

ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi

Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela 2021

Press Note- Day 3

Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela entitled “Atma Nirbhar Kissan” provided the platform for the direct exposure of farmers to latest technologies and developments in the field of agriculture. On the third day of Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela started with technical session on innovative farmers meet. The technical session on “Innovative Farmers Meet” was chaired by Dr. K. V. Prabhu, Chairman, PPV&FRA and renowned plant breeder. During the start of session Dr A. K. Singh, Director, IARI and Dr D. K. Yadav, ADG (Seed), ICAR New Delhi addressed the gathering and thanked the farmers for adopting IARI laid varieties and technologies. During the session innovative farmers shared their journey and motivated the fellow farmers present at the event. Sh. Jitendra Kumar Singh who is an innovative farmer from Bihar and a ICAR Jag Jeevan farmers awardee has talked about adoption and advantages of advance scientific technologies such as direct seeded rice, mango and litchi cultivation, their high-density planting, potato and okra cultivation. Sh. Sukhjeet Singh Bhangu shared his experience about his journey of establishing A-1 seed company. Sh. Yash J. Padhiyar is a young innovative farmer from Gujrat and he has established the organic farming of turmeric, onion and guava. Similarly, other awardee farmers shared their experiences in their respective field. *i.e.* Smt. Anita Kumari (mushroom cultivation), Sh. Khem Chand Kashyap ji (sprinkler irrigation and cultivation of horticultural crops), Sh. Anant Bahadur Ji (developed variety of chickpea, arhar, and sweet potato), Sh. Bapi Shaikh (integrated farming model, mass scale production of *Trichoderma viridae*), Ms. Maya Negi (integrated farming and registered FPO), Sh. Ganga Ram Sepat (organic strawberry cultivation in Rajasthan). Chairman congratulated all the farmers who are awarded with IARI fellow farmers and innovative farmers. He thanked them for their contribution to agriculture sector. He said India can become developed country only when the agriculture sector progresses.

The valedictory session ceremony of Krishi mela was graced by the presence of Chief Guest Shri Kailash Choudhary, Honourable Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India and Guest of honour, Dr. T. Mohapatra, Secretary DARE & DG, ICAR and Dr. D. K. Yadav, ADG (Seed). Shri Kailash Choudhary Ji presented the IARI Fellow Farmer and IARI Innovative Farmer Award to the recipients. He highlighted the government priorities in the field of agricultural research and farmers welfare. He congratulated all the award recipients' farmers for their valuable contribution in area of agricultural innovations. He also appreciated the effort of institute for the development of new varieties and technologies in the field of agriculture. He talked about the various measures taken by government of India in current year budget for the welfare of farmers, farming and agricultural sector as whole. He mentioned that new “Farmers bill” are only for the benefit of the farmers. Dr. T. Mohapatra in his speech mentioned that scientific interventions in agriculture have potential to improve the farmers income by four-folds. He also assured that, ICAR scientists are ready to work with farmers for day and night to achieve the goal of doubling the farmers income. He emphasized on the use of digital platforms for the better dissemination of varieties and technologies in agriculture. Dr A. K. Singh, Director, IARI welcomed all dignitaries on the dais and thanked them for giving their valuable time for

this event. The programme ended with vote of thanks by Dr I. M. Mishra, Coordinator, PKVM 2021 and Head, Division of Agricultural Engineering.