

ICAR-NBAIR Celebrates World Environment Day 2026

ICAR-National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources (ICAR-NBAIR), Bengaluru, celebrated **World Environment Day 2026** on 5th June 2026 with great enthusiasm. The programme was organized under the global theme “**Inspired by Nature. For Climate. For Our Future**”, highlighting the critical role of nature-based solutions in addressing climate change and ensuring environmental sustainability.

Welcoming the gathering, **Dr. T. Venkatesan, Director, ICAR-NBAIR**, emphasized the importance of adopting environmentally sustainable agricultural practices to address the emerging challenges posed by climate change, biodiversity loss, and excessive dependence on agrochemicals. He highlighted the need to expand the area under biological control and eco-friendly crop protection practices across the country, particularly in view of concerns related to fertilizer and agrochemical overuse. He also stressed the importance of establishing successful model biocontrol units demonstration in every ICAR institute and implementing the “Farm of the Future” approach advocated by ICAR for effective technology dissemination and impact creation.

The Chief Guest, **Dr. M. Prabhakar, Director, ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI), Bengaluru**, delivered an insightful address on global environmental challenges and the role of agriculture in climate change mitigation. He noted that the global average temperature has increased significantly since the pre-industrial period and warned that continued greenhouse gas emissions could further accelerate climate-related risks in the coming decades. He highlighted the increasing frequency of extreme weather events and stressed the need for concerted efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture, including emissions associated with paddy cultivation, livestock production, and indiscriminate fertilizer use.

Dr. Prabhakar emphasized that ICAR has a major responsibility in developing and promoting climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable agricultural technologies. He called for greater awareness among farmers and stakeholders regarding efficient nutrient management, conservation agriculture, integrated pest management, biological control, and sustainable natural resource management. He also encouraged institutions to actively support and popularize Government of India initiatives aimed at environmental conservation and climate resilience.

The programme highlighted several national initiatives that contribute to environmental sustainability, including the promotion of **Natural Farming, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Soil Health Card Scheme and Khet Bachao Abhiyan**. These initiatives aim to reduce excessive fertilizer consumption, improve soil health, enhance nutrient-use efficiency, conserve biodiversity, and lower the environmental footprint of agriculture.

ICAR-NBAIR continues to play a pivotal role in conserving insect biodiversity and promoting biological control technologies that reduce dependence on chemical pesticides. The institute's research on natural enemies, insect biodiversity, and sustainable crop protection contributes significantly to climate-smart and environmentally responsible agriculture.











