

Mega Agricultural Show: Krishi Kumbh-2019 organized

(Motihari, Bihar 11 February, 2019)

A three days Mega Agriculture Show, **Krishi Kumbh-2019** was jointly organized by ICAR- Mahatma Gandhi Integrated Farming Research Institute, Motihari, ICAR-RCER, Patna and Dr RPCAU, Pusa, Samastipur during February 9-11, 2019 at Gandhi Maidan, Motihari, Bihar. In the inaugural session on 9th February, 2019, Honøble Governor of Bihar, Shri Lalji Tandon graced the occasion as Chief Guest of this Krishi Kumbh. Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Honøble Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India; Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Union Minister of Law & Justice, Electronics and Information Technology; Sh Sushil Kumar Modi, Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar and Shri Pramod Kumar, Minister of Tourism, Bihar attended the inaugural function as Guests of Honour. MLAs and MLCs of East Champaran district; Dr J.K Jena, DDG (Fisheries & Animal Science), ICAR, Dr A.K Singh, DDG (Horticulture and Crop), ICAR, Dr. R.C. Srivastava, VC, Dr RPCAU, Pusa and Directors of several ICAR Institutes also participated in this event.



In his inaugural address, Honøble Governor, Sri Lalji Tandon narrated that there had been revolutionary changes in agricultural technology in India and now we are self sufficient in food front. Hob'le Governor urged farmers to take the benefits of Govt. Schemes and adopt new agricultural technologies which will lead to higher production with low cost of cultivation. Addressing the gathering, Sh. Radha Mohan Singh spoke about central Govt. schemes for agricultural development and said that small and Marginal farmers of country will get assured income of Rs 6000/- per year from Govt. for supporting their livelihood. He also discussed about the achievements of central sector schemes related to Ujjwala yojana, Swachh Bharat Mission, electricity supply etc. Union Law & Justice, Electronics & IT Minister, Sh Ravi Shankar Prasad emphasised on Direct benefit Transfer of money to accounts of farmers. He stressed on use of Information technology in agriculture and gave examples of Digital India campaign. Deputy CM of Bihar, Sh. Sushil Modi said that applications are being received from beneficiary farmers under Kisan Samman Yojana of Central Govt. He also talked about different agricultural programmes of Bihar Govt and their benefits to farmers.

Earlier, Dr. B.P. Bhatt, Director, ICAR-RCER, Patna and OSD, MGIFRI, Motihari welcomed the Chief Guest and other dignitaries. In his welcome address, he outlined the objectives of Krishi Kumbh and informed the major attractions of this fair viz. exhibition, farmer scientist interaction etc.

On second day of event, i.e. on 10th February, 2019, programmes on women empowerment were organized in Krishi Kumbh. Honorable Governor of Sikkim, Sh Ganga Prasad graced the occasion as Chief Guest and addressed the gathering. He stressed upon harmful effects of use of chemicals in agriculture and advocated the adoption of organic farming by farmers. He also emphasized on need for women empowerment and gave examples of women power in different fields of life. Union Agriculture Minister, Sh Radha Mohan Singh welcomed the Chief guest and gave brief description of programmes being implemented by the ministry for development and welfare of women farmers. Addressing the farmers, Guest of Honour, Sh. Surya Pratap Sahi, Agriculture Minister, Uttar Pradesh said that farmers should take all the benefits of programmes and schemes run by central Govt. On this occasion, Padm Shree, Mrs Rajkumari Devi popularly known as "KisanChachi" was honoured by the Chief Guest. Mushroom Kit and Poultry Kit were distributed to many young farmers and farm women under ARYA scheme of central Govt. Bihar Tourism Minister Sh. Pramod Kumar thanked chief guest and all the dignitaries for their valuable time and suggestions.



The Krishi kumbh was concluded on 11th Feb, 2019. Union Minister of road transport and highways, shipping, water resources, river development and Ganga rejuvenation, Sh Nitin Gadkari attended the concluding function as chief guest.

He launched projects of National Highways which included widening and four-laning of some parts of National Highway in East Champaran, Betiah and adjoining area of North Bihar. He talked about measures taken by Central government for farmers which included, increase in the minimum support price of crops and



promotion and use of ethanol, a by-product of sugar industries, in petrol and diesel. Sri Gadkari also informed that many rivers are now being developed for the smooth transports of heavy goods.

Nearly 180 public and private sector organizations including ICAR Institutes, SAUs, KVKs, NHB, NGOs, cooperative societies, seed, fertilizers, farm machinery, pesticide agencies etc. put their stalls and displayed different products, technologies, live samples, posters, etc. for increasing awareness about modern agricultural technologies among farmers and other stakeholders during the Event. Dr A.K. Singh, DDG (Agril Extension), ICAR, New Delhi was also present on concluding day.



During this three days event, Farmersø Scientists Interactions on Agriculture, horticulture, fisheries, women empowerment and animal husbandry were also organized in which experts from different ICAR institutes, SAUs and other organizations answered the queries of farmers. More than 15,000 farmers and other stakeholders participated in this maga event. The entire event was coordinated by Dr. Ujjwal Kumar, Head-DSEE, ICAR-RCER, Patna.



(Source: ICAR Research Complex for ER, Patna)