

# इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ़ हॉर्टीकल्चर टेक्नोलॉजी Institute of Horticulture Technology

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## "Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana: Per Drop More Crop" to Boost Water Efficiency in Farming

In 2015, as part of a major push for sustainable agriculture, the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, launched the "Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana: Per Drop More Crop" (PMKSY-PDMC) scheme. This initiative promotes advanced micro-irrigation technologies, such as drip and sprinkler systems, to improve water use efficiency at the farm level. While the scheme has benefited thousands of farmers, its long-term success depends on proper training and continuous hand-holding support to ensure the smooth operation of these systems.

Farmers require regular training and technical guidance to effectively install, operate, and maintain micro-irrigation systems. Without adequate knowledge, they may face challenges in optimizing water usage, preventing clogging, managing pressure variations, and troubleshooting common issues. Periodic workshops, on-field demonstrations, and access to expert support are essential to empower farmers with the skills needed to maximize the benefits of micro-irrigation.

By strengthening farmer training programs under PMKSY-PDMC, the government can ensure that these advanced systems function efficiently, leading to higher crop productivity, water conservation, and sustainable farming practices across India.

Institute of Horticulture Technology (IHT), with its proven expertise in agricultural training programs, can play a pivotal role. IHT has a strong track record in capacity building for farmers, offering hands-on training in advanced irrigation techniques, system maintenance, and best practices for maximizing crop yield. By partnering with PMKSY-PDMC, IHT conducts:

- Structured training programs on the installation, operation, and troubleshooting of micro-irrigation systems.
- Provide on-field demonstrations to help farmers understand water management, pressure control, and clogging prevention.
- · Offer continuous hand-holding support through workshops and on farm visits
- Develop localized training modules tailored to regional crops, soil types, and climatic conditions.
- With IHT's expertise, farmers can gain the confidence and skills needed to adopt micro-irrigation effectively, ensuring higher productivity, reduced water wastage, and long-term sustainability.





## IHT Conducts Out-of-State Exposure Visits and Training Programs for Farmers from Bihar and Jharkhand

The Institute of Horticulture Technology (IHT) has successfully conducted a series of out-of-state exposure visits and training programs for farmers from various districts of Bihar and Jharkhand under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) and the National Horticulture Mission (NHM). These initiatives aim to provide farmers with first-hand experience of advanced horticultural practices, modern technologies, and innovative farming methods. As part of this initiative, farmers from different regions were taken to specialized agricultural hubs to gain practical insights:

- Farmers from Aurangabad, Bihar visited Nagpur Maharashtra to learn about citrus cultivation and other high-value fruits and vegetables.
- Farmers from Nalanda, Bihar visited to Shimla Central Potato Research Institute (CPRI) and gain knowledge about advanced potato farming techniques.
- Farmers from Sahibganj, Jharkhand visited Lucknow, where they explored research advancements at the Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture (CISH) and the Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP).
- Farmers from Simdega, Jharkhand visited Nagpur to gain insights into citrus farming and other high-value fruit and vegetable production.
- Farmers from Garhwa undertook a study visit to Shimla, where they learned about advanced potato farming at CPRI.
- Farmers from Dumka attended a specialized training program at IHT Noida focusing on Hi-Tech Horticultural Crop Production Technology.
- Another group of Simdega, Jharkhand farmers visited Nagpur to perceive and understand Innovative Horticultural Production Technologies.

These exposure visits and training programs are highly beneficial for farmers, equipping them with knowledge about scientific cultivation methods, crop diversification, post-harvest management, and sustainable agricultural practices. By interacting with experts and progressive farmers, participants can implement new technologies in their fields, improve productivity, and increase their income. The initiative plays a crucial role in empowering farmers, bridging the knowledge gap, and ensuring the adoption of best practices in horticulture, ultimately leading to enhanced agricultural sustainability and economic growth in the region.



Glimpses of Out-of-State Exposure Visits and Training Programs for Farmers from Bihar and Jharkhand





## IHT Conducts Within-State Training on Modern Horticultural Crop Production in Assam and Meghalaya

The Institute of Horticulture Technology (IHT) successfully organized within-state training programs on Modern Horticultural Crop Production Technologies in Assam and Meghalaya, in collaboration with the Central Institute of Horticulture (CIH), Nagaland. These programs aimed to equip farmers with advanced horticultural knowledge and skills while eliminating the challenges of long-distance travel.

The training covered key topics such as crop selection, nursery management, protected cultivation, post-harvest management, and value addition. Special emphasis was given to grafting and budding in citrus, precision farming, micro-irrigation, and organic farming. Farmers also participated in interactive sessions on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), sustainable farming, and marketing strategies. By bringing modern agricultural knowledge closer to farmers, the program helped enhance their productivity, improve crop quality, and increase market access. Such initiatives play a vital role in fostering sustainable horticultural growth and improving farmers' income in the Northeastern region.



Interactive session and hands on training on various horticultural practices

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## **Training Programme for Odisha Farmers at IHT Greater Noida**

The Institute of Horticulture Technology (IHT) Noida conducted a five-day training program for farmers from Odisha. The program focused on protected cultivation, precision farming, providing hands-on experience and expert guidance. Farmers learned about high-tech greenhouse management, soilless farming, and efficient water management, helping them adopt modern cultivation methods. Interactive sessions with horticulture experts further enhanced their knowledge. This training is expected to improve farmers' productivity, resource efficiency, and income, contributing to sustainable horticulture in Odisha. IHT remains committed to empowering farmers through education and technology.



#### Training Program for Odisha Farmers at IHT

## **Protected Cultivation of Vegetable and Nursery Management**

The Institute of Horticulture Technology (IHT) successfully organized a comprehensive training program on protected cultivation and advanced horticultural practices. Participants gained in-depth knowledge of soil health management, greenhouse structures, and climate control systems. They received hands-on training in plug-type vegetable seedling production, soil sterilization techniques, and scientific bed preparation for protected cultivation. The program also covered micro-irrigation and fertigation, emphasizing efficient water and nutrient management. Additionally, trainees learned about the production technology of key greenhouse crops like tomato, capsicum, and cucumber, along with essential practices such as pruning and integrated pest management. Addicated session on the financial aspects of greenhouse farming, including NHB project funding and return on investment calculations, provided valuable insights. The training was highly interactive, with practical demonstrations that enhanced the learning experience. Participants found the program extremely informative and well-structured, appreciating the hands-on approach and expert guidance provided by IHT faculty. The program concluded with positive feedback and certification for all attendees.

### IHT Organizes One-Day Training on Hydroponic Saffron Cultivation

The Institute of Horticulture Technology (IHT) conducted a one-day specialized training on Hydroponic Saffron Cultivation, introducing farmers and agrientrepreneurs to innovative soilless saffron farming. The session covered climate control, nutrient management, bulb selection, and post-harvest processing, providing hands-on insights into optimizing saffron yield using hydroponic and controlled environment systems. This training aimed to break traditional cultivation barriers, enabling saffron farming in non-traditional regions. By adopting modern techniques, farmers can enhance productivity, improve quality, and boost profitability.



Training Program for Odisha Farmers at IHT







## Mushroom Cultivation -Three-Day Online Training

The Institute of Horticulture Technology (IHT) organized a three-day online training on Mushroom Cultivation, focusing on commercial farming techniques. The program covered spawn production, substrate preparation, climate management, pest control, and value addition. Participants learned about button, oyster, and milky mushrooms, along with post-harvest handling and marketing strategies. This training equipped farmers with modern techniques to improve production, quality, and profitability.



## **Upcoming Training Programs**

- 1. Commercial Hydroponics (Online & Offline
- 2. Protected Cultivation & Nursery Production (Offline)
- 3. Hydroponic Saffron Cultivation (One-Day Online)
- 4. Mushroom Production Technology (Online)



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