

**ICAR-CRIJAF organized mega Kisan Sammelan and farmers-scientist interaction programme**

ICAR-CRIJAF in association with Gobardanga Farmers Sewa Samiti, North 24-Parganas organized mega **Kisan Sammelan** and farmers-scientist interaction programme on 15.06.23 to promote and get feedback of the technologies and skill training promoted by the Institute for farmers, farm women, SHGs and FPOs. Prof. S. K. Datta, VC, Biswa Bangla University, former DDG (CS), ICAR and former VC, Visva-Bharati and Chairman QRT, ICAR-CRIJAF was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Dr. Sain Dass, Former Director, ICAR-DMR; Dr. N. K. Singh, National Professor B. P. Pal Chair, ICAR-NIPB; Prof. R. K. Ghosh, Ex Professor of Agronomy, BCKV; Dr. Virendra Kumar Baranwal, National Professor, Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI; Prof. V. K. Dhanpuri, Former Prof. and Head, Dept. of Agril. Economics, CSK HPKV, Palampur, HP who were also QRT members of ICAR-CRIJAF were the Guest of Honour.

They interacted with the farmers, farmwomen and other stakeholders trained by ICAR-CRIJAF on improved scientific cultivation of jute and skill development for making jute diversified products. Skill training imparted by ICAR-CRIJAF has improved the income of the farm women substantially and the jute products made by this group have been linked to exporters.

While interacting with the women members of SHGs expressed satisfaction on activities undertaken by ICAR-CRIJAF for enhancing the skill and income of farm women. Later the team participated in the “Kisan Sammelan”, interacted and distributed input to the farmers.

Prof. S. K. Datta, sensitized the farm women to be more skillful by obtaining the training opportunities given by ICAR-CRIJAF so that proportion of high end jute diversified products fetching higher price and profit can be increased. Prof. Datta was of the opinion to incentivize the system that will enable members having higher skill and product output to earn more.

Prof. Datta graced the Kisan Sammaelan and Chief Guest. In his address to the farmers he highlighted the role of ICAR organizations in developing agricultural technologies that made the country self-sufficient in food production and food security. Scientific farming has huge self-employment opportunities to improve the income of village youths and he appealed the farmers to take advantage of technologies developed by ICAR-CRIJAF. Other members of QRT, Dr. Sain Dass, Dr. V. K. Baranwal, Dr. R. K. Ghosh, Dr. V. K. Dhanpuri addressed the farmers in the occasion of Kisan Sammelan and also interacted with the them.

Earlier, Dr. Gouranga Kar, Director, ICAR-CRIJAF welcomed QRT Chairman and members to the interaction session with the women farmers in which the beneficiary

members shared their experience of working with ICAR-CRIJAF which has increased their off farm income. Dr. Kar reiterated that the institute is emphasizing on total value chain development from seed to market, in this endeavour few SHGs have established their businesses of jute diversified product under the guidance of ICAR-CRIJAF. Dr. Kar reiterated ICAR-CRIJAF's plan to provide technical knowledge, market facilitation and input support to the farmer members of Gobardanga Farmers Sewa Samiti for overall development of farmers' community.

More than 1000 farmers, farm women, SHG members and scientists attended this important programme.

