

ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata organized Zonal Workshop of Farmer FIRST Programme

12th March, 2024, Kolkata

A One-day Zonal Review Workshop of the Farmer FIRST Programme (FFP) was organised at ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Kolkata today under the Chairmanship of Dr. Pradip Dey, Director-cum-Chairman, Zonal Programme Management Committee (ZPMC), FFP, for four centres of this zone.

Dr. K.S. Das, Principal Scientist and Member-Secretary, ZPMC, FFP, ICAR-ATARI Kolkata welcomed all the dignitaries and delegates and presented a brief overview of FFP programme and fund utilization during 2023-24 of this zone and coordinated the programme.

In his inaugural address, Chief Guest Dr. A. Sarangi, Director, ICAR-IIWM, Bhubaneswar pointed out that feedback of stakeholders should be reviewed before upscaling the technologies. He requested the scientists to focus on micro-irrigation assisted cropping system and divergent based irrigation for judicious use of available water, integration with other FFP project institutes with sharing of data for the benefit of farming community. He proposed that one common village should be developed near Bhubaneswar by all four centres by sharing their capacities and resources.

Dr. Pradip Dey, Director-cum-Chairman, ZPMC, ATARI Kolkata in his presidential address emphasised the need for outreaching and outscaling the knowledge and technologies derived from different FFP centres so that other farmers in the district/state get benefit from it. He also stressed on the need for impact assessment of various proven technologies in the adopted and non-adopted villages, documentation of institutional learning, high quality publications, uploading information in FFP Portal, raising sustainability funds and promotion of FPO/FPCs to achieve economies of scale.



Principal Investigators (PIs)/Co-PI of four FFP centres presented the physical and financial achievements of respective centres for 2023-24 which were critically reviewed by the dignitaries and panellists during technical session. A total of 48 delegates attended the workshop. The meeting ended with vote of thanks by Dr. S.K. Mondal, Pr. Scientist, ICAR-ATARI Kolkata.