

Model Training Course on

“Recent Advances in Horticulture and Post-harvest Technologies for Livelihood Security” concludes

(Patna, 26th December, 2019)

An eight-day *Model Training Course on “Recent advances in horticulture and post-harvest technologies for livelihood security”* was organized by the ICAR-Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna from 19th to 26th December 2019. The programme sponsored by the Directorate of Extension, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, was organized for the officials of Agriculture and allied departments from the different states. Nineteen officials from the Agriculture/Horticulture Departments of Gujarat, Bihar, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Dadar Nagar Haveli and Laddakh participated in the course.

In the inaugural session, the Chief Guest, Mr. Sunil Kumar Pankaj, Joint Director, Horticulture, Patna (Bihar) inaugurated the programme on 19th December 2019. Mr. Pankaj highlighted the importance of horticulture in Eastern India and also stressed the current rate of adoption of recent technology by farmers. Chief Guest also released a training manual based on the training course.



Dr J S Mishra, I/c Director enumerated about the many new technologies has been emerged to combat the effects of climate change, ensuring food and nutritional security.

Dr. Tanmay Kumar Koley, Course Director of the Training Programme briefed about the importance of horticulture and its significance for livelihood security. He also informed the outline of the model training program.



During training programme, in addition to conventional topic various new techniques such as, vertical farming, microgreens, use of solar energy in horticulture, technologies for the cold arid zone, vegetable grafting, etc has been discussed. This training also included field visits of commercial strawberry cultivation in Nagarnausa, Nalanda and exposure to center of excellence on Horticulture at Chandi, Nalanda, Bihar.

The Chief Guest of the Valedictory Function, Mr. Aditya Narayan Roy, Join Director of Agronomy, Govt of Bihar stressed the need for hard work for a better future to the farmers. He also highlighted that horticulture is one of the best options for improving the productivity of land, ensuring nutritional security for mankind and for sustaining the livelihood of the farming community worldwide.

During Valedictory Function, Dr. Ujjwal Kumar, I/C Director, ICAR-Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna emphasized on recent innovations in horticultural and post-harvest technologies for livelihood security and the empirical strategies for up-scaling of technology. He also stressed the factor responsible for the limited adoption of horticultural technologies. He desired subject matter specialists to upgrade their skill and knowledge so that they can assist farmers in the sustainable adoption of innovative technologies.

The entire course was assisted by Dr. Shubha Kumari and Dr P K Sundaram as co-ordinator.



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