

## Bioinoculant Laboratory Building Inaugurated at CPCRI

8th March 2014, Kasaragod



Dr. S. Ayyappan, Secretary, DARE and Director General, ICAR inaugurated the Bioinoculant Laboratory Building of Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI), Kasaragod on 8th March, 2014.

While addressing staff of CPCRI, progressive coconut arecanut and cocoa farmers, entrepreneurs and women coconut climbers, Dr. Ayyapan appreciated CPCRI for its efforts in improvements of plantation crops. He distributed two PGPR based bioinoculants, Kera Probio, a talc formulation of *Bacillus megaterium* effective for raising robust coconut seedling and Cocoa Probio,

containing *Pseudomonas putida* effective for raising healthy cocoa seedling, developed at CPCRI to the farmers.

Later, Dr. S. Ayyapan made public '*Kalparasa*', the sweet coconut sap collected by CPCRI method and coconut sugar produced from coconut sap. He also released two publications viz. 'Research-farmer-extension interface on coconut and arecanut- an effective strategy for bridging the knowledge gap' in English and '*Thengu Krishi Reethikkal*' in Malayalam.



Dr. N.K. Krishna Kumar, Deputy Director General (Horticulture), ICAR was also present on the occasion. He released the draft genome sequence of coconut, cocoa and arecanut plant growth promoting rhizobacteria, an outcome of public-private partnership between CPCRI and SciGenom Lab Pvt. Ltd. Kochi. The draft genome sequences have been deposited with European Bioinformatics Institute (EBI).

Dr. Ayyappan and Dr. Kumar also visited the fields where collection of coconut sap, '*Kalparasa*' was demonstrated by CPCRI.

Earlier, Dr. George V. Thomas, Director, CPCRI welcomed the dignitaries and informed the gathering about the achievements of the institute.

Mr. Suresh Kumar, Chief Administrative Officer, CPCRI proposed the vote of thanks.

(Source: CPCRI, Kasaragod)