

IARI Celebrates Teachers' Day

5-9-2025

The Graduate School and the Genetics Club of ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) organized Teachers' Day celebration on September 4, 2025 on the eve of the Teachers' Day. The programme was chaired by Dr. Ramesh Chand, Hon'ble Member, NITI Aayog, who warmly introduced the keynote speaker, Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Chairman, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board (ASRB). The event was graced by Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, IARI; Dr. C. Vishwanath, Joint Director (Research); Dr. Anupama Singh, Dean & Jt. Director (Education); and Dr. R.N. Padaria, Joint Director (Extension); besides the faculty, research scholars, students, staff and alumni of the institute. After paying the tribute to Dr S. Radhakrishnan, the Director IARI

Presiding over the programme, Dr. Ramesh Chand, Member, NITI Aayog, appreciated the teachers of IARI and highlighted that the institute's academic traditions and values have given a new direction to agricultural education and research in the country. Recalling his student days, he underlined the importance of the teacher–student relationship, noting that it laid the foundation of knowledge and innovation. Dr. Chand also highly appreciated the keynote address delivered by Dr. Sanjay Kumar, observing that he presented his lecture in an engaging storytelling style, effectively connecting science with society. Such science–society interfaces, he noted, are essential for making agricultural research more people-centric and outcome-oriented.

Delivering the Teachers' Day lecture, Dr. Sanjay Kumar remarked that “once a teacher, always a teacher,” emphasizing that the role of a teacher transcends age and position. He described IARI as ‘Bharat in action: epitome of agricultural wisdom’, acknowledging its pivotal role in shaping the nation's agricultural development. Paying rich tributes to Prof. M.S. Swaminathan, Dr. Kumar reiterated his philosophy that India's food security rests on self-reliance and dependence on home-grown stuffs. He further reflected on the purpose of higher education, stressing that “a college is for learning how to think,” citing the example of the great mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan.

Dr. Kumar motivated young researchers by stating that many great discoveries arise when one attempts what seems impossible. He also highlighted agricultural innovations such as the first transplanting of asafoetida in India, the rising importance of asafoetida, the tulip garden initiative in Jammu & Kashmir as a model of self-reliant farmers, and dry toilets for cold deserts as an example of science serving society. Encouraging students and scientists to document their findings timely, he urged them to stay connected with communities, serve their needs, and remember that “patience pays and tangible success always takes time.”

Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao welcomed the Chairman, Speaker and the dignitaries present and congratulated the IARI staff and students for achieving the first rank in NIRF-2025 in the Agriculture and Allied Universities and 2nd rank in India in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) institutes category.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks, leaving participants inspired by the timeless values of teachers and the call to pursue science with social commitment and resilience.



Source: ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi