

PM Applauds KVK-Nurtured Farmer Innovations at Natural Farming Summit 2025

The South India Natural Farming Summit 2025, held at Coimbatore, served as a major platform to promote low-cost, nature-positive, and climate-resilient agricultural practices across the southern states. As a key highlight of the Summit, an interaction was organized with the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, during which progressive farmers shared their innovations, field experiences, and outcomes from adopting natural and sustainable farming technologies. From ICAR–ATARI Zone X, Hyderabad, *seven distinguished farmers representing three KVKs*—Karur, Coimbatore, and Tiruppur—were chosen for this prestigious interaction.

The participating farmers included Mr. M. Karthikeyan (KVK Karur), who is establishing a *Natural Farming–based Food Forest*; Mr. K. Sampathkumar (KVK Coimbatore), cultivating coconut, banana, papaya, and pepper with the integrated support of *60 indigenous cattle*; and Mr. Vijayan (KVK Coimbatore), a master trainer in organic farming. Also engaged were Mr. Mahendran Ganesan (KVK Coimbatore), who presented the use of *super-charged activated charcoal* for enhancing soil microbial activity; Mr. K. M. P. Mohankumar (KVK Tiruppur), well known for preparing and supplying *Panchakavya, Jeevamirtham, Vermicompost, Agnyastram*, and *coconut oil soap* to farmer groups; Mr. Kumarasamy (KVK Tiruppur), a practitioner cultivating two acres entirely with farm-made organic inputs; and Mrs. M. Sumalatha (KVK Tiruppur), who manages six acres under natural farming while undertaking the *value addition of coconut, moringa, perandai*, and *dairy products*.

During the interaction, these farmers highlighted significant achievements in soil fertility restoration, microbial enrichment, on-farm input production, integrated farming models, and value-added enterprise development. The Hon'ble Prime Minister appreciated their dedication to sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture, commending their role as grassroots innovators and ambassadors of natural farming. The discussion underscored the importance of model demonstration farms, farmer-to-farmer learning, collective marketing, value-addition clusters, and the pivotal support provided by KVKs in capacity-building and field-level dissemination.

The participation of multiple KVKs from ICAR–ATARI Zone X showcased the region's strong adoption of natural farming principles and its growing ecosystem of farmer innovators. The interaction served as a powerful source of inspiration for farmer communities, KVK teams, and rural youth, reinforcing their commitment to expanding natural farming interventions, strengthening local institutions, and contributing to sustainable agricultural development.

YouTube Reference:

(<https://www.youtube.com/live/bzBjpJQRvdQ?si=IDcUo81XSFRxvfNm>)



Mr. M. Karthikeyan interacting with the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi



Mr. K. M. P. Mohankumar interacting with the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi



Mr. K. Sampathkumar interacting with the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi