

National conference on climate resilience begins

MANGALURU, DHNS

ICAR-Central Plantation Crops Research Institute Director Dr K Balachandra Hebbar on Thursday emphasised the urgency of interdisciplinary collaboration for climate resilience.

“If we want to address climate resilience, we must first understand its impact,” he said while inaugurating the three-day first national conference on Climate Resilience and Environmentally Sustainable Technologies (NITK-CREST 2025) on NITK premises. “This conference is pivotal in discussing sustainable environmental solutions. In today’s context, digitisation is critical—simulation models, remote sensing and AI are essential tools, but data availability remains a major

challenge, especially from the plant side. “India has pledged to reach net zero by 2047 and agriculture holds immense potential. Our prime minister’s green credit initiative is promising, but standard methodologies for monitoring carbon credits in agriculture are limited. We must develop our own gadgets and small machinery to measure local changes.”

NITK Director Prof B Ravi presiding over the programme said health of people (medical science), plants (agricultural science) and the planet (environmental science) were interlinked. “No single person, department, or institute can solve these challenges alone - interdisciplinary, institutional, and even international collaboration is the path forward.”