

## Awareness campaign to combat malnutrition organized

कुपोषण से निपटने हेतु जागरूकता अभियान चलाया गया

2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023, Sriniketan, Visva-Bharati: As a part of National Nutrition Week to create awareness among the people about their health and well-being, a special programme was organized at Rathindra KVK, Sriniketan under the jurisdiction of ICAR- Agricultural Technology Application Research Institutes, Kolkata today. In his address, Dr Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata emphasized upon the need of empowering women through awareness campaigns to combat malnutrition. He stressed popularization of millets as nutraceutical, Nutrition Gardens and harnessing traditional knowledge on nutrition management especially targeting the vulnerable group of children, pregnant and lactating women. He also elaborated on “one Health” concept for optimizing the soil/ecosystem health with the health of people and animals. Dr. A.K. Barik, Principal of Palli Siksha Bhavana (Institute of Agriculture), Sriniketan, Visva-Bharati said that children cannot be healthy if their mothers are not healthy and such programmes are crucial to flag the issue. Dr. S. Mandal, Head, Rathindra KVK highlighted the significant achievements of the KVK especially on the promotion of nutrition in the district. Seed packets for kitchen garden including leafy vegetables, pulses and millets were also distributed to the farmers. Field visits and Scientist-farmer interaction programme were also organized and extension bulletins were distributed for the benefit of the farmers. The programme was attended by 53 women (more than 80% belonging to SC/ST community) farmers from six villages (Raipur, Gheropara, Nurpur, Senkapur, Deoli and Rajatpur) belonging to two women-led Farmer Producer organisations hosted by KVK, namely Green Farm, Illambazar and Madhumalati, Bolpur.



(Source: ICAR- Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Kolkata)