

Interactive meeting to increase the efficiency of Odisha KVKs during *Amrit Kal* organised at ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata

2 August, 2023, Kolkata

ICAR- Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI), Kolkata organised interactive meeting to increase the efficiency of Odisha KVKs here today.

Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata presented the transformation of KVKs warranted during the *Amrit Kal* to accomplish the aspiration of the nation by 2047. He emphasised that KVKs should act as district agri-tech epicentre and convergence hub and bring the positive change in the district through nature friendly, gender sensitive and environment resilient technologies. He further added that there is a need to orient programmes towards One District One Product (ODOP) concept as far as possible. Importance of furthering Kisan Sarathi registration was also highlighted so that a greater number of farmers could access its benefits. Dr. Dey proposed the notion of One SMS One Product for KVKs in the context of the One Scientist One Product (OSOP) call from ICAR.

Honourable Vice Chancellor of OUAT Dr. P.K. Roul appreciated the future vision of ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata with respect to KVKs for Odisha. He described the various measures the University had taken to strengthen the KVK system, including the development of infrastructure, the hiring of more personnel, the implementation of cutting-edge programmes like Carp Hatchery with external funding from other organisations and banks. He also stated his joy at having earned a reputation among the KVKs for providing assistance to the farming community as needed. He claims that for the benefit of the farmer, the KVKs have emerged as the most reputable institution in the entire state. Additionally, he mentioned how four KVKs affiliated with OUAT had created an expert group and visited the damaged fields to assess the damage brought on by swarming caterpillars. A thorough report has also been provided.

Dr. P.J. Mishra, Dean, OUAT gave a detailed account of various sponsored programmes carried out by the KVKs in maize, cotton, horticulture, plant health clinic, FPOs etc. He assured to look into the matter of AUC submission in time.

Current status of the ongoing projects running in 31 KVKs of OUAT, has been discussed also been discussed.

The meeting ended with formal vote of thanks from Dr. P.P. Pal, Principal Scientist, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata.

