Press Release

ICAR-IARI Organized 3rd Hands-On Training Programme on Instrumentation Techniques for Analysis of Soil, Plant and Water from 17-26 November, 2026

New Delhi, 27.11.2026 The Division of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, ICAR–Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi, organized the **3rd Hands-On Training Programme on "Instrumentation Techniques for Analysis of Soil, Plant and Water"** from 17–26 November 2026, with the objective of enhancing technical knowledge and practical skills in the operation and application of sophisticated analytical instruments used in soil, plant and water analysis. The training was conducted by the team of Dr Mandira Barma, as Course Director, Dr VK Sharma, Dr Indu Chopra and Dr Debarup Das as Course Coordinators. The training was attended by 13 participants from different universities of the country.

The inaugural function was held on **17 November 2026**, with **Dr. P. S. Brahamand, Project Director, Water Technology Centre, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi** gracing the occasion as the Chief Guest. In his inaugural address, he emphasized on the importance of advanced analytical techniques, precision in laboratory measurements and hands-on exposure to modern instrumentation for strengthening research and analytical capabilities in agricultural sciences. He encouraged the participants to make effective use of the training to enhance their technical competencies.

The ten-day programme comprised a series of expert lectures, demonstrations and hands-on practical exercises covering various analytical techniques and instruments. The major topics included soil sample digestion using hot plate and microwave digester, measurement of soil physical properties, pH and electrical conductivity, nitrogen digestion and distillation, spectrophotometry, High-Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC), Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy (AAS), CHNS analyser, Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS), flame photometry, chromatography, X-ray diffractometry, Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM), infrared spectroscopy and Gas Chromatography (GC).

The programme also included an educational visit to the Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology (IPFT), Gurugram, on 25 November 2026, providing participants with exposure to advanced analytical facilities. Special emphasis was given to the working principle and hands-on operation of the **Pusa STFR Meter** for soil testing and fertilizer recommendations.

The valedictory function was held on **26 November 2026**, with **Dr. R. N. Padaria**, **Joint Director (Extension), ICAR-IARI, New Delhi** as the Chief Guest. In his valedictory address, he highlighted the significance of capacity building and practical training in developing skilled human resources for agricultural research and laboratory analysis. He appreciated the efforts of the organizing team and encouraged the participants to apply the knowledge and skills acquired during the programme in their respective research and professional activities.

The training served as an important platform for knowledge sharing, skill development and strengthening expertise in modern analytical instrumentation for soil, plant and water analysis.






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