

## Hon'ble Union Minister of State, Ministry of Education and Development of North Eastern Region visited Rathindra KVK, Birbhum

18th June 2024, Bolpur

Dr. Sukanta Majumdar, Hon'ble Union Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Development of North Eastern Region, Govt. of India, visited Rathindra Krishi Vigyan Kendra (RKVK), Birbhum on the occasion of release of the 17th Instalment of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi Ji today.

Prior to Live Streaming of PM-KISAN Samman Nidhi - Fund release, Dr. Majumdar eloquently spoke about the PM-KISAN scheme, shedding light on the funds already bestowed upon farmers and those poised for release today. He passionately underscored the myriad Government of India initiatives uplifting the farming community and championed the farmers' role in advocating for local produce, with visions of surplus bounty reaching distant markets. Dr. Majumdar honoured 10 progressive farmers and farm women, celebrating their dedication and innovation and encouraged the farmers to take advantage of PM-KISAN Samman Nidhi. During the visit, he planted a *Bakul* tree in RKVK premises. During interaction with Officials, he expressed his happiness on the close connection between RKVK and farmers. He also explored various activities of RKVK such as beekeeping, vermicomposting, animal rearing, fisheries, millets, and natural farming, and offered advice on crop diversification.



Prof. Arabinda Monda, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor (Acting), Visva-Bharati delivered welcome address.

Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata, briefed about the recent activities and achievements of the KVKs in Zone-V. He further added that the ICAR-ATARI is transforming KVKs to serve as a change catalyst and convergence hub for Indian agriculture during *Amrit Kaal*, aiming to achieve the nation's aspirations by 2047.

Prof. Binoy Kumar Saren, Principal, Palli Siksha Bhavana, Dr. Subrata Mandal, Head, RKVK along with all staff of Rathindra KVK and Senior Officials from University were present.



A total of 604 farmers and farm women (382 female outnumbered male) attended the programme.