

## **World Soil Day (5<sup>th</sup> December 2020) Organized**

The World Soil Day was organized on 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2020 at ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna. Fifty farmers from Gangapur, Kharphur, Gowrichak, Sampatchak from Fatuah block of Patna district attended the programme. In this programme, Dr Ujjwal Kumar, I/C Director, ICAR RCER emphasized on balanced application of fertilizers based on soil test to maintain the soil health and crop productivity. He also suggested keeping our soils healthy and creating awareness about soil testing among farmers. Dr A.K. Choudhary, Head, Division of Crop research addressed the farmers and stressed the need for the judicious application of fertilizer, inclusion of pulses and leguminous oilseed crops in rotation and importance of maintaining soil fertility. Dr A. Upadhyaya, Head, Division of Land and water management emphasized the ill effects of soil and water pollution due to overuse of nitrogenous fertilizer and importance of soil microorganisms. After completion of the formal Inaugural programme, a farmer-scientist interaction was organized. Dr Sanjeev Kumar (Agronomy), Dr Mohd. Monobrullah (Entomology), Dr Rakesh Kumar (Agronomy), Dr Surajit Mondal (Soil Science), Mr K. K. Rao (Soil Science), Dr Rachana Dubey (Environmental Science), Dr Kirti Saurabh (Soil Science), Dr Abhishek Dubey (Plant Pathology), Dr Kamal Sarma (Fisheries), Dr Pankaj Kumar (Livestock) answered the queries related to soil health, crop production and insect-pest management. After the interaction programme, a field visit was organized and farmers visited various experimental plots and got acquainted with the latest production technologies.

