

Awareness-cum-Capacity Building Programme on Quality Assurance of Soil Testing Labs under Soil Health Card Scheme

25th July 2024, Cooch Behar

An Awareness-cum-Capacity Building programme on Quality Assurance of Soil Testing Labs under Soil Health Card Scheme envisioning the Slogan ‘Swasth Dhara, Khet Haraa’ – Healthy Earth, Green Farm was organized jointly in hybrid mode by National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) and ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI), Kolkata at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Cooch Behar today.

Chief Guest Prof. Debabrata Basu, Vice Chancellor, UBKV, Cooch Behar emphasized prioritizing quality over quantity and advocated for a robust quality assurance system to ensure the reliability of soil testing. He also expressed his appreciation for the timely organization of the event at UBKV and committed the University's laboratories to participate in recognition and accreditation programs.

Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata, emphasized the vital role of a quality assurance scheme in promoting confidence in laboratory testing and calibration services by ensuring adherence to international standards and best practices. He stressed that soil testing laboratories must implement effective quality management systems, including policies, procedures, documentation, and controls, to provide the farming community with reliable recommendations based on soil test results.

Ms. Malancha Das, Deputy Director, NABL, Kolkata NABL discussed in details about the importance and protocols of Recognition/Accreditation of Soil Testing Laboratories. She also discussed in details about internationally recognized standards ISO/IEC 17025 for testing laboratories.

Prof. Ashok Choudhury, Director of Research, Prof. Prabhat Kumar Pal, Director of Extension Education, Prof. Dibyendu Mukhopadhyay, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Prof. Soumen Maitra, Dean, Faculty of Horticulture, UBKV also spoke on the occasion.



Dr. Bikash Roy, Head, KVK, Cooch Behar coordinated the whole programme.

A total of 48 Scientists/In-Charges of State Soil Testing Laboratories, Soil microbiology lab, Biofertilizer lab, Central instrumentation centre, Biochemistry lab, Remote Sensing lab, KVK and other Laboratories belonging to UBKV participated in the programme.