

ICAR–NBAIR, Bengaluru Observes Kisan Diwas; Organises Live Address by Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

ICAR–National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources (ICAR–NBAIR), Bengaluru, organized a live address by the Honourable Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, and celebrated *Kisan Diwas* on December 23, 2025, at its Yelahanka campus. The programme was held in the gracious presence of Dr. K. Sudhakar, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha (Chikkaballapur Constituency).

Dr. S. N. Sushil, Director, ICAR–NBAIR, briefed the dignitaries and participating farmers on the Institute's programmes and initiatives aimed at promoting eco-friendly and sustainable pest management practices to support farmers' livelihoods.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Guest, Dr. K. Sudhakar, highlighted the *Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G)* and emphasized the importance of key farmer welfare initiatives of the Union Government aimed at improving rural livelihoods and enhancing farmers' income. He underscored the need for soil testing, micro-irrigation, mixed cropping, and assured 125 days of guaranteed employment per year for the prosperity of farmers. He commended ICAR–NBAIR for its efforts in promoting natural farming, biological control, and eco-friendly technologies for producing safe food, fodder, and fibre, and encouraged the Institute to further expand its outreach.

More than 200 farmers from Srinivaspura taluk, Chikkaballapura and Bangalore rural districts participated in the programme and virtual live address by the Honourable Union Minister. As part of the programme, biocontrol inputs were distributed to nearly 150 farmers under the Development Action Plan for Scheduled Castes (DAPSC).

The farmers were also taken on a guided visit to exhibition stalls showcasing ICAR–NBAIR's biocontrol-compatible pest management technologies. Additionally, awareness was created on the application of biological control products using drone-based delivery systems, with live demonstrations conducted for the benefit of the participating farmers.







