

## ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna Celebrated World Food Day - 2024

ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna organized World Food Day on 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 with great enthusiasm. This year's theme, “**Right to Foods for a Better Life and a Better Future,**” highlighted the significance of ensuring access to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food for everyone, emphasizing the fundamental right to food as a pathway to a better future for all.



The chief Guest of the Program Dr. Anup Das, Director, ICAR-RCER, Patna, emphasized the importance of making nutritious food accessible to all, especially in regions vulnerable to malnutrition and food insecurity. He underscored the role of scientific innovations and modern agricultural practices in ensuring the availability of safe, sufficient, and nutritious food. Special Guests from Brahma Kumaris, Shri Ravindra Bhai and Ms. Madhu in their remarks shared their insights on “Yogic Kheti” or spiritual farming. They emphasized the connection between food security and spiritual well-being, promoting the idea that holistic farming practices can contribute to both sustainable agriculture and personal well-being.

The event featured a series of insightful remarks by prominent scientists from various divisions of the institute. During this program, Dr. A.K. Choudhary, Principal Scientist, DCR emphasized on creating balance between human and nature urging people to use all natural resources judiciously. Dr. Ujjwal Kumar, Head, DSEE, discussed the importance of ensuring food security as a way to reduce poverty, enhance agricultural productivity, and foster sustainable farming systems, which are essential for building resilient communities. Dr. Kamal

Sharma, Head, DLFM, highlighted the crucial role of a balanced diet in achieving long-term food security and better health outcomes. Dr. Ashutosh Upadhyaya, Head, DLWM, spoke on the significance of food safety, security, and the need to reduce food wastage, stressing that food wastage is a major challenge that needs to be addressed to ensure food availability for all. He also recited a poem on responsibilities of all sections of society towards food security and safety.



Earlier, the program began with a welcome address by Dr. Dhiraj Kumar, Senior Scientist, who discussed about the importance of this auspicious day setting the stage for an enlightening discussion on food rights and food security. A student-scientist interaction was also conducted with students from IARI, Patna Hub, providing them with a platform to engage with experts, ask questions, and gain valuable insights into food security and sustainable agricultural practices. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Dhiraj Kumar, Dr. Rajni Kumari, Dr. Ved Prakash, Dr. Subha and Er. Arti Kumari, Scientists of ICAR-RCER, Patna. The Programme ended with vote of thanks by Dr. Kumari Shubha, Scientist, Division of Crop Research.