

Shri Arjun Munda ji, Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Tribal Affairs visited KVK Keonjhar

23rd - 24th December 2023, Keonjhar

Shri Arjun Munda ji, Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Tribal Affairs visited KVK Keonjhar and felicitated farmers during celebration of Kisan Samman Diwas and Farmer-Scientist Interaction programme. He was accompanied by Shri Mohan Charan Majhi, Member of Legislative Assembly, Keonjhar.



Hon'ble Union Minister highlighted the challenges of agriculture for food and nutritional security especially under rainfed condition of and the increased responsibilities of the KVK. He expressed his confidence that KVK Keonjhar with guidance from ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata and OUAT, Bhubaneswar will play a crucial role in tackling these problems in order to improve the livelihood of rural communities and promote sustainable agriculture development in Keonjhar and adjoining areas. According to the Hon'ble Minister, farmers not only provide for their families but also boost the national wealth. He emphasized that the Central Government through ICAR is ensuring farmer prosperity and agricultural advancement through utilisation of advanced technologies such as agricultural drones and several other farmer friendly schemes. He highlighted the need to produce food that is both highly nutritious and free of pesticide residues. He also urged the farming community to take advantages of several important schemes launched by the Government and are currently being disseminated through Viksit Bharat Sankalp Abhiyaan.

Earlier Hon'ble Union Minister visited the different demonstrations of KVK. He also felicitated the progressive farmers and representatives of the KVK supported FPOs/FPCs. He also addressed media persons during the press conference held at KVK premises. Also on 23rd evening, Shri Munda ji had a meeting with the Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata, Head KVK Keonjhar and other official in the Keonjhar circuit house and reviewed the various activities of the KVK for better agri-output of the region.



Shri Majhi highlighted the various programmes of Central Government for prosperity of farmers and common masses. He applauded the accomplishments of KVK and its pivotal role in advancing agricultural practices.

Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata highlighted on strategic measures undertaken to elevate the research and development landscape in different remote places by ICAR during Amrit Kaal. He also narrated about the role of KVK for enhancement of livelihoods, promoting entrepreneurship in rural areas and transforming young people from job searchers into employment providers.

Dr. P.J. Mishra, DEE, OUAT and Dr. A.K. Nayak, Director, ICAR-NRRI, Cuttack also spoke on the occasion.

An exhibition was also organized where various technologies which are being disseminated by the KVK, Keonjhar and produce and products of FPCs/FPOs including local millet recipes were displayed.

More than 500 farmers, representative of FPOs/FPCs, Officials, media persons and exhibitors gathered in the programme.