

ICAR RCER, Patna celebrates 20th Foundation Day

(22nd February, 2020, Patna, Bihar)

The ICAR-Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna celebrated its 20th Foundation Day today. Union Cabinet Minister, Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Sh Giriraj Singh graced the occasion as Chief Guest of inaugural Function. Dr Rameshwar Singh, VC, BASU, Patna, Dr HP Singh, Former DDG (Hort), ICAR and Dr Vishal Nath, Director, NRC, Litchi were also present as the Guest of honour. Chief Guest Sh Giriraj Singh congratulated the institute on its Foundation Day and applauded its efforts for development of several varieties and technologies for the farmers of eastern region of the country. He stressed upon the need for increasing farmers' income through adoption of new technologies. Other speakers also congratulated ICAR-RCER Patna and motivated its staff for continuous improvement.

Earlier, Dr. Panjab Singh, Chancellor, Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi delivered the Foundation day lecture on this occasion. He outlined the challenges for the scientific community on feeding the increasing population and conservation of degrading natural resources like soil and water and doubling farmers income. He stressed on the need for technology development, infrastructure support and improving access



to technology to farming community for fighting these challenges. He also highlighted the need for enhancing water use efficiency and increasing fertilizer use efficiency. Later on, in his visit to Sabajpuram of ICAR, he inaugurated Pulse seed Hub and appreciated the ongoing experiments on conservation agriculture and climate change.

In his welcome address, Dr. B.P Bhatt, Director, ICAR-RCER, Patna highlighted about the release of two rice varieties "Swarna Shakti" and "Swarna Samridhi" developed by the Institute during the last year. He also talked about the achievements of institute in terms of various agricultural, horticultural, livestock and fisheries technology.

Media personnel from Print and electronic media, progressive farmers from eastern states, viz., Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Eastern Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and officials of the Institute were felicitated during this Foundation day for their important contribution in agriculture sector. On this occasion, under Index-based flood insurance (IBFI) scheme a joint program of ICAR and CGIAR, Dr Giriraj Amarnath, Senior Researcher & Project Leader, International Water Management Institute informed that flood insurance product was given to 150 household with a total payout over Rs 8.0 lakhs to eligible farmer for the flood disaster in 2019. Hon'ble Minister, Shri Giriraj Singh paid cheques to 20 beneficiary farmers on this occasion. A training manual on "Recent Innovations in Climate Smart Technologies in Agriculture and its up-scaling strategies" was also released.



The farmers' Scientist interaction was also organized during the event in which many expert scientists gave advisories to farmers on agricultural issues. Exhibition was also organized for the benefit of farmers in which various agricultural technologies, improved farm implements and products were displayed through exhibition stalls. More than 700 farmers including scientists and officials participated in the event.





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