

Foundation Stone of CRIJAF - Krishi Vigyan Kendra in North 24 Parganas laid by Union Agriculture Minister

13th February 2017, Barrackpore: Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Sri Radha Mohan Singh unveiled the foundation stone of new Krishi Vigyan Kendra in North 24 Parganas district of West Bengal today. In his address, Sh. Radha Mohan Singh greeted the gathering and said that the prime objective of KVK's is two-way interaction between the agricultural scientists and the farmers. Establishment of one more KVK in this district will play a great role for the farmers and uplift the livelihood of the farmers. He advised farmers to pursue scientific agriculture which would certainly prove fruitful. He also appealed farmers to become the part of all development programmes like Soil Health Mission, Pradhan Mantri Beema Yojana & E-NAM. He reiterated that ICAR schemes like Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav, ARYA (Attracting Rural Youth in Agriculture), Farmers' First, Oilseeds & pulses demonstration, etc. as launched by Govt. of India will benefit farmers. He lauded the role of ICAR-CRIJAF for the relentless efforts put in by its scientists for serving the jute farming community.



In the country 664 KVKs have been established. All the 19 rural districts of West Bengal have been provided KVKs whereas four districts have two KVKs. The Minister also highlighted the role of KVKs in skill development i.e. *Kaushal Vikas Se Krishi Vikas*. Looking into small land holdings, Hon'ble minister advised to focus on diversification of agriculture for doubling farmer's income and take up Integrated Farming System for sustainable agriculture & livelihood security.



Dr Ashok Kumar Singh, DDG (Agril. Extension) of ICAR presided over the function. In his address, Dr. Singh articulated the role of KVK for imparting technical knowledge which is the need of the time for the overall development of farmers of North 24 Parganas district.



During the program, Dr Jiban Mitra, Director of ICAR-CRIJAF, Dr S. K. Roy, Director of ICAR-ATARI (Kolkata) and Directors of all ICAR Institutes situated in West Bengal including scientists, faculty and state govt. officials also interacted with the farmers during Agriculture Exhibition and Kissan Gosthi organized at this occasion. Eight KVKs of adjoining district, six ICAR institutes and two SAUs participated in this programme. The function was attended by more than 300 farmers along with 100 scientists & extension personnel.

Source: Nodal Officer (KVKs), ICAR-CRIJAF, Barrackpore