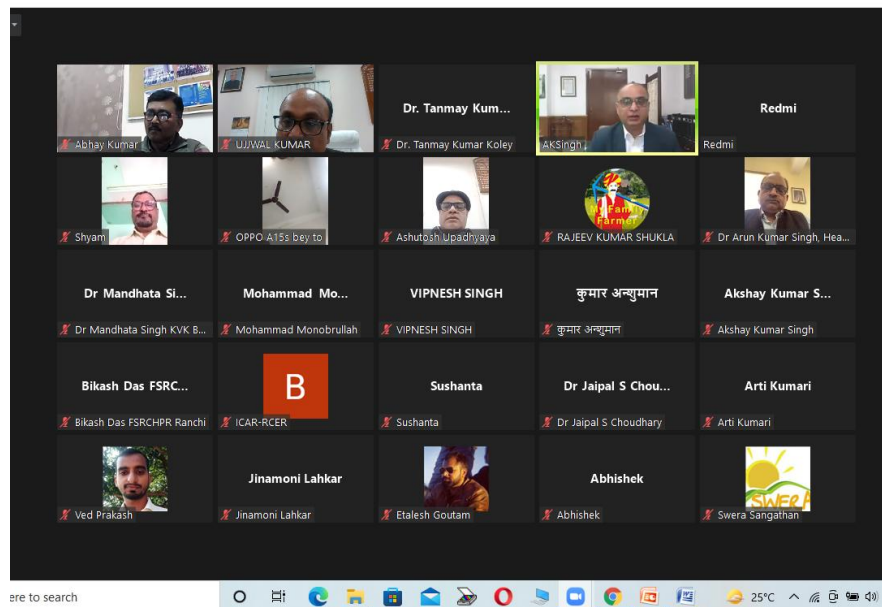


National e-workshop & e-showcasing on “Horticulture Start-up opportunity in Eastern India: Connecting youth to Agri-Start-up ecosystem”

(Patna, 26th February, 2022)

The ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna organized a National e-workshop & e-showcasing on “**Horticulture Start-up opportunity in Eastern India: Connecting youth to Agri-Start-up ecosystem**” during 24-26 February, 2022 at zoom platform under the Agri Business Incubation (ABI) project. The main objective of the program was development of linkage among various stakeholders and providing a platform for knowledge sharing among them including future entrepreneurs and experts of research institutes who are working in horticultural sector.

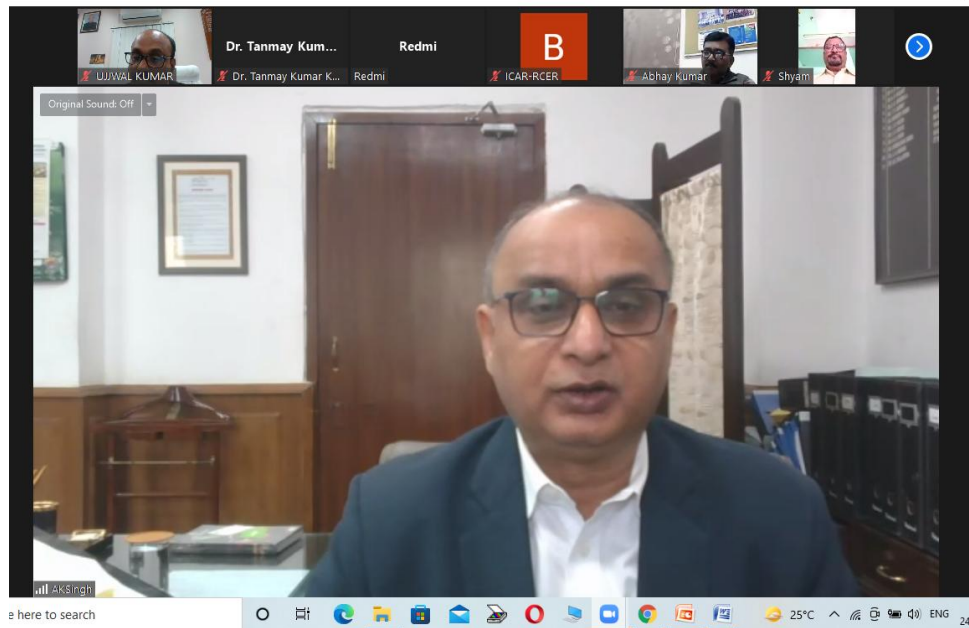
Dr. A.K. Singh, DDG (Agril. Extension), ICAR, New Delhi graced the inaugural session of this workshop as the Chief Guest. In his address, Dr. Singh emphasized on improvement of skills of rural youth for



starting their own agri-enterprise and promotion of start-ups in agriculture /horticultural sectors with the help of already established Agri business incubation centre in different parts of the country. He also stressed on need of linking prospective entrepreneurs to banks for credit for starting an enterprise. He also mentioned that there is lot of scope of start-up in agricultural residue management and custom hiring services. In his words “agriculture has to be natural, modern, cooperative and profitable and we can see future agriculture as Start-up Agriculture”.

Earlier, **Dr. Ujjwal Kumar, Director, ICAR RCER, Patna** in his welcome address, briefed about the importance of Horticultural start-up for employment generation in the country. He highlighted the efforts of ICAR-RCER, Patna and its centres in developing entrepreneurs through training and capacity building especially under ABI project.

During the workshop, eminent researchers such as Dr **T.K. Behera**, Director, ICAR-IIVR, Varanasi, Dr Balraj Singh, PC, ICAR-AICRP H&P, New Delhi, Dr Sidhartha Palai,



I/C AICRP Floriculture, OUAT, Bhubaneswar, Dr Govindo Acharaya, CHES, ICAR-IIHR Bhubaneswar, Dr N Reddy, Sr. Scientist, ICAR-DMAPR, Anand, Dr. P Suresh Kumar, Principal Scientist, NRCB, Trichy and Dr Arvind Jaiswal, Scientist, ICAR-CPRS, Jalandhar, acted as resource persons and covered different aspects of starting agri entrepreneurship in different fields



like floriculture nursery raising, banana processing, potato processing, moringa cultivation and



marketing, floriculture etc. All the lectures were followed by discussion with resource persons and queries were answered by experts of relevant field.


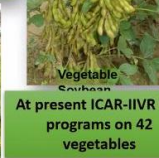
A presentation was also made by Dr Bikas Das, Principal Scientist to showcase varieties and technologies developed by ICAR RCER, Patna and its centres among participants.

IIVR Minor Vegetables (22)


Chenopods	Capsicum
Basella	Long melon
Amaranths	Water melon
Kale	Kakrol
Water chestnut	Kartoli
Lotus	Ivy gourd
Water spinach	Round melon
Vegetable Soybean	Summer squash
Winged bean	Snake gourd
Lima bean	Baby Corn
Faba bean	Sweet Corn

At present ICAR-IIVR has programs on 42 vegetables



. A total of 80 participants including the state department officials, young entrepreneurs, buyers, students, NGOs and progressive farmers participated in the e-workshop. Dr. Tanmay Kumar Koley, Organising secretary of this workshop gave the formal vote of thanks.

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