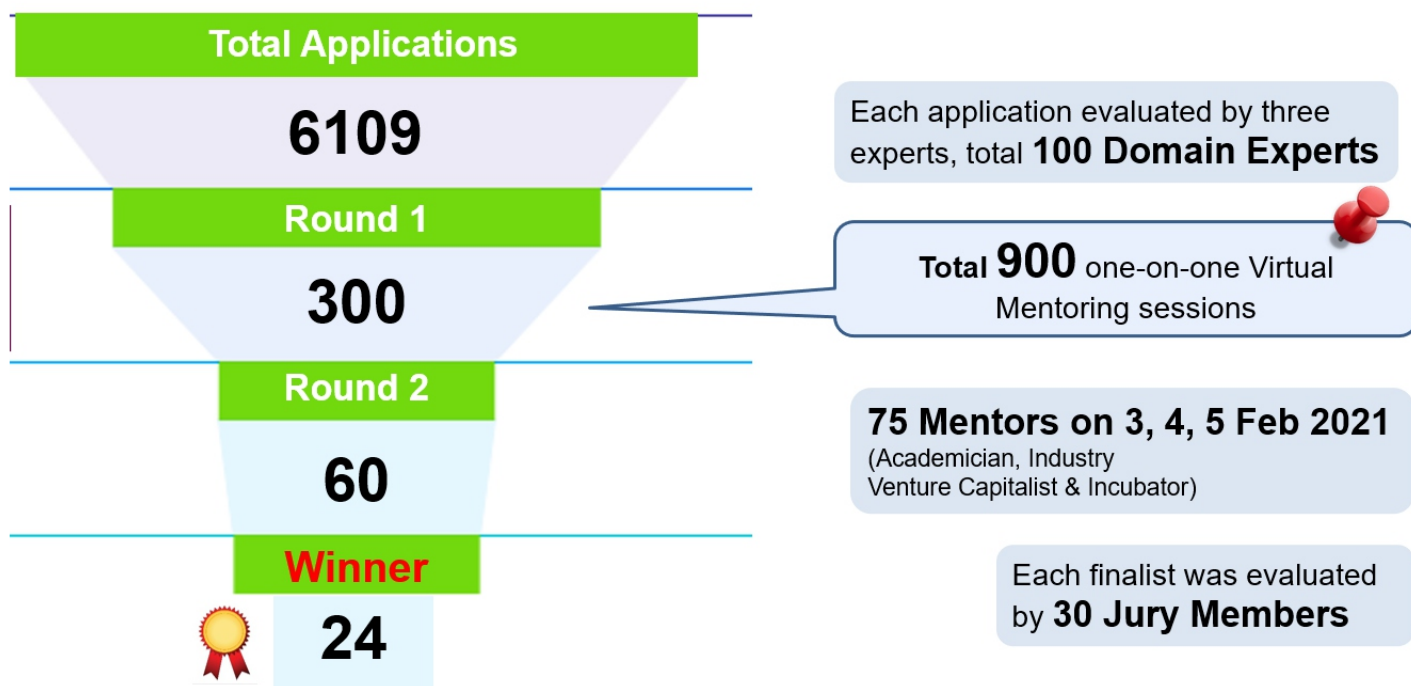
Total 300 applicants entered Round 1 after screening of each applicant by three evaluators on 5 basic parameters like Need, Novelty, Feasibility & Scalability, Commercialization Potential and Impact.

During three days of Hackathon (3-5 Feb 2021) we have organised **900 one-on-one mentoring sessions** with 75 mentors across 5 focus areas. Each applicant was given 15 min to interact with mentors across 3 days.

The complete hackathon was organised virtually via Hubilo live interaction platform which were auto scheduled with timer based auto cut off.

On last day (5 Feb 2021) of hackathon after completing mentoring sessions, each startup presented their case in front of panel as per 5 focus area namely Precision Farming, Farm Mechanization, Post-Harvest Technology, Supply Chain & Waste to Wealth. They were judged on the same evaluation parameters and finally on 8 Feb 2021 result was announced in which 60 startups entered Round 2 of Agri India Hackathon.

These 60 startups/ applicants will attend Final Jury round which had amalgamation of eminent scientists from reputed institutions, Corporate leaders and Venture Capitalist.



2.5 Final Jury Selection Round

Final Jury Round was organised on 17 Feb 2021 on Hubilo Virtual platform in which startup were given 15 minutes to explain their innovation followed by Q&A from committee members. Five different committee were formed as per focus areas and 15 applicants were pre-assigned equally among focus areas. We are happy to share that finally after rigorous process of selection we got our 24 Winners across 5 focus areas. The final Jury Panel members were as below:



2.6 Winners under Agri India Hackathon

24 best innovations from different focus areas were awarded a cash prize of INR 1,00,000 each along with the Incubation support for further validating and commercializing the innovation with the support of scientists and business experts thus making product a right market fit.

The winning innovations will further get an exclusive preference for incubation support, pre-seed & seed-stage funding of 5 Lakhs & 25 Lakhs respectively at any one of the 29 RABIs, subject to assessment by the independent RABI. The winning innovations will have the opportunity of field trial and access technology validation from our network of institutions (if they opt for incubation support).

Details of Winners and their innovations are in next page.

Jury Panel for Agri India Hackathon

Mechanization of Farming and Allied Activities
Date: 17th February 2021 | Time: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

CHAIRMAN
Dr. Vinendra Kumar Tewari
Director and Professor Agricultural and Food Engineering, IIT Kharagpur

CO-CHAIR

- Mr. T. R Kesavan**
Group President Corporate Relations & Alliances, IAFI
- Dr. Indramani**
Head, Div. of Ag. Engg. ICAR-IARI
- Mr. Sanjay Kadaveru**
Founder, Action For India
- Mr. Sheard Gupta**
Head - Nigen Nandri Innovation Lab, Essarts Ltd

MEMBER SECRETARY
Dr. R. K. Jhorar
Dept. of Ag. Engg. Engineering, OCSMAU, Meer

Precision Agriculture
Date: 17th February 2021 | Time: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

CHAIRMAN
Professor Santanu Chaudhury
Director, IIT, Jodhpur

CO-CHAIR

- Mr. Kapil Mehan**
Ex-MD, Coromandel
- Dr. Syed Ismail**
Director, SFA Pvt Ltd
- Dr. Vishwanathan**
Head, Div. of Plant Physiology, ICAR-IARI
- Mr. Emmanuel Murray**
Sr Advisor, Capstan Fund

MEMBER SECRETARY
Dr. R N Sahoo
PL Div. of Ag. Physics IARI

Supply Chain and Agriculture Logistics
Date: 17th February 2021 | Time: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

CHAIRMAN
Dr. Ajit Kumar
Ex-VC, NIFTM

CO-CHAIR

- Mr. Sagar Kaushik**
COO, UPL
- Mr. Rajesh Sinha**
CEO, BSE & Agricultural Markets (BSAM)
- Mr. Kaushendra Kumar**
MD-Kaushalya Foundation
- Mr. Pankaj Thakkar**
Founder, Postip Ventures

MEMBER SECRETARY
Dr. Neeru Bhooshan
CEO, Pusa KIRMI, ICAR-IARI

Waste to Wealth and Green Energy in Agriculture
Date: 17th February 2021 | Time: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

CHAIRMAN
Mr. Sameer Goel
MD, Coromandel International Limited

CO-CHAIR

- Lt. Col. Monish Ahuja**
MD, PSESPL Ltd
- Dr. Lata**
PL Div. of Microbiology, ICAR-IARI
- Mr. Ajit Nigam**
Independent Consultant
- Mr. Varad Krishna**
Co-Founder, 100 open Start-ups
- MEMBER SECRETARY**
Mr. Ramesh Mittal
Director, MAM Jaipur

Post-Harvest, Food Technology & Value Addition
Date: 17th February 2021 | Time: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

CHAIRMAN
Dr. K. Alagusundaram
DDG (NRM), ICAR

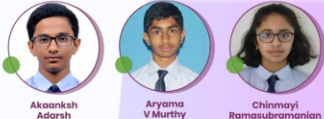
CO-CHAIR

- Mr. G Krishna Kumar**
VP - Agri Business Division, ITC Limited
- Mr. Suhas Joshi**
Head - Sustainability & Business Stewardship - Bayer Group
- Dr. Nachiket Kotwalwale**
Director ICAR-CIPHET
- Mr. Amit Antony Alex**
India Country Director, Upjaya Ventures
- MEMBER SECRETARY**
Dr. B Dayakar Rao
CEO, NRI/HUB, ICAR-IARI

Top 24 Winners under Agri India Hackathon



Mechanization of Farming and Allied Activities



Akaanksh Adarsh
Aryama V Murthy
Chinmayi Ramasubramanian

Karnataka

AutoFarmer is a novel AI-enabled IoT system for farmers to help them in early disease detection and microclimate-based fertigation of their crops.

App ID: 17555664



Sharad Chandra Lohokare

Maharashtra

JyoSH: An Integrated Agriculture Robot for automation of entire Cotton Cultivation improving profitability of Indian farmers

App ID: 17585884



Amit Sharma

Rajasthan

DAIS (Digital Artificial Insemination set)- A audio visualized Device which helps to deposit semen in right position.

App ID: 17570874



Sachin Nalawade

Maharashtra

Phule Robo: Remotely operated portable electrostatic spraying rover for precise plant protection.

App ID: 17606334



Charanpreet Singh

Punjab

An AI powered autonomous weeding robot for efficient farm operations thus reducing cost of mechanical operation

App ID: 17588864



Post Harvest Technology & Value Addition



Mahendra Meena

Rajasthan

An eco-friendly Novel **Biodegradable Nanoformulation** to extend the shelf life of fruits and vegetables at room temperature upto 3 weeks.

App ID: 17617434



Saddam Husain

Rajasthan

Fruit Spect: Ultra Low-Cost Smartphone based VIS-NIR Spectrometer for non-destructive analysis of fruit maturity /ripening and quality attributes.

App ID: 17600424



Ravi Prakash

Karnataka

Milking Pail: Chill milk at the point of harvest and keep it cool ($\leq 10^{\circ}\text{C}$) till milk processing plant/collection centre, thereby improve quality and safety, reduce wastage.

App ID: 17531494



Sushil Shelke

Maharashtra

Specialy Engineered **innovative Bio-Reactor Vessel and Cabinet Dryers** for processing of fresh Rhizome (Turmeric, Ginger, Onion) to powder.

App ID: 17598944



Rahul Prakash

Uttar Pradesh

Promoting GI (Geographical Indication) tag agricultural products in the National and International Market by using **QR code-based traceability solutions** and blockchain.

App ID: 17581794



Supply Chain and Agricultural Logistics



Sanjay Shukla

Uttar Pradesh

Predictive Transport Management System (PTMS) integrated with IOT & blockchain module for efficient day-to-day operations for transporters

App ID: 17586644



Shefalika Sharma

Maharashtra

Froots: Leveraging blockchain and IOT for supply chain optimization and bridging supply demand gap for small growers

App ID: 17609094



Kajal Satapathy

Odisha

Revolutionize the Spice commodity value chain by connecting spice producing FPOs with Institutional buyers across geographies.

App ID: 17599014



Anup Paikaray

Odisha

GoBus- Connecting rural agro business with urban customers using bus service

App ID: 17615544



Sanghamitra Pattanayak

Delhi

KleverKISAN: SaaS based solution connecting farmers produce to aggregators.

App ID: 17617944



Precision Agriculture, Artificial Intelligence, IoT and drone



Nitesh Verma
Tamil Nadu

दृRISHTI: An underwater in-situ biomass estimation system integrated with Artificial intelligence for real time biomass estimation of fishes in water

App ID: 17567024



Saurabh Srivastava
Rajasthan

Innovative Solar operated system with 2 level **laser fencing** to avoid wild animals entering the field thus avoiding human-wildlife conflict

App ID: 17589854



Nandakishor M
Kerala

An AI vision based **Quadruped robot** with robotic arm to effectively spray pesticides on the crops thus saving farmers investment on Agrochemicals.

App ID: 17615954



Sreeshankar S Nair
Kerala

WESTOCK - IoT/ML based ear tag for livestock health monitoring and tracking system while observing livestock behavioral parameters

App ID: 17583574



Waste to Wealth and Green Energy in Agriculture



Dhoolappa Melinamani
Karnataka

Ecofloat a biodegradable anti-mosquito floatable cake made up of crop residues incorporated with short-acting biolarvicides to eliminate larvae from stagnant water

App ID: 17575664



Saji Varghese
Karnataka

An **eco-friendly straw** made up from dried fallen coconut leaves which have a natural wax layer making the straws hydrophobic & anti-fungal

App ID: 17572234



Ayush Sultania
Delhi

Innovative products from Cattle waste using modern technology like Liquid-Bio Fertiliser, Diya, Dhoop, Clock, Key-ring, etc.

App ID: 17592304



Karan Sarsar
Maharashtra

Innovative biodegradable bags made up of hemp, jute, flax, nettle raw processed fibre which is the replacement of the Plastic & Bioplastic in market.

App ID: 17567414



S B Vivehanandhan
Puducherry

Use and Eat Edible and biodegradable cutleries made from agricultural fibres and residues

App ID: 17586354



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3 Incubation Activities & Handholding of RABIs at Pusa Krishi

3.1 CIC Meeting for Incubators under Pusa Krishi

Pusa Krishi has conducted RIC- II for various Incubator like IIM Kashipur (12 and 13 Jan 2021); Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Hisar, Haryana (28 Jan 2021); CSK Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Palampur, Himachal Pradesh (15 Jan 2021) and Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh (19 & 20 Jan 2021).

Moreover, the main achievement accomplished was competition of CoE Incubation Evaluation Committee meeting for all the Twelve Incubators under IARI.

We are happy to share that under Pre-Seed Program of 12 incubators committee evaluated total 114 applications out of which 71 startups were approved for funding by CIC committee totalling to more than Three Crores (Rs 3 Crores). Under Seed Stage of 12 incubators committee evaluated 95 applicants out of which 62 startups were approved for funding totalling to more than Ten Crores (Rs. 10 Crores).

These milestone-based funding would be beneficial to catalyse their growth map along with infusing expenditures on R&D activities for product refinement and commercialization.

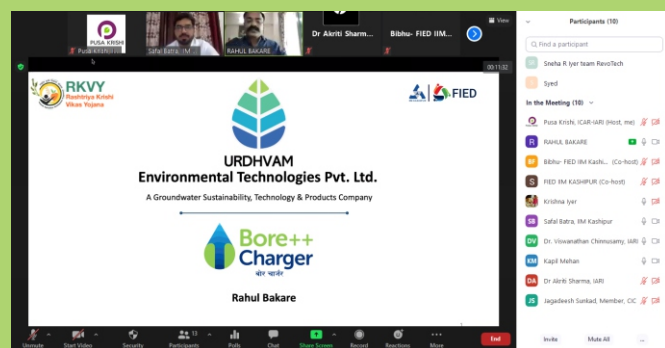
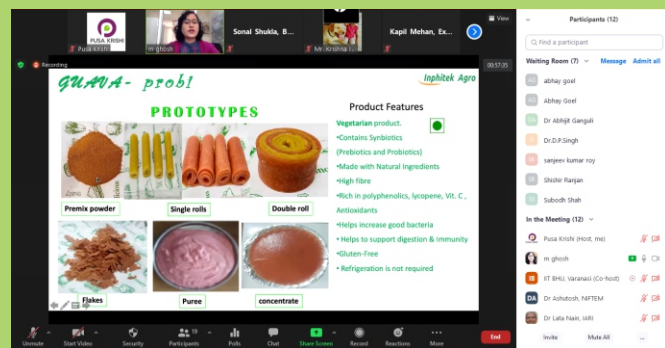
Total Application Evaluated
209

Startups approved for Grant
133

Pre-Seed Stage Startups	Seed Stage Startups
71	62
Rs. 352 Lakhs	Rs. 1096.5 Lakhs

Total fund approved by CIC Committee
Rs. 1448.5 Lakhs

SNAPSHOTS OF CIC MEETINGS



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3.2 Samarth Workshop

As a leading Knowledge Partner, Pusa Krishi extends its continuous support to 12 RABIs through online virtual meeting and monitoring session. Samarth workshop was organised on 22nd March 2021 at 10:30 AM. This workshop intends to understand the accomplishments and challenges that RABIs have experienced during the implementation of the project so far. This exercise will set the base for our next SAMARTH program as we would put our efforts to help RABI's on minimizing challenges and maximizing efficiency. During the day all 12 RABIs presented their progress presentation in front of expert committee.



4. Technology Commercialisation

During Jan- March, under Lab to Land Initiative, Nine **(09) technologies** of ICAR-IARI were transferred to **04 industry partners** resulting in total revenue generation of **Rs. 6, 50,000** (Rupees Six Lakh Fifty Thousand). These technologies were Wheat gluten based Soft Nutri-cereal Atta , Mango varieties Pusa Shrestha, Pusa Lalima , Pusa Arunima and vegetable varieties Okra- Pusa Bhindi-5, Okra-DOH and basmati rice variety PB 1692 and rice variety Pusa samba 1850.

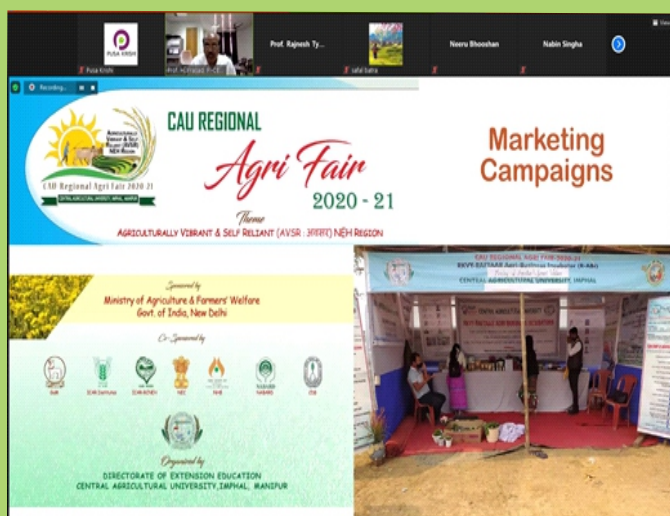
4. Corporate Membership

Corporate membership allows Industry partners and NGOs direct access to high quality breeder seeds developed by IARI. Corporates can procure the seeds from the institute and its regional stations for further multiplication of the founder (F1) and truthful seed (TL). In the said quarter, Unit enrolled new membership of **06 industry partners** and membership of 06 existing members were renewed thereby generating a revenue of **Rs. 60,000**.

5.0 News and Awards

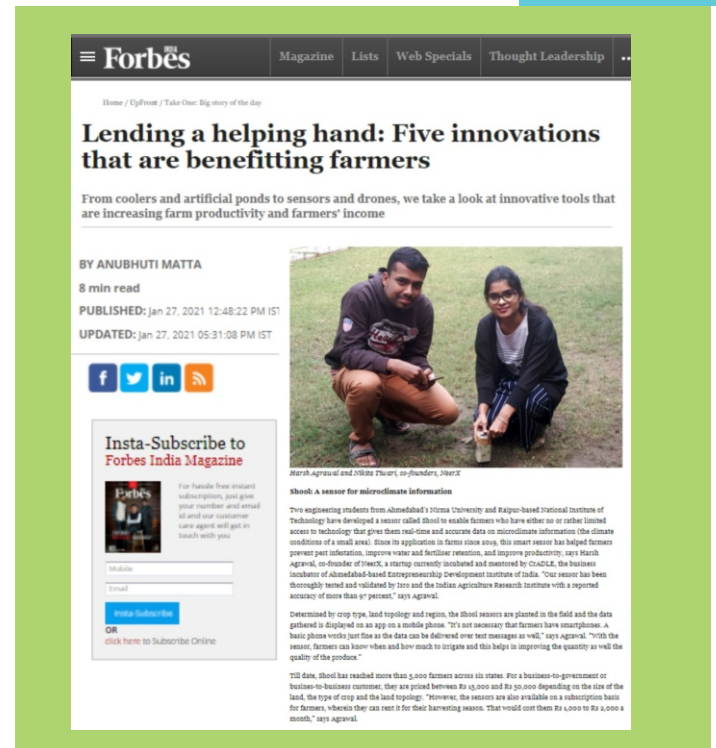
5.3 Kyari innovations

- * Kyari Innovation participated in DDNews for the shoot of #StartupChampions. A great initiative by DD to give startups a national platform to reach Indian masses.



5.2 NEERx Technovation

- Harsh Agrawal and Nikita Tiwari, co-founders, NeerX were covered by Forbes India and are incubated with Pusa Krishi since 2019.
- They have developed a sensor called **Shool** to enable farmers who have either no or rather limited access to technology that gives them real-time and accurate data on microclimate information
- Till date, Shool has reached more than 5,000 farmers across six states. For a business-to-government or business-to-business customer, they are priced between Rs 15,000 and Rs 50,000 depending on the size of the land, the type of crop and the land topology. "However, the sensors are also available on a subscription basis for farmers, wherein they can rent it for their harvesting season. That would cost them Rs 1,000 to Rs 2,000 a month.



5.3 BioPrime AgriSolutions Pvt Ltd

- BioPrime got featured in **YOUR STORY** and the startup is developing low-cost, next-gen agri biologicals that are based on plant physiology response modulation using a proprietary platform.
- Also, Bioprime AgriSolutions Pvt Limited has bagged the Best Agri Startup (Industry Partnership) Award presented by Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), winners of which were on Wednesday in New Delhi



5.4 FreshoKartz Products

- FreshoKartz got featured in **FINANCIAL EXPRESS** and they provide soil data-based crop and fertiliser recommendations to 1.2 lakh farmers through a network of 40 physical centres and a mobile application. Based on these recommendations, the Jaipur-headquartered startup delivers quality seeds, pesticides and fertilisers to farmers at their doorstep directly minus the middlemen.

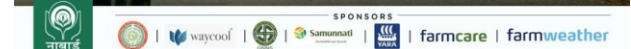


5.5 Krishitantra

- * With a driven vision to change the life of farmers and fuel better soil for agriculture, Krishitantra is a team of proficient engineers, soil scientists who identify soil fertility levels and nutrient deficiencies.
- * Together they determine the macro and micronutrients in the soil, thereafter recommending a solution and how to enhance soil quality with Krishitantra's KRISHI RASTAA (Rapid Automated Soil Test with Agronomy Advice.)



- * Krishitantra pedalled across the nation to spread awareness on soil health and the importance of soil testing.
- * The cycle rally was part of the country-wide cycle-rally campaign being jointly organised by Krishi Tantra and Gaon Connection. It was inaugurated from the premises of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agriculture Sciences and Technology in Jammu on March 3 and will culminate in Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu.
- * The cycle rally covered a distance of almost 3,500 kms and passed through 11 states in its journey that was 40-day long.





From the Editor's Desk

Greetings!

Welcome to the new edition of Taksay – Taknique se Vyavsay. I take immense pleasure to share new volume and first issues of 2021. The year 2020 has gone leaving behind scars to innovation ecosystem and due to lockdown and startups have suffered a lot and many have to shut down their operations. During such unprecedented times our startups have made their way to market/ promote their products during IARI Kisan Mela in last week of Feb.

We took opportunity during ongoing pandemic and on 31 Dec last year launched Agri India Hackathon to promote agri innovation and promote agri-preneurship while creating a pipeline of innovations for RKVY-RAFTAAR that have the ability to change face of India Agriculture. After various Rounds of screening and evaluation by 100+ evaluator and mentors along with 900 one-on-one virtual sessions on 3-5 Feb 2021; finally announced **24 Winners** across five focus areas who have received cash prize of Rs 1.0 Lakh each along with technology validation and incubation support in future from RABIs under scheme. Few innovations were like AI-powered weeding robot, portable electrostatic spraying rover, biodegradable anti-mosquito floatable cake, biodegradable bags as an alternative to plastic & bioplastic, edible cutlery, etc. to name a few which can solve many problem of livelihood.

I also, thank all the corporate partners along with Venture Capitalists who have supported us during entire journey of Hackathon.

Moreover, this quarter we have conducted CIC meeting for Cohort 2020-2021 of 12 incubators with Ministry in which total of 133 startups were approved for funding from 209 with a total **Grant in-Aid of Rs. 14.48 Crores.**

As a Knowledge Partner for the RABIs under the RKVY-RAFTAAR scheme, PUSA Krishi has an additional duty to support other incubators, so under SAMARTH we organised 1 day virtual session to understand the accomplishments and challenges that RABIs have experienced during the implementation of the project so far.

To conclude, I wish to congratulate all 24 Winners of Agri India Hackathon who have received cash prize of Rs 1.0 Lakhs and all 133 Startups from 12 incubators who have been approved Grant-in-Aid from Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.

- Dr Neeru Bhooshan
Principal Scientist, ZTM & BPD Unit
CEO, Pusa Krishi, ICAR-IARI

From the House of :-

Pusa Krishi, ZTM & BPD Unit
ICAR- Indian Agricultural Reserach Institute, New Delhi- 110012
Ph- 011- 25843542
Email: zonaltech@gmail.com/ connect@pusakrishi.in

Incharge & PI: Dr Neeru Bhooshan
Co-PI: Dr. Akriti Sharma



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