



**Awareness- cum- Training programme on PPVFR Act, 2001 organized by ICAR-Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Thiruvananthapuram at ICAR-KVK, Namakkal, Tamil Nadu on 26 October 2023**



Awareness cum Training programme on Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001 was organized by the ICAR-Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Thiruvananthapuram at ICAR-KVK Namakkal, Tamil Nadu on 26 October 2023 for the benefit of farmers, students and other stakeholders. The programme was sponsored by PPVFR Authority, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India, New Delhi. Dr. P. Murugesan, Principal Scientist and Organizing Secretary, ICAR-CTCRI introduced the programme and welcomed the gathering. The programme was presided over by Dr. G.



Byju, Director, ICAR-CTCRI, Thiruvananthapuram who delivered presidential address. He emphasized on the importance of climate resilient varieties of tuber crops and significant achievements of varietal improvement programmes at CTCRI for addressing the food and nutritional security in the country. Dr. Shaik N. Meera, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Hyderabad inaugurated the event and delivered inaugural address. The Chief Guest stressed upon the importance of farmers varieties of tuber crops and benefits of the PPVFR Act, 2001 for the farmers

and researchers. He encouraged participation of farmers in biodiversity related meetings and urged the farmers to set the target for registration and conserving traditional varieties by the farmers and other stakeholders. Shri. D.S. Rajganesh, Legal Advisor, PPVFR Authority, New Delhi, Dr. M. Selvaraju, Dean, VC&RI, TANUVAS, Namakkal and Dr. P.P. Murugan, Director of Extension Education, TNAU, Coimbatore graced the inaugural



function as Guests of Honour. The technical publications on tuber crops -PPVFRA and registration of farmers' varieties in Tamil and English languages were released and distributed to the participants during the event. Dr. K. Velmurugan, Professor and Head, ICAR-KVK Namakkal proposed vote of thanks.

In the technical session, Shri. Rajganesh, Legal Advisor, PPVFR Authority highlighted the need of PPVFR Act, 2001 and various provisions of the Act. Dr. P. Murugesan, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CTCRI delivered a talk on the released varieties of tuber crops, facilitation of registration of traditional varieties under the PPVFR Act, 2001 and DUS guidelines in tuber crops. Dr. D. Jaganathan, Senior Scientist, ICAR-CTCRI, Thiruvananthapuram highlighted the importance of ITKs and farmers' innovations in sustainable development of tuber crops sector.



Dr. K. Ambasankar, Head, ICAR-CIBA, Chennai spoke on tuber crops for animal and fish feed nutrition and their commercialization prospects. Tuber crops diversity exhibition was organized and best exhibitors' awards were conferred to participants in three categories viz., improved varieties, traditional varieties and best private firm/farmers' producers society. A total of 150 participants consisting of farmers, NGO representatives, Subject Matter Specialists,

project-coordinators of KVKs, students and other stakeholders participated in the programme.

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