

ICAR-ATARI, Kanpur organized Annual Zonal Review Workshop of NICRA Project for KVKs of Uttar Pradesh

Annual Zonal Review Workshop of NICRA (National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture) Project for the KVKs of Uttar Pradesh was organized from 12th to 14th May 2023 at ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI), Zone-III, Kanpur. In this workshop, the achievements of last year (2022) and action plans for 2023 of 17 Krishi Vigyan Kendras of NICRA project were reviewed.

The workshop was formally inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Honorable MP Akbarpur and Member of Parliamentary Standing Committee (Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing) Shri Devendra Singh 'Bhole' Ji. In his inaugural address, the Honorable Chief Guest said that climate change is the biggest challenge for us. Especially in the field of agriculture, abnormal changes in climate are causing very adverse effects. The main reason for erratic changes in climate are cutting of trees, pollution, excessive exploitation of natural resources, etc., he further added. In view of climate change, the health of the soil is also getting damaged. The regular soil and water testing has become very important in this context. Therefore, systematic setting the target of soil testing and sharing its deficiency and qualities, making farmers aware of it and providing training, etc. shall be instrumental for climate resilient agriculture.

The guests of honor on the occasion were Dr. Ranjay Kumar Singh, ADG (AE), ICAR, New Delhi; Dr. Vinod Kumar Singh, Director, ICAR- Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), Hyderabad; Dr. B. Gangwar, Chairman-ZMC NICRA and Dr. Masood Ali, Member, Z.M.C. NICRA also expressed their views to make NICRA project more meaningful, farmer centric and as a tool for minimizing the climatic vulnerability at the village level.

In this workshop, Dr. S.K. Dubey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kanpur welcomed all the dignitaries present and shared that NICRA project is running in the state since 2011 (Phase I) and 2017 (Phase II) and its objective is to promote climate resilient agricultural technologies for minimizing the climate related vulnerabilities. Currently, this project is running across 17 climate vulnerable districts of Uttar Pradesh. Custom hiring centers (CHC) has also been developed for farmers, in which farm machinery is made available to farmers through KVKs. Along with this, the seeds of improved varieties and related techniques as applicable to the given situation are being demonstrated to the farmers through KVKs.

Along with the Head of NICRA KVKs, farmers (40) also participated in the workshop and shared their experiences. On this occasion, participating farmers (8) were felicitated by the honorable chief guest for their active role in CHC and VCRMC. Director Extensions of SAUs of Uttar Pradesh Dr. A.P. Rao, Dr. N.K. Bajpai, Dr. P.K. Singh, Dr. R.K. Yadav, Dr. JVNS Prasad - Coordinator NICRA and Principal Scientist of ATARI Kanpur Dr. S.K. Singh, Dr. Sadhna Pandey and Dr. Raghwendra Singh were also present. Four technical sessions were arranged in this workshop, in which district-wise achievements of KVKs were thoroughly reviewed. A team of scientists also visited NICRA village of Hamirpur district, on 14th May, 2023.

