



Global Excellence in Cotton Technology Monthly Bulletin, Volume 06, June 2026

Dignitary Visit

Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Union Minister of Culture and Tourism, Government of India, visited ICAR-CIRCOT and graced the PM-KISAN Utsav Diwas celebrations as the Chief Guest on 20 June 2026. The occasion also marked the release of the 23rd installment of the PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. The programme was organized in virtual mode to enable the participation of the Institute staff, Regional Units, farmers, and agri-startups associated with ICAR-CIRCOT. A total of 425 participants, including 185 male farmers and 75 women farmers, attended the event.



World Environment Day

World Environment Day (WED), pre-campaign under mission LiFE was observed on 4 June 2026 at Pali-Sudhagad, Raigad District, Maharashtra. An awareness programme was organized to promote the use of biofertilizers and highlight the benefits of organic and natural farming practices. A total of 45 farmers participated in the programme.



Edited by: S.K. Shukla, G.T.V. Prabu, C. Sundaramoorthy, Bindu Venugopal & Anand Jadhav

Khet Bachao Abhiyaan

The Khet Bachao Abhiyan was an ambitious nationwide campaign launched by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, from 1–30 June 2026, to facilitate direct interaction between agricultural scientists and farmers at the field level. The campaign aimed to create awareness among farmers on improving soil health, promoting the judicious use of chemical fertilizers, and encouraging natural farming practices for sustainable agricultural development. In Maharashtra, the programme was implemented by six teams of scientists across seven districts: Thane, Ahilyanagar, Nagpur, Kolhapur, Sangli, Pune, and Raigad. The 17 startups incubated under the ICAR-CIRCOT Rural Agri Business Incubator (R-ABI) played a vital role in coordinating and facilitating the smooth implementation of the campaign.

A total of 293 field visits were conducted, covering 300 villages across the state. The campaign directly benefited 7,268 farmers, comprising 5,767 men and 1,501 women. As part of the campaign, 57 demonstration programmes were organized on the preparation and application of GoRas, Gau Kripa Amrit, Jeevamrut, and biochar to promote sustainable agricultural practices. Three farmer–input dealer interface meetings were also organized to demonstrate innovative agricultural inputs and technologies. (i) M/s. Zydex Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur, which demonstrated biofertilizers and biostimulants; (ii) M/s. Sandip Pyaz Bio-Organics, Pune; and (iii) M/s. Swarnbhoomi Agricultural Machinery Impex LLP. In addition, two programmes were conducted in collaboration with Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), benefiting approximately 50 farmers.

The campaign received extensive publicity through local print and electronic media, with coverage in 25 newspapers, five television channels, and two YouTube channels. On the occasion of the PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi programme held on 20 June 2026, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Union Minister of Culture and Tourism, Government of India, visited ICAR-CIRCOT and interacted with farmers, encouraging the adoption of sustainable soil health management practices and balanced fertilizer use. The campaign's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and outreach activities were also disseminated through social media platforms, reaching approximately 2,000 farmers. As the campaign was coordinated with the active support of ICAR-CIRCOT R-ABI startups, several startups, including M/s. Shreelsurya Research Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Sandip Pyaz Bio-Organics, M/s. Sunrajya Agro India Pvt. Ltd., and M/s. Swarnbhoomi Agricultural Machinery Impex LLP, showcased their products directly to farmers. This provided valuable market exposure, enhanced their visibility, and created opportunities for business expansion while facilitating the dissemination of innovative agricultural technologies among the farming community.





Training Organized



A three-day training programme on "Basics of Knitting and Garments" was organized on 16, 19, and 25 June 2026 at ICAR-CIRCOT, Mumbai. The programme was attended by six participants from various textile industries.



A Six Days Skill Development Training Program on "Double Roller Ginning Technology & Basics of Cotton Grading" was organized from June 08-13, 2026, at GTC, Nagpur. Total seven participants attended, including one female participant.

Awareness Programmes in MGMG Adopted Villages



Under the ongoing Government of India campaign on "Promoting Soil Health Management and Balanced Fertilizer Use," ICAR-CIRCOT conducted awareness programmes and demonstrations on compost preparation from biomass and other sustainable agricultural practices in three villages in and around Nagpur during June 2026. The activities aimed to educate farmers on sustainable soil health management and the balanced use of fertilizers for improved agricultural productivity and environmental sustainability. Over 200 farmers were benefitted through this programme.

Publications

Research Paper

- Kaushik S.S., Parveen S., Alagappan S., Behera S., Arputharaj A., Rakshit D., Udayraj, and Venkatesan H (2026). "Robust Biopolymer-Derived Multifunctional Aerogel Blankets for Personal Thermal Management in Cold Climates". Chemical Engineering Journal, DOI: 10.1016/j.cej.2026.178658. (NAAS rating of 19.4).

Paper Presented

- Dr. Ajinath Dukare attended and presented a research paper titled, "Development of Silver Nanoparticle-Functionalized Cotton Textiles as Sustainable Antimicrobial Biomaterials for Post-Harvest Flower Preservation," in virtual mode at the International Conference on Environmental Research, Climate Action & Sustainable Development 2026, held from 5–7 June 2026.

Externally Funded Project Scannctioned

DBT-Funded Research Project Commences at ICAR-CIRCOT

- A research project funded by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, titled "Nutraceutical Profiling and Optimization of Rice-Based Low-Alcoholic Beverages from North East Regions of India: Health Implications and Commercial Potential" (Project No. BT/PR51907/NER/95/2127/2024), commenced on 19 June 2026.

Recognition

- Dr. Ajinath Dukare, Senior Scientist, CBPD, has been recognized as an Expert Mentor by the Biological Innovation Network (BLiN) in association with the Biotech Research Society of India (BRSI).

HRD

- Dr. Kanika Sharma, Scientist, Co-Nodal Officer for the Gender Research in Agriculture (NO-GRA), attended a five-day training programme on "Strengthening Agricultural Research with a Gender Perspective for Sustainable Agri-food Systems" at the ICAR–Central Institute for Women in Agriculture (ICAR-CIWA), Bhubaneswar, during 22–26 June 2026.
- A five-day training programme on "NABL Laboratory Quality Management System, ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Requirements, Documentation, and Record Management" was conducted by Dr. Manoj Kumar, NABL Quality Manager, during 1–5 June 2026 for Dr. Shekh Mukhtar Mansuri, Scientist, GTC, ICAR-CIRCOT Regional Unit, Nagpur.

Superannuation

- Shri D.M. Correia, Technical Officer, ICAR-CIRCOT, Mumbai superannuated on 30 June 2026.

दक्षिण महाराष्ट्र

७० गावांतील दोन हजार शेतकऱ्यांशी संवाद

अभिलेखन सुलभ सेवा

कोरापुत : भारत सरकारच्या 'रेड
 क्रायस' अभियान' अंतर्गत भारतीय कुपो
 शीनतेवर लढाऊ असलेली भारतीय कॅडेट्स या
 संस्थेत कोरापुत येथील (मोरापूर) येथील
 १२ व २५ मुलांसमवेत कोरापुत विद्यालय
 याठिकाण वाराणसी येथील लष्करी व नाव
 विभागाने आयोजित करण्यात आले. २०-६२
 अंदाज यासाठीही टोप हवाईद्वारे अंदाज
 ठरवण्यासाठी या संस्थेत भारत सरकार, कोरापुत,
 संयुक्त राष्ट्र सरकार, भारत व वैश्विक
 सेवा समेत अनेक कुपोशी निर्धारक
 संस्थांच्या कामकाज आहे.

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अभिप्रायमात्रे मितवर्तिने सम्पन्न मनोव
त्तम माया, डॉ. मेमता कुमारा, डॉ.

ऊस उत्पादकांना विशेष मार्गदर्शन

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સાહેબ દુનિયા જાતિ દો. કિશોરબુદ્ધિના પીઠીયા
સામેય મેટુરબુદ્ધિના સા પહેલે કાળે
શેરી. ભવિષ્યવાદના સા કુપો-જાણતી
મટાંજાલને મેલવાના જાતિ મદરિયા
મન-વચન સા પાળે કુલે શેરી. વિચારે પાળે
કુપો કુપેના પોરકને રહિતીયો જાતિ કો
જાણે. વિચારના જાતિ હવેકે પાળે
પાળે અધિકારવાળા વિષેના વ મન-વચન
સાકારી પાળે.

महादीकवाडीत ७००
औतकध्यांवा सहभाग

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સાહેબજી ૧૫૦૦ રૂપા અલગ રોકડાની આગમી કરે.

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पुढारी

संक्षिप्त



यवलूज : बिलवर टेकडी येथे दालमिया शुगरच्या शेतकरी मेळाव्यात मार्गदर्शन करताना संतोष कुंभार व इतर मान्यवर.

शेती जिवंत ठेवायची असेल तर

माती जगली पाहिजे : संतोष कुंभार

यवलूनज : भारत ही कृषिप्रधान देश असून देशाची अर्थव्यवस्था ही शेतीवर अवलंबून आहे. वाढता उत्पादन खर्च, घटत चाललेले उत्पादन, निसर्गाची अनिश्चितता यांमुळे जमिनीची सुपीकता धोक्यात आली असून, पुढील पिढीस सुपीक जमीन देणे आपले कर्तव्य आहे. यासाठी शेती जिवंत ठेवायची असेल तर माती जगली पाहिजे, असे प्रतिपादन दलमिया शरारचे युनिट हेड संतोष कुंभार यांनी केले आहे. बिलवर टेकडी येथे शेतकरी मेळाव्यात अध्यक्ष स्थानावरून ते बोलत होते. प्रारंभी मान्यवरांच्या हस्ते दीपप्रज्वलन व माती पूजन करण्यात आले. तसेच साखर उद्योगातील शिखर संस्था विभागाच्या वतीने बेस्ट युनिटद्वारे व उत्कृष्ट ऊस विकास समुदाय प्रस्काराबाबत शेतकऱ्यांच्या वतीने मान्यवरांचा सत्कार करण्यात आला. यावेळी भारत सरकारच्या आयसीएआरचे वरिष्ठ शास्त्रज्ञ डॉ. मनोज महावर, डॉ. शेषराव कौटकर, डॉ. संदीप घोले, डॉ. विजय सांगळे, डॉ. हिमांशू शेख चौरसिया, डॉ. मनोज पुनिया यांनी शेतीच्या विविध विषयांवर शेतकऱ्यांना मार्गदर्शन केले. यावेळी जनरल मॅनेजर केन श्रीधर गोपाळी, शिवप्रसाद देसाई, चैतन्य सनेनवत, किशोर लेंगरे, पोपट पाटील उपस्थित होते .

