

National Level Awareness Campaign during 14-16 October, 2024 on 'Accidents Due to Tractor Trailers and Other Farm Machinery'

Tractor population during year 2021-22 in India is 9.17 million, in which Madhya Pradesh ranks second with 1 million tractors. Tractor is basically made for agricultural work so that it can work efficiently by generating more traction even in rough and difficult conditions. Along with ploughing and sowing in the fields, it is also used to transport other agricultural equipment to the fields and to carry the crops and its products from the fields to homes, barns and markets using trolley. Unfortunately, tractors/trolleys are also being used as a means of transport in rural areas due to lack of facilities, which invites accidents. Approximately 6278 people get injured and 3956 people die in the country due to tractor accidents.

Keeping these accidents in mind, a national level awareness campaign was conducted by AICRP on Ergonomics and Safety in Agriculture and Allied Sector, ICAR-CIAE, Bhopal on prevention of accidents caused by tractor-trailer and agricultural machines during 14 to 16 October 2024. The campaign aimed to raise awareness among farmers, machinery operators and rural communities about the risks associated with tractor-trailers and other agricultural equipment. During this campaign, the participants were taught safe machine operation, maintenance tips and accident prevention measures through interactive sessions, exhibitions and expert talks. The importance of safety in agriculture was emphasized through this initiative, thereby ensuring a safe working environment for farmers and rural workers. Farmers were made aware of the hazards caused by alcohol consumption, fatigue, poor training and experience, loose clothing, and incorrect posture while operating machines. The importance of protective clothing while spraying pesticides, safety equipment when operating lawn mowers, covered power transmission, and proper footwear in low light or dense vegetation were also discussed. The program was organised by all 12 cooperating centres of AICRP on ESAAS in their respective states. During the campaign more than 1200 farmers participated and more than 300 slow moving vehicle (SMV) emblems were distributed among the tractor-trailer owners. Dr. Sukhbir Singh (PC, AICRP on ESAAS) said that the main objective of conducting this nationwide campaign is to prevent accidents caused by human transportation by tractor-trailer. During this, Dr. Bhushan Babu, Dr. Manoj Kumar, Dr. Bikram Jyoti, Er. Deepak Thorat, Dr. Rajeshwar Sanodiya, Dr. Aman Mahore and Omprabha also contributed actively and expressed their views on different aspects of safety and precautions.



Fig. 1. ICAR-CIAE, Bhopal (Village Jaitpura, District Bhopal, M. P.)



Fig. 2. DBSKKV, Dapoli (Talavali-Guhaghar of Ratnagiri (Maharashtra))



Fig. 3. CAU-CAEPHT Gangtok (CAEPHT campus Ranipool, Sikkim)

CAU-CAEPHT Gangtok (Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mangan, Sikkim)



Fig. 4. ICAR-IARI, New Delhi (Division of Extension Education, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi)



Fig. 5. IIT, Kharagpur, (Kusumpur village, Keshiary Block, District: Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal)



Fig. 6. CAET OUAT, Bhubaneswar, Odisha



CAET OUAT, Bhubaneswar (Village, Mayurajhalia, Dist: Nayagarh, Odisha)



Fig. 7. CSK HPKV, Palampur (Villages Tada and Deol, Himachal Pradesh)



Fig. 8. PAU, Ludhiana (PAU, Ludhiana)



Fig. 9. TNAU, Combatore (ICAR – KVK, MYRADA, Gobichettipalayam;. Erode District, Tamil Nadu)



Fig. 10. MPUAT, Udaipur (Rajasthan)



Fig. 11. ICAR-CIWA (ICAR-CIWA, Bhubaneshwar, Odisha)