

International women's day celebrations at ICAR-Indian Institute of Oilseeds Research, Hyderabad-500030, March 8th, 2023-A report

This year, the theme of International Women's Day is " DigitALL': Innovation and technology for gender equality" while the motto is **#EmbraceEquity**, which is part of an ongoing effort to raise awareness around "Why equal opportunities are no longer enough."

At IIOR, Womens Day celebrations were conducted by arranging a lecture on nutrition empowerment of women and identifying best women farmers for their significant contributions in Agriculture and felicitating them on the eve of International Womens Day. Dr. Lavanya, Chairman, Womens Cell while welcoming the chief guest, Professor Vijaya khader, Former Dean, Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad and Dr. R.K. Mathur Director, ICAR-IIOR gave a brief back ground of the International Women's Day and stressed that we all should not only believe but convince our family and society that girl children are no lesser than boys and never let the girls ill-treated. Dr. R.K. Mathur, Director, ICAR-IIOR, in his introductory remarks while extending his greetings on the eve of International Womens Day, remarked that while women in several countries are still fighting for their freedom and rights, in our country, women have come a long way and leading in several sectors. At ICAR-IIOR, women who are about 40% of the work force contributed to a significant and commendable output. He reiterated that we all should work with mutual respect and contribute to the overall improvement of oilseeds production in the country.

The chief guest, Professor (Mrs.) Vijaya Khader in her talk on Economic enhancement of women through the application of science for nutrition, health and livelihood security, highlighted several nutrition problems and the efforts of government in initiating several schemes like Eat Right India Movement, Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, Food Fortification, Mission Indra Dhanush while National Food Security Act, 2013 enabled to legally entitle up to 75% of the rural population and 50% of the urban population to receive subsidized food grains under the Targeted Public Distribution System. POSHAN Abhiyaan is Government of India's flagship program to improve nutritional status of children, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers. Another successful scheme, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme Launched on 2nd October, 1975 offers services related to supplementary nutrition, pre-school non-formal education, nutrition & health education, immunization, health check-up and referral services to children in the age group of 0-6 years, pregnant women and lactating mothers. She also gave several tips on nutrition, usage of iron tablets, edible oils and red palm oil, diet plans for different age groups and income generating schemes in mushroom, fishery and dairy cultivation.

In continuation of this, five best women farmers from Gurudhotla village, Tharoor mandal, Vikarabad district and one women entrepreneurs were felicitated for their significant contributions in popularizing improved oilseeds and technologies in their district. The program coordinated by Dr. Sankari Meena, Member Secretary, Womens Cell and Dr. Aziz Qureshi, Member Womens Cell while nearly 120 participants attended the programme.

Prof Vijaya Khader giving a lecture on International Women's Day, March 8, 2023



Smt. Anita, Proprietor, Sahaja Edible Oils, felicitated as Best Entrepreneur on International Women's Day at ICAR, IIOR, Hyderabad-2023





Best Women Farmers from Gurudotla village, Tharoor Mandal, Vikarabad district felicitated on International Women's Day, March, 8th, 2023 at ICAR-IIOR, Hyderabad