Coconut Development Board in association with NIPHM, Hyderabad conducted a National level workshop on Plant Health Management of Coconut, Challenges and Future opportunities on 14th and 15th March 2019 at NIPHM, Hyderabad.

Coconut farmers can get better yield and income if they follow recommended practices for coconut plantation and plant health, said Smt. Usha Rani, IAS, Chairperson, Coconut Development Board. She was delivering the inaugural address of the two-day national workshop. She called upon to popularise coconut cultivation as it is a highly remunerative crop with multiple uses. There is immense scope for export and value addition for the products and by products of the crop she added.

The Director General of the National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM) Smt. G. Jayalakshmi, in her address stated that various invasive pests are limiting the production potential of the coconut crop. Hence, this crop is to be cultivated with the recommended practices for maintaining its health.

The deliberations and recommendation of the workshop shall be a beginning to ensure the alignment and refinement of the research outcomes for the benefits of farmers.

Ms. Anita Karun, Acting Director, Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasaragod, highlighted the salient research finding of the institute which can be used by the farmers to reduce the cost of cultivation and make the crop profitable.

In his welcome address, Dr G Ravi, Director Plant Health Management (NIPHM), highlighted the objectives of the workshop and appealed to the participants to share their experiences and constructive feedback to come up with concrete recommendations for improvement in the coconut farming.

The objective of the programme was to organize a scientific deliberation and discussion on various aspects of challenges and opportunities in Plant Health Management of Coconut.

CDB officials, progressive farmers, Agro Industry representatives, members of FPOs, Agro Industry Companies, State Government representatives and Scientists took part in the programme.