

# ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata organized Zonal Workshop on Farmer FIRST Programme

**31 October 2023, Kolkata**

One day Zonal Review Workshop of Farmer FIRST Programme (FFP) was organized at ICAR-ATARI Kolkata today through hybrid mode under the Chairmanship of Dr. Pradip Dey, Director-cum-Chairman, Zonal Programme Management Committee (ZPMC), FFP, for four centres of this zone. In his opening remarks, Dr. R. Roy Burman, ADG (AE), ICAR, briefed about the objectives of the programme and suggested for more participation by farmers, scientists and balanced module approach saturate entire households of the village clusters. He also emphasised on establishing seed hub, raising sustainability fund and partnership with district/state administration for content mobilisation, up-scaling and out-scaling of technologies demonstrated through FFP.

In his inaugural address, Chief Guest Dr. S.S. Dana, Vice Chancellor, WBUAFS Kolkata, pointed out the importance of impact study of technology dissemination, sustainability after discontinuation of the project and avoiding duplication of the similar programme by various agencies. He also stressed upon the evaluation of different technologies demonstrated through FFP.

Dr. Pradip Dey, Director-cum-Chairman, ZPMC, ATARI Kolkata, in his address called for an approach centred around co-creation of technology. He stressed that fund mobilisation from other sources through convergence, promotion of FPO/FPCs to achieve economies of scale and documentation of institutional learnings are important. He opined that the outcome of this workshop will help in identification and assemblage of doable technologies for conservation of soil health and efficient use of natural resources which will further improve the agricultural production and uplift the livelihood of the farming community as a whole.

Dr. P.J. Mishra, Guest of Honour and Dean, Extension Education, OUAT Bhubaneswar, expressed his concern over the successful running of FFP and advocated the missing out of innovative farmers technology by the institutes. He also stated about climate smart agriculture, sustainable agriprenurship and emphasised on research publication based on the findings of the programme.

Earlier, Dr. K.S. Das, Pr. Scientist and Member-Secretary, ZPMC, FFP, ICAR-ATARI Kolkata welcomed all the dignitaries and delegates and presented a brief overview of FFP programme of this zone and coordinated the programme.

Principal Investigators (PIs)/ Co-PI of four FFP centres presented the physical and financial achievements of respective centres during the period from April to October, 2023 which were critically reviewed by the distinguished dignitaries during technical session. A total of 40 delegates attended the workshop.

