

“Pashupalan Mela-cum-Kishan Bartalap” held at Kotwa (East Champaran)

(Kotwa, East Champaran, 30th March, 2016)

Pashupalan Mela-cum-Kishan Bartalap was held at Kotwa High School ground in East Champaran district of Bihar on March, 29 - 30, 2016 under the banner of ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna in collaboration with Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Bareilly and Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Piprakothi (Motihari).



Hon'ble Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister, Shri Radha Mohan Singh graced the occasion as Chief Guest during inaugural function of the event along with Shri Sachendra Prasad Singh, MLA, Kalyanpur Vidhan Sabha Constituency. Hon'ble Minister emphasized that livestock is the most important income generating enterprise in Indian agricultural economy and plays a multifaceted role in providing livelihood support of even landless farmers. Different species of livestock act as ATM machine for poor farmers as they replenish the need of the farmers as and when required. They always act as buffer during natural calamities. He advised the farmers to adopt diversified farming in the sense that farmers need to think enterprises beyond dairy production. Fisheries, Poultry, Piggery and Goat



farming sectors provide good alternative options in social development. Value addition of products can significantly improve the income and synthesize employment opportunities. He also emphasized the importance of indigenous breeds of cattle, buffalo, sheep and goat and their superiority over exotic breeds in climate change scenarios. He suggested the farmers that they can take assistance from different centrally sponsored schemes including National Gokul Mission.

Shri Sachindra Pd. Singh, Hon'ble MLA, Kalyanpur also addressed the audience and thanked ICAR for organizing the event at Kotwa for benefit of the farmers.

Earlier, Dr B. P. Bhatt Director, ICAR-RCER, Patna welcomed all the dignitaries and the farmers in the meeting. He narrated the role of livestock in uplifting the economy of rural and landless farmers in the Eastern region.

At its peak of the event, **Yuvraj, the Champion Murrah bull**, who had won several awards in many competitions at national level, also participated in the animal fair. The bull had arrived from Khurushetra, Haryana and was one of the major attractions in the event. The bull, Yuvraj, helped the participating farmers to understand the value of bull in dairy production.



A animal health camp was also organised in which more than 500 livestock including cattle, buffalo, goat and horse were vaccinated and treated, and farmers were provided with advisory services were provided on up-keeping of general health status of farm animals. An animal show was also organized. During the event, best animals of different species were conferred award.



On 2nd day, Dr Sanjay Jaiswal, Hon'ble M.P., Betiah, graced the occasion as Chief Guest in concluding session of the event. Dr Jaiswal stressed on the role of animal in multifaceted functions of the farmers from food and nutrition to organic fertilizer, compost and natural gas production. He also urged the farmers to improve soil fertility by animal farming.

Altogether, 20 nos. of exhibition stalls related to animal health, production were displayed by, ICAR-NDRI, Karnal, IVRI –Eastern Regional Centre, Kolkata, ICAR-RCER, Patna, ICAR-CIRG, Makhdoom, ICAR-CIRB, Hisar, RAU, Pusa, 12 pharmaceuticals and feed manufacturing companies and NGOs.

Dr. R.K. Singh, Director IVRI, Bareilly, Dr. Vishal Nath, Director ICAR-NRCL Muzaffarpur, Dr. K.M. Singh, Director of Extension, RAU, Pusa and Dr. Amitava Dey, HOD, Livestock and Fisheries Management Division of ICAR RCER, Patna and many other dignitaries had also participated

in the programme. More than 8000 farmers had attended the *mela* in view of seeking technical knowledge and to gain practical experience



(Source: ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna)