

## Natural Farming: Rapidly accepting by the farmers in North Bengal

8<sup>th</sup> March 2024, Kolkata

ICAR-ATARI Kolkata has initiated Natural Farming under a flagship project entitled “Out scaling of Natural Farming through Krishi Vigyan Kendras” to the grassroots of the farming community in Eastern India involving 34 KVKs of Odisha, West Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar Island since 2022. Recently, Dr. Avijit Halder, Principal Scientist & Nodal Scientist of Natural Farming project, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata has made an intensive visit with the KVK scientists of Coochbehar and Uttar Dinajpur indifferent demonstration plots and interacted with the farmers in Kumargang Block of Alipurduar District and Chopra Block of Uttar Dinajpur District of North Bengal on March 6-7, 2024. The farmers expressed immense interest on natural farming practices due to less cost of cultivation, less incidence of pest and disease infestation and production of organic, tasty and quality vegetables. In particular, the farmers have come forward to prepare for sale and use natural bio-inputs in tea garden in replacing the chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

