

ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region Celebrates its 18th Foundation Day at Patna

(22nd February 2018)

ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna celebrated its 18th Foundation Day at the institute campus in Patna on 22nd February 2018. Shri Radha Mohan Singh Ji, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Dr Prem Kumar, Agriculture minister, Govt. of Bihar; Shri Ranvendra Pratap Singh, Minister of State for Agriculture, Agricultural Education and Research, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh; Shri SK Singh, Agricultural Production Commissioner, Govt of Bihar and Dr Sanjeev Chaurasia MLA, Digha constituency were the Guest of Honour on this auspicious occasion.



In his inaugural address, Shri Radha Mohan Singh congratulated the Institute for its 18th Foundation Day and stated that states of eastern and north east India will be the centre of second green revolution in future. He emphasized on need for adoption of integrated farming system in order to cater the threats of climate change. He discussed about various agricultural schemes of Govt of India and stated that the govt. is committed for doubling farmer's income by year 2022. He talked about increasing minimum support price of agricultural produce to 1.5 times of its cost of cultivation and need for value addition and proper marketing infrastructure.



Dr Prem Kumar, Agriculture Minister, Bihar also congratulated the institute on its Foundation Day and stressed upon need of new technologies to fight challenges of climate change. He emphasized upon development of



agricultural technologies which can reduce the cost of cultivation as well as increase the crop productivity. He elaborated about schemes being implemented by department of agriculture, Govt. of Bihar and said that Group Farming and development of Organic corridor will be the priority of Govt. Sri Ranvendra Pratap Singh emphasized about the steps and progress made under Green Revolution Scheme in Uttar Pradesh. He said that Cropping Intensity of eastern UP needs to be increased from 159% to 200%.



Earlier, Dr BP Bhatt, Director, ICAR RCER, Patna welcomed the chief guest and other dignitaries and presented the achievements of the institute during last year.

During the inaugural function, Mobile app on Soil Nutrient Management, *Aam Suraksha* (mango protection) and Solar power app, database and software developed by the institute were launched by Hon'ble chief guest. Books on "Powering Second Green Revolution Through Emerging Technologies"; and "*Baans (Bamboo) ke vividh roop awam unka upyog*", training manual on "*Optimization of production efficiency of fish livestock integrated farming*" and an extension bulletin on "*Tapak sinchai ke antragat sabjeeyon ki ropan jyamity awam ghulanasheel urwarak paddhati*" were also released.



Seventy three selected progressive farmers from all seven eastern states viz Bihar, Eastern UP, West Bengal, Odisha, Assam, Chattisgarh and Jharkhand were felicitated by the Chief Guest for their significant contribution in the field of agriculture. Renowned personalities from press and media and 15 farmers under Index Based Flood Insurance project were also awarded during the ceremony. The ICAR-RCER, Patna best worker award were also given in Administrative, Technical and Supporting staff categories.



Dr Vishal Nath, Director, NRC Litchi, Dr Anjani Kumar, Director, ATARI, Patna, Dr A K Sikka, representative from IWMI, Dr Anil Yadav, DGM, Hindustan Insecticides Ltd., Dr Saldas, Hindustan Insecticides Ltd, Dr KM Singh, Director Extension Education, DRPCAUI, Pusa, Dr AK Thakur, Director Extension, BASU, Patna, scientists from different institutes and officials from different govt. departments were also present.

An Exhibition to demonstrate the new technologies and products in agriculture were also organized on this occasion where 15 stalls from ICAR Institutes, other govt agencies and input dealers displayed their products and technologies. A Scientist Farmers interaction was also organized for the benefit of farmers. Scientists from different discipline interacted with farmers and solved their queries related to agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries etc. Nearly 2000 farmers from all the seven eastern states participated in the event and benefitted from exhibition and Farmer-Scientist interaction. Dr Ujjwal Kumar, Principal Scientist and Head, and Nodal Officer for the Foundation Day programme proposed vote of thanks. Dr Shivani, Principal Scientist anchored the function.

(Source: ICAR- RCER, Patna)