

# **ICAR-National Institute of Biotic Stress Management**

## **Raipur, Chhattisgarh**

### **Brief Report on PoshanVatikaMaha Abhiyan & Tree Plantation**

The programme was organised on “*PoshanVatikaMaha Abhiyan & Tree Plantation*” under the umbrella of International Year of Millets 2023 at ICAR-NIBSM, Raipur on 17<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2021. In the virtual inauguration session, Hon’ble Union Agriculture Minister Shri Narendra Singh Ji Tomar emphasized about acceptance of India’s proposal for declaring 2023 as an International Year of Millets. Moreover, he also urged upon all stakeholders of ICAR, CSIR, IFCCO, Directors, Vice-Chancellors of the institutes and universities and others people from industry and different sectors of society to make 2023 year grand success and achieve the goal what we have fixed. Hon’ble Shri Kailash Choudhary, State Minister for Agriculture had narrated from KVK of Barmer, Rajasthan on importance of pearl millet, Sawan, Sorghum in arid areas where rainfall is very less in order to sustain life in harsh conditions. Earlier, Dr T. Mohapatra, Secretary, DARE and DG, ICAR; Shri Sanjay Agarwal, Secretary, ICAR; Dr TR Sharma, DDG Crops; Dr S.K. Malhotra, Agriculture Commissioner and Shri Yogendra, IFCCO and others spoke about different aspects of millets cultivation, nutritional value, fertilizer use and their health benefits.

At ICAR-NIBSM, Raipur programme started with welcome of JDs, farmers, girl students of Sr. Secondary School, Saragaon, Raipur and our staff by Dr Sushil K. Sharma, Principal Scientist and Coordinator. In this programme, around 26 farmers, 27 girl students of senior classes along with our some field labourers and other staff members have participated and witnessed the live programme at Hyderabad. Around 25 more farmers from Kasdol village of Baloda Bazar district have witnessed virtually the inaugural programme conducted at IIMR, Hyderabad, Telangana. Dr S.K. Ambast, Director in-charge, ICAR-NIBSM has emphasized the importance and given background of the organisation of this programme at the national and international level. He also highlighted nutritional aspects of jawar, pearl millet, kodo, kutaki, ragi etc and their importance in human health. Dr K.C. Sharma, Dr. Binod Choudhary, Dr Vinay Kumar and Mr Lalit Laxaman Kharbikar of ICAR-NIBSM, Raipur emphasized on different sources of nutrient from the millets, fishes and other fruits plants. Plantation drive was also organised and about 50 papaya plants were planted in the premises by girl students, farmers and our staff. Cookies of ragi were also distributed to all the participants to popularize among the society.

