

Zonal Project Directorate Zone II – A Profile...



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GENESIS

The Zonal Project Directorate (erstwhile Zonal Coordinating Unit), Zone-II was established in the year 1979 with the specific objective to monitor and evaluate the Lab-to-Land Programme of ICAR. Alongside, it was entrusted with the responsibility to monitor and guide the activities of KVKs which were being established as District Level First Line Agricultural Institutions. Initially,

the operational jurisdiction of the Unit was spread over West Bengal, Orissa and A&N Islands. In 1991, Bihar was brought under the fold of Zone-II and Orissawas shifted to Zone VII. After its initial migratory stints at the campuses of IVRI-ERS, Kolkata; BCKV, Mohanpur and CRIJAF, Barrackpore, the Unit was shifted to NBSS&LUP, Kolkata Campus, in the year 1996. The jurisdiction of the Unit was further extended to include the newly created state of Jharkhand in the year 2000. The Unit was upgraded to Zonal Project Directorate in 2009. The Directorate moved to its new administrative building in Salt Lake, Kolkata in 2013.

Functions of ZPD

- To formulate, implement, guide, monitor and evaluate strategies of technology assessment refinement and demonstration programmes in the zone
- To initiate, plan, coordinate and execute the extension research to support and improve technology dissemination system
- To link KVK efforts to strengthen approaches viz. consortium, convergence, PPP, farmer led extension and market led extension in the zone
- To dovetail technology application programmes by coordinating and fostering linkages with technology generation and delivery system and other stakeholders of agriculture development in the zone
- To coordinate with State/Central Government Agencies, Credit institutions and any other organization for successful implementation of KVK programmes.
- To maintain liaison with ICAR and other relevant Institutes present over the zone and elsewhere as well as all Subject Matter Divisions at headquarters for the betterment of the overall functional proficiency of KVK system in the zone.
- To create agro-climatic zone-wise database and impact analysis

Mandate of KVK

The mandate of the KVK includes technology assessment, refinement and demonstration of technology product.

Activities of KVK

- On-farm testing to identify the location specificity of agricultural technologies under various farming systems.
- Organizing Frontline Demonstrations to establish production potential of technologies on the farmers' fields.
- Training of farmers to update their knowledge and skills in modern agricultural technologies.
- Training of rural youth for their capacity building to develop entrepreneurship
- Training of extension personnel to orient them in the frontier areas of technology development.

- To work as resource and knowledge centre of agricultural technology for supporting initiatives of public, private and voluntary sector for improving the agricultural economy of the district.



KVKs in the Zone

Zonal Project Directorate monitors the activities of 82 KVKs as on date spread over in the states of Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Union Territory of A&N Islands.

State	No. of district	Details of KVK						Total
		SAU	NGO	ICAR	State Govt.	Deemed Univ	Central Univ	
Bihar	38	31	05	01	01	-	-	38
Jharkhand	24	16	05	02	-	-	-	23
West Bengal	18	11	03	01	01	01	01	18
A&N Islands	03	-	-	03	-	-	-	03
TOTAL	83	58	13	07	02	01	01	82

KVKs yet to be established (4)

Establishment of two (2) KVKs in the following two places is currently in progress:-

- Jharkhand:Ramgarh
- West Bengal:East Midnapore

Besides, additional two (2) KVKs in Burdwan and Murshidabad districts of West Bengal are to be established owing to provision of two KVKs for larger districts.

RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS IN BRIEF

Technologies showcased

Among the recent important activities, the Directorate was able to showcase some technologies having impact on farmers of this Zone.

- **Land shaping technology:** KVK S 24 Pgs could demonstrate this technology in an extensively large scale for better resource utilization by the farmers.

- **Borabandi (check dam):** KVK Gumla had been able to evolve this low-cost water harvesting structure for round the year water availability through public participation.
- **Broad Bed Furrow System** to provide irrigation in vegetables and rice as well as fish rearing in the furrows, fodder crops on the beds along with drainage facility in A & N which covered around 1000 ha area.
- **System of Rice Intensification:** Most of KVKs are promoting SRI for higher productivity and better resource conservation.



- **Low-cost storage structure:** KVK Hooghly gave an innovative low-cost structure for storing onions which enabled farmers to prevent wastage to the extent of 27%.
- **Hybrid rice technology:** In order to increase productivity most of the KVKs of Jharkhand are promoting the pre evaluated hybrid rice varieties like Indam 200-017, KRH-2, PHB 71 etc.
- **Crop diversification:** Development of banana orchard and jute in existing rice-potato and rice-mustard cropping sequences, respectively



- **Management of stress tolerant varieties:** KVKs are developing package of practices for the stress tolerant varieties like *Sahbhagi*, *Swarna Sub 1*, *CSR 3* and *CARI Dhan 5* etc.
- **Production technology for sunflower in saline soil:** KVK S 24 Pgs. Is introducing sunflower cultivation saline belt of WB by evolving location specific package of agronomic practices.
- **Resource conservation** in rice and wheat through Zero tillage technology which was implemented in more than 100,000 ha area under wheat, lentil and chickpea as Resource Conservation means.
- **Development of progeny farms** of sheep and goats of *Black Bengal*, *Sahabadi* and *Bonpala* breeds by the farmers of WB and Bihar is being facilitated by most of the KVKs.



- **Integrated farming system** modules are being developed and promoted for various agro-ecological situations
- **Promotion of sustainable livelihood** for small and marginal farmers with a focus on women empowerment
- **Brown manuring** in direct seeded rice is being advocated to the farmers particularly of Jharkhand and Bihar
- **Development of organic farming** is being facilitated by Burdwan KVK in different villages of the district



- **Promotion of quality Protein Maize cultivation** in Bihar and Jharkhand
- **Large scale adoption of T x D breed** of pig in the tribal districts of the zone
- **Promotion of fishery cum piggery** particularly in tribal areas of West Bengal
- **Extensive promotion of Vanaraja and Grampriya** breeds of poultry under backyard farming



- **Entrepreneurship development** through ornamental bird and fish farming
- **Home-made low-cost livestock feed** for large scale demonstration
- **Promotion of coloured capsicum** cultivation under protected condition
- **Low cost livestock shed** for better performance in poultry, dairy animals and goat etc.



- **Staggered community nursery** for paddy and vegetables as an approach to contingent availability of seedlings during drought or flood.
- **Promotion of farm mechanization** to meet out labour scarcity and to avoid environmental pollution from burning of crop residues particularly in Bihar



Technologies assessed, refined and demonstrated during

- A total 7532 trainings on various fields of agriculture and allied sectors organized by KVKs of this zone for 220583 participants, comprising of 52229 (i.e., 23.7%) farm women and 68381 (i.e., 31%) SC/ ST farmers
- KVKs conducted 649 on-farm trials on integrated crop management (19%), varietal evaluation (10%), integrated nutrient management (13%), integrated pest management (11.4%), resource conservation technology (7%) and integrated disease management (7%)
- Front-line demonstrations (23196) carried out by the KVKs included paddy (30.6%), oilseeds (15.7%), pulse (17.4%) and wheat (7.5%)
- Produced 11827.5 tonnes of seed of various crops
- A total of 31.8 lakh planting materials produced
- KVKs produced 10.35 lakh livestock and fingerlings etc.
- Entrepreneurs (5874) developed by KVKs through vocational training to rural youth

Monitoring and evaluation

- Zonal Workshop for KVKs
- Mid Term Review Workshops held for KVKs
- Zonal Review Workshop of NICRA
- Zonal Monitoring Committee for reviewing NICRA activities
- Site Selection Committee for establishing new KVK
- Scientific Advisory Committee meetings in almost all KVKs of the zone

Special Programmes

- **Maize Demonstration:** Maize demonstration was carried out by KVKs in an area of more than 500 ha in this zone involving 12 KVKs
- **Harnessing Pulse Productivity:** Around 800 demonstration on pulse covering around 100 ha area.
- **Cotton Demonstration:** Conducted cotton demonstration in around 1500 ha area
- **Demonstration on Farm Tools and Implements:** Around 20 KVKs of the Zone are involved in demonstration on farm tools & implements
- **Programmes with FOCT:** Incollaboration with Coconut Development Board, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India to enable unemployed youths to undergo training programme at 11 KVKs of this Zone.
- **KisanChaupal :** All the KVKs are involved in KisanChaupalprogramme
- **NIFTD:** To augment fodder productivity NIFTD has been launched where Zone II is acting as a Nodal agency. 91 KVKs of the country have been involved. The identified

KVKs have been trained in collaboration with IGFRI, Jhansi followed by development of technical programme as per the need of concerned KVK district.

- **PPV&FR:** 10 KVKs (2 from A&N Islands and 8 from WB) have been involved in this programme. All the KVKs conducted awareness programme in the respective KVK district with the participation of large number of farmers followed by registration of more than 250 plant varieties in the KVKs.
- **NYK:** Arrangements were made with Ministry of Sports & Rural Affairs to provide livelihood development training programme to NYK volunteers through all the KVKs of Zone II
- **Validation of Nutrient Expert model of IPNI:** International Plant Nutrient Institute has been tied up with 25 KVKs of this Zone to carry out specific trial on plant nutrition in wheat and maize. The validation of nutrient management model will be done through the trials. The programme has just been initiated and the results of the trials are awaited.
- **Animal Disease surveillance:** In collaboration with PD_ADMAS, Bangalore and IVRI RS, Kolkata, 13 KVKs of WB have been entrusted to work on surveillance of animal diseases to report to PD_ADMAS, ICAR and ZPD II. The KVKs are the first organizations to report the incidence of any animal/poultry disease in the district to effectively execute preventive measures.
- **Tribal Sub Plan:** 12 KVKs of the Zone operated TSP scheme to ensure direct benefit to individual or family belonging to ST
- **Upscaling of IFS models:** Inter-institutional linkage between PDFSR, Modipuram and ZPD-II to develop and upscaling IFS model in collaboration with PDFSR. Initially, three KVKs – Dumka in Jharkhand, Purnea in Bihar and South 24 Parganas in WB were identified to carry out initial activities alongwith the ECF stations functioning in the identified districts
- **Strategic Deworming of Livestock:** In collaboration with IVRI RS, Kolkata, 4 KVKs of WB are involved for taking strategic deworming for livestock.
- **Validation of fertilizer package of FAI:** Trials and demonstration on fertilizer package/assessment in collaboration with FAI are undertaken in some KVKs of the zone.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPED

Sri JoydebMahato Village-Putidi, Dist. Purulia, WB	Lac & Lac based enterprise Total 4 ha of land under lac host trees (2500 nos of Palas, 19 No. of Kusum and 32 nos. of ber trees.) with production capacity of 10 kg stick and brood lac per tree.	Rs. 25.0 lakh per yr.
Sri RupakDhara M/s. Basundhara Seeds, Dist. W. Medinipur	Seed Production & Marketing M/s. Basundhara Seeds	Rs. 7.0 lakh per yr.
Sri Rafique Ahmed Vill. Khetia, Dist. Burdwan, WB	Asian Cat fish seed production unit Asian Cat Fish seed production at the capacity of 2,00,000 seed/yr	Avg income Rs. 6.0 lakh per yr and employing 16 nos of rural youth.
Sri Ananda Biswas P.O.Dharmada, Dist.-Nadia, WB	High value crops is grown in 6.53 ha	Rs.50000/months
Sri Lakshman Biswas N & M Andaman, A & N Islands	Fish-poultry vegetable based integrated farming System Developed	Annual income around Rs. 2-2.5 lakh
Sri Rakesh Kumar Block: Biharsharif, Dist. Nalanda, Bihar	Developed organic farming. Concept of organic with relay and intercropping could fetch more demand in market and more value of his product. He also developed Bamboo made store house for potato and onion so could get good price in off season market.	Earning Rs 2.5 - 3.0 lakh/acre .
Smt. Madhu Patel Gajenderbigha Dist.: Nalanda, Bihar	Mushroom production on large scale. Around 100 kg mushroom is produced daily from her farm to ensure supply to Govt. Primary school, Sainik school, Jail and other places where mushroom is now included in the menu of their daily meals.	Earning is Rs. 1.50 - 1.75 lakh per yr
Sri Lokesh Kumar Dist.Rohtas, Bihar	A successful entrepreneur of value-added products of vermi-compost. His modified vermi-compost production system has fetched him 1500 mtvermi-compost, 1200 kgs worms, 1200 L of bio-pesticides every year.	Earning of Rs.17.00 lakh per year
Sri Ashok Rai P.O.: Kalimpong Dist.Darjeeling, WB	He established a small scalefruitprocessing unit in Kalimpong. This has generated employment opportunity for rural youth.	Earning around Rs. 2.5 lakh per year
Sri HareramPanday Dist. Buxar, Bihar	Medicinal and aromatic plant cultivator. He is cultivating medicinal and aromatic plants in his 20 acre of farm.	Rs. 10- 12 lakh per yr by selling these plants and species

NEW INITIATIVES DURING XII PLAN

- ❖ Establishment of Technology Cafeteria
- ❖ Establishment of Specialised KVKs
- ❖ Provision for e-farmers
- ❖ Establishment of Micro-nutrient Analysis facility through KVK-ring concept
- ❖ Provision of Mini Seed Processing Facility through KVK-ring concept
- ❖ Strengthening of Existing ATICs

- ❖ Establishment of New ATICs
- ❖ Farm Innovation Fund
- ❖ Collaborative short term research project supported by International Potash Institute
- ❖ World Bank aided project entitled ‘West Bengal accelerated development of minor irrigation project’ in collaboration with KVKs
- ❖ Collaborative short term research project supported by Global Zinc Initiative



PERSONALIA

- Dr. S. K. Mondal, Principal Scientist joined this Directorate on 25th June, 2012.
- Dr. F. H. Rahman, Senior Scientist joined this Directorate on 1st December, 2012.
- Dr. H. K. De, Principal Scientist joined this Directorate on 26th July, 2013.
- Mrs. ShikhaMajumder, A.A.O. (on deputation) relieved from this Directorate on 31st December, 2013.
- Dr. K. S. Das, Senior Scientist joined this Directorate on 13th May, 2014.

AWARDS / RECOGNITION

- KVK South 24 Parganas (Nimpith) was conferred with Best KrishiVigyanKerndra Award (National) by ICAR.
- KVK Samastipur won Best KVK (Zonal) Award 2011-12
- Smt. DulariKisku was conferred with KrishiKarmanya Award 2012-13 by Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperation, GOI.
- Sri Dilip Kumar Singh, Rohtas, SriSudhangshu Kumar and Sri Santosh Kumar, Gaya were conferred with Jagjivan Ram AbhinavKisanPuraskar in 2012-13
- Smt. Shanti Devi was felicitated with Krishi Karman Award 2011-12 from President of India
- Smt. Jaya Devi, Munger was felicitated with Green Lady Award 2011 and Real Hero Award 2012
- S 24 Pags. and KVK Purulia were bestowed with Mahindra SamriddhiSamman
- Sri SumantaMisra, Jalpaiguri is placed in Limca Book of Records 2014 for innovative farming practices



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