

Report of FOCT Coconut palm climbing training programme

The ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra (Dakshina Kannada) Mangaluru has organized the Six days training programme as part of the 'Friends of Coconut Tree (FoCT) Palm Climbing Training Programme' sponsored by Coconut Development Board (Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer welfare, Government of India) Regional Office Bengaluru from 16th to 21th January, 2023 at ICAR-KVK (D.K), Mangaluru to impart skill for unemployed youth in the art of climbing coconut tree as well as to take up the plant protection measures.

The training programme covered practical session on climbing the coconut tree and technical sessions on the various aspects such as climbing machine-main parts, working and trial, cultivation aspects of coconut starting from introduction to coconut palm, cultivation, climate soil requirements, varieties of coconut, cultural, nutrient management, recycling of palm waste, intercropping and mixed cropping, drip irrigation, crown cleaning aspects - biological and chemical methods, organic farming practices and plant protection operations to harvesting procedures and post-harvest operations in coconut, developing leadership quality and communication skills, entrepreneurship development skills, thrift/savings management first aid measures etc.

The training programme was inaugurated by Geetha Kulakarni, ACP, Traffic Police, Mangaluru and in her inaugural speech addressed trainees to follow traffic rules and encouraged the trainees to develop technical skill for tackling the problem of coconut tree climbers for coconut farming. Mr. Ramesh, Traffic Inspector, Kankanady Police Station, Mangaluru participated as a chief guest and addressed the trainees to make use of training for sustainable livelihood. Dr. H. R. Naik, Deputy Director, Department of Horticulture were present during the inauguration programme. Dr. Rashmi R. Scientist (Horticulture) and coordinator of the training programme extended a very warm welcome to the Chief Guest, all dignitaries, invitees and participants of the training programme and also encouraged the trainees to take the advantages of the technologies and develop skills to make their coconut production systems and plant protection activities more sustainable and effective. Dr. Ramesha T. J. Senior Scientist and Head on his presidential remarks highlighted about the present status and future scope for development of coconut orchards in the district and urged to utilize the schemes and programmes of Coconut Development Board for sustainable

production and income and inauguration was ended by the Vote of thanks of Dr. Kedarnath, Scientist(Plant protection)

Dr. Rashmi R., Scientist (Horticulture), Dr. Mallikarjun L., Scientist (Soil Science), Dr. Kedarnath, Scientist (Plant Protection), Mr. Jeevan (Programme Coordinator) BVT Manipal, Mr, Lathish Counselor (Amulya Dakshina Kannada) and Dr Gautham Shetty, Doctor (Dispensary) Fisheries College Campus, Mangaluru were participated as the resource persons during the 6 days training programme. During the last session of the training, a 'Coconut Olympics' was also conducted in which the trainees were able to climb the 40 feet palms within 75-80 seconds.

The valedictory function was organized on 21st January 2023 with distribution of coconut climbing machine, Cash prize to the best 3 climbers got first three places during the Coconut Olympics and certificates to the participants.

Dr. Ramesha T. J., Senior Scientist and Head inaugurated the valedictory function and briefed about the availability of traditional tree climbers for harvesting and to adopt timely plant protection measures was a hurdle faced by coconut growers in the major coconut growing states in India. In this regard, it's important to train unemployed youths, in developing special skills and confidence in coconut palm climbing and plant protection activities for the benefit of the coconut community as a whole. Dr. Rashmi R., Scientist (Horticulture), briefed about employment opportunities in coconut farming by climbing the trees and also helps the youth to enhance their economic condition by this type of trainings. and strategies to be adopted to combat labor scarcity issues in the district.

During the valedictory function Dr. Shivakumar R., Asst. Professor (Veterinary Science), Dr. Chethan N. Scientist(Fisheries), Dr. Naveen Kumar B. T., Scientist (Agronomy), Dr. Kedarnath Scientist(Plant Protection), Dr. Mallikarjuna, Scientist (Soil Science) and Mr. Sathish Naik, Programme Assistant (Computer) and non-teaching staff of ICAR-KVK also participated in the event.

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Inauguration of FOCT palm climbing training programme on 16-01-2023 at ICAR-KVK,DK



Inaugural address by smt.Geetha Kulkarni, ACP, Traffic Police, during inauguration held at KVK Mangaluru



Group Photo of trainees of FOCT palm climbing training.



Dr. Rashmi R.(Horticulture), ICAR-KVK (D.K) Mangaluru explaining about the climbing machine-main parts, working principles of climbing machine and trial



Mr. Dinesh, Irvarthur, Master Trainer, explaining about the climbing machine-main parts, working principles of climbing machine and trial



Dr. Gautham Shetty, Campus Doctor, Fisheries College participated as a resource person and gave lecture on First aid measures



Dr. Rashmi R., Scientist (Horticulture), ICAR-KVK, DK participated as resource person and gave lecture on Coconut cultivation, propagation methods, Harvesting *etc.*



Dr. Mallikarjun L., Scientist (Soil Science) ICAR- KVK (D.K) Mangaluru participated as a resource person and gave lecture on soil, climate and INM practices in coconut



Dr. Kedarnath Scientist (Plant Protection) ICAR KVK (D.K) participated as resource person and gave lecture on pest and diseases management in Coconut



Mr. Lathish, Counsellor (Amulya) Mangaluru participated as a resource person and gave lecture on savings management



Mr. Jeevan Programme Coordinator (BVT Manipal) conducting the events related to developing leadership quality and communication skills



**Exposure Visit to Thumbe Horticulture Farm and Neera Extraction Unit, Karnataka
State Horticulture Department, Thumbe, Bantwala on 18-01-2023**



Coconut Olympics to select best three best trainers at ICAR-KVK (D.K) Mangaluru



**Certificate distribution to trainees on valedictory function held at KVK Dakshina
Kannada**



Distribution of palm climbing device to the trainees during valedictory function held at ICAR-KVK (D.K) Mangaluru



**Feedback by trainees of FOCT during valedictory function held at KVK Dakshina
Kannada**

News Coverage

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Demand grows for coconut tree climbing training programme

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Mangaluru: The 'Friends of coconut tree,' a training programme organised by the Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University (KVAFSU), Bidar, and ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Dakshina Kannada, with the support of the Coconut Development Board (CBD), Bengaluru, is recording a good response. This year, for the first time, after the programme was relaunched in 2020, training will be held in four batches of 20 members each. From one batch in 2020, training was held for two batches last year.

Dr Rashmi R, scientist, horticulture ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Dakshina Kannada, said that the first batch will be inaugurated on Monday. ACP (traffic) sub-division Geetha Kulkarni will inaugurate the week-long training programme, in which expert trainers will train 20 persons in the field. T.J Ramesh, senior scientist and head KVK, Dakshina Kannada, will preside, and E Aravazhi, director CDB, Bengaluru, will be present.

"Coconut is cultivated on nearly 31,000ha in Dakshina Kannada. Over the years, there is a slight drop in coconut cultivation, as many farms have shifted to cultivating areca nut. The biggest challenge is labour shortage for harvesting coconut, which has to be done once every 45 days," Rashmi said.

"Most persons who are trained, are doing well in their villages, and they have also trained others. The aim is to train youths between the age of 20-30, and some of the labourers who have been trained, harvest coconut from nearly 120 trees per day. Depending on the distance, they charge Rs 50-Rs100 per tree. Though women have been trained in the past, not many take it up as a profession. KVK makes sure to have at least two women in each batch," she said.

The tree climbing training programme was launched in 2013-14, and reintroduced in 2020, to provide employment to unemployed youths. Participants are trained in coconut climbing techniques, coconut harvesting operations, and crown cleaning aspects, spraying and pest control operation, pollination and hybridisation techniques, plant protection measures, identification of tender nut, mature coconut and seed nut, developing leadership quality and communication skills, entrepreneurship development skills and thrift and savings management. Each participant is provided with food and accommodation, and a coconut tree-climbing machine. On completion of the training programme, participants are also given insurance upto Rs 5 lakh, for a year," she said.

10909 admissions open

ಜ.16ರಂದು ತೆಂಗಿನಮರ ಹತ್ತುವ ತರಬೇತಿ

ಮಂಗಳೂರು: ಬೀದರಿನ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಶುವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ, ಪಶು ಹಾಗೂ ಮೀನುಗಾರಿಕೆ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿಗಳ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಮಂಗಳೂರಿನ ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕೇಂದ್ರ, ಹಾಗೂ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನ ತೆಂಗು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮಂಡಳಿಯ ವತಿಯಿಂದ ತೆಂಗಿನ ಮರ ಹತ್ತುವ ತರಬೇತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ಜ.16ರಿಂದ 21ರ ವರೆಗೆ ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ನಗರದ ಸಿಟಿ ಟ್ರಾಫಿಕ್ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಎಸಿಪಿ ಗೀತಾ ಕುಲಕರ್ಣಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ಉದ್ಘಾಟಿಸುವರು. ಮಂಗಳೂರು ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಹಿರಿಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರಾದ ಡಾ.ಟಿ.ಜಿ. ರಮೇಶ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆ ವಹಿಸುವರು. ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನ ತೆಂಗು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮಂಡಳಿಯ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ ಅರವಾಳಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವರು. ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅತಿಥಿಗಳಾಗಿ ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಉಪನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ ಎಚ್.ಆರ್. ನಾಯಕ್ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವರು. ತರಬೇತಿದಾರರಾಗಿ ಮಂಗಳೂರಿನ ಅನುಷ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಬಂಟ್ವಾಳದ ದಿನೇಶ್ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಲಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ದಿನದ ಸಂಪಾದನೆ ಸುಮಾರು 3 ಸಾವಿರ ರೂಪಾಯಿ | ಮಂಗಳೂರು ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ 20 ಮಂದಿಯ ನಾಲ್ಕು ತಂಡಕ್ಕೆ ತರಬೇತಿ

ತೆಂಗಿನ ಮರ ಏರುವವರಿಗೆ ಎಂಎನ್‌ಸಿ ಆದಾಯ

■ ದಿನದ ಸಂಪಾದನೆ ಸುಮಾರು ಮಂಗಳೂರು

ಕೆಲವೊಂದು ಹಿಂದೆ ಈ ಇಬ್ಬರು ಯುವಕರು ನಿರ್ದೋಷಿಗಳಾಗಿದ್ದರು. ಅರ್ಥಿಕವಾಗಿಯೂ ಲೇವಣಿ ಕಟ್ಟಲಾಗಿದ್ದಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ, ಇಂದು ಇವರಿಬ್ಬರ ಆದಾಯ ಬಹುಮಟ್ಟಿನ ಕುಸಿತವಾಗಿ ಉದ್ಯೋಗಗಳ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಇಲ್ಲ. ದಿನದ ಸಂಪಾದನೆಯೇ ಸುಮಾರು 3 ಸಾವಿರ ರೂಪಾಯಿಗಳು!

ಇಷ್ಟು ಸಂಪಾದನೆ ಮಾಡುವವರ ಉದ್ಯೋಗವೇನು ಗೊತ್ತೇ? ತೆಂಗಿನ ಮರ ಹತ್ತುವುದು. ಮಂಗಳೂರು ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಹಿಂದೆ ತರಬೇತಿ ಪಡೆದ ಸುರಕ್ಷಣಾ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರಾವೇಶಿಸಿದ ದಿನೇಶ್ ಈಗ ಕೃಷಿ ಕುಟುಂಬ ಸಂಪಾದನೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ತರಬೇತಿ ನೀಡುವ ಹಂತಕ್ಕೆ ತಲುಪಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಕೆವಿಹಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋವುಮಾರ ಅರಂಭಗೊಂಡು ಇದೇ ತನಿವಾರದವರೆಗೆ ನಡೆಯುವ 'ತೆಂಗಿನ ಮರದ ಸ್ಪೆಷಿಲಿಟಿ' ತೆಂಗಿನ ಮರ ಹತ್ತುವ ವಿಶೇಷ ತರಬೇತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಸಂವನ್ದಿಸ್ಥಾಪಕರಾಗಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಹತ್ತಾರು ಯುವಕರು ಪ್ರಾಯೋಗಿಕ ತರಬೇತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಉತ್ಸಾಹದಿಂದಲೇ ಪಾಲ್ಗೊಂಡರು. ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಿದ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನವರು ಭವಿಷ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ತೆಂಗಿನ ಮರ ಹತ್ತುವ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಡೆಸಲು ಇಚ್ಛಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ತರಬೇತಿಯ ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯ ಪಡೆದವರೇ ಗಾಯತ್ರಿ

6 ಈ ವರ್ಷ ನಿರ್ದೋಷಿ ಯುವಕರಾದ ನಾಲ್ಕು ತಂಡಗಳಿಗೆ ತೆಂಗಿನ ಮರ ಹತ್ತುವ ಕೌಶಲ ತರಬೇತಿ ನೀಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಪ್ರತಿ ತಂಡಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 20 ಮಂದಿಗೆ ತರಬೇತಿ ಕೊಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ತಂದೆ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೇ.3 ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರಾತಿನಿಧ್ಯ ಇದೆ. ತರಬೇತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವವರಿಗೆ ಆರು ದಿನ ವಾಸ್ತವ್ಯ, ಊಟ, ಉಪಾಹಾರ ಉಚಿತವಾಗಿ ದೊರೆಯಲಿದ್ದು, ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಬ್ಬರಿಗೆ ಮರ ಹತ್ತುವ ಒಂದು ಸಾಧನ ಮತ್ತು ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದ ವಿಷಯವನ್ನು ತೆಂಗು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮಂಡಳಿಯಿಂದ ಉಚಿತವಾಗಿ ಒದಗಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

| ಡಾ.ರಂಜಿ, ಮಂಗಳೂರು ಕೆಂಪೆ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ (ಸೀಟಾಬಾರ್ಡ್)



ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಶು ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ, ಪಶು ಹಾಗೂ ಮೀನುಗಾರಿಕೆ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ತೆಂಗು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮಂಡಳಿ (ಮಂಗಳೂರು) ಸಹಯೋಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಗಳೂರು ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ನೋವುಮಾರ ಅರಂಭಗೊಂಡ 'ತೆಂಗಿನ ಮರದ ಸ್ಪೆಷಿಲಿಟಿ' ತರಬೇತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಾಯೋಗಿಕ ತರಬೇತಿ ಪಡೆಯುತ್ತಿರುವ ಯುವಕರು.

ತಮ್ಮ ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಜಮೀನಿನಲ್ಲಿರುವ ತೆಂಗಿನ ಮರಗಳ ತೆಂಗು ಕೀಟವ ಕೆಲಸದಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ವಾವಲಂಬನೆ ಉದ್ದೇಶಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ನಾಟಕ, ಅನುಭವಿಕ ಕಲಾವಿದರಾಗಿ ಗುರುತಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ದೊಳಂಪೇರಿನ ಅಧೀನಾ ಕೂಡ ತರಬೇತಿ ಬಳಿಕ ತಮ್ಮ ಕೀಟವ ತೆಂಗಿನ ಕಾಯಗಳನ್ನು ತಾವೇ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಬಯಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಉದ್ಯುಕ್ತವಾ ಸುಮಾರುಭರದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಜ್ಞ ತೆಂಗು ಉತ್ಪಾದಕ ಕುಸಿತ ಮುಖ್ಯ

ಕರಾವಳಿಯಾದಂತ ಸಿಕ್ಕಾಪಟ್ಟಿ ಡಿಮಾಂಡ್

ಸುರಕ್ಷಣಾ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನ ಎಂಟು ವರ್ಷ ಹಿಂದೆ 2015-16ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಗಳೂರು ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ತೆಂಗಿನ ಮರ ಹತ್ತುವ ತರಬೇತಿ ಪಡೆಯುವ ತನಕ ಕೂಡ ನಿರ್ದೋಷಿ ಯುವಕ. ಎರಡು ಹೊತ್ತು ಊಟ ಮಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕೂ ಕಷ್ಟಪಡಬೇಕಾದ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಬೆಳಗಂಟಿಯ ಪುನರಾವೇಶಿಸಿದ ಯುವಕ ದಿನೇಶ್ 2020-21ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ತರಬೇತಿ ಪಡೆಯುವ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೂಡ ಅವರ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಅರ್ಥಿಕವಾಗಿ ಅನುಕೂಲಕರವಾಗಿ ಇರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಪುನಃ ಇಬ್ಬರೂ ಉತ್ತಮ ಸಂಪಾದನೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. 'ಓಂದು ತೆಂಗಿನ ಮರ ಹತ್ತಿದರೆ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೂಡ 70 ರೂ ತೆಗೆಯುತ್ತೇವೆ. ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ ತನಕ 60-70 ಮರ ಹತ್ತುತ್ತೇವೆ. ದಿನದಲ್ಲಿ 100 ಮರ ಏರುವುದೂ ಉಂಟು. ಬೇಡಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ಪೂರ್ಣ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪೂರೈಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗದೆ ಕೆಲವು ಕಡೆಯ ಕೆಲಸವನ್ನು ಬೇರೆ ಜನರಿಗೆ ಕೊಡುವುದು ಉಂಟು. ಮಂಗಳೂರು ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಮೂಲಕ ನಮಗೆ ಒಂದು ಅನ್ನದ ದಾರಿ ಗೋಚರಿಸಿವೆ' ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಾರೆ ದಿನೇಶ್.

ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಬೇತನ್ ಕುಮಾರ್, ಪುನಃ ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ ಎಲ್.ಆರ್. ನಾಯಕ್, ವರದಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಪೋಲೀಸ್ ಅಯುಕ್ತೆ ನಿಜಾ ಕುಲಕರ್ಣಿ, ಮಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಪೋಲೀಸ್ ಠಾಣೆಯ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ ಪೋಲೀಸ್ ಇನ್ಸ್‌ಪೆಕ್ಟರ್ ರಮೇಶ್ ಮುಂತಾದವರು ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅತಿಥಿಗಳಾಗಿದ್ದು ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಹಿರಿಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿ, ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥ ಡಾ.ಟಿ.ಜಿ.ರಮೇಶ್ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ವಹಿಸಿದ್ದರು. ಕೆವಿಹಿ ಮಂಗಳೂರು ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ (ಸೀಟಾಬಾರ್ಡ್) ಡಾ.ರಂಜಿ ಪ್ರಾತಿನಿಧ್ಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿ (ಸಗ್ಗ ಸಂದರ್ಭ) ಡಾ.ಕೆ.ದೀಪಾನ್ವಾಲ್ ವಂದಿಸಿದರು.

M'luru youth climbs coconut trees to fight poverty

But a training programme at ICAR-KVK transformed his life and now, he earns close to Rs 50,00 a month

DIVYA CUTINHO @ Mangaluru

LIFE was tough for Amish Suvarna from Mangaluru as he was poor and unemployed. But a training programme at ICAR-Krishna Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Dakshina Kannada transformed his life and now, he earns close to Rs 50,00 a month.

There are many youth like him who are being helped by KVK to earn a decent living. The institute trains people to pluck coconuts using a device developed at its centre. The six-day training programme, 'Friends of Coconut Tree', by the Coconut Development Board (CBD) was initiated by KVK in Dakshina Kannada in 2014-15. On last Monday too,

there were around 20 youth from the district who had come to join training. With the programme becoming popular and demand growing, KVK held four such programmes in 2023.

Since its inception, the programme has trained over 200 youngsters and traditional coconut pluckers. Of them, 50 have continued with this line of work. For Suvarna, too, the tool provided by KVK was the game-changer. He has now become one of the trainers at the institute.

"I climb up to 100 trees and charge Rs 40-50 per tree, earning around Rs 3,000 a day. In a month, I make around Rs 50,000. The device provided by KVK has made plucking coconuts easy and I need not use hands

and legs. Earlier, it was a struggle as I had to climb trees using a rope and it would take around 25 minutes to do the job. But now, I can finish plucking coconuts in just 10 minutes and that helps me climb more trees in a day," he says.

As the word of the programme has spread, there are people coming in from Madhya Pradesh and Assam who are being trained by Suvarna.



Since its inception, the programme has trained over 200 youngsters and traditional coconut pluckers. Of them, 50 have continued with this line of work

Source:

Faster climbing, less energy
 The device has two steel loops for leg support and a handle. The loops are placed around the coconut tree trunks and are lifted by simultaneous movement of hands and feet.

"We were trained to assemble the tool and also how to climb the trees using it," said a participant.

Suvarna said the tool used by him to train participants is a little heavy while a lightweight option is available which makes tree climbing even more convenient. "With the tool, we can climb faster using less energy," Suvarna said.

The programme has 30 per cent seats reserved for women, while those aged 18 to 40 will benefit the most.

Participants receive Rs 150 as stipend per day and a coconut climbing machine worth Rs 2,000 free. They also get an insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh, in case of an accidental death. They are provided free accommodation and food.

Dr Rashmi R, scientist, Horticulture, ICAR-Krishna Vigyan Kendra (KVK), told TNIE, "Coconut is grown in 31,000 hectares in Dakshina Kannada and harvesting has to be done every 45 days. Unfortunately, there is a shortage of coconut tree climbers or pluckers resulting in huge losses affecting productivity. We intend to motivate unemployed youth by providing them training and helping them become self-reliant," she said.



Amish Suvarna (in white shirt) during a six-day training camp on coconut tree climbing | Express

❖ <https://www.etvbharat.com/kannada/karnataka/state/dakshina-kannada/coconut-tree-climbing-training-in-managloru/ka20230119225003539539587>

❖ Udayavani-<https://www.udayavani.com/district-news/dakshina-kannadanews/coconutclimbing-training-for-the-unemployed-at-least-2000-rs-editing>

❖ <https://fb.watch/i7kZ634zF-/?mibextid=RUBz1f>

❖ ಮಂಗಳೂರು: ಸುಲಭದಲ್ಲಿ ತೆಂಗಿನ ಮರ ಹತ್ತಲು ಕುಡ್ಡದಲ್ಲಿ ತರಬೇತಿ, ನಿರುದ್ಯೋಗಿಗಳ ಪಾಲಿಗೆವರವಾದ ಕಲ್ಪವೃಕ್ಷ*

<https://publicnext.com/article/nid/Udupi/Mangalore/Jobs/?lang=kn&node=768924>

Category wise participants details

Name of the scheme	Total no.of beneficiaries	No.of beneficiaries							
		Gender			Social Category				
	(3)	Male (out of 3)	Female (out of 3)	TG (out of 3)	General (out of 3)	OBC (out of 3)	SC (out of 3)	ST (out of 3)	PwD (out of 3)
FoCT Palm Climbing Training Programme	20	17	3	0	0	16	2	2	0

Category wise fund utilization details

Total Exp incurred (Rs.in lakhs)	Amount (Rs.in lakhs)							
	Gender			Social Category				
	Male (out of 4)	Female (out of 4)	TG (out of 4)	General (out of 4)	OBC (out of 4)	SC (out of 4)	ST (out of 4)	PwD (out of 4)
(4)								
0.565	0.48025	0.08475	0	0	0.452	0.0565	0.0565	0