

## ICAR-RCER organized NASF Advisory Committee meeting and field visit to FPO farmers in East Champaran, Bihar

Under the project “*Development and Validation of Need Based Technology Delivery Model Through FPO in eastern Region of India*” funded by NASF, Advisory Committee meeting and field visit to FPO farmers in East Champaran, Bihar was organized by ICAR-RCER, Patna during 30-31 October, 2021. Former Advisor (Agriculture) and eminent extension specialist Dr V.V. Sadamate and Professor, Agricultural Extension, BHU, Varanasi and Advisory Committee Member, Dr A.K. Singh, graced the occasion. The in-house meeting of the committee was conducted on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2021 at ICAR-RCER, Patna in which Principal Investigator of the project, Dr Anirban Mukherjee and CCPIs from ICAR-RCER RC, Ranchi; IIVR, Varanasi and UBKV, Cooch Behar presented their progress report during last year. Dr Sadamate appreciated the



progress and advised the team to focus on strengthening of FPO by linkage with NABARD or other implementing partners like SFAC, NCDC etc. Dr A.K. Singh advised the team to make the FPO role model so that others can see and learn from this FPO model of technology delivery. Earlier Dr Ujjwal Kumar, Director, ICAR-RCER, Patna welcomed the experts and briefed them about the institute activities related to technology backstopping and providing quality planting material for seed production and marketing by FPOs.

Next day, the team along with both the experts visited the project site in Kamarcholi village of East Champaran, Bihar and monitored the activities of the project at ground level. They interacted with FPO members of the area. Mr. Vinod Kumar, FPO, Chairman, BODs welcomed Dr V.V. Sadamate, Dr A.K. Singh, Dr Ujjwal Kumar and other members. Dr Sadamate addressed the gathering and praised the works being done by FPO in the area. He called for better linkage with market and branding of FPO products in order to generate more profit for all its members.

Dr A.K. Singh lauded the efforts of FPO and motivated the members to become number one FPO in the area. The team also visited farmers' field and saw the participatory seed production model being advocated under the project. CCPI



from other centres like ICAR RCER, Ranchi centre Dr V.K Yadav and IIVR, Varanasi centre Dr Subhadeep Roy also interacted with farmers and briefed about the achievements made at respective centre. The team also answered queries from farmers regarding FPOs and other agricultural issues. 50 farmers of the FPO attended the meeting. Dr Dhiraj Kumar Singh Co-PI of the project proposed the vote of thanks.