

Mushroom Cultivation: A Promising Avenue for Agripreneurship and Sustainable Livelihoods

IARI-Pusa Krishi, in collaboration with the Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, organized a five-day **Agripreneurship Development Programme (ADP)** on “**Entrepreneurship and Skill Development in Mushroom Cultivation Technology**” from 7-11 September 2026.



The programme was inaugurated on 7 September 2026 in the presence of Joint Director (Research), ICAR-IARI, Dr. C. Viswanathan, who graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The programme aimed to promote mushroom cultivation as an alternative and sustainable source of income for farmers and aspiring entrepreneurs by equipping them with practical knowledge, technical skills and entrepreneurial insights.



Participants received hands-on training in various aspects of mushroom cultivation, including spawn handling, substrate preparation, temperature and humidity management and pest and disease management. The sessions also covered post-harvest handling, processing, packaging and marketing, along with opportunities for developing mushroom-based value-added products and establishing small-scale enterprises.

A major highlight of the programme was an exposure visit to the Regional Mushroom Research Centre, Murthal, Sonipat, where participants gained firsthand experience of mushroom production practices, cultivation techniques and farm-level management. The field visit enabled participants to connect the technical knowledge gained during the training with practical applications at the production level.



The programme concluded with a valedictory session on 11 September 2026, during which certificates of participation were presented to the trainees. Dr. C. Viswanathan, Joint Director (Research), ICAR-IARI, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and congratulated the trainees on the successful completion of the programme. He appreciated their active participation and encouraged them to utilize the knowledge and skills acquired during the training to explore entrepreneurial opportunities in mushroom cultivation.



On the other hand, participants also expressed their appreciation for the programme, particularly the practical sessions, technical inputs and field exposure and shared that the training had enhanced their understanding of mushroom cultivation and provided valuable insights into developing mushroom-based enterprises as a viable source of additional income.