24th Zonal Workshop of KVKs of Zone IX comprising of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Odisha was inaugurated at Krishi Vighyan Kendra, Burhanpur, Madhya Pradesh on November 24, 2017. Chief Guest of the programme Smt Archana Chitnis, Hon'ble Minister for Women and Child Development, Government of Madhya Pradesh inaugurated the workshop and exhibition of KVKs. On this occasion Dr. S. K. Rao, VC, RVSKVV, Gwalior, Shri Hamid Kazi, Chairman of the KVK, Burhanpur, Dr Anupam Mishra, Director ICAR-ATARI, Jabalpur addressed to the participants.

Inaugration of the workshop by Chief Guest and dignitaries

Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Hon'ble Secretary (DARE) & DG ICAR was the Chief Guest at the Valedictory session of the workshop on 26 November 2017. Smt Archana Chitnis, Hon'ble Minister for Women and Child Development, MP Govt. was the Special Guest on this occasion. Dr. A. K. Singh, DDG (Agril. Extension) was the Guest of Honour on this occasion. Dr V. P Chahal ADG, (Extension) was also present on this occasion.

On this occasion Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra interacted with the farmers who have double their income and visited the exhibition by the KVKs. In his address he stated that success models of the farmers need to be validated, scientifically documented after economic analysis and replicated in the other states.

Address by Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Hon'ble Secretary (DARE) & DG ICAR during the workshop
Smt Archana Chitnis, Hon'ble Minister for Women and Child Development, MP Govt. in her address stated that to meet the challenges in agriculture. The Maket SMART, Nutrition SMART, Climate SMART, Secondary Agriculture SMART (MNCS) agriculture to be followed for doubling the farmers income. Dr. A. K. Singh, DDG (Agril. Extension) in his address stated the important role KVK scientists have to play in doubling the income of farmers.

Director Extension from SAUs in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Odisha, Head of KVKs and Scientists from KVKs participated in the workshop. Progressive farmers who have doubled their income also presented their success models during the workshop. Representatives from eight ICAR Institutes also participated in the workshop. A total of about 300 participants from three states Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Odisha participated in this Zonal Workshop.

In inaugurals Chief Guest Smt Archana Chitnis, Hon'ble Minister for WCD, MP emphasised upon the nutritional secrurity and advised to have a focus on the integrated farming system, develop cropping plan etc. keeping in view the nutritional secrurity of the family. Integrating farming system with focus on diversification through horticulture and livestock is needed for income enhancement of farmers. She also suggested the farmers to adopt
innovative farming practices like lac cultivation on pigeon pea, intercropping of different crops in the region like watermelon, marigold, garlic with banana crop.

Dr S. K. Rao VC, RVSKVV, Gwalior in his address advised KVKs to provide quality seeds to famers and promote cost saving technologies among the farmers. Dr Anupam Mishra, Director ATARI, Jabalpur, briefed the dignitaries about the activities of KVKs in the Zone. Shri Hamid Kazi, Chairman of the KVK, Burhanpur briefed about the rational of the workshop and role of KVKs in farmers welfare. Representatives of ICAR institutes presented about the strategies of doubling income and role of technologies in their respective domain in income enhancement. The progressive farmers who have already doubled their income shared their experiences and presented the success models which lead to doubling their income.