

DST Team Reviewed Project Ensuring Sustainable Agricultural Development and Livelihood Security Interventions in Haridwar, Uttarakhand on 22nd July 2016

A team of Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India visited the interventions on paddy cultivars (Pusa 1612, Pusa Sugandha 5 and Pusa Basmati 1121) demonstrated at farmers fields covering 134 farmers (35 in Narsan, 33 in Lakshar and 66 in Roorkee block) of district Haridwar in lower Shivalik range of Uttarakhand. The team comprising of Dr. Chandra Mohan, Head, SEED, DST, New Delhi; Dr. Rashmi Sharma, Scientist-E, DST; Dr. R. Roy Burman, Principal Scientist & Principal Investigator of the project(ICAR-IARI); Dr. Lakhan Singh, Head (HRD & Social Science), ICAR-IISWC, Dehradun visited the frontline demonstrations. Shri Balvinder Tyagi, Devendra Kumar and other farmers of the project area shared their opinion and gave technical feedback about wheat cultivars (HD-3086 and HD 2967) demonstrated at farmers' fields covering 33 farmers. The HD-2967 wheat variety was liked more as compared to HD-3086 on different parameters including market demand, grain shining, yield and plant length, etc. About 60 q/ha yield was provided by HD-2967 variety which was higher than HD-3086 (53q/ha) as responded by the farmers. As per farmers' feedback, more yellow rust infestation was observed in HD-2967 cultivar.

At the occasion, a **Farmers Training cum Goshthi** was also organized in Baswakheri village of Narsan block in district Haridwar, where Dr. Chandra Mohan from DST was the Chief Guest and Dr. Rashmi Sharma was the Guest of Honour. About 100 farmers from 3 villages (Baswakheri, Sadoli and Kumrari) of Narsan block participated. The Chief Guest distributed the Leaf Colour Charts for effective utilization nitrogen in paddy and other crops and necessary steps of the technique were also narrated. Special attention on farm women participation was suggested. Dr. Bankey Bihari, Mr. Darshan Kadam, Mr. Rajesh Bishnoi, Mr. Suresh Kumar delivered lectures on paddy production and protection technologies, diversification of agriculture through fruits and vegetable cultivation, protected cultivation, emphasizing soil and water conservation practices, etc. In addition, focus on organizing farmers and custom hiring services was given. There was demand of interventions keeping the farming situation and small land holdings of the famers in view. Sugarcane harvester was demanded by the farmers. In addition to wild animals' problem, non availability of quality inputs, low productivity of major crops, different opportunities were also discussed. Floriculture, guava, strawberry, capsicum, tomato, micro irrigation, rejuvenation of mango orchards, etc. may be emphasized. Poultry, piggery and fishery were other opportunities to promote in the area. Dr. R. Roy Burman presented a brief report about project interventions. He said that Pusa Naveen variety of bottle gourd having ½ kg weight was liked by the farmers. Participatory wheat seed production, custom hiring services, convergence with line departments will be focused in the project area as remarked by the Principal Investigator. Before starting, Dr. Lakhan Singh welcomed the Chief Guest and farmers. Mr. Rajesh Bishnoi coordinated the programme and proposed a vote of thanks. Shri Ishwari Singh, Mr. Pinaki Roy and Mr. Vikas Kumar, Junior Research Fellows facilitated the visit and programme.



Demonstration of Rice cultivars at Farmers Field



Demonstration of paddy cultivar - Pusa-1612 at farmer's field



Farmers Training cum goshthi at Baswakheri Village, Haridwar



DST Team reviewing the project entitled as "Ensuring Sustainable Agricultural Development and Livelihood Security Interventions in Haridwar"



Dr. Chandra Mohan, DST as chief guest and Dr. Rashmi Sharma as guest of honour at the occasion of Farmer's Training cum Goshthi at Baswakheri Village, Haridwar