

Report on International Women's Day (March 8th, 2021)

ICAR-Directorate of Cashew Research, Puttur, observed International Women's Day on 8th March 2021 with the theme "Women Leadership in Agriculture: Equity, Entrepreneurship and Empowerment. As directed by the Council and apropos ICAR-Directorate of Cashew Research (ICAR-DCR), a committee consisting of members of Women Cell and other lady staff was constituted to conduct various activities and programmes to commemorate and celebrate the International Women's Day. Accordingly, the following programmes were decided:

Sl.No.	Proposed Activities	Day
1.	Felicitation of women farmers	8 th March, 2021
2.	A talk by lady doctor	8 th March, 2021
3.	Cultural activities	8 th March, 2021

Felicitation of Women Farmers at ICAR-DCR

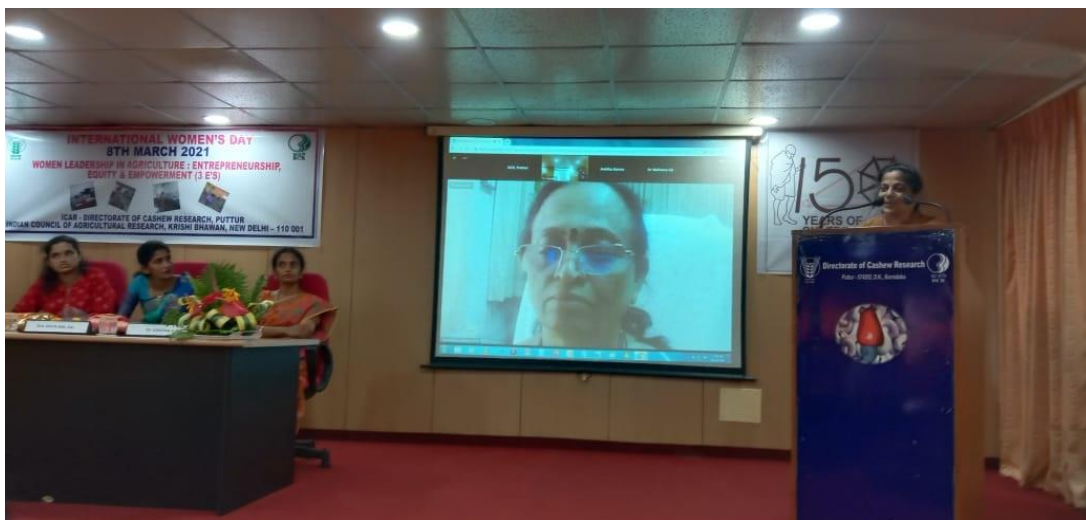
The programme began with the presidential remarks by Dr. Anitha Karun, Director (Acting) wherein she emphasized on the origin of International Women's day and the importance of women entrepreneurship in agriculture and allied sector. She also explained that this programme aimed to inculcate the ideologies of gender equality for improving the living standards of women with dignity and respect under the campaign 'Beti Bachao and Beti padhao'.

Following this, Miss Vanitha, a young professional of our institute, briefed the audience on how women plays an important role in agriculture and about the schemes and awards for promoting women in agriculture. She also gave the example of Smt. Kanchana Devi of Lodhipura village, Bihar who mobilized the women of her locality to form a women farmer producer organization. With the central theme of this women's day being "Women Leadership in Agriculture: Equity, Entrepreneurship and Empowerment", it was decided to identify and felicitate two young women progressive farmers. Mrs. Divya Anil Rai and Mrs. Navyashree K were invited and felicitated for their contribution in the field of agriculture and allied activities. Mrs. Divya Anil Rai was an organic farmer owning 25 acres of land while Navyashree K was a B.com graduate growing different crops like banana, pepper, arecanut, coconut and cashew on her 22 acres of land. They shared their experiences, the hardships they faced and motivated the audience.



A talk by lady doctor for the scientists and staff of DCR, Puttur

The special talk on the topic 'Women health, nutrition and hygiene' was organized on 8th March, 2021 at ICAR-DCR. Dr. Sulekha Varadaraj, a renowned child specialist and psychotherapist, who has given more than 300 talks in various organisations was invited to deliver the lecture. She addressed the women on this topic and also gave many valuable insights on emotional intelligence and parenting, citing many incidents from her work life.



Cultural Activities

On the occasion of the Women's Day, cultural activities viz., pick and act, singing and antakshari were conducted among lady staff and family members of DCR, Puttur. Apart from cultural activities, all the lady staff also shared their day to day activities, their struggles in maintaining both works and family life.



All the staff of this Directorate including scientists, technical, administrative and supporting staff actively participated in the function. All COVID-19 precautionary measures were adopted while organizing the function.