

# National Workshop on Natural Farming

Organized by

**ICAR-ATARI, Jabalpur on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2022 at RVSKVV, Gwalior, M.P.**

Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shri Narendra Singh Tomar National Workshop on Natural Farming inaugurated December 3, 2022; National Workshop on Natural Farming organized at RVSKVV Gwalior on December 03, 2022. **Dr.S.R.K.Singh, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Jabalpur** welcomed the distinguished guests present along with the Chief Guest of the programme, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Directors of ATARIs, agricultural scientists and progressive farmers. He stated how this workshop is important, as it will motivate the farmers all over the country to do natural farming in the coming times.

While addressing the workshop **Chief Guest Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** stated that we all know that agriculture has an important place in our country, it is not just limited to livelihood, it is a responsibility for providing enough food for all. When the farmer does farming, he thinks that it is his responsibility to provide food to the 130 crore citizens of our country, while the farmer does farming, he knows that there will be nature's fury. There will be more losses too, but without worrying about all of them, he does farming. Today our country has become self-sufficient in the field of agriculture and we have been able to provide food to other countries as well, there was a period when the population of our country was increasing but there was a shortage of food grains. Today many friendly countries of the world look towards India that if the food production in India is good, then India will help us in bad times. The farmers have the responsibility of the country and the world also. Shri Tomar said that the soil fertility is reducing due to chemical farming as useful microbes are being killed. Every year we are increasing the quantity of fertilizers. It is our prime responsibility to save mother earth, that is why Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the natural farming method and it is being given the form of a mass movement.

Shri Tomar noted that natural farming is the need of the hour, in which the cost is less and the produce fetches more price. Now the time has come that we should switch from chemical farming to natural farming. He emphasized the need is to follow the principles of healthy mind, healthy food, healthy agriculture and healthy human being. For this, he said one should move towards natural farming.

Shri Narendra Singh Tomar said that there are Krishi Vigyan Kendras in every district of the country, so first of all natural farming will be started in Krishi Vigyan Kendras. He told that more than 400 Krishi Vigyan Kendras are associated with this national workshop and on the basis of the information received from the scholars and scientists participating in the national workshop, further work will be done in the direction of natural farming.

He further stated that Natural farming will now be part of the agricultural education. The government is making efforts in this direction to include soon the natural farming methods in agricultural education curriculum.

**Dr. V.P. Chahal, DDG (Agriculture Extension), ICAR** stated that Hon'ble Prime Minister of India has given the responsibility to Krishi Vigyan Kendras to promote natural farming among the farmers of the country, he assured to take the responsibility to promote natural farming among farmers. In two-day training in Kurukshetra our subject matter experts of Krishi Vigyan Kendras, will be trained as master trainers to support and train the farmers to promote natural farming and solve the problems faced by them on the farm itself.

**Special Guest Dr. Anupam Mishra, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Central Agricultural University, Manipur (Imphal)** in his address stated that this is the first time that this type of national level workshop for natural farming is being held across the country involving KVK Subject matter experts and progressive farmers from more than 400 districts of the country. To promote natural farming agricultural scientists of the country need to play an important role.

**Shri. Bharat Singh Kushwaha, Hon'ble Minister of Horticulture, Madhya Pradesh** in his address stated that government is giving emphasis towards natural farming. The produce from natural farming is very useful and beneficial for our health, because chemical farming has an adverse effect on our health and on the health of the soil. Natural farming needs to be promoted to maintain human and soil health and by doing this we can also promote animal husbandry as animal husbandry is an important component in doing natural farming.

**Dr. Arvind Kumar Shukla, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, RVSKVV, Gwalior, M.P.** stated that Natural farming has been going on in our country since time immemorial, many forms of it are seen in North-Eastern states like shifting cultivation, it is practiced there as per the requirement. Today chemicals are being used in farming in very heavy quantity due to which our health and health of soil is deteriorating, so natural farming is very important needs to be promoted. There are many difficulties in farming, agricultural scientists have to work with farmers to find solutions and develop varieties that are essential for natural farming.

In the programme, Shri Bharat Singh Kushwaha, Hon'ble Minister of State for Horticulture and Food Processing, Govt. of M.P., Dr. V. P. Chahal, DDG (Agriculture Extension), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr Anupam Mishra, Vice Chancellor, CAU Imphal, Dr. Arvind Kumar Shukla, Vice Chancellor RVSKVV, Gwalior, Director, ATARI Jabalpur, Directors of other ATARIs and scientists from 425 KVKs with 20 elite farmers practicing natural farming across the country and 300 farmers from were present Chambal region in the programme and benefitted through discussion.



