

Study Tour cum exposure visits of ICAR CPCRI, FFP Farmers to ICAR Institutes

A study tour cum exposure visit of 39 selected Animal husbandary and vegetable farmers from Pathiyoor panchayat (FFP area) and four officials was undertaken during December 11-14, 2017 to various ICAR institutes located at Bengaluru. The tour programme was flagged off by Head, ICAR-CPCRI, Regional Station, Kayamkulam on 11-12-2017 at 4.30 *pm* wherein he emphasized on the educational inquisitiveness of such programme. The itinerary and objectives of the program was explained and all doubts clarified. A pre evaluation study was conducted using a questionnaire.



The tour commenced with the first visit to ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR), Hesaraghatta, Bengaluru on 12-12-2017. Dr. K Gopalakrishnan Pillai, Principal Scientist (Entomology) oriented about the Institute activities with greater thrust on technologies developed by ICAR-IIHR. This followed a field visit to fruit orchards, vegetables and ornamental farm and poly houses wherein top class varieties are showcased much to the appreciation of all participants. In addition, FFP farmers were enlightened on the 60 high yielding open pollinated varieties and 15 F1 hybrids in 24 vegetable crops resistant to pests and diseases developed for commercial cultivation. During the feedback session, queries raised by the farmers were technically discussed and suitable remedies were suggested. The team further proceeded to a private Ekalavya nursery studded with outstanding commercial production of vegetables, fruit and ornamental seeds in large scale.

The next day (13-12-2017) the team visited National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology (NIANP), Adugodi, Bengaluru at 8.30 *am*. Dr. G Letha Devi (Senior Scientist) welcomed the team and arranged for a video presentation regarding the background and research accomplishments of the Institute with the evolution of farmer friendly technologies catering Dairy sector. Dr. NKS Gowda (Principal Scientist) highlighted on the key technologies developed by the institute. Many NIANP technologies were the primary discussion points in feedback session especially the nutritional aspects of cattle and fowls. Later, Dr K Giridhar (Principal Scientist) and Dr. Letha took the team to the experimental farm and familiarized the hands on techniques. The final interactive session with Dr. AV Elangovan (Principal Scientist)

