

**ICAR- Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal organized Krishi Mela cum Krishak Sangosthi on Soil Health Management at aspirational tribal district Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh**

ICAR- Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal (M.P.) organised Krishi Mela cum Krishak Sangosthi on Soil Health Management during 11-12 Nov 2024 at KVK Surgi, Rajnandgaon district, Chhattisgarh. Shri Sanjay Agarwal, District Collector Rajnandgaon graced the Krishi Mela cum Krishak Sangosthi as Chief Guest on 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024 and interacted with the farmers on various aspects of livelihood improvement. Ms Suruchi Singh, Chief Executive Officer, Rajnandgaon district presided the occasion and encouraged the farmers to avail the government schemes. During this occasion, 12.6 quintal chickpea and 70 kg cowpea seeds were distributed to tribal farmers. The Krishak Sangosthi on Soil Health Management was addressed by Dr. R. Elanchezhian, Dr. M. Vassanda Coumar, Dr. Nisha Sahu, Dr Narayan Lal and Dr Dinesh K. Yadav (ICAR-IISS, Bhopal); Dr. Pratibha Katiyar, Professor, IGKV, Raipur, Dr. S. K. Singh, IFFCO, Raipur, Dr. Gunjan Jha, Senior Scientist & Head, KVK, Dr. Vinamarta Jain, Professor, College of Agriculture, Rajnandgaon and Dr. Nageswar Pandey, Deputy Director Agriculture; Dr. Anjali Ghratlehre, Mr. Manish Kumar Singh and Dr Yogendra Shriwas (KVK Rajnandgaon). Development functionaries like Deputy Director Agriculture and state department officials participated in the program and sensitized the farmers about the various govt schemes. Altogether 300 tribal farmers including progressive farmers attended the Krishi Mela cum Krishak Sangosthi. Thereafter on 12<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024, an On-Farm training was conducted at Malpuri village, Rajnandgaon district, wherein 60 tribal farmers participated. The scientific team of IISS Bhopal visited the on farm-demonstrations and emphasized the importance of soil health and modern techniques in crop production for enhancing farm income and livelihood. The events were given a wide coverage in the local press and media.

