

A man in an orange vest and white shirt is speaking at a podium. He is gesturing with his right hand raised. The podium is decorated with a large, colorful floral arrangement. In the background, there is a large banner with a portrait of a man and text in Hindi. The text on the banner includes "वि.स. संकल्प" and "2025".

VIKSIT KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAN 2025: A TRANSFORMATIVE CAMPAIGN FOR INDIAN AGRICULTURE

The **Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan (VIKSIT KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAN) 2025**, a 15-day nationwide campaign launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare in collaboration with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), concluded on June 12, 2025, in Bardoli, Gujarat. Spearheaded by Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, this ambitious initiative aimed to bridge the gap between cutting-edge agricultural research and on-ground farming practices, reaching over 1.12 crore farmers across more than 700 districts and 1 Lakh+ villages, 55000 programs. The campaign, which ran from May 29 to June 12, 2025, marked a significant step toward realizing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of "Lab to Land" and building a sustainable, self-reliant agricultural sector for a Viksit Bharat by 2047.

The **VIKSIT KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAN 2025** was initiated to empower farmers with modern technologies, promote natural farming, enhance crop productivity, reduce cultivation costs, and ensure fair prices while fostering farmer-scientist collaboration. With the participation of 16,000+ agricultural scientists, 731 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), 113 ICAR institutes & 2170 teams from state-level departments, the campaign facilitated direct engagement with farmers through Kisan Chaupals, conferences and field visits. Below is a detailed account of the campaign's success, with a focus on Minister Chouhan's visits to Punjab, Haryana, and Madhya Pradesh, the pivotal role of ICAR Director General Dr. M.L. Jat, and insights from ten prominent ICAR personalities.



CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES

Launched on May 29, 2025, from Puri, Odisha, at the ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA), VIKSIT KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAN 2025 aimed to:

- Educate farmers about modern agricultural technologies, high-yield seed varieties, and region-specific crop management practices.
- Raise awareness of government schemes like the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, PM Kisan, and subsidies for agriculture and allied sectors.
- Promote sustainable practices, including natural farming, soil health management and integrated pest management.
- Foster two-way communication to

incorporate farmer feedback into research and policy-making.

- Support allied sectors like horticulture, animal husbandry and fisheries to enhance rural livelihoods.

The campaign deployed 2,170 interdisciplinary teams, each comprising at least four experts from ICAR institutes, agricultural universities, KVKs and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs). These teams conducted three daily sessions (morning, afternoon, and evening) across villages, providing tailored advice based on local soil health, water availability and agro-climatic conditions. The initiative reached an estimated 10-12 lakh farmers daily, making it one of the largest agricultural outreach programs in India's history.



SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN'S KEY VISITS:

Union Agriculture Minister **Sh. Shivraj Singh Chouhan** travelled across nearly 20 states, engaging directly with farmers, scientists, and policymakers. His visits to Punjab, Haryana, and Madhya Pradesh were particularly significant, given these states' critical contributions to India's agricultural output.

Odisha – Sakhigopal, Puri:

VKSA Launched with Focus on Sustainable Aquaculture

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VKSA) was officially launched in Odisha at the ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA), Bhubaneswar, with the presence of Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi and Deputy CM K.V. Singh Deo. The event witnessed the participation of over 600 farmers,

including a strong presence of women from Self-Help Groups (SHGs). Scientist-farmer interactions promoted sustainable aquaculture, integrated farming systems, and water-use efficiency. The state's proactive agricultural policy was praised, especially Odisha's paddy procurement at ₹3,100/quintal, which is ₹800 above the Minimum Support Price (MSP)—hailed as a national model for farmer welfare and market assurance.

Uttar Pradesh – Meerut:

Empowering Farmers with Climate-Resilient Practices

In Dabhthuwa and Jangethi villages of Meerut, the VKSA outreach featured chaupals and grassroots interactions, promoting flood-resistant crop varieties and micro-irrigation techniques



tailored to regional challenges. These sessions facilitated real-time knowledge exchange on climate-resilient agriculture, sustainable water management, and adaptive farming methods. As India's largest agrarian state, Uttar Pradesh saw thousands of farmers engaged through the campaign, reinforcing the importance of localized solutions and farmer-to-farmer learning for long-term agricultural sustainability.

Maharashtra – Narayangaon, Pune

Visited KVK, APMC, and tomato markets, inspecting farms and cold storage. Announced strict action against fake fertilizers and a Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for TOP crops (Tomato, Onion, Potato). Encouraged export-

oriented crops like grapes and bananas, with a focus on climate-resilient varieties. In Haryana, Chouhan's visit focused on promoting crop diversification and natural farming to address the state's challenges with water scarcity and soil degradation. He interacted with farmers in Kurukshetra, emphasizing the use of Soil Health Cards to optimize fertilizer use and improve soil fertility. He announced about Approval of moong procurement under the Price Support Scheme (PSS) for the 2025-26 summer season to ensure fair prices for farmers, Advocacy for climate-smart agriculture and water conservation techniques, such as micro-irrigation and rainwater harvesting, Chouhan announced that Haryana's success in natural farming would be scaled up, with plans to cover 7.5 lakh hectares nationwide in 2025.



Punjab-KVK, Rauni & Khedi Gandia, Patiala

On June 5, 2025, the eighth day of VIKSIT KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAN, Minister Chouhan visited Khedi Gandia village in Patiala, Punjab, accompanied by Punjab's Agriculture Minister Gurmeet Singh Khuddian and ICAR Director General Dr. M.L. Jat. Addressing farmers, Chouhan lauded Punjab as "the land that fills India's granaries" due to its pivotal role in rice and wheat production. He emphasized Direct Seeding of Rice (DSR), a sustainable technique to reduce water usage and

labour costs in rice cultivation. During the visit, Farmers were introduced to modern farming technologies, including drone-based spraying and precision agriculture. Experts provided guidance on kharif crop planning, integrated pest management, and soil and water testing. Chouhan assured strict action against fake fertilizers and pesticides, addressing a key concern raised by local farmers. He highlighted the importance of farmer feedback in shaping policies, stating, "Policies must be driven by farmers' voices, not bureaucracy".



Bihar – Piprakothi, East Champaran:

Focus on High-Yield Maize & Water-Smart Rice

At KVK Piprakothi, former Union Minister and MP Radha Mohan Singh participated in VKSA activities, promoting high-yield maize and water-efficient rice varieties. Farmers were informed about

maize yield improvements from 23–24 to 50–60 quintals/ha, showcasing major productivity gains. Discussions also focused on tapping the export potential of flattened rice (chidwa), a local staple. The event emphasized climate-resilient farming and market-driven crop choices to boost farmer incomes in the region.

Madhya Pradesh – Ichhawar, Sehore

Addressed 8,800 farmers at a Kisan Chaupal with MP Agriculture Minister Karan Singh Verma. Announced 800,000 new houses under PMAY and expanded the Lakhpati Didi Scheme. Boosted irrigation projects using Narmada water and promoted high-quality seeds. On June 7, 2025, Chouhan visited Ichhawar in Sehore district, Madhya Pradesh, his home state, where 8,800 farmers gathered for a massive Kisan Chaupal. Accompanied by Madhya Pradesh's Agriculture Minister Karan Singh Verma and senior ICAR officials, including Dr. Rajbir Singh (Deputy Director General, Agricultural Extension) and Dr. C.R. Mehta (Director, ICAR-CIAE), Chouhan announced:

- The issuance of acceptance letters for 800,000 new houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, boosting rural infrastructure.
- Initiatives to provide high-quality seeds and expand the Lakhpati Didi Scheme for women's empowerment in agriculture.
- A focus on irrigation projects, including the use of Narmada water, to enhance agricultural productivity.
- Responding to criticism, Chouhan defended the campaign's scientific approach, stating, "India's record foodgrain production of 3,309.18 lakh tonnes in 2024-25 is a testament to coordinated field-level action."



Telangana – Mangalpalli, Ranga Reddy:

Boosting Digital Agri & FPOs under VKSA

As part of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VKSA), a special outreach event was held in Mangalpalli, Ranga Reddy district, focusing on digital agriculture and strengthening Farmer-Producer Organizations (FPOs). The program promoted the use of Mobile Integrated Systems (MIS) for TOP crops (Tomato, Onion, Potato), enhancing transparency and market access. Emphasis was laid on crop diversification, value chain development, and technology adoption to improve farmer incomes. Telangana has over 900 active FPOs, playing a key role in collective marketing and input procurement. The event underscored the state's efforts to integrate smallholders into digital and organized agri-markets.



Delhi – Tigipur:

Shivraj Singh Chouhan Promotes Agri-Tech & Soil Health Cards

As part of the Viksit Krishi campaign, Union Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan visited Tigipur village on Delhi's outskirts, engaging with farmers on sustainable agriculture. He promoted the Soil Health Card scheme, which has benefited over 11 crore farmers nationwide, and emphasized the role of agri-tech in boosting productivity. Highlighting Delhi's strategic market access, he urged farmers to adopt crop diversification and peri-urban farming for better returns. The visit reinforced the government's push for technology-led, market-linked agriculture under the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra.



Gujarat – Bardoli- VKSA The Viksit Kisan Sampark Abhiyan (VKSA)

concluded successfully in Bardoli, Gujarat, with a high-impact Kisan Sammelan (Farmers' Convention), marking a significant step in the ongoing efforts to transform Indian agriculture. The event witnessed the virtual inauguration of multiple Centers of Excellence for horticulture and modern storage and value-chain infrastructure, jointly by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri Bhupendra Patel, and senior officials from the Government of India.

These Centers are aimed at promoting advanced agricultural practices, post-harvest management, and value addition, especially in horticulture and perishable produce. The upgraded storage facilities will help reduce post-harvest losses and

improve farmers' access to markets, thereby increasing their incomes and productivity.

The campaign directly benefited over 4 lakh farmers across Gujarat through extensive outreach, demonstrations, training sessions, and dissemination of government schemes and agri-tech solutions. Gujarat remains a powerhouse in Indian agriculture, leading the country in the production of castor (77%),

groundnut (44.5%), and cotton (24%), and the VKSA initiatives are expected to further boost the state's agrarian economy. The event highlighted the importance of public-sector initiatives and technology-driven interventions in ensuring inclusive agricultural growth. It also underscored the state's commitment to farmer empowerment through knowledge transfer, infrastructure development, and access to innovation.

FACTORS BEHIND VKSA'S SUCCESS

- 1. Farmer-Centric Approach:** VKSA prioritized farmers' voices, with Chouhan's direct interactions fostering trust and actionable feedback.
- 2. Scientific Outreach:** The deployment of 16,000 scientists ensured region-specific solutions, from DSR in Punjab to maize innovations in Bihar.
- 3. Policy Support:** Initiatives like MIS, PSS, and action against fake inputs addressed farmers' immediate concerns.
- 4. State Collaboration:** Active participation from state governments, as emphasized by Chouhan, ensured localized implementation.
- 5. Technology Adoption:** Drones, precision agriculture, and Soil Health Cards modernized farming practices.

Throughout these visits, Chouhan emphasized six pillars for agricultural transformation: increasing production, reducing costs, ensuring fair prices, providing compensation for losses, promoting diversification and maintaining soil fertility. His hands-on approach, including informal discussions on traditional cots (charpais), resonated deeply with farmers, fostering trust and collaboration.



Dr. M.L. JAT'S PIVOTAL ROLE AND VISION

As the Secretary (DARE) and Director General of ICAR, Dr. Mangi Lal Jat played a central role in orchestrating Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan 2025. His leadership ensured the mobilization of 16,000 scientists and the coordination of 113 ICAR institutes and 731 KVKs. Dr. Jat's vision of "One Nation, One Agriculture, One Team" underscored the campaign's goal of uniting stakeholders to create a future-ready agricultural sector.

Key contributions included:

- **Demand-Driven Research:** Dr. Jat emphasized shifting from supply-driven to demand-driven research, stating, "The era of supply-driven research has passed. We must focus on addressing farmers' real challenges through practical, region-specific solutions."
- **Technology Transfer:** He championed the dissemination of innovations like the CIFA Argu VAX-I fish vaccine, launched during the campaign's inauguration in Odisha, to enhance aquaculture resilience.
- **Farmer-Scientist Collaboration:** Dr. Jat called for scientists to "translate research into the language of farmers," ensuring accessibility and impact. He highlighted that VIKSIT KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAN provided a platform for two-way communication, allowing farmers' feedback to shape future research priorities.



- **Nationwide Coordination:** Dr. Jat worked closely with Union Agriculture Secretary Devesh Chaturvedi and state governments to ensure seamless execution across 700 districts. His oversight ensured that expert teams provided tailored guidance on soil health, seed varieties, and sustainable practices.

Dr. Jat's closing remarks at the campaign's conclusion in Gujarat underscored its success: "VIKSIT KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAN 2025 has laid the foundation for a resilient and inclusive agricultural sector, aligning with the vision of Viksit Bharat. The lessons learned will guide our efforts for the Rabi season and beyond."

The success of **VIKSIT KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAN 2025** by the contributions of ICAR's top leaders, who provided expertise and guidance. Below are quotes from ten prominent ICAR personalities involved in the campaign:

Dr. Rajbir Singh, Deputy Director General (Agricultural Extension), ICAR: "VIKSIT KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAN is a game-changer in agricultural extension, bringing scientists to farmers' doorsteps. Our goal is to empower every farmer with knowledge to boost yields and sustainability."



Dr. C.R. Mehta, Director, ICAR-Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal: "Mechanization is key to reducing costs and increasing efficiency. VIKSIT KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAN has showcased tools like drones and precision equipment to transform farming."



Dr. Aniket Sanyal, Director, ICAR-National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases, Bhopal: "By integrating animal husbandry into VIKSIT KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAN, we're ensuring that allied sectors contribute to farmers' income and food security."



Dr. S.R.K. Singh, Director, ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Jabalpur: "The campaign's focus on region-specific solutions ensures that farmers in diverse agro-climatic zones benefit equally."



Dr. P.S. Pandey, Vice-Chancellor, Dr. RPCAU, Pusa: "Collaborative research is the backbone of VIKSIT KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAN. By working with farmers, we're shaping innovations that address real-world challenges."



These leaders, through their expertise and commitment, amplified the campaign's impact, ensuring that scientific advancements reached the grassroots level.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OF VIKSIT KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAN 2025

The campaign achieved remarkable milestones, transforming Indian agriculture through direct engagement and technology transfer:

Massive Outreach:

Over 1.12 crore farmers were reached across 700 districts and 65,000 villages with 2,170 expert teams conducting daily sessions.

Policy Reforms:

Farmer feedback collected during Kisan Chaupals will shape future research and policies, ensuring a bottom-up approach to governance.

Natural Farming Push:

The campaign set an ambitious target to expand natural farming to 7.5 lakh hectares in 2025, with 18 lakh farmers expressing willingness to participate.

Allied Sector Growth:

The campaign promoted horticulture, animal husbandry, and fisheries, with initiatives like the Clean Plant Program to ensure disease-free nurseries.

Technology Adoption:

Innovations like the CIFA Argu VAX-I fish vaccine, drone-based spraying and precision farming tools were demonstrated to farmers.

Foodgrain Production:

India's foodgrain output rose from 3,157.74 lakh tonnes in 2023-24 to 3,309.18 lakh tonnes in 2024-25, reflecting the impact of coordinated efforts.

1.12 crore
FARMERS

700+
DISTRICTS

1 Lakh+
VILLAGES

55000
PROGRAMS

16,000+
AGRICULTURAL
SCIENTISTS

731
KRISHI VIGYAN
KENDRAS
(KVKS)

113 ICAR
INSTITUTES

2170
TEAMS

CONCLUSION

The **Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan 2025** concluded on June 12, 2025, at a **Kisan Sammelan** in Bardoli, Gujarat, a site historically significant for Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's 1928 Satyagraha. Minister Chouhan drew parallels between past struggles for farmers' rights and the current campaign, stating, "While **VIKSIT KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAN 2025** ends, our dialogue with farmers will continue unabated. This is just the beginning of a transformative journey toward a prosperous and sustainable agricultural sector."

The campaign's success lies in its ability to foster collaboration between farmers, scientists, and policymakers, creating a unified ecosystem under the motto "One Nation, One Agriculture, One Team." ICAR Director General **Dr. M.L. Jat** echoed this sentiment, noting, "VIKSIT

KRISHI SANKALP ABHIYAN has set a new benchmark for agricultural transformation. The lessons learned will guide our efforts for the Rabi season and beyond."

