

Virtual Annual Zonal Workshop of KVKs of Bihar and Jharkhand

Dr. A.K. Singh, Deputy Director General (AE), ICAR inaugurated the two day “Virtual 4th Annual Zonal Workshop of KVKs of Zone-IV”, organized by the ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Patna from 14-15th July, 2021. Dr. Anjani Kumar, Director ICAR-ATARI welcomed the dignitaries, and participants and presented the achievements of ongoing activities of Zone –IV.



In his inaugural address, Dr. Singh stated that each KVKs should identify 3-4 commodity of their district and in Bihar more focus should be given on production of pulse and oilseed. Formation of FPOs and marketing channel should be cluster based involving more than 3-4 commodities. He further pointed out that the achievements of CSISA in which advancement of sowing date of early and mid-season varieties of Rice resulted into increased production and income of farmer by 30-40%. He stressed that during next 5 year KVKs should give more focus on sustainable agriculture; refinement of farmer innovation by Institutes / Universities, farmer’s feedback system, *Kisan Sarathi* App to be more farmers friendly in addressing the queries received from farmers with the help of Artificial Intelligence. He pointed out that tribal specific programme should be different from other ongoing programmes of KVKs, on the tune of ARYA. He emphasized that each KVKs had to identify and bring success stories of 110 farmer who doubled their income during last 5 years, for release on 15th August 2022 by Hon’ble Prime Minister.

Dr. R.C. Shrivastava, VC, RPCAU, Pusa advocated about the waste management at village level for providing the employment and income. He shared his view towards extraction of fibre from banana pseudostem, essential oil extraction from turmeric leaves making furniture and decorative item from pigeon pea stalk.

Dr. Rameshwar Singh, VC, BASU, Patna pointed out the role of KVKs are like bridging the gap between farmer and scientist and stressed on region specific programme related to animal science which gave regular flow of income to farmers apart from agricultural sectors.

Dr. O.N. Singh, VC, BAU, Ranchi advocated problem of Jharkhand’s farmer and suggested to bring technologies on cultivation of organic vegetable which has very high demand in market of Orissa and West Bengal.

Dr. A.K. Singh, VC, BAU Sabour suggested the KVKs work should be based on geographical area. He appraised about Govt. of Bihar programme on CRA and *Apni Kyari Apni Thali Yojna* for nutritional food security.

Dr. Ujjwal Kumar, Director, ICAR-RCER, Patna praised the work of KVKs done during COVID pandemic and especially the skill training provided to migrant worker. He said that there is need for development of market linkage.

Dr. D. Maiti, Director, NRRI, Cuttack congratulated to KVKs for positive work during COVID-19 lockdown and focused on one district one commodity concept.

Dr. K.K. Sharma, Director, IINRG, Ranchi, suggested to start a programme of tree plantation especially ber and palas for lac cultivation on bund of rice field which may increase income by 25%.

The inaugural session has been attended by Director of Extension Education of Universities, Associate Director Extension of Universities and Senior Scientist and heads of 68 KVKs.

Dr. Amrendra Kumar, Principal Scientist ICAR –ATARI Patna Zone-IV proposed the vote of thanks to dignitaries and participants at the end of session.

(Source: ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Zone-IV, Patna, Bihar)