About KVK

The first Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Port Blair of A&N Group of Islands under Zone-II, Kolkata was established in 1993 vide letter No. 15(22)/92-Agri Extn.1, Dated January, 1993 under the administrative control of Central Agricultural Research Institute (CARI), Port Blair.

KVK Car Nicobar was sanctioned in the year 2010 vide letter no. 6 (1) / 2009-AE–I dt. 20.05.201 KVK North and Middle Andaman was sanctioned in the year 2012 vide letter No. 6-2/2009-A.E.-I, Dated 07.02.2012. It is one of the innovative institutions with the mandate of imparting vocational training to the practicing farmers, farm women, rural youths and extension functionaries in improved technologies in the field of Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal husbandry, Fisheries, Agricultural Engineering and Home Science. It has additional responsibilities of testing and refining the developed technologies in the form of On Farm Trials (OFT) and also to conduct Front Line
Demonstrations (FLD) of new technologies in the farmers’ field. The KVK of Central Agricultural Research Institute Port Blair is situated adjacent to Andaman Trunk Road (ATR) at Sippighat, which is about 7 Kms away from the host institute (Central Agricultural Research Institute) and 16 Kms from the Port Blair city.

MANDATE

- Conducting ‘on farm testing’ for identifying technologies in terms of location specific sustainable land use system.
- Organize trainings to update the extension personnel with emerging advance in agriculture research on regular basis.
- Organize short and long term vocational training courses in agriculture and allied vocations for the farmers and rural youths with emphasis on ‘learning by doing’and ‘teaching by doing’ for higher production on farmers and generating self employment.
- Organize front line demonstration (FLD) on various crops to generate production data and feed-back information.

FACULTIES

Each KVK has six disciplines. Each discipline has one Subject Matter Specialist (SMS), who are conducting On Farm Trials, Front Line Demonstrations and Trainings according to their mandates and need by the farmers.

**KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRAS (Three KVKs)**

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<tr>
<th>PORT BLAIR</th>
<th>NICOBAR</th>
<th>NIMBUDEERA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agronomy/ Agrl. Extension</td>
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THRUST AREA

KVK South Andaman

- Promotion of Integrated Farming System.
- Post Tsunami Brackish and Fresh water aquaculture development.
- Water resource development through rainwater management.
- Breed improvement in livestock and poultry.
- Backyard poultry production using diseases resistance Nicobari fowl.
- Promotion of large white Yorkshire pig for the rural youth as a income generating enterprises.
- Propagation of fodder cultivation those enabling multi-cuts (Hybrid Napier).
- Empowerment of women for self employment through Self Help Groups.
- Value addition in surplus agricultural produce.
- Promotion of improved varieties of paddy, maize, oilseeds, pulses and floriculture.
- Promotion of multitier cropping system, intercropping of spices (Clove, Nut Meg, Cinnamon and Black pepper) under plantation.
- Popularization of non-traditional drought resistant vegetable.
- Popularization of plant propagation on fruits and perennial spices.
- Popularization of fruit crops (Pineapple, papaya, banana and sapota).
- Tailoring and embroidery for rural women.
- Crop diversification through Broad Bed Furrow (BBF).
- Protected cultivation of high value crops.

KVK Car Nicobar

- Diversification of traditional rice-based cropping systems with appropriate commercialization
- Front line demonstration (FLD) and On Farm Trails (OFT) in agriculture and allied fields
- Development of fruits and vegetable based farming
- Improvement of soil conservation and management of problematic soil for higher agricultural production.
- Improvement of indigenous and genetically poor breeds of livestock and their better management.
- Development of feeds and foders for meeting the nutritional needs of animals of the region.
- Development of fresh water and brackish water aquaculture practices in the district.
- Development of integrated farming system.
- Improvement in linkage among different agencies engaged in research, extension, education, credit system etc. for betterment of farming community.
- Emphasis on value addition, processed products, nutrition and market orientation.

**KVK North and Middle Andaman**
- Promotion of Integrated Farming System.
- Post Tsunami Brackish and Fresh water aquaculture development.
- Water resource development through rainwater management.
- Breed improvement in livestock and poultry.
- Promotion of large white Yorkshire pig for the rural youth as a income generating enterprises.
- Propagation of fodder cultivation those enabling multi-cuts (Hybrid Napier)
- Empowerment of women for self employment through Self Help Groups.
- Promotion of improved varieties of paddy, maize, oilseeds, pulses and floriculture.
- Promotion of multitier cropping system, intercropping of spices (Clove, Nut Meg, Cinnamon and Black pepper) under plantation.
- Popularization of traditional and non-traditional vegetable.
- Popularization of plant propagation methods on fruits.
- Tailoring and embroidery for rural women.
- Crop diversification through Broad Bed Furrow (BBF).
- Protected cultivation of high value crops
Services

Training for Target Group(s)

During period under report a total number of 800 training programmes (vocational and in-service) were conducted of which 279 were of ON campus and 521 OFF campus by the SMS of Agronomy/Extension, Fisheries, Horticulture, Animal Sciences, Home Science, Farm agro forestry, Agricultural Engineering faculties.

The target groups training were farmers (9125), rural youth (4316) and the extension functionaries (1339) utilizing a total trainee day of 63182. The training programmes were conducted OFF and ON campus in nature, ranging between three days to three months in durations. Before its execution of training programs were planned with the involvement of the Scientists of Institute and officials of the Development Departments of A&N Administration, to have an integrated and holistic approach. While imparting the training, the principles of ‘Teaching by doing’ and ‘Learning by doing’ were thoroughly followed with an objective to have a desirable change in knowledge, skill and attitude improvements.

The major training programmes undertaken by the respective faculties was on MAT nursery and SRI methods on paddy, oilseeds and pulses production technology, floriculture, nursery raising techniques, plant propagation methods, traditional and non-traditional vegetable cultivation methods, multi-tier cropping system methods, backyard poultry farming practices, goatery, piggery, duck farming, fodder cultivation, quail rearing, composite fish culture, integrated fish farming, brackish water fish farming, ornamental fish culture, crab culture, duck cum fish farming, tailoring, pickle making, value added products, mushroom cultivation, vermicompost.

On campus training conducted by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (1994-2012)

A total of 279 on campus training programmes were conducted during 1994-2012. A total of 6787 beneficiaries comprising of 3144 practicing farmers (male-1436, Female-1708), 2394 rural youth (male-977, Female-1417) and 1249 Extension Functionaries (male-799, Female- 450) benefitted from the training programme.
Off campus training conducted by Krishi Vigyan Kendra (1994-2012)

A total of 521 off campus training programmes were conducted during 1994-2012. About 13748 beneficiaries comprising of 9400 practicing farmers (male-6280, Female-3120), 3758 rural youth (male-1603, Female-2155) and 590 Extension Functionaries (male-387, Female- 203) benefitted from the training programme.
Front Line Demonstrations at Farmers Field

To build good rapport among farmers and to prove the principle of seeing and believing Front Line Demonstration plays an important role therefore, front line demonstrations using seeds of high yielding varieties and advanced package of practices were demonstrated at the farmer’s field to popularize cultivation of high yielding varieties of field crops, plantation crops, backyard poultry and scientific and productive fish culture, with the overall participation of the farmers.

The total number of demonstrations was 1134 in the field of agronomy, 563 in horticulture, 567 in animal science, 173 in fisheries and 20 in home science, totaling to 2457. The major demonstrations were in the field crops of high yielding varieties of cereals (Rice & Maize), pulses (Redgram, Black gram, Green gram), oilseeds (Groundnut and Sunflower), in vegetables (okra, cowpea, brinjal, pumpkin, Amaranthus, Cluster bean, French bean, Reddish and marigold), in plantation crops (arecanut and coconut with spices crops), in livestock (broiler and nicobari fowl under backyard, quail, duck, pig and Azolla) and in composite fish culture (catla, rohu and mrigal) Brackish water fish culture (Shrimp farming).

On Farm Trials

![Graph showing on farm trials conducted from 1994-2012](image)

A total of 52 on farm trials during 1998 to till date were conducted in agriculture and allied activities in which 13 in crop production, 22, in horticulture, 8 in animal Science 12 in
fisheries, 4 in home science. In this, 328 farmers were benefited from the improved technologies on Rice, Maize, Bhendi, Brinjal and Cowpea, water melon, Coriander, tomato, Cluster bean, French bean, pumpkin, sweet potato, Composite fish culture, oyster mushroom, quail, broiler and backyard poultry.

**FACILITIES AVAILABLE AT KVK**

The Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Port Blair is well equipped with sophisticated equipments like Flame Photometer, Spectrophotometer, Conductivity meter, Hot Plate, pH meter, Water distillation still, Oven etc for soil sample analysis. The Krishi Vigyan Kendra also has full fledged demonstration-cum-production units of mushroom production, vermicompost pits, poultry, duck, multi-utility pond based well for integrated farming system, multi-tier cropping system and diagnostic and farm advisory services on agric and allied fields. Well furnished 24 bed capacity Farmers hostel, V-SAT with internet facility through Ernet is also available at KVK, Port Blair.

**EXTENSION ACTIVITIES**

For effective dissemination and diffusion of the technologies in the field of agriculture and allied, various programmes were conducted by the KVK for the benefit of the target groups. The target groups comprised of practicing farmers, farm women, unemployed youths, NGOs and extension functionaries from the development departments of the Andaman Nicobar administration.

It could be seen that (264) field days, (44) exhibitions (both state and block level), world food day / women in agriculture (4), video show (205), radio / TV coverage (85), animal health camps, diagnostic services and scientific field visits (2746), farmers visit to KVK (2668), SHG’s meeting (236), Mahila mandals meetings (49), farmers meet (18), work shop organize (9) and kisan mela/ exhibition (31) were taken up.

**HISTORICAL LANDMARKS**

Received Best KVK Award for the Biennium 2000-2001 for outstanding contribution in the field of Agricultural
Total number of 800 training programmes was conducted in agriculture and allied activities in which 279 were of ON campus and 521 OFF campus.

- Technology transfer through On Farm trials (52) and 1134 Front Line Demonstration (1134).
- Development of integrated farming system including fresh and brackish water at farmers holding.
- High yielding varieties of paddy (CARI dhan-5), Blackgram (VBN-4), greengram (Co-6) were demonstrated at farmers field.
Demonstration of improved varieties of pig (Large White Yorkshire), poultry birds (Nicorack, Nishibari) and duck (Khaki Campbell) for economic revitalization among the rural youths and farmers.

- Women empowerment through Self Help Groups (SHGs).
- Several training on value addition was conducted.
- Technology for water management through lining of water harvesting structure.
- Farm mechanization through introduction of drudgery reducing farm implements.
- KVK, Port Blair received “Best KVK award” for the Biennium 2000-2001 for outstanding contribution in the field of Agricultural Education and Training from Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi.
- Dr. Nagesh Ram and Dr. Zamir Ahmed were received Letanent General commendation certificate from Andaman and Nicobar Administration.
- KVK Port Blair Bagged eight numbers of best poster presentation award in National and International Conference.

The well organised training programme on different farm technologies through KVK has proved very beneficial by imparting technical skill to the rural mass of these islands, as it is revealed from their adoption pattern. Among the 12 technologies on which training was imparted, Planting techniques of quality arecanut seedling was adopted by all the trainees. Higher adoption rates were observed for the management and production technologies of crops, use of chemical fertiliser, line transplanting and weed management and kitchen gardening which were adopted by 60-85% of the trainees. Twenty five percent of the farmers adopted broiler poultry farming after receiving the training from KVK. The income of the farmers was found to be doubled in most of the cases. 60-85% of the farm women who received training on fabric painting, embroidery and kitchen gardening adopted the skill imparted to them and could earn Rs. 200-300 per month.

**FUTURE THRUST**

- Human resource development
- Integrated farming system
- Women empowerment
- Value addition in surplus agricultural produces
• Hi -Tec Horticulture and Protected cultivation
• Crop diversification
• Fresh water prawn hatchery
• Improved Backyard poultry
• Climate change and mitigation

Publications:
क्रृषि यंत्रों का रख-रखाव

नवम्बर, 2010

ई. रेखा शुल्क नन्दा
दी. भर. श्री. कृष्णलाल

सह-संगठक

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Vitex trifolia – A salt tolerant drought resistant shrub and a bio-controller in paddy

KVK, Port Blair has identified a shrub, Vitex trifolia, commonly known as Samalu, a drought resistant shrub can be grown in the coastal belt as a live fencing for the safety of field crops during cyclonic weather condition in the NICRA adopted villages. Farmers have been advised to use this plant for control of rice ear cutting caterpillar and rice caseworm in paddy. When the tender plants are attacked by caterpillar and worms, the branches of the shrubs are placed in many places in the paddy fields, and with the smell, the infected paddy plants recovered within a week time without application of any chemicals. The plants have many medicinal values also. The plant can be used for curing skin diseases, muscle and joint sprain, storage of paddy and pulses with dry leaves in containers to keep the insect and pest away. The shrubs can be propagated through cuttings.