

ICAR RCER organized Workshop cum Farmers Scientist Interaction Meet at Chotka Dhakaich, Buxar

An inaugural workshop cum Farmer Scientist Interaction was organized by ICAR-RCER, Patna in collaboration with ICAR-ATARI, Patna under the collaborative project entitled "Development of zero hunger and zero technology gap village through innovative interventions" at Chotka Dhakaich Village, Simri, Buxar on 12th March, 2024. Chief Guest of the event Dr. Anup Das, Director, ICAR-RCER, Patna, advocated for the adoption of sustainable agricultural technologies like integrated farming systems, conservation agriculture, climate resilient varieties, diversification through high value crops like strawberry, banana, capsicum etc. He motivated the women and youth to involve in entrepreneurial activities viz. mushroom farming, poultry and goat rearing, nursery raising, protected cultivation etc. Mrs. Kusum Devi, Pradhan of the village briefed about the developmental activities conducted by Gram Panchayat and renovation of pond in the village. She shared the village's challenges, including water scarcity for irrigation and the lack of quality seeds and animals.



Guest of Honour, Dr Ujjwal Kumar, Head, DSEE in his address to farmers; emphasized on achieving zero hunger through use of nutritious food items. He appreciated the participation of women farmers and told them to take up income enhancing activity through group approach. He also called for strengthening and scaling up of existing livelihood opportunity in the village. Dr. M. Monobruallah, Principal Scientist, ICAR-ATARI, Patna, in his remarks urged farmers to actively participate in the project to reap maximum benefits. Dr Abhay Kumar, Principal Scientist, ICAR RCER, Patna advocated the use of climate resilient varieties and technologies at ground level. Earlier, Dr. Dhiraj Kumar Singh, Sr. Scientist, ICAR-RCER Patna provided a brief overview of the project objective and its activity in the form of technological interventions for the village. Dr Deo Karan, Head, KVK, Buxar proposed vote of thanks at the end of the programme.



During discussion, it was observed that there is 70-80% technology gap in the village while 30-40% of villagers need quality food which includes fruits, vegetables, egg, milk, meat etc. This made the selection of village an ideal choice for technological intervention. Also, interaction with farmers revealed that lack of irrigation facility, problem of blue bulls, lower productivity of crops and lack of veterinary advisory were major problems of farmers. A farmer Scientist Interaction was also organized in which Mr. Ramkewal from KVK Buxar, Dr. Jyoti Kumar and Dr. Kumari Shubha addressed important issues like disease and pest management in crops, animal health problems and their remedy, nutrigarden and its importance etc. Following discussions, various inputs such as vegetable seed kits, green gram seeds, and jute bags were distributed to farmers and farm women. The workshop concluded with a field visit to observe the standing wheat and chickpea crops.

