

'Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan' from today

STAFF REPORTER ■

RAIPUR

The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare will organise the 'Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan' across the country, including in Chhattisgarh from May 29 to June 12.

The aim is to strengthen the preparation of the Kharif season, to connect the farmers with modern and scientific agricultural techniques, to identify the innovations taking place in the fields and to determine the direction of research.

Scientists will educate farmers about modern techniques of agriculture related to major crops of the Kharif season.

This campaign will work towards strengthening the concept of 'one country, one agriculture, and one team'.

Farmers will be taught about balanced fertiliser use according to soil health cards, and techniques like drone technology and direct sowing of paddy will be demonstrated.

It will work at the Gram Panchayat level with the help of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR),



Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agriculture Department officials, progressive farmers and FPOs.

Also, farmers' suggestions will be considered for research, he said.

The campaign will be conducted in all 33 districts of the state. A total of

99 teams will conduct programmes at 2,772 places. Control rooms have been set up at the Directorate of Agriculture at the state level and at the Deputy Director Agriculture Office at the district level to monitor the campaign.



Congress' 'Nyay Pad Yatra' covered 13 km on its third day on Wednesday from Dhurli to Patarras in Dantewada district. The march is a protest against the privatisation of Bastar's mines and industries.

Researchers find how body tolerates food without immune system attack

AGENCIES ■

Israeli scientists have pinpointed a crucial network of immune cells that allows humans to digest food safely without triggering harmful reactions. The discovery, led by researchers at the Weizmann Institute of Science (WIS), sheds new light on oral tolerance, the body's ability to recognise food as harmless and prevent an immune system attack, Xinhua news agency reported. This vital system stops everyday foods from causing inflammation while still letting the immune system fight off infections.



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When this system fails, it can lead to food allergies, sensitivities, or diseases where the body mistakenly attacks food proteins, such as gluten.

The researchers also found that during an infection, the immune system can temporarily override food tolerance to fight off microbes, before returning to its normal peacekeeping role.

"Apparently, there is much more division of labor in the immune system than previously appreciated," Kedmi explained. "It's not that dendritic cells always decide whether or not to attack foreign substances. Rather, completely different players - specific, rare cells - are dedicated to launching a mechanism that makes sure we can consume food safely," she added.

For a long time, scientists believed certain immune cells called dendritic cells were responsible for oral tolerance. However, even when these cells were removed in animal studies, the body still tolerated food.

Now, the WIS researchers, in a study preprinted by the journal Nature, have identified another group of immune cells, called ROR-gamma-t cells, as the real

drivers of this process.

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The breakthrough could pave the way for new treatments for food allergies, sensitivities, and disorders like celiac disease. By understanding how this system works, scientists hope to correct what goes wrong when the body mistakenly attacks food.

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