

Press note

Kisan Diwas Samaroh at ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi

The Kisan Diwas was celebrated on 23rd December, 2023 at ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi in its Pusa Krishi Haat ground to commemorate the birth anniversary of the Late Ch. Charan Singh, the fifth Prime Minister of India on a very important theme of Empowering FPOs through Technologies of Pusa Institute. The dignitaries and audience paid floral tribute to the Late Ch. Charan Singh ji on his birth anniversary. Dr. R. N. Padaria, Joint Director (Extension), IARI welcomed the dignitaries, farmers and media personnel. The Chief Guest of the function, Dr. A. K. Singh, Director, IARI; highlighted the contributions of Late Ch. Charan Singh ji for the upliftment of farmers through several policy measures and land reforms. He informed the audience about the Vikasit Bharat Sankalp Yatra initiated by the Government of India and urged all attending farmers to participate in it and draw benefits. He urged the farmers to join FPOs, which would help in increasing their bargaining power both for input purchase and sale of produce. He motivated the farmers to venture into value addition and at the same cautioned them for maintaining adequate quality standards for better consumer base and remuneration. He appreciated the efforts of the entrepreneurs who have opened their outlets in Pusa Krishi Haat. Dr. Aunpama Singh, Dean of ICAR-IARI, stressed upon the importance of agricultural education for rural youth and various capacity-building programs for farmers and farm women. Dr. Gyanendra Singh, the In-Charge of SPU, emphasized the significance of high-quality seed material and the development of a robust value chain in seed production. Dr. Markenday Singh highlighted the technologies of cultivation and value addition of flowers as a means to augment farmers' income. Dr. B. S. Tomar, the Head of Vegetable Science, highlighted the importance of crop diversification with cultivation of vegetables and fruits, as well as value addition process for increased income. He also emphasized the pivotal role of fruits and vegetables in enhancing nutritional security. Dr. Rajiv Singh, Principal Scientist of the Agronomy division, educated the farmers about button mushroom cultivation and the Integrated Farming System model for enhancing farm income. Dr. Brahmanand, PD of WTC, shared thoughts on on-farm water conservation techniques with farmers. Mr. Ajay Nayak from NABARD discussed NABARD's role in formulating Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and its support for their sustainability. Shree Achalaram Choudhary, an IARI innovative farmer awardee from Jaisalmer, shared his experiences of FPOs for the betterment of the farming community. He recounted the success story of the FPO developed in his area.

Dr. J P S Dabas In-Charge, CATAT has delivered vote of thank to the experts and research leaders and farmers.



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