

IARI Organised Capacity Building Program for Women on Value Addition in Millets

A five-day Capacity Building Program on "Value Addition in Millets for Entrepreneurship Development for Women" was successfully organised under SCSP program by ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-IARI), New Delhi, from 27–31 July 2026 at KVK, Shikohpur, Gurgaon.

The five-day programme comprised expert lectures, interactive discussions, practical demonstrations and an exposure visit to a millet processing enterprise. Thirty women participants received hands-on training in the preparation of a wide range of value-added millet products including bajra laddoo, ragi biscuits, jowar nankhatai, bajra mathri, jowar sev, foxtail millet idli and dosa, and ragi cakes and muffins. In addition to product preparation, participants were trained in primary processing of millets, packaging, labelling and branding, FSSAI registration, HACCP-based food safety management, Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), quality assurance, costing and profitability analysis, digital marketing through Social Media and websites, and entrepreneurship development.

An exposure visit to a commercial millet processing and bakery unit, Kshitiz Millets Pvt. Ltd, Gurugram, provided participants with practical insights into commercial production, packaging, branding and marketing of millet-based products, thereby strengthening their confidence to initiate their own enterprises.



The valedictory session was graced by Councillor (Shikohpur), Mrs Suman Kumari, as the Chief Guest. The Guest of Honour, Dr Sandeep Lal, Nodal Officer, SCSP, ICAR-IARI, in his address, appreciated the participants' enthusiasm and encouraged them to use the knowledge and practical skills gained during the training to establish millet-based micro-enterprises and improve household nutrition and income. Dr BK Nanda, Head, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, also addressed the participants and appreciated the successful conduct of the programme.

Certificates were awarded to thirty women participants upon successful completion of the training. As an entrepreneurial input under the SCSP programme, each participant was also provided with an *idli* steamer to facilitate the practical application of the skills acquired during the training and to support the establishment of millet-based enterprises.

Dr Nirupma Singh, Principal Scientist and training coordinator, briefed about the objectives, activities and expected outcomes of the five-day Capacity Building Programme. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr Kavita Bisht, Subject Matter Specialist, KVK, Shikohpur and training co-coordinator.

