

## Field Day-cum-Awareness Campaign on Natural Farming organized

4<sup>th</sup> January 2024, Baruipur

A Field Day-cum-Awareness Campaign on Natural Farming was organized on today at village Moutala of Baruipur block of South 24 Parganas district, West Bengal by Sasya Shyamala Krishi Vigyan Kendra (SSKVK), RKMVERI under the jurisdiction of ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata.

Chief Guest Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata, in his address told that natural farming is the ecologically sync farming which promotes environmental stewardship, ensures the production of safe and nutritious food, conserves biodiversity, and contributes to the long-term sustainability of agriculture. He explained the four pillars of natural farming and added that it is possible to reduce reliance on synthetic inputs and costly technologies offering economic benefits to farmers, especially in the long run. Dr. Dey applauded the accomplishments of SSKVK and its pivotal role in advancing natural farming practices in almost every nook and corner of the district.

Dr. Athoi Gupta, ADA, Govt. of West Bengal committed for extensive collaboration with SSKVK. She also explained about the importance of natural farming for proper nutrition and disease prevention.

Dr. N.C. Sahu, Head, SSKVK in his speech told that natural farming minimizes the use of synthetic chemicals, pesticides, and fertilizers, reducing soil, water, and air pollution. He added that healthy soil is crucial for sustainable agriculture as it retains water, improves nutrient availability, and sequesters carbon, mitigating climate change.



Dr. A. Ghoshal, SMS (Plant Protection) of SSKVK explained in details about preparation and application of Beejamrit, Jivamrit, Neemastra, Brahmastra, Agniastra for practicing natural farming. During Q&A session, queries of farmers were also clarified.

Practical demonstration about the preparation of different ingredients of natural farming was the main attraction of the programme. Publication was also released and distributed among the farmers. Visit to the demonstration plot of natural farming in the village was also organised.

Progressive farmers also shared their experiences about the natural farming. More than 150 farmers participated in the programme.