

Farmers training programme on "Scientific Cultivation of Rabi Crops for Improving Farm Productivity and Food Security" organized at ICAR RCER, Patna

A three days Farmer's Training programme on "Scientific Cultivation of Rabi Crops for Improving Farm Productivity and Food Security" was organized during 10-12 January, 2024 jointly by ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region and ICAR-ATARI, Patna at ICAR-RCER main campus, Patna. The aim of this training was to enhance the knowledge and skills of farmers towards modern agricultural technologies of rabi crops like wheat, pulses, potato oilseeds etc for enhancing productivity of crops and better livelihood. Inaugurating the training, Chief Guest, Dr Ashutosh Upadhyaya, Director (Acting), ICAR RCER encouraged the trainee farmers to embrace crop diversification and new technologies to increase their income, especially in the face of changing climate scenarios. He also emphasized the inclusion of livestock and



poultry in farming systems and suggested exploring various marketing options for selling agricultural products at remunerative prices. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Ujjwal Kumar, Head, DSEE & Nodal officer HRD discussed about the importance of market linkage for better livelihood of farmers and emphasized on use of new communication technologies like mobile, internet and whatsapp for market intelligence. Dr Abhay Kumar shared his experience of climate resilient technology interventions at selected villages of Buxar and told farmers to use these techniques on their farm for better climate change adaptation. Several scientists of institute including Dr Monobrullah, Dr Naresh Chandra, Dr Anirban Mukherjee, Dr Jyoti Kumar, Dr Kumari Shubha and others were present Earlier, Dr. Dhiraj Kumar Singh, Sr. Scientist, DSEE welcomed all the dignitaries and provided the outline of technical programme of this training. Dr. Rohan Kumar Raman, Course director proposed vote of thanks during the inaugural session.

A total of 14 technical sessions were conducted during training period including field visit of farmers to experimental farms which covered various topics like agronomy, soil health, fertilizer application, plant protection, scientific cultivation of wheat, pulses, potato etc by the expert scientists of the institute. This program was organized under the collaborative project "Development of Zero Hunger and Zero Technology Gap Village through Innovative Interventions," of ICAR-RCER, Patna and ICAR-ATARI, Patna. A total of 13 farmers from village *Chotka Dhakaich*, Simri, Buxar attended the program. The training program served as a valuable initiative to empower farmers with knowledge and skills essential for the development of Zero Hunger and Zero Technology Gap villages through innovative interventions.

