

Biennial Workshop of AICRP on Management of Saline Water & Associated Salinization in Agriculture

The 29th Biennial Workshop of AICRP on “Management of Saline Water and Associated Salinization in Agriculture” was organized at ICAR-CCARI, Goa, during October 27–28, 2025. Dr. A.K. Nayak, DDG (NRM), ICAR, New Delhi, was the Chief Guest for the inaugural function and stated that technologies developed by this institute and AICRP for the management of saline water and associated salinization risk are promising. He emphasized the importance of transforming research output into technology to enhance farmers' income along with crop productivity. Dr. Satyendra Kumar, In-charge Project Coordinating Unit, informed that 11 AICRP centres work in various agro-climatic regions of the country to develop databases on salt-affected soils and poor-quality groundwater, reclamation and management of alkali and saline soils/waters, alternative land uses, integrated farming system models for such soils, and screening crop varieties for salinity tolerance. He summarized the research output of various centres last two years under different themes. The Chief Scientists/Nodal Officers of AICRP centres presented progress of ongoing research work and discussed future research programmes during the workshop.

Dr. Lalita Mohan Garnayak, Director of Reaserach, CAU, Imphal; Dr. R.K. Yadav, Director, ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal; Dr. Parveen Kumar, Director, ICAR-CCSRI, Goa; and Dr. S.K. Gupta, Former Project Coordinator, participated in the workshop, shared their experiences and provided valuable inputs. In the concluding session on October 28, Dr. A.K. Nayak, DDG (NRM) and Chief Guest, appreciated the good work accomplished by the AICRP centres and advised continued efforts to full-fill farmers’ expectations, highlighting that the benefit-cost ratio of managing salt-affected soils is relatively higher than for other degraded soils. Alongside scientists from the AICRP centres, Head of divisions and regional centres and scientists from ICAR-CSSRI, and ICAR-CCARI, Goa were also attended the workshop. The workshop concluded with proposing vote of thanks by Dr. B.L. Meena.

