

# ICAR-CTRI

# News



**ICAR - CENTRAL TOBACCO RESEARCH INSTITUTE - 533105, A.P.**

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## From the Director's Desk



### Sports and Games - ICAR South Zone Sports Meet-2018

Sports and games make an important contribution to an individual's physical fitness and health essential for nurturing sound mind and ingenious intelligence. Participation in sports and games helps us to learn and acquire qualities such as punctuality, perseverance, discipline, dedication, temperament, teamwork, spirit of fraternity, never-say-die positive attitude, leadership skills, etc. Some of these virtues are essential for institution building and productivity enhancement in a research organization like Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). Recognizing the importance of sports and games as an integral part of its human resources development programme, the ICAR has been conducting one Inter-zonal and five Zonal Sports Tournaments every year. The ICAR-Central Tobacco Research Institute (CTRI), Rajahmundry has been entrusted with the responsibility to host the ICAR-South Zone Sports Tournament-2018.

Accordingly, the ICAR-CTRI with a sense of privilege has hosted the ICAR-South Zone Sports Tournament during 05 – 09 September, 2018 at the District Sports Authority (DSA) Stadium in the city of Kakinada where the modern state-of-the-art sports facilities are available. The sports tournament opened with hoisting of ICAR Flag by chief guest, Dr. A. Padma Raju, Former Vice-chancellor, ANGRAU, AP followed by the march past by sports contingents of different institutions. A total of 510 participants from 22 ICAR-Institutes representing six southern states (A.P., Karnataka, Kerala, T.N., Telangana and a part of Maharashtra) participated. In all 34 sports and games events (21 for men and 13 for women) were conducted.



The unique feature of this year's tournament is multilingual announcement in Hindi, English, Telugu, Tamil, Kannada and Malayalam which attracted attention of every one and made the announcements very effective and friendly. Further, a special Cultural Program with an objective to promote communal harmony, national integration and exchange of culture and traditions of participating states was organised. The cultural event included classical/folk dances and songs

that depicted the cultural heritage of states of the South Zone. Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, National Academy of Agricultural Research Management, Hyderabad graced the closing ceremony as Chief Guest and presented medals and prizes to the winners of different events. The ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru bagged overall championship of the tournament. The dignitaries gracing the sports event included Dr. R.K. Mathur, Director, ICAR-IIOPR, Dr. S. Vaidyanathan, Director, NRCM, Sri S. Srirama Krishna Guru Prasad, a Nandi Award winner and Nandi Award Jury Member and Dr. G. Nageswara Rao, Associate Dean, Agricultural College, Rajahmundry. The tournament ended in a grand success that was made possible by active participation and contribution by one and all from the host institute.



  
**(D. DAMODAR REDDY)**

## RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

### **Varieties released/ identified**

- ❑ A high yielding, aphid tolerant, TMV resistant FCV tobacco variety, CTRI Sulakhana (TBST-2) was released for cultivation under SBS and SLS of Andhra Pradesh. The cultivar has the leaf yield potential of 2500 – 3300 kg/ha.
- ❑ Three variety release proposals viz., two FCV tobacco (Tobios-6 and KLSH-10) and one *rustica* tobacco (ArR-27) were presented to the varietal identification committee on 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 at ICAR-CTRI, Rajahmundry. *Hookah* tobacco variety ArR27 (Nath) was identified for cultivation in *hookah* tobacco growing areas of Uttar Pradesh.

### **Advanced Breeding Lines**

- ❑ Twenty eight IVT entries (including hybrids) were evaluated during 2017-18 and 6 entries were promoted to bulk trial.

### **Seed supply**

- ❑ A total quantity of 9245 kg truthfully labelled tobacco seed of different varieties was supplied to farmers through CTRI, Rajahmundry and its Research stations to meet seed requirement in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

### **Agrotechnologies**

- ❑ A polycarbonate chamber (645 cft) on roof-top of tobacco curing barn was designed and developed to harness the solar energy which saved the wood fuel to an extent of 22.0-24.9% when compared to traditional barn.
- ❑ Agri biomass briquettes were evaluated for curing FCV tobacco and found they have the potential to replace the total wood requirement for curing.
- ❑ Soil fertility thematic maps were prepared for FCV tobacco growing Northern Light Soil region of Andhra Pradesh for their utilization in resource conservation.
- ❑ Management Interventions for *Orobanche* control were developed by growing tobacco

succeeding to sesamum with neem cake application at 30 days after tobacco planting @10g per plant in Alfisols.

- ❑ High density planting (24,691 plants/ha, with 90 x 45 cm spacing) is identified as drought mitigation strategy to increase the productivity by 15% compared to low density (18,181 plants/ha with 100x 55 cm spacing) in the dry and drought affected areas of KLS.
- ❑ Technologies to mitigate False maturity in Alfisols and Vertisols were developed
- ❑ The IPM module for reduction of infestation by tobacco whitefly (leaf curl) was developed for FCV tobacco in SBS area of Prakasam District.
- ❑ Impact studies revealed that farmers cultivating FCV and non-FCV tobacco were socio-economically empowered than farmers cultivating other crops.

### **Seed oil**

- ❑ Tobacco seed oil refining technique was standardised. Acute pre-clinical toxicity evaluation of tobacco seed oil showed no adverse effect on rats. Further collaborative studies viz. multigeneration and carcinogenesis studies on secondary primates were in progress in collaboration with NIN, Hyderabad for identification of tobacco seed oil for human consumption.

### **Inter-Institutional projects**

- ❑ Three Inter-Institutional projects viz., Soil, water and crop management strategies to mitigate climate induced changes in rain fed ecosystem of south coastal A.P with ICAR-CRIDA, Hyderabad, Investigations on Various Options for Effective Use of Oil Palm Biomass Waste with IIOPR, Pedavegi and Development/ Adoption of the transplanter, Stringing machine and hybrid curing barn for FCV Tobacco with ICAR-CIAE, Bhopal are in operation.
- ❑ An externally funded project "Development and evaluation of solar thermal energy based FCV

tobacco curing systems" was initiated in collaboration with Tobacco Board, Guntur with an outlay of Rs.35.00 Lakhs.

### **Technologies released: AINPT**

- Foliar application of N and K @2.5% at 45 & 55 days after planting to FCV tobacco in Karnataka Light Soils.
- Ridge planting and closer spacing (60x75 cm) under drought conditions in *Bidi* tobacco area of Nandyal, Andhra Pradesh
- Nitrogen @ 110kg/ha with topping at 15 leaves to *bidi* tobacco in Andhra Pradesh.
- Foliar application of N & K at 45 and 60 DAT to *bidi* tobacco in Andhra Pradesh.
- INM practice of green manuring with 200 kg N/ha for *Rustica* tobacco in Uttar Pradesh.
- Inter cropping of vegetable pea in *Rustica* tobacco with nitrogen @ 180 kg N/ha.

## VISITORS

Mrs. K. Sunitha, IAS, Chairman & Executive Director, Tobacco Board visited ICAR-CTRI, Rajahmundry on 25.9.2018 and discussed about the strategies of organic tobacco production and mitigation measures of false maturity with Director and Scientists.



### Scientists visit to Cyclone affected areas

The scientists of ICAR-CTRI along with Tobacco Board officials visited the cyclone affected tobacco growing areas in East and West Godavari districts on 29<sup>th</sup> December, 2018. During the visit, crop damage was estimated and crop management interventions were suggested for amelioration.

## MEETINGS

### IRC Meeting

The Institute Research Committee (IRC) Meeting of ICAR-Central Tobacco Research Institute was held during 17-19<sup>th</sup> August, 2018 at Rajahmundry. The progress of research work carried out during the previous year was reviewed and the technical programme for the crop season 2018-19 were finalized during the deliberations. Tobacco Scientist-Farmer-Board-Trade meet was also held on the sidelines of IRC to elicit the information on constraints in tobacco production and exports and to identify researchable issues. Scientists of ICAR-CTRI, tobacco farmers, officials from Tobacco Board, representatives of trade viz., M/s. ITC Ltd., M/s. Godfrey Phillips India Ltd. and Indian Tobacco Association participated in the meeting.



### Annual X Group Meeting of AINPT

The Annual X Group Meeting of All India Network Project on Tobacco was held at ICAR-CTRI, Rajahmundry from 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> October, 2018. In this Group Meeting the achievements of research programmes conducted during 2017-18 reviewed and finalized the new research projects / technical programmes for 2018-19. Dr. K. Deo Singh, Former Director, ICAR-CTRI, Rajahmundry was the Chief Guest and Mrs. K. Sunitha, IAS, Chairman & Executive Director, Tobacco Board was the Special Guest of Honor for the Meeting.



## CELEBRATIONS

### Hindi Week Celebrations

Hindi week was celebrated from 14-20<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 at ICAR-CTRI, Rajahmundry and its research stations. Staff of the Institute actively participated in various competitions conducted in this occasion.



### Vigilance Awareness Week

Vigilance Awareness Week was celebrated from 29<sup>th</sup> October to 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2018 at ICAR-CTRI, Rajahmundry. Staff adopted the integrity pledge on 29.10.2018. During the week, a workshop on Eradicating Corruption-Build New India, Poster competition on the theme "Building corruption free India", Sensitization programme on preventive vigilance measures, Discussion on scientific vigilance, Awareness programme on financial vigilance and Elocution competition on "Corruption free India" were conducted.

### Commemoration to Sri Atal Bihari Vajpayee

The monthly death anniversary of Bharat Ratna, late Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, former Prime Minister of India was observed on 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 at ICAR-CTRI, Rajahmundry and paid tributes in the form of recitation of his poems. Dr. S. Ravi Chandra Rao, Professor, Department of Official Language, Rajbhasha Vibhag, Gruha Manralaya was invited to the occasion. Dr. D. Damodar Reddy, Director, ICAR-CTRI in his remarks recalled the sacrifices of Bharat Ratna and mentioned that he was an excellent orator and an impressive poet.

### Swachhta Hi Sewa campaign

As a part of Swachhta Hi Sewa campaign, the institute organized several programmes from 15<sup>th</sup> September to 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2018 at its headquarters and Research Stations. Various activities viz., Poster competition on Swachhta Hi Sewa, Brainstorming session for eliciting effective strategies for Swachhata, Discussion about the causes for water pollution and ameliorative measures, Interactive session on clean agriculture, Discourses on work place cleaning, greening and aesthetic ambience, Discourses on quality management of the laboratories, Mass awareness programmes on safe drinking water, Occupational health, safety and hygiene in agriculture, Composting of the agricultural farm wastes were organised during the campaign.



### Swachh Bharat Pakhwada

ICAR-CTRI conducted Swachh Bharat Pakhwada activities from 16-31<sup>st</sup> December, 2018. During the fortnight, different activities like plantation of horticulture trees, cleanliness in the institute premises, laboratories, nursery production area, sanitation drive in the villages and residential colonies, debate competition and celebration of kisan diwas were conducted.

### World Soil Day

World soil day was celebrated at ICAR-CTRI, Rajahmundry on 05<sup>th</sup> December, 2018. Shri Somu Veerraju, Hon'ble Member of the A.P. State Legislative Council, Dr. D.Damodar Reddy Director, ICAR-CTRI, Officials from Tobacco Board, tobacco farmers, students from Agricultural college, Rajahmundry, Scientists and staff members from ICAR-CTRI have participated in the programme. World soil day was also celebrated at KVK, Kalavacharla on this day. In this connection, Soil health cards were distributed to the tobacco farmers.

## AWARDS

- Dr. B. Hema received 'ICAR-Jawaharlal Nehru Award for P.G. Outstanding Doctoral Thesis Research in Agricultural and Allied Sciences 2017' under the category of social sciences at NASC Complex, New Delhi on the eve of 90<sup>th</sup> ICAR Foundation day on 16.7.2018.
- Dr. K. Sarala received 'Women Research Award' and Dr. H. Ravisankar received 'Outstanding Scientist Award' from International Organization for Scientific Research and Development (IOSRD), Chennai on 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2018 during International Awards on Engineering, Science and management, Visakhapatnam.
- Dr. S. Kasturi Krishna received 'ISA Fellow-2016' award from Indian Society of Agronomy on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at MPUA&T, Udaipur.
- Best Poster Award was conferred to the poster entitled 'Handicrafts from weeds – An opportunity for rural livelihood promotion' by V.S.G.R. Naidu, R. Sudhakar and D. Damodar Reddy at ISWS Golden Jubilee International Conference on 'Weeds and Society: Challenges and Opportunities' organized from 21-24<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 at DWR, Jabalpur, M.P.
- Dr. K. Sarala received 'Fellowship of the year Award 2018' by National Academy of Environmental Sciences, New Delhi during the National Conference on Chemistry for Human Health and Environment held during 15-16<sup>th</sup> December, 2018 at University of Delhi, Delhi.
- Dr. U. Sreedhar has been conferred with Distinguished Scientist Award of the Society of Plant Protection Sciences, New Delhi at the First International Conference on Climate Change and Adaptive Crop Protection for Sustainable Agri-horticulture Landscape on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at National Research Centre on Seed Spices, Ajmer, Rajasthan.

## KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA (KVK)

### Hon'ble Prime Minister's interaction with SHGs and Women groups through Video Conference

CTRI-KVK organised a meet in KVK, Kalavacharla in connection with honourable Prime Minister's interaction with SHGs and Women groups through Video Conference on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2018. Thirty farm women participated in the programme.

### 'Mahila Kisan Diwas'

CTRI- KVK has organized 'Mahila Kisan Diwas' on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at Kalavacharla. KVK staff, 50 Women farmers and B.Sc., (Ag.) students participated. Dr. D. Damodar Reddy, Director, ICAR-CTRI distributed prizes to

the winners of competitions held on Rangoli and Essay-writing. Smt. R.Pushadevi, beneficiary of Milky Mushroom Production was felicitated on this occasion as an upcoming Women Entrepreneur.

### 'Rabi Campaign / Awareness programme on Rabi Crops'

CTRI- KVK has organized 'Rabi Campaign/Awareness programme on Rabi Crops' at CTRI, Rajahmundry on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018. Two brochures in Telugu on 'Integrated Management of Fall Armyworm (*Spodoptera frugiperda* J.E.Smith)' in Maize' and 'Waste Decomposer' were released during the occasion. Around 150 persons including farmers participated.

## PERSONALIA

### Appointments

Following personnel have been appointed during the period.

S.N.	Name	Date
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#### Scientist

1.	Ms. Aninditha Paul	09.10.18
<b>Tech. Asst. (T-3)</b>		
1.	Polisetty Trinadh	24.08.18
2.	Aasi Divya	25.08.18
3.	Ramu Nambari	26.09.18
4.	Shameer, P.S.	10.10.18
5.	Pappu Satish	10.10.18
6.	Anshul Sharma	11.10.18

#### Tech. Trainee T-1

1.	A.S.R. Phani Kumar	26.11.18
2.	V. Parameswara Rao	28.11.18
3.	G.N.S. Ganesh	28.11.18
4.	D. Srinivasa Rao	27.11.18
5.	Phanikonda Krishna	30.11.18
6.	A. Usha Angel	01.12.18
7.	G.S.M. Annapurna	03.12.18
8.	G. Satya Harish	03.12.18
9.	Thella Ramesh	03.12.18
10.	Nikhil, C.M.	06.12.18
11.	Mulki Deepak Kumar	20.12.18
12.	Noolu Raja	24.12.18
13.	Kolli Satyanarayana	24.12.18
14.	K.K. Mishra	27.12.18

#### Lower Division Clerk

1.	Pithani Satya Naveen	29.10.18
2.	Neetha Joy Cheeran	29.10.18
3.	Penumetsa Satish	29.10.18
4.	S.S.K.C.G. Ponakalla	03.11.18
5.	K. Gangadhara Rao	15.11.18

### Retirements

Following 21 employees of the Institute retired from the Council's service on superannuation during the period.

S.No.	Name	Date
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1.	V.V. Lakshmi Kumari	31.07.18
2.	Byre Gowda	31.07.18
3.	Sanna Swamy	31.07.18
4.	K. Venkateswarulu	31.07.18
5.	P. Venkata Ramana	31.07.18
6.	D.S.R. Sastry	31.08.18
7.	Pitta Kumar	31.08.19
8.	R. Satyanarayana	31.08.18
9.	A.S. Vijaya Kumar	31.08.18
10.	Y. Nirmala Kumari	30.09.18
11.	G. Adinarayana	30.09.18
12.	B. Rama Rao	30.09.18
13.	Ch. Subba Rao	30.09.18
14.	Chandra	30.09.18
15.	K. Ganesh Babu	31.10.18
16.	M. Anjaneyulu	31.10.18
17.	D. Vara Prasad	30.11.18
18.	K. Krishna Murthy	30.11.18
19.	G.V.S. Rambabu	30.11.18
20.	V. Mariyamma	30.11.18
21.	P.S.A. Ratnaveni	01.08.18

(Voluntary)

### Obituary

Dr. K. Siva Raju, Pr. Scientist, CTRI, Rajahmundry passed away on 21.08.2018 and Sri Pathella Srinivasa Rao, SSS, CTRI RS, Guntur passed away on 11.11.2018.