

## Demonstration of intercropping in bearing mango orchards

The ICAR-RCER, Farming System Research Centre for Hill and Plateau Region, Ranchi demonstrated intercropping in bearing mango orchards in Pathakpur and Kundo villages of Ghaghra block, Gumla district of Jharkhand. A field visit was conducted on 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2023 at the demonstrated fields. The programme was sponsored by the ICAR-AICRP on Fruits (TSP) and supported by PRADAN NGO.

The demonstration programme was formulated by seeing the opportunity and interest of ST farmers for intercropping in mango orchards. The technological interventions were made in 3 acre area in mango orchards. The shade tolerant intercrops such as turmeric and elephant foot yam was planted between the mango trees for higher income generation under rainfed condition. The spice crops such as black pepper and cinnamon were also introduced for diversifying the mango farming.

During the field visit, farmers discussed about different aspects of mango cultivation namely – fruit orchard floor, nutrients & canopy management and plant protection measures. The farmers were also acquainted with the tools and equipment needed for horticultural crop management. During the visit, equipment namely, tree pruner, self-propelled weeder, drip laterals and drippers were distributed to ST farmers.



Glimpses of the field visit