

Training and Education Center, ICAR - IVRI, Pune successfully organized Webcast Program of PM KISAN 20th Installment release by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 2nd August 2025

The Training and Education Centre (TEC), ICAR-IVRI, Pune, successfully organized a webcast programme on the occasion of the 20th instalment release of the PM-KISAN Samman Nidhi by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 20th August 2025. This programme was conducted as part of the nationwide initiative to facilitate direct interaction with farmers, sensitize them to recent agricultural schemes, and strengthen linkages between government institutions and farming communities.



(The banner of the programme)

The event commenced at 10:00 AM with a focused interaction session wherein the stakeholders and experts from various agricultural and allied sectors engaged directly with the farmers to understand their needs and priorities. Dr. Kiran Bhilegaonkar, Station In-charge of TEC, ICAR-IVRI, Pune, welcomed the participants and provided an overview of the Centre's mandate and multifaceted activities aimed at capacity building, technology dissemination, and livestock-based livelihood enhancement. He emphasized the critical role of such interactive platforms in aligning research and extension activities with farmers' expectations and field realities.



(Dr. Kiran Bhilegaonkar, delivering his inaugural address)

Following this, Dr. Mahesh Kadam, Associate Professor from VAMNICOM, addressed the gathering and shared valuable insights into the wide range of Central and State Government Schemes available for farmers. He encouraged farmers to actively seek benefits from these initiatives and assured them of institutional support for access and implementation. Dr. Dhananjay S. Gaikwad, Assistant Professor, spoke extensively about the Integrated Farming System (IFS) model and discussed practical schemes that integrate livestock into the broader agricultural framework, thereby enhancing farm income and sustainability. A **key highlight** of the event was the dynamic interaction between participants and the expert faculty from VAMNICOM, Pune, focusing on the establishment of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and Multipurpose Primary Agricultural Credit Society (MPACs). This session sparked significant interest among farmers eager to adopt group farming and collective marketing strategies tailored specifically to the livestock sector. The discussion also brought to light an emerging demand for formal recognition of urban farmers, who, according to participants, have the potential to revolutionize milk and vegetable supply chains in metropolitan areas.



(Dr. Mahesh Kadam while interacting with participants)

In the subsequent session, Dr. Abhyankar, ACAH, Department of Animal Husbandry, Government of Maharashtra, delivered a technical talk on advancements in livestock breeding, with particular emphasis on embryo transfer technology and its potential in conserving indigenous cattle breeds.



(Dr. Abhyankar while interacting with participants)

Dr. Abhyankar stressed the importance of adopting modern breeding techniques and government-backed reproductive technologies to boost rural livestock productivity, especially in the context of conserving native desi cows.

The programme also witnessed active participation from Shri Avdhoot Kadam of the CARE Foundation (MANAGE supported firm), who joined along with a team of contact farmers. He facilitated a meaningful dialogue between policy advisors and grassroots practitioners and helped address several field-level queries related to scheme implementation, benefit delivery, and convergence of development programmes.



(Live webcast of speech of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India)

At 11:00 AM, all participants attended the live webcast of the address by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. During the address, the Prime Minister released the 20th installment of the PM-KISAN Samman Nidhi scheme and interacted virtually with selected progressive farmers across the country. He reiterated the government's commitment to doubling farmers' income through the convergence of schemes, promotion of agri-tech innovations, climate-smart farming practices, and strengthening rural infrastructure. Farmers were also sensitized to the benefits of digital platforms, agricultural startups, farmer-producer organizations (FPOs), and public-private partnerships in the agriculture sector.

Thereafter, Dr. Amol Bhalerao, Scientist at TEC, ICAR-IVRI, Pune, presented a comprehensive overview of the success stories emerging from Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) projects implemented by the Center in various districts. He highlighted the transformative impact of need-based training, follow-up extension activities, and adoption of scientific livestock management practices. Dr. Bhalerao urged the farmers to regularly connect with the Centre for availing capacity-building training and to be a part of ongoing knowledge dissemination activities focused on scientific livestock rearing, entrepreneurship, and value addition.



(Hon'ble Prime Minister of India released 20th installment)

A total of 51 farmers and officers (Male = 5 and Female = 46; VIP=Nil) attended the programme physically and participated with enthusiasm in the interactive and webcast sessions. After the live webcast of speech of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, a question-answer session was also conducted to address the queries of the farmers and to guide them to avail various Central and State Government Schemes. The programme was compared by Dr Amol Bhalerao (Scientist) TEC IVRI Pune and a formal vote of thanks was proposed by Dr Sangharatna V. Bahire (Scientist) TEC IVRI Pune. All the scientists of TEC including Dr KN Bhilegaonkar, Dr HP Aithal, Dr SK Das, Dr Amol Bhalerao, Dr Sangharatna V Bahire and Ms Manisha Naikwade, Technician were present on this occasion.