

Report on Celebration of World Intellectual Property Day at Division of Agricultural Extension, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute

The Division of Agricultural Extension, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, organized a special lecture to commemorate World Intellectual Property Day on 30 April 2026 in the Smart Classroom of the Division. World Intellectual Property Day is observed every year on 26 April to underline the role of intellectual property (IP) rights in fostering innovation, creativity, and economic development. The keynote lecture was delivered by **Dr. Vikram Singh, Senior Scientist, IP & TM Unit, ICAR**, on the topic “*IPR Issues.*” The session was attended by faculty members, students, researchers, and technical staff of the Division. Dr. Singh elaborated on:

- Fundamentals of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)
- Types of IP protection: patents, trademarks, copyrights, geographical indications, and plant variety protection
- Institutional mechanisms within ICAR for IP management and technology commercialization
- Strategic importance of IP in agri-innovation and agri-business development

He emphasized that in the agricultural research ecosystem, protection of innovations such as improved crop varieties, farm machinery prototypes, bio-formulations, and digital advisory tools is critical for ensuring technology transfer, licensing, and revenue generation. The discussion also highlighted how effective IP management strengthens public research institutions by facilitating partnerships, start-up incubation, and agri-entrepreneurship.

In the context of agricultural research and extension:

- IP protection ensures recognition and legal safeguarding of scientific innovations.
- It promotes commercialization of technologies developed under public-funded research.
- It enhances farmers’ access to quality technologies through formal licensing mechanisms.
- It supports agri-startups and agribusiness ventures by protecting branding and product identity.

The session was interactive, with participants raising queries related to patent filing procedures, institutional IP policies, and protection of extension-based innovations. The deliberations reinforced the need for capacity building in IP literacy among researchers and extension professionals.

The celebration of World Intellectual Property Day at ICAR-IARI served as a meaningful platform to reinforce the importance of intellectual property in advancing agricultural research, innovation ecosystems, and agri-business initiatives. The programme aligned with ICAR’s mandate of promoting innovation-driven agricultural development and strengthening institutional mechanisms for technology protection and dissemination.

The event concluded with a note of appreciation to the speaker and active participants for contributing to a productive and insightful session.

