

**ICAR- Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal organized Krishi Mela cum Workshop on Natural Farming at aspirational tribal district Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh**

ICAR- Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal (M.P.) organised Krishi Mela cum Krishak Sangosthi on Natural Farming during 27-29 March at KVK Surgi, Rajnandgaon district, Chhattisgarh. Padmashri Smt. Phoolbasan Bai Yadav, President of the Maa Bamleshwari Janhit Karya Samiti graced the Krishi Mela cum Krishak Sangosthi as Chief Guest on 28th March 2023 and emphasised on importance of organic and natural farming practices for crop and soil health improvement. During this occasion 30 quintals of HYVs of paddy, 10 quintals of summer green gram seeds and 75 number of vermibeds were distributed to tribal farmers. The Krishak Sangosthi on Natural Farming was addressed by Dr. R. Elanchezhian, Dr. Prabhat Tripathi, Dr. M. Vassanda Coumar, Dr. Nisha Sahu, Dr Narayan Lal and Dr Dinesh K.Yadav (ICAR-IISS, Bhopal), Dr R.N. Singh (Dean College of Agriculture Surgi), Dr. RK Swarnakar (Head, KVK Rajnandgaon), Dr. Anjali Ghratlehre, Dr Atul Dange, Dr. Gunjan Jha (KVK Rajnandgaon), Shri Anand Sahu, Sarpanch Surgi, Smt. Khulbeshwari Sahu, Secretary, and Smt. Madhulika Ramteke, Ma Bambleshwari FPO, Dongargarh, Rajnandgaon. Altogether 550 tribal farmers including progressive farmers attended the Mela and Sangosthi. Earlier on 27th March 2023, 25 number of vermibeds, seedlings of horticultural fruit crops like papaya and moringa were also distributed among the tribal beneficiary farmers at Mading Piding (Bhursa village), Mohala Block, Rajnandgaon in which 100 farmers were sensitized about the importance of fruit crops in enhancing farm income and livelihood. The team from ICAR IISS Bhopal also visited the adopted villages on 29th March 2023 and reviewed the on farm-demonstrations of project activities. The events were given a wide coverage in the local press and media.



