

Awareness cum input distribution program organized by FSRCHPR (ICAR-RCER) under Scheduled Caste Sub Plan and All India Co-ordinated Research Project component

“Awareness cum input distribution program” was organized by Farming System Research Centre for Hill and Plateau Region (ICAR-RCER), Plandu, Ranchi, on 26th Aug 2022 in 5 village clusters, *i.e.*, Mandhania, Katia, Lamta, Konchi and Bahagara (lawaloung block) of Chatra district, Jharkhand. Arkel, an early variety of Garden pea seeds was distributed among more than 100 farmers, including 40 women beneficiaries. The small farmers were motivated for raising papaya nurseries and earning monetary benefits by selling them to nearby villages. The importance of seed treatment before sowing in vegetable crops and standard agro-techniques of garden peas were also explained to farmers.

The fruit saplings of mango, guava, papaya and vegetable crops varieties/ hybrids of tomato, chilli, brinjal and beans along with Seaweed extract powder were also distributed among 450 beneficiaries of SCSP. The team visited demonstration plots where indeterminate wilt-resistant tomato hybrid Swarna Sampada, brinjal, and chilli were intercropped in a fruit orchard of mango, papaya and guava developed under SCSP and AICRP (Fruits). Sh. Mahesh Ganju and Sh. Kuleswar Ganju expressed their satisfaction with the resistance of tomato plants to bacterial wilt. Participants also shared their willingness to learn to portray nursery raising techniques for cole crops and cucurbits to start their entrepreneurship. The program was coordinated by Dr. Mahesh Dhakar (Scientist, ICAR-RCER, FSRCHPR, Ranchi) and Dr. Meenu Kumari (Scientist, ICAR-RCER, FSRCHPR, Ranchi) with the support of Jharkhand State Livelihood Promotion Society (JSLPS) and Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chatra.

