

## Interactive meeting on Extension approaches towards Natural Fibres in West Bengal organised

April 17, 2023

ICAR-ATARI Kolkata organized an Interactive meeting with frontline demonstration along with Dr. Narender Kumar, Director and Shri Jintu Das, Joint Director of Directorate of Jute Development, GoI on 17.04.2023. In this programme, all Principal Scientists and project staff also participated.

Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI Kolkata, briefed the house about the scenario of Jute in West Bengal in his welcome address. He informed that during last five years, 2514 FLDs were conducted by 13 KVKs working in jute in West Bengal. Besides, 209 training programmes, 610 numbers of farmers' meet and 15.95 q of jute seeds were produced by these KVKs. Fifty one number of training were conducted by KVKs for the benefit of SHGs on value addition like jute doll, jute basket, jute tray, jute bag, jute garments etc. Further, he informed the house about the popularization of Fiber Extraction Technology like CRIJAF *Sona* and NINFET *Sathi* and 371 ha area was covered to popularize these two retting technologies. He also suggested for developing a network project involving KVKs, ICAR Institutes and Line Department with sufficient funding and manpower for bigger impact. Dr. P.K. Singh, Agriculture Commissioner, Govt. of India, highlighted various ongoing programmes of GoI as well as upcoming ventures like Agristack, geo-tagging, remote sensing technologies like Solace Agriculture Satellite and others for better monitoring and benefit of large number of farmers. He also advocated for direct bank transfer of money under various scheme involving farmers as beneficiaries. He emphasised on switching of frontline demonstration location for better outcome of frontline demonstration. Dr. N. Kumar, Director, DJD, urged the need to work in convergence mode by conducting training and other capacity building programmes.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks.

