

Press Note: Online interaction of MGMG Team Scientists and Contact Farmers

An online scientist-farmer interface meeting was organised on 30th August, 2020 at 10 AM with the farmers from IARI adopted villages under Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav (MGMG) scheme. The meeting was chaired by Dr A.K. Singh, Director, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi in the august presence of Dr V.K. Singh, Joint Director (Extension), IARI, New Delhi. Heads of Divisions, Professors, Scientist from IARI and farmers from Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Delhi have participated in the meeting. Director IARI Dr. A.K. Singh reviewed the progress made by IARI in different MGMG clusters during past five years and stressed on out scaling of IARI technologies. Dr. Singh in his address mentioned about newly launched “PusaSamachar” youtube channels and made an appeal to the farmers to take maximum benefit of this channel. This weekly ‘PusaSamachar’ covers IARI news of the weeks along with weather forecast and the agricultural activities of the week. The novel technologies which are beneficial for farmers will be covered every week by the Samachar. He highlighted the benefits of integrated farming system (IFS) model developed by Division of Agronomy, IARI, New Delhi for enhancing farm income of small and marginal farmers through enterprise diversification. Dr Singh also called the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes farmers of various villages of different MGMG clusters to get the benefits of Schedule Caste/Schedule Tribe Sub Plan funds. Director informed that under the scheme rice seeds were distributed to SC/ST community farmers during kharif season and during rabi season also IARI have the plans to distribute seeds of wheat varieties HD 2967 and HD 3086 along with other technologies. Further, Dr Singh underlined the benefits of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPO) to various farmers groups and called the farmers to form the Farmer Producer Organizations (FPO) for betterment of farming community.

Dr V.K. Singh, Joint Director (Extension), IARI, New Delhi addressed the gathering and presented an overview about key IARI technologies which can enhance farm incomes and provide livelihood security to the rural population. He also had a discussion with farmers from different states and various strata regarding the problems which are being faced by them in farming and assured them about the pro-active role of IARI for the solutions. Several farmers also spoke during the meeting and they expressed satisfaction by the role that IARI played for upliftment of the farming community. Some farmers expressed their willingness to form FPOs, including at least an FPO on organic agriculture. Overall, the meeting was fruitful and the farmers expressed satisfaction on the performance of IARI technologies and MGMG programme.