

# FUNDS SANCTIONED FOR SEED AND PLANTING MATERIAL HUBS UNDER ICAR-ATARI ZONE VII, UMIAM



**Imphal, April 28, 2025** — The Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ICAR-ATARI), Zone VII, Umiam, has announced the sanctioning of funds for the establishment of seed and quality planting material hubs at all Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) under its jurisdiction. This significant announcement was made by Dr. A. K. Mohanty, Director, ICAR-ATARI Zone VII, during the inaugural session of a three-day workshop on the “Action Plan for KVKs under ICAR-ATARI Zone VII for the year 2025–26,” held at the College of Agriculture, Central Agricultural University (CAU), Iroisemba, Imphal.

The workshop was jointly organized by ICAR-ATARI Zone VII and CAU, Imphal, and was attended by several dignitaries including CAU Vice Chancellor Dr. Anupam Mishra as Chief Guest and former Union Minister Thounaojam Chaoba as Special Guest. Also present were CAU College of Agriculture Dean Prof. Indira Sarangthem, ICM Director Kh Rangalimai Aimol, and CAU Extension Education Director Prof. Ph Ranjit Sharma.

Dr. A. K. Mohanty also informed that a **Rural Ethnic Business Incubation Centre** would be launched as a pilot project at KVKs in Imphal East and Thoubal districts. These centres aim to support innovative agricultural enterprises and value-added rural business initiatives, particularly in the tribal and ethnic communities of the region.

Highlighting the broader efforts of ICAR-ATARI and its partners, Dr. A. K. Mohanty emphasized ongoing training programs targeting rural youth and KVK specialists. These efforts are designed to build capacity in modern agricultural practices and improve the transfer of technologies from research institutions to the grassroots.



In his remarks, Dr. Anupam Mishra discussed the growing impact of climate change on agriculture and underscored the importance of integrating AI, IT tools, remote sensing, and GIS into farming practices. He called for accurate and science-based planning in the development and implementation of agricultural strategies.

As part of the event, a **publication and a video film** related to the new incubation initiative were also released.

This collaborative initiative reflects a strategic push towards innovation-driven rural development and the strengthening of agricultural value chains in the North Eastern Region.

## ICAR-ATARI Zone VII Unveils Annual Action Plan 2025 to Boost Agriculture in Northeast

**Imphal, April 28** — The Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ICAR-ATARI), Zone VII, Umiam, has launched its **Annual Action Plan (AAP) 2025**, outlining a strategic vision to enhance agricultural innovation, seed quality, and rural entrepreneurship across the North Eastern Region.

The plan was officially introduced during a three-day regional workshop at the College of Agriculture, Central Agricultural University (CAU), Iroisemba. The inaugural session was led by **Dr. A. K. Mohanty**, Director, ICAR-ATARI Zone VII, and attended by several dignitaries including **CAU Vice Chancellor Dr. Anupam Mishra**, former Union Minister **Thounaojam Chaoba**, and senior officials from ICAR and CAU.

As part of AAP 2025, **seed and quality planting material hubs** will be established at all **Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs)** under the zone. These hubs are aimed at improving the timely availability of high-quality seeds and planting materials suited to regional conditions.

A key component of the plan is the launch of a **Rural Ethnic Business Incubation Centre** at the KVKs in **Imphal East** and **Thoubal** districts. The pilot initiative will support local entrepreneurship, particularly among tribal and ethnic communities, by promoting value-added agricultural products and indigenous innovations.

Dr. Mohanty highlighted that AAP 2025 also prioritizes **capacity-building programs** for rural youth and KVK specialists, with a focus on transferring modern farming technologies and strengthening grassroots extension systems.

Addressing the workshop, Dr. Mishra emphasized the growing impact of **climate change** on agriculture and called for the integration of **artificial intelligence, remote sensing, GIS**, and other digital tools to make farming more data-driven and sustainable.

A publication and short film on the new incubation initiative were also released during the event.

With AAP 2025, ICAR-ATARI Zone VII sets a forward-looking agenda to build resilient, tech-enabled, and inclusive agricultural systems in the Northeast.