

**PRESS RELEASE****Inauguration of Hi-tech Horticulture Nursery-cum-Green House and Distribution of Piglets & Seeds to the Farmers**

Udaipur, 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012: Sri Jitendra Choudhury, Rural Development Minister, Govt. of Tripura today inaugurated a Hi-tech Horticulture Nursery-cum-Green House established under MGNREGA programme of Bokafa Block at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Birchandra Manu, South Tripura. Sri Himanshu Roy, Chairman, South Tripura Zilla Parishad, Dr. M. Datta, Joint Director, ICAR (Tripura Centre), Dr. A.K. Singh, Programme Coordinator (KVK), Deputy Directors of Agriculture & Horticulture, DDM of NABARD, Scientists of ICAR, farmers, staffs of KVK and Journalists of Press & Media were present on this occasion. This nursery has the capacity to produce more than 50000 fruits and vegetable planting materials per year.

In today's programme, KVK in collaboration with ICAR also distributed about 1000 kgs of rice seeds (Ranjeet, MTU 1010, Gomati, & Naveen), 150 kgs each of Groundnut (ICGS 76) and Maize (Hybrid) seeds, 30 kgs each of Bhendi (Arka Anamika) & Cowpea (Kashi Kanchan) seeds to about 300 farmers of South Tripura & Gomati district and piglets (Ghungghru) to 5 tribal farmers with housing facility under different demonstration projects (NICRA & TSP) of ICAR.

Sri Jitendra Choudhury, Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development, Govt. of Tripura in his address appreciated the efforts being made by the Krishi Vigyan Kendra in the district for propagating the new technologies of agriculture and allied sectors in the district for better rural livelihood. He emphasized up on adoption of new technologies being provided by the ICAR and KVK and requested to work upon the crop planning as per soil suitability of Tripura State. He also urged farmers to cultivate their land for fulfillment of the food requirement of increasing population of the state. There is need to change old and traditional farming system by integrating livestock, fishery and rural enterprises. He requested the officials of Agriculture and Horticulture department to establish Nursery-cum Green House and fruit orchard in every Block of the district as per the model of KVK, South Tripura to meet requirement of planting materials and thereby enhancing the farm income of farmers.

Sri Himanshu Roy, Chairman, South Tripura Zilla Parishad appreciated the establishment of Model Horticulture Nursery-cum- Hi-tech Green House for production of quality planting materials of fruits and vegetables at KVK, South Tripura. He urged participating farmers to start banana cultivation, integrated fish farming, homestead farming as demonstrated by the KVK in the district. ICAR should provide all kind of technical help to provide new technology to line departments for faster adoption of technology through KVK. Similar to Amrapali Mango, other fruits like orange, mausambi, etc. should also be popularized in the district. He felt very happy to see the KVK farm with all kind of crops, livestock, fruit orchard and integrated fishery unit.

Dr. M. Datta, Joint Director, ICAR (Tripura Centre) was also present during the function. He informed the farmers and public representatives about the ICAR programmes of seed & piglet distribution and appreciated the Farmer-KVK relationship in transferring the ICAR technology to the farmer's field through NICRA, Tribal Sub Plan and other similar projects.

Dr. A.K. Singh, Programme Coordinator of KVK (South Tripura) in his welcome address shared the significant achievements of KVK during the 11<sup>th</sup> five year plan period. KVK has conducted number of demonstration programmes on groundnut, rice, pulses, oilseed crops, vegetables, fisheries, poultry, piggery, seed and planting material production. Using the improved variety of Groundnut, Lentil, Green gram, Red gram and Cowpea, the farmer's income enhanced up to about Rs. 30,000 per hectare. He also informed about the on farm trials and

demonstration on “Balanced use of fertiliser in HYV Maize and Rice under SRI and ICM system; control of pests and diseases through IPM & IDM; mushroom cultivation through SHG; Pig-cum-Fish & Duck-cum-Fish farming along with Backyard Pond Aquaculture; development of Mini-dairy for milk production, development of skills of rural youth for grafting of Amrapali mango planting materials and establishment of private horticulture nursery; introduction of new breeds of poultry (Gram Priya, CARI-Nirbhic, Khakhi Cambel and Vigova Super-M); value addition of fruits, vegetables & spices, Zero cool energy storage, Tailoring, Stitching & Rural Craft and Nutrition Gardening for the Farm women; and Homestead Farming System by integrating six enterprises together in which each farmer rearing 15-20 poultry and 2-4 goats, producing 3-4 tonnes vermicompost, mushroom, vegetables, spices and fruits just from 0.16 ha (1 kani) homestead land and earning about Rs. 65000 per year. KVK also identify, recognise and promote grass-root innovators of agricultural technologies and help innovative spirit of the farming community. Four farmers of the district got “Innovative farmer Award” during 2010-12 in the field of disease control in fishes, modified honey extractor, Mini-dairy and Integrated Paddy-cum-Fish in Rubber grown areas at Jaipur, Mysore, Shillong and Hyderabad. The programme was conducted by Smt. Mandira Chakraborti, SMS (Agronomy).

**PROGRAMME IN FRAME**



**Inauguration of Horticulture Nursery-cum-Green House by Sri Jitendra Choudhury, Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development, Govt. of Tripura & Sri Himanshu Roy, Chairman, South Tripura Zilla Parishad on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at**



**Plantation of Sweet Orange (Mausambi) by Sri Jitendra Choudhury, Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development, Govt. of Tripura & Sri Himanshu Roy, Chairman, South Tripura Zilla Parishad on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at KVK, South Tripura**



Distribution of piglets and crop seeds to the farmers by Sri Jitendra Choudhury, Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development, Govt of Tripura & Sri Himanshu Roy, Chairman, South Tripura Zilla Parishad on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at KVK, South Tripura



Sri Jitendra Choudhury, Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development, Govt of Tripura addressing the gathering of farmers on the occasion of Inauguration of Hi-tech Horticulture Nursery-cum-Green House and Distribution of Seeds & piglets to Farmers on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at KVK, Birchnadra manu, South Tripura

*-Programme Coordinator, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Birchandra Manu, South Tripura*