



ICAR Krishi Vigyan Kendra, CENDECT is a District level Agricultural Training, Extension and Research Institution sponsored by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Government of India. It was started in March 1995 for benefit of farmers in Theni District. It aims at transferring the farm worthy technologies to the farmers, farm women, rural youth and the extension workers through trainings and demonstrations.

The main objective of the Kendra is to impart the latest technical knowledge to the farmers through work experience, employing the principles of “Teaching by Doing” and “Learning by Doing”.

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DISTRIBUTION OF TECHNOLOGY INPUT

A Technology Input Distribution Programme under the DAPSC scheme was organized on 20 April 2026 at the KVK premises for members of the Agamalai Farmers Interest Group. The programme aimed to enhance the safety and efficiency of pepper harvesting by distributing aluminium ladders to farmers. Mr. M. Arun Raj Programme Coordinator (i/c), welcomed the participants and highlighted the importance of appropriate farm tools in reducing drudgery and improving orchard management.

Dr. P. Sivaram Deputy Director, CENDECT, delivered the presidential address and encouraged farmers to make effective use of the technology inputs to enhance productivity and ensure safe harvesting practices. During the technical session, KVK scientists demonstrated the proper use and safety precautions for aluminium ladders in pepper cultivation. The beneficiaries appreciated the support provided under the DAPSC scheme and expressed their willingness to adopt the improved technology. The intervention is expected to improve harvesting efficiency and promote safer farm operations.

EXPOSURE VISIT

KVK Theni was organized exposure visit to the Department of Agricultural Marketing & Agri Business, Theni, on 15.04.2026. A total of five BODs and members of Lavoisier FPO participated in the programme. The participants attended a group meeting with the Deputy Director (Agricultural Marketing), Theni. Various schemes and procedures related to agricultural marketing and agribusiness were explained. The participants gained knowledge about e-NAM and the sales outlet facilities available for FPOs at the Theni Farmers Market. They visited the agricultural godown and Coconut Auction Unit to understand post-harvest marketing activities.



AWARENESS PROGRAMME OF "BHUMI SUPOSHAN"

The Awareness Programme of "Bhumi Suposhan" was organized at various villages of Theni district from March 19 to April 19, 2026.



A total of 360 farmers, youths and farm women participated in the programme. The participants were sensitized on the importance of bio-inputs and their effective utilization in crop production. The importance of balanced nutrient management and minimizing the excessive use of chemical fertilizers was explained. Different types of bio-inputs and their applications in agriculture were discussed with the participants. The importance of farm waste recycling, including crop residues, animal waste, kitchen waste and agro-industrial waste, was explained. Compost preparation and vermicomposting technologies were demonstrated to promote sustainable farm waste management. Various crop residue management techniques and the economic benefits of recycling farm waste were discussed. The participants were also briefed about various State and Central Government schemes and farmers' welfare activities.

MONTHLY ENTREPRENEURS MEET



The Monthly Entrepreneurs Meet was organized at KVK Theni on 20.04.2026 to provide technical guidance.

The programme commenced with the inaugural address by Mr. M. Arun Raj, Programme Coordinator (i/c), KVK Theni, followed by the presidential address delivered by Dr. P. Sivaram, Deputy Director, CENDECT, Theni. Dr. V. Karthikpandi, SMS (Plant Protection), delivered a technical session on mushroom cultivation and methods for the preparation of bio-inputs. Another technical session focused on innovative technologies in spices, their uses and value-added products. The procedures and benefits of MSME ZED Certification were explained by M. Ramyasivaselvi, SMS (Home Science).

An exhibition was organized to showcase products developed by KVK-supported entrepreneurs, including banana powder, dates powder, amchur powder and tomato powder. Other value-added products such as betel vine drink, grape pomace pickle and nutri balls were also displayed. The programme was coordinated by the KVK Team and provided valuable technical and entrepreneurial guidance to the participating entrepreneurs.

ON-CAMPUS TRAINING CUM PIGLET DISTRIBUTION UNDER SCSP SCHEME

An on-campus training programme on piglet rearing and distribution of piglets under the SCSP scheme was organized at KVK Theni on 27.04.2026.



The participants were trained on scientific piglet rearing and management practices, including proper housing, feeding and nutritional management. Lectures were also delivered on breeding management, vaccination and disease prevention measures. The major problems faced by farmers in pig rearing were discussed, and suitable remedial measures were suggested. The farmers were advised to maintain proper hygiene and adopt preventive health management practices for improving piglet health and productivity. Large White Yorkshire piglets were distributed to farmers from Kamatchipuram and S. Alagapuri villages. The programme aimed to improve farmers' knowledge and promote scientific pig farming as an additional source of income.

DIAGNOSTIC VISIT CUM AWARENESS PROGRAMME ON BALANCED USE OF FERTILIZER



A Diagnostic Visit cum Awareness Programme on "Balanced Use of Fertilizer" was conducted at G. Usilampatti, Andipatti Block on 27.04.2026.

During the programme awareness was created on soil-test-based fertilizer application, the importance of soil testing and proper soil sample collection methods.

AWARENESS PROGRAMME OF SWACHH BHARAT MISSION

An awareness programme under the Swachh Bharat Mission was organized at Sannasipuram, Bodinayakkanur Block on 12.05.2026. The programme focused on creating awareness about the importance of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) for healthy family and community living. The participants were educated on maintaining cleanliness and personal hygiene, along with the importance of safe drinking water and proper sanitation practices. The significance of tree plantation for environmental protection and sustainability was also discussed. The role of women in promoting cleanliness and maintaining a healthy environment was highlighted, and the participants were encouraged to adopt hygienic practices in their homes and surroundings. A Swachhta pledge was taken by all the participating women to emphasize cleanliness, hygiene and community responsibility.

ON-CAMPUS TRAINING ON INTEGRATED NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES



An on-campus training programme on “Integrated Nutrient Management Practices” was organized at the Seminar Hall, KVK Theni on 21.05.2026

The participants were trained on different types of organic manures and their importance in sustainable crop production. The importance and application of neem cake, vermicompost and green manure were explained in detail. Farm waste recycling and different composting technologies were also discussed. The role and application methods of biofertilizers in improving soil fertility were explained to the participants. In addition, fertigation techniques and split application of fertilizers for efficient nutrient utilization were discussed. Nutrient deficiency symptoms and suitable corrective measures were explained, along with organic methods for managing major pests and diseases.

ON-CAMPUS TRAINING AND CFLD BIOFORTIFIED MAIZE SEED DISTRIBUTION

An on-campus training programme on “Integrated Pest and Disease Management in Maize” was organized at KVK Theni on 22.05.2026.

The participants were trained on integrated crop management practices in maize, with lectures focusing on the identification and management of major pests and diseases affecting the crop. The importance of organic manures, neem cake, vermicompost and green manuring was explained, along with farm waste recycling, composting technologies and the use of biofertilizers. The major problems faced by farmers in maize cultivation were discussed, and suitable remedial measures were suggested. The participants were advised to adopt integrated and sustainable crop management practices for improving productivity and reducing production constraints. As part of the CFLD programme, biofortified maize seeds were distributed to 125 farmers of 5 Cluster Village from Theni district.



CELEBRATION OF WORLD BEE DAY

KVK Theni was celebrated World Bee Day cum Entrepreneurs Meet at KVK premises on 20.05.2026. A technical session on scientific beekeeping, honey processing and value addition of honey products was conducted to enhance the participants’ knowledge and entrepreneurial skills. Practical knowledge on the scientific management of bee colonies was also provided. An exposure visit was organized to the KVK Beekeeping Demonstration Unit and Honey Processing Plant, enabling the participants to gain practical insights into beekeeping and honey processing technologies. A method demonstration on the use of a Hybrid Solar Dryer for value addition and dehydration of agricultural products was also conducted. The participants were introduced to suitable technologies for processing and value addition of farm products.



Success stories of KVK-promoted beekeepers and entrepreneurs, Mrs. S. Saleema and Mr. C. Ambethraja, were shared to motivate the participants. The participants were also briefed about the Honey Mission and Agri Startups Scheme.

LAUNCHING OF KHET BACHAO ABHIYAN CAMPAIGN

The launching programme of the Khet Bachao Abhiyan Campaign was organized in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and ATMA at Ellapatti Village, Chinnamanur Block, on 01.06.2026. The programme created awareness on sustainable agricultural practices and balanced fertilizer application, with emphasis on soil health management and the promotion of natural farming methods. The participants were educated on the importance of soil testing for efficient nutrient management, while integrated nutrient management practices and the use of biofertilizers were also discussed. The benefits of green manuring and natural farming practices for improving soil health were explained, and efficient water management techniques for sustainable crop production were highlighted.



ONE-DAY WORKSHOP ON NATURAL FARMING / BALANCED USE OF FERTILIZER

A one-day workshop on “Natural Farming and Balanced Use of Fertilizer” under Khet Bachao Abhiyan was organized at the Seminar Hall, KVK Theni on 26.06.2026. The participants were sensitized to the principles and practices of natural farming and the importance of balanced and integrated nutrient management based on crop requirements and soil-test recommendations. Sustainable practices for improving soil health and efficient fertilizer utilization were explained. The preparation and use of natural farming inputs such as Jeevamrutham and Beejamrutham were demonstrated and discussed. The role of organic manures and biofertilizers in improving soil fertility was also explained. Particular emphasis was given to the importance of green manuring in improving soil fertility and reducing chemical fertilizer usage. The participants were encouraged to adopt eco-friendly and sustainable farming practices for maintaining long-term soil health and improving agricultural sustainability.



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