

State Level Agriculture Fair-cum-Farmers' Scientists Interaction Meet Organized

(Motihari, 15th April, 2018)

A State Level Agriculture Fair-cum-Farmers' Scientists Interaction Meet was organized during 13-15th April, 2018 at Zila School Ground, Motihari, Bihar. Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India graced the occasion as Chief Guest and Shri Pramod Kumar, Hon'ble Minister of Tourism, Govt. of Bihar attended the inaugural function as Guest of Honour.

In his inaugural address, the Chief Guest, Shri Radha Mohan Singh narrated various agricultural schemes of Govt. of India viz.

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Beema Yojna, Soil Health Card, Per Drop More Crop, Gokul Mission, Integrated Farming System, etc. and its status of implementation. He emphasized upon skill development programmes being under taken in the field of agriculture and allied fields. Projects on fisheries

development in Majharia, Kararia, Sirsa and Rulhi wetlands of East Champaran district funded by National Fisheries Development Board, Hyderabad was also launched by the Chief Guest. A Mobile Soil Test Laboratory of Dr Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Pusa was inaugurated for the farmers of adjoining districts of North Bihar.



The Guest of Honour, Shri Pramod Kumar motivated farmers to take advantage of new schemes of Govt. of India as well as Govt. of Bihar to increase their farm productivity and income level.

Inaugural session was attended by MLAs and MLCs of East Champaran district, Dr A. K. Singh, DDG (Agril. Extension), Dr Joykrushna Jena, DDG (Fisheries, and Animal Science), Dr Anand Kr Singh, DDG(Horticulture, and Crop Science) Dr. Rameshwar Singh, VC, BASU, Patna; Dr. R.C. Srivastava, VC, DRPCAU, Pusa and Directors of more than 10 ICAR Institutes.

Earlier, Dr. B.P. Bhatt, Director, ICAR-RCER, Patna welcomed the Chief Guest and other dignitaries. In his welcome address, Dr. Bhatt outlined the objectives of the event and informed the gathering about the major attraction of the fair such as Farmersø Scientists Interaction, exhibition and live demonstration of different agricultural implements, crop varieties, mobile solar operated pump, input supplies, samples of agricultural products and other technologies during this three day mega event.



Farmersø scientist interaction meet was organized on each day in different fields of agriculture and allied subjects viz. fish production and management; pulse production; paddy and sugarcane cultivation; production and management of horticultural crops with special focus on banana, litchi, mushroom, onion, garlic, vegetable cultivation as well as poultry rearing. Scientists from different ICAR institutes and SAUs answered the queries of the farmers on these aspects during the meet.



Sixty five public and private sector organizations including ICAR Institutes, SAUs, KVKs, NGOs, cooperative societies, input supply agencies, etc. put their stall and displayed different products, technologies, live samples, etc. for the benefit of farmers as well as other stakeholders.

On concluding day, *ie* on 15th April 2018, best stall award was given under different categories *viz.* Private, Government/PSUs. ICAR, SAUs and KVKs by Dr Anjani Kumar, Director ATARI, Zone IV, Patna and Dr Vishal Nath, Director, ICAR-NRC, Litchi, Muzaffarpur.



Nearly 6000 farmers, including members of FPOs, FIGs, entrepreneurs and other stake holders from different districts of Bihar, officials of state and central government, scientists of different ICAR institutes and SAUs participated in the three-day event. Dr. Ujjwal Kumar, Head, Socio-Economics and Extension, ICAR-RCER, Patna coordinated the entire event.

(Source: ICAR-RCER, Patna & ATARI Zone-IV, Patna)