

Amrut Mahotsava -75 th Years of Celebration of Independence

ICAR-National Research Centre for Integrated Pest Management, New Delhi (NCIPM) in collaboration with ICAR-All India Network Project (AINP) on Vertebrate, soil Arthropods and Mites Pest Management, organized a one-day Training Programme on “**Rodent Management**” (virtual mode) on 01st July 2021 to create awareness among the scientists, researchers, extension workers, farmers, farm women, rural youth, entrepreneurs and others about the integrated rodent management strategies. .

Dr D. Raghvandra, Scientist (SS), welcomed the dignitaries, scientists, students, farmers, entrepreneurs, rural youth, extension workers and other officials. Moreover, 200 participants from all over the country registered and participated in the programme. Dr Mukesh Sehgal, Principal Scientist and In chagre HRD, while giving a preamble speech highlighted the losses caused by rodents and need for their effective management through economical, eco-friendly rodent management practices and encouraged for safe & rational use of synthetic Rodenticides.

The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Subhash Chander, Director ICAR-NCIPM, New Delhi. In inaugural address, Dr. Chander highlighted different issues related to rodent management strategies in field and storage conditions. Dr. R.S. Tripathi, Former-Coordinator AINP (VPM), Jodhpur highlighted the ecological perspective of rodent management strategies. He was also of the view that in North Eastern states, pre-emptive steps for expected population explosion of rodents during 2025 (coinciding with Bamboo flowering season) should be taken. He also emphasized on the importance of different rodent management strategies and challenges in near future. During technical session, Dr. Vipin Chaudhary provided an insight into the economic importance of rodents in agriculture and various ITKs used by farmers in different parts of country for their management.

Dr Md. Idris, Principal Scientist (retd.), shared his experiences and supported the idea of mechanical tools for rodent management. He shared field experience of Tripura and other states in North Eastern region. A technical bulletin entitled “**Rodent Management Strategies**” by ICAR-NCIPM in seven different languages was released on this occasion for the benefit of participants. It is hoped that from this training, rural farmers/farm women and others will become aware of various rodent management tactics and losses due to rodents will be reduced.

The Programme was coordinated by Dr D. Raghavendra, Scientist (SS) and Mr S.P. Singh, CTO and Dr Rekha, Balodi, Scientist was technical facilitator.

