Ch. Charan Singh National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (CCS NIAM) Centre for Innovation Entrepreneurship and Skill Development, Jaipur, is acting as “Knowledge Partner” of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare, Government of India in smooth and efficient execution of RKVY-RAFTAAR Scheme.

NIAM Agri-Business Incubator (NABI) is providing handholding and incubation support to RKVY-RAFTAAR Agri-Business Incubators (R-ABIs) situated in four states in the country namely National Rice Research Institute, Cuttack, Odisha; Sri Karan Narendra Agriculture University, Jobner, Rajasthan; Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, West Bengal and Bihar Agriculture University, Sabor, Bhaglpur, Bihar.

It is supporting Agripreneurs and Agri-Business Ventures through conducting “Agripreneurship Orientation Programme” and “Startup Agri-Business Incubation Programme”.
Overview

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Programmes Launched under RKVY RAFTAAR Scheme

- **Agripreneurship Orientation Programme** –
  2 Months Residential Orientation Programme
  Grant-in-aid up to Rs. 5 lakhs

- **Start-up Agri-Business Incubation Programme** –
  2 Months Residential Programme
  Grant-in-aid up to Rs. 25 lakhs
Inaugural Ceremony

“Agripreneurship Orientation Programme”
was inaugurated at CCS NIAM on 02 April 2019 by Dr. P.
Chandra Shekara, Director General, CCS NIAM. All the
NIAM faculty, Staff and Team members of NABI were
present at the function. Function was graced by valuable
speeches of Dr. P. Chandra Shekara (Director General) &
Dr. Ramesh Mittal (Director & Chairman).
17 agripreneurs from 7 states across India joined the
programme with their innovative ideas. The two-month
training Programme started on 29 March 2019.

“Startup Agri-Business Incubation Programme”
NABI launched its first Startup Agri-Business Incubation Programme on 6th June 2019. Inauguration
Ceremony was graced by Director General, CCS
NIAM. A young cohort of 20 startups with innovative
business ideas incubated in this programme from 11
states across the country.

Awards & Accolades

The Agripreneur, Mr. Vamshi Mashetti and Mr. Nikhil
Bhidea incubated under Agripreneurship Orientation
Programme (AOP) participated in Hackathon Competition
organised by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). Vamshii
Mashetti and Nikhil Bhinde got selected in final round on this
platform and Mr. Nikhil Bhinde won 2nd price and he also
presented a paper on Multilayer Seeding Machines for
Seeding and Fertilizing in the international conference
conducted by MNIT.
The three founders of @bewustfoods - Tanu Sree Singh, Reema Rathore & Sonia Grover; are redefining the standards of safety in packed foods in the confectionery industry through their authentic and healthy millet recipes.
#WomenEntrepreneurs #TuesdayChampion #Millets #farmfresh

Buddhi Prakash Gujjjar, incubatee from Startup Agri-Business Incubation, has a company EF Polymer Pvt. Ltd, won BRIC Idea Exposition 2019 on Biotechnology and Green Technology. It is organized by BRIC Regional Innovation Centre (BRIC) in collaboration with Dr. B. Lal Institute of Biotechnology, on 12th-13th July 2019, at Jaipur. Buddhi Prakash and his team also won “3M Young Innovators Challenge Awards Grand Jury 2019” on 02 August 2019. EP Polymer has also won many national and international awards.

Exposure Visits to Ecosystem Partners

On 4th April, 2019 the Agripreneurs visited Startup Oasis for getting acquainted with Startup ecosystem. The CEO of Startup Oasis, Mr. Chintan Bakshi briefed the functions and working style of Startup and emphasized on the importance of Startups.
On 15th April 2019, team NABl under the headship of Mr. Manoj Agrawal, COO, NIAM's Agri-Business Incubator (NABI), Jaipur along with 17 participants of Agripreneurship Orientation Program visited S.K.N. Agri-Business incubator (SABI). Dr. Ashok Kumar Gupta (Dean, SKNABM) and Dr. Madhuri Joshi Director Expension, Jobner, introduced the Agripreneurs to university scientists concerned with their business models for getting scientific validation of their business ideas.

Agripreneurs across India got an opportunity to interact with other Startups at Atal Incubation Centre, Banasthali Vidyapeeth on 27 April 2019. The rich exposure to entrepreneurial ecosystem was followed by visit to KYK Banasthali where Dr. D.V. Singh Senior Scientist and Head Krishi Vigyan Kendra Banasthali provided them an exposure to grass root innovations in agriculture.

On 10 June, 2019 the Startup Agri Business Incubation Programme participants were taken to Delhi to participate in the Programme organized by National Academy of Agricultural Sciences. The programme was on the Agri startup Ecosystem.

On 30 July, 2019, team NABI along with 20 Startups visited National Innovation Foundation (NIF), Ahmedabad. The visit enabled the participants to gain knowledge about the new grass root innovations that are available in the field of Agriculture. The NIF team presented the schemes and facilities they provide for the innovators.
Agripreneurship Orientation Programme
“A Diversified Cohort Of Young Agripreneurs”

NIAM Agri-Business Incubator (NABI) is providing one of its kind integrated incubation support to existing and budding Agripreneurs, Agri-Business ventures, Enterprises and Start-ups through its two programmes under RKVY RAFTAAR Scheme of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare, namely: Agri-preneurship Orientation Program and Start-up Agri-Business Incubation Program through handholding by means of training, mentoring and financing.

CCS National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM) Centre for Innovation Entrepreneurship and Skill Development, Jaipur, is assisting Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India as their “Knowledge Partner in the smooth and efficient execution of RKVY-RAFTAAR Scheme.
NIAM Agri-Business Incubator (NABI) is successfully incubating a diversified cohort of seventeen agripreneurs from all across India with innovative ideas and business models. These agripreneurs, instead of focusing on specific commodities, address systemic bottlenecks in the agricultural sector. As a result, they have the potential to scale up nationwide. The convergence of mobile networks, broadband internet, cloud platforms, IoT, AI and open data is helping transform and integrate agriculture sector to other booming areas of business generation activities.

The cohort at NIAM Agri-Business Incubator (NABI) is focussing across the agriculture sector from organic farming, hydroponics, indoor pollution absorbing plants to online farm machinery rental services and agri apps. Tradition is merging with technology as the IT services sector is helping open up new opportunities for both seasoned and emerging entrepreneurs. Online consultancy platforms, pure ayurvedic products from Desi Cow (soaps, facepacks, burning sticks and tooth paste), developing modern fish breeding hatcheries are other innovative ideas upon which this diversified cohort of agripreneurs is working. Emerging areas of environmental concern like stubble burning are also the focus areas of these young agripreneurs who are working on building and supplying stubble management machinery and techniques.

Food processing is another area of interest where the incubatees are working sincerely on developing organic healthy products derived from soyabean, dehydrated fruits and vegetable for ready and handy purpose, organic tomato ketchups, Bajra (Pearl millet) cookies and pure untouched comb honey.
Agri start-ups that serve the farming community need more seed funding, incubation and mentoring to make a successful entry and impact in the field of agri-business. In addition to investment capital, these budding agripreneurs need technical advice and access to markets and talent.

NIAM Agri-Business Incubator (NABI) is facilitating them through expert advice, hands on training cum internship, industrial attachments, dedicated mentorship and financing as a one-stop solution to refine their business ideas and establish their startups.

The talent, drive and vision of these agripreneurs can help define the future of Indian agriculture. With the support of a strong ecosystem of investors, the agri-incubation sector will be in good hands.

Kavita Sharma
Manager Marketing & Communication
NIAM Agri-Business Incubator (NABI)
Hands on Training
Exhibition Cum Buyer Seller Meet for Agri-Startups

On 07 August, 2019 NABI organized an Exhibition for the participants of Startup Agri-Business Incubation Programme. The startups displayed their products in the exhibition and also sold their products to the faculties, students and staff of NIAM. There was a good response for the products displayed by the incubatee startups.

Workshops with Partner R-ABIs

NIAM Agri-Business Incubator (NABI), CCS NIAM, Jaipur as part of execution of its responsibility as Knowledge Partner for RKVY-RAFTAAR Project, organizes a “Webinar” every month for the Nodal Officers/Project In-charge as assigned under all four RKVY-RAFTAAR Agri-Business Incubators (R-ABIs) ie. S.K.N Agriculture University, Jobner-Rajasthan, National Rice research Institute, Cuttack-Odisha, Bihar Agricultural University, Sabor-Bihar, IIT Kharagpur-West Bengal. The aim of the webinar is to facilitate R-ABIs in smooth implementation and execution of RKVY-RAFTAAR Scheme. NIAM Agri-Business Incubator (NABI) is providing handholding and incubation support to them.

NIAM Agri-Business Incubator (NABI) has organized a “One day Orientation Workshop” on 6th August, 2019 for all Four R-ABIs. Details about implementation of two Incubation Programmes were explained by NABI Team to all project incharge. All R-ABIs updated their progress in the execution of RKVY–RAFTAAR Project.
Networking And Out Reach Activity

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) organized an Innovative Farmers Meet in the State of Punjab, Harayana and UP. NIAM acted as the Institutional Partner in organizing the event. As a part of that Dr. Ramesh Mittal, Mr. Manoj Agrawal, Mr. Abhishek Sharma, Mr. Nitin Lahoti, and Mr. Rahul Sankhala from Team NABI briefed about Agribusiness and role of Agri business Incubators in Promoting Entrepreneurship.

Team NABI participated in Startup Master Class Programme organized by J.K.Lakshmipathy University, Jaipur on 27.07.2019. The team was provided with a stall to display the product of the Incubatees. Mr. Mohit Kumar Jakhar and Mr. Honey Sharma displayed their products in the programme. The team also created an awareness among the participants of the programme about the launch of the upcoming AOP & SIP. One of our Incubatee of Startup Agri-Business Incubators Programme, Mr. Tejas Rajivihar Reddy pitched his business model before the investors.

Institute of Cooperative Management in association with NIAM organized a three days training programme on Consumer Preferences towards Organized Retailing for the ex-service men of army held from 24th to 26th July, 2019 at ICM Jaipur. Resource persons from NIAM and NABI delivered sessions on overview of Retailing, Consumer Preferences, Ecommerce in Agri-Retailing, E-Tailing and importance of Taxation in Business and Consumer Behaviour.

NIAM Agri-Business Incubator organized a sensitization talk on Startups in Agriculture sector at Indian Institute of Rural Management, Jaipur on 30th August, 2019. Mr. Nitin Lahoti, Manager Innovation Management NABI addressed the gathering of 70-80 rural management students and made them aware about the processes to be followed while starting a new venture. He also discussed about NABI’s activities and programmes in the support of Agri-startups. Mr. Abhishek Sharma and Mr. Ashutosh Vyas from NABI team also attended the programme.
A sensitization workshop was held at Vivekanand Institute of Technology (VIT) & Vivekanand Global University (VGU) for aspiring entrepreneurs from technology, agriculture and management fields on 5th September, 2019. Ms. Kavita Sharma (Manager, Marketing & Communication) discussed about RKVY-RAFTAAR Scheme of Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. Of India and role of NIAM Agri Business Incubator (NABI) in supporting Agri-Incubation Ecosystem. Mr. Akshay Ranawat (Legal Executive) discussed the IPR related aspects.

To sensitize and encourage young women entrepreneurs in Agriculture Startup Ecosystem, a sensitization workshop was organised at Banasthali Vidyapeet in association with Atal Incubation Centre (AIC) on 28th August, 2019.

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Investors Meet

NABI organized an Investors’ Meet on 06.08.2019 for the participants of Startup Agri-Business Incubation Programme. Representatives from major public and private sector banks along with Venture Capital funds and Angel Investors from Indian Overseas Bank, SIDBI, Bank of Baroda, Bank of India, South Indian Bank, NABARD, State Bank of India, Indian Bank, UCO Bank, Rajasthan Venture Capital Fund(RVCF), Morarka Foundation, and Villgro participated in the meet. The incubatees of NABI presented their ideas before the investors and bankers. The funding community in return showed keen interest in providing financial support as well as technical guidance in business operations of the startups.
Valedictory Ceremony

On 29th May 2019, NIAM Agri-Business Incubator organized the “Valedictory Ceremony” of Agripreneurship Orientation Programme. Dr. P. Chandra Shekara, Director General, CCS NIAM was the Chief Guest for the programme. The programme highlighted the two months’ journey of the agripreneurs through a short movie followed by the sharing of the experience by the agripreneurs. The keynote address was given by the Chief Guest. The special address was given by Dr. Ramesh Mittal Chairman, NABI. The programme ended with vote of thanks by Mr. Manoj Agrawal, COO, NABI.

The Valedictory Ceremony of Startup Agri-Business Incubation Programme was held on 07 August, 2019 for Startups Agri-Business Incubation participants of NABI. There were 20 startups from 11 states of the country who participated in the programme. During the programme the startups were given training on milestone setting, DPR preparation, marketing and legal aspects of start-ups. The Director General of NIAM Dr. P. Chandra Shekara gave the keynote address. He wished success to all startups and asked them to motivate others to take up entrepreneurship as their career.

RKVY-RAFTAAR Selection & Monitoring Committee (RC)

A meeting of RKVY-RAFTAAR Selection & Monitoring Committee (RC) was held under the Chairpersonship of Ms. Chhavi Jha, Joint Secretary, RKVY in ZTM & BPD Unit, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi on October 11, 2019 for evaluating Agripreneurs of “Agripreneurship Orientation Programme” under NIAM Agri Business Incubator (NABI), CCS NIAM, Jaipur.

Fourteen Agripreneurs recommended by Centre for Excellence Incubation Committee (CIC) of CCS NIAM were invited for presentation before the RC.
Books / Publications

“Oasis of Innovation” a Coffee Table Book was released on the occasion of Foundation day of NIAM on 8th August 2019. This Book highlights the Success Stories of all the participants of Agripreneurship Orientation Programme.

“Oasis of agri-startups” A memoir of Startups from Startup Agri-Business Incubation Programme was released on 27th September 2019.
नियम की इंक्वेस्ट मीट संशोधन

वाजपेयी नियम द्वारा नियमावली की पत्रिका का एक अध्ययन करते हुए, नियमावली उपलब्ध है जिसे इंक्वेस्ट मीट का आयोजन किया गया। इस अंक पर नियमावली के अध्ययन के लिए इंक्वेस्ट नियम का अभ्यास किया गया। इस अंक पर नियमावली के अध्ययन के लिए इंक्वेस्ट नियम का अभ्यास किया गया।

नीवलों के लिए प्राकृतिक शिक्षाकार

वाजपेयी नियम द्वारा नियमावली की पत्रिका का एक अध्ययन करते हुए, नियमावली उपलब्ध है जिसे इंक्वेस्ट मीट का आयोजन किया गया। इस अंक पर नियमावली के अध्ययन के लिए इंक्वेस्ट नियम का अभ्यास किया गया।

स्टार्टअप: युवाओं को लुभा रहे बाजार से बने केक और कुकव

वाजपेयी नियम द्वारा नियमावली की पत्रिका का एक अध्ययन करते हुए, नियमावली उपलब्ध है जिसे इंक्वेस्ट मीट का आयोजन किया गया। इस अंक पर नियमावली के अध्ययन के लिए इंक्वेस्ट नियम का अभ्यास किया गया।
Articles

“Agriculture Technology and Innovation”

India is home to more than 118 million farmers and ranks among top countries of the world when it comes to production of different agri-commodities, e.g. grains, pulses, spices, vegetables and fruits. Despite these facts, 190.7 million people go hungry everyday in India as per an article published recently. This number might escalate further as population is expected to be 1.7 billion from current 1.3 billion by 2050 as per an estimate from United Nations. This problem might get even worse if we take consideration of the other issues like lack of financial resources, changing weather patterns etc.

To overcome this, new age technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Block Chain, Internet of Things, Data Analytics are seen as the best available resources. Startups using technologies in Agriculture are termed as “AgTech”; generally AgTech startups use the cutting age technologies for making farming processes more efficient and leading to better decisions for improving yield and productivity.

By 2020, about 315 million Indians living in rural areas will be connected with internet. The government is also focused on improving farmer's income and AgTech startups can play a major role in this initiative. Agriculture sector possesses a huge opportunity for entrepreneurs with innovative technological solutions with radical approach. Already a bunch of AgTech startups are working on innovative solutions which are creating impact on ground. These startups are not only getting good response from farmers but also receiving recognition across ecosystem.

Overall, it is the most opportune time to be an Agripreneur and introduce innovation and technology based solution in Agriculture sector as the entire ecosystem is positive and supportive.

Nitin Lahoti
Manager, Innovation Management
NIAM AGRI-Business Incubator(NABI)

“Agriculture Technology and Innovation”

Indian agriculture has been remained as Indian's mother economy. For thousands of years, India's civilization has been built and grown on the foundation of its agricultural economy. In the past, India has faced mass starvation, famine and hunger but became net exporter of food grain by the end of 20th century. This is one of the success stories of Indian Agriculture. At the beginning of the 21st century, India has continued to be a rural and agricultural country in terms of livelihood activities of people. However, still the potential of Indian agriculture is yet be exploited.

Many studies and surveys have revealed that about 30 percent of farmers had adopted some new practices in farming. By the year 2019, Agriculture indeed has become not merely an efficient, eco-friendly production system, capable of meeting basic demands of the rapidly increasing population, has vast potential for improving productivity of crops, livestock and fisheries, scope for making wastelands and lowlands productive, but also has become a major powerful instrument for a comprehensive socio-economic transformation of the country, including improvement in quality of the life of every individual. There is tremendous scope for higher investment in farm mechanization, agro-based industries and rural development and also has vast opportunities for export of agricultural commodities through diversification and trade.

From scenario of food shortage and its subsistence nature, agriculture sector is now poised towards commercialization and food surplus. To facilitate this paradigm shift, the other sub-sectors of agriculture like processing, marketing, infrastructure and export development are becoming more important. Now Indian agriculture is adopting more efficient methodology, technologies, labour saving and sustainable production methods. In future, frontier sciences like Biotechnology, Nano-technology, Sensor Technology, Robotics and Cloud computing will play a pivotal role in shaping the Indian agriculture.

The Science and Technology has contributed greatly in the past for finding solution and it can do so in the future, if investment is made. This will help in crop improvement, smarter use water and fertilizers, new pesticides, non-chemical approach to crop protection, reduction in post harvest losses, sustainable livestock and marine production.

Aishwarya Wasnik Ukey
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