



ACPR Newsletter

Issue – 2

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ARRUPE CENTRE FOR POLICY RESEARCH (ACPR)

Arul Anandar College (Autonomous), Karumathur – 625 514, Madurai District, Tamil Nadu

MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF ACPR IN 2020-21

Activity I

Strengthening the ongoing mobile based continuous learning of farmers in Madurai district

Activity II

Capacity building of Coconut Farmers Producer Organization (FPO) and networking with other three FPOs in Madurai district

Activity III

Conducting Career Oriented Course (COC) on Multimedia for Lifelong Learning & ODL for 40 Students in AAC and upscaling of L3F in the academic institutions

Activity IV

Support to conduct a MobiMOOC for 1500 farmers to address their learning needs

Activity V

Content creation of voice mail for mobile learning, social media and L3fpedia.com as OER platform

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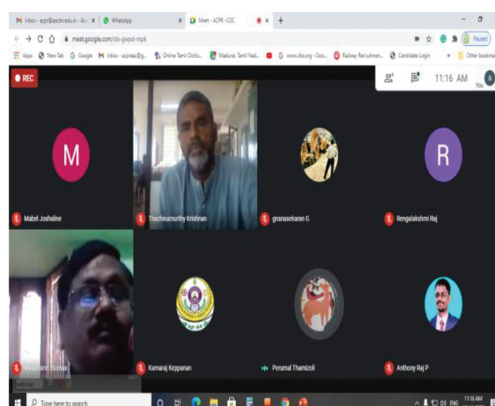
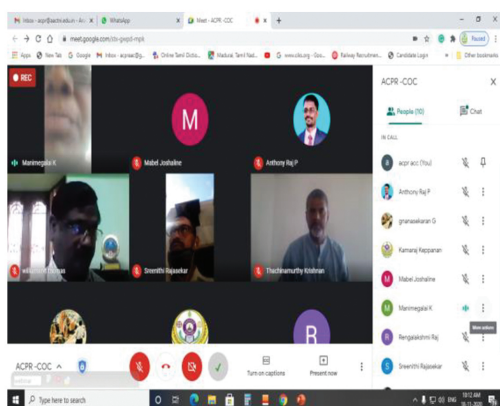
ACHIEVEMENTS IN A NUTSHELL (2020-21)

- 860 farmers were newly added to mobile networking
- A network of 7 FPOs was created
- Upscaling of L3F programme in three new institutions
- 238 students have successfully completed the Career Oriented Course (COC) on Multimedia for Lifelong Learning and ODL
- A Mobi-MOOC on “The Livestock Disease Management in Summer” was conducted for 1500 farmers (Female-395, Male – 1105)
- 600 voicemails were created and shared with 2100 farmers (Female – 530 and Male – 1570)
- 25 YouTube videos were developed and uploaded to YouTube
- 25 multimedia contents were developed and uploaded to L3Fpedia.com, YouTube and Facebook

PROGRAMMES OF ACPR IN 2020-21

1. Expert Panel Meeting for Policy Research Initiative by ACPR

An online panel discussion with the experts was organized by ACPR on 18th November 2021 for its policy research on 'COVID-19 and its implications on small and marginal farmers'. Nine experts shared their expertise on the issue and suggested research planning.



2. Orientation Meeting with Madurai District Coconut and Other Crops Producer Organization and Other Selected FPOs

An orientation meeting was organized in Rev. Dr. J. L. Gnanarethinam, SJ Hall, Arul Anandar College on 20th December 2020 at 11.00 am. The main purpose of this meeting was to initiate the mobile based learning programmes for FPO (Farmer Producer Organization) leaders and to create a network among FPOs. 30 members from seven FPOs participated in this programme.



3. Two Days Training Programme on Producing and Marketing of Coir pith

ACPR aimed at expanding the business activities for the selected coconut FPOs by conducting “Two Days Training Programme on Producing and Marketing of Coir Pith” on 05th & 06th February 2021. The first training was organized in Diraviam Arangam, Arul Anandar college on 05th February 2021 at 10.00 am. 30 Leaders from various FPOs participated in this programme.

On the second day, a hands-on training on producing and marketing was arranged in **Natures Coir Private Limited, Periyakulam** on 06th February 2021.



4. A One-day Training Programme on Production and Marketing of Coir pith

Intensive hands-on training on production and marketing of Coir pith was arranged for the selected members of Coconut FPO, Karumathur & Chellampatti FPO on 17th February 2021. The meeting was organized in “**Victor Fibers, Sholavanthan, Madurai District**”. 30 women farmers participated in the training programme.



5. Mobile Learning for Farmers through MobiMOOC

A MobiMOOC on “The Livestock Disease Management in Summer” was conducted for 1500 farmers **in collaboration with IIT – Kanpur**. It was formally launched on 11th April 2021. The main agenda of this MobiMOOC was to address the learning needs of farmers. The list of 1500 participants was identified by conducting Focus Group Discussion and continuous field visits.



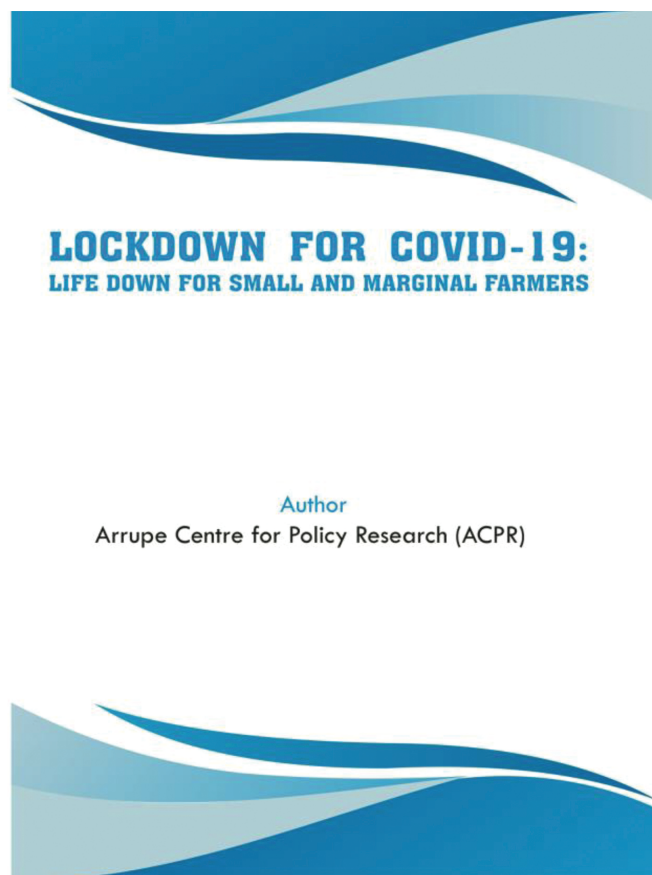
6. Upscaling of L3F (Lifelong Learning for Farmers) in the Academic Institutions

A Two-Day workshop on “Upscaling of L3F” was organized in Germanus Hotel, Madurai on 23rd and 24th July 2021. The objective of this workshop was to upscale the Career Oriented Course on ‘Multimedia for Lifelong Learning and ODL’ in the academic institutions. Representatives of 20 academic institutions participated in the workshop.



ACPR releases a monograph

ACPR has carried out a minor project on COVID-19 and its implication on small and marginal farmers and released a monograph titled 'Lockdown for COVID-19: Life Down for Small and Marginal Farmers' on March 2022 with ISBN 978-93-93737-33-5. This was published by Shanlax Publications, Madurai.



HIGHLIGHTS OF TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURE BUDGET 2022

The Budget aims at

- Increasing the net cultivable area in Tamil Nadu
- Integrating all allied agricultural project to result in overall rural development
- Raising the income of rain fed / dry land farmers
- Encouraging crop rotation with cereals, millets, pulses, oilseeds, cotton, fruits and vegetables so as to increase the net area of crop cultivation
- Protecting the farmers from crop loss due to natural calamities
- Offering technical guidance to the farmers in order to generate income all through the year by allied activities of agriculture
- Promoting organic farming
- Empowering agricultural extension department with the latest information technology which, in turn, will enable rapid transfer of information to farmers
- Conserving irrigation water
- Preserving and encouraging conventional/ wild varieties in agriculture and horticulture
- Expanding mechanization of agricultural work.
- Promoting effective utilization of solar energy for agricultural work
- Strengthening of farm ponds and various other water resources
- Revising the marketing strategies to enable profitable prices for the farmers

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