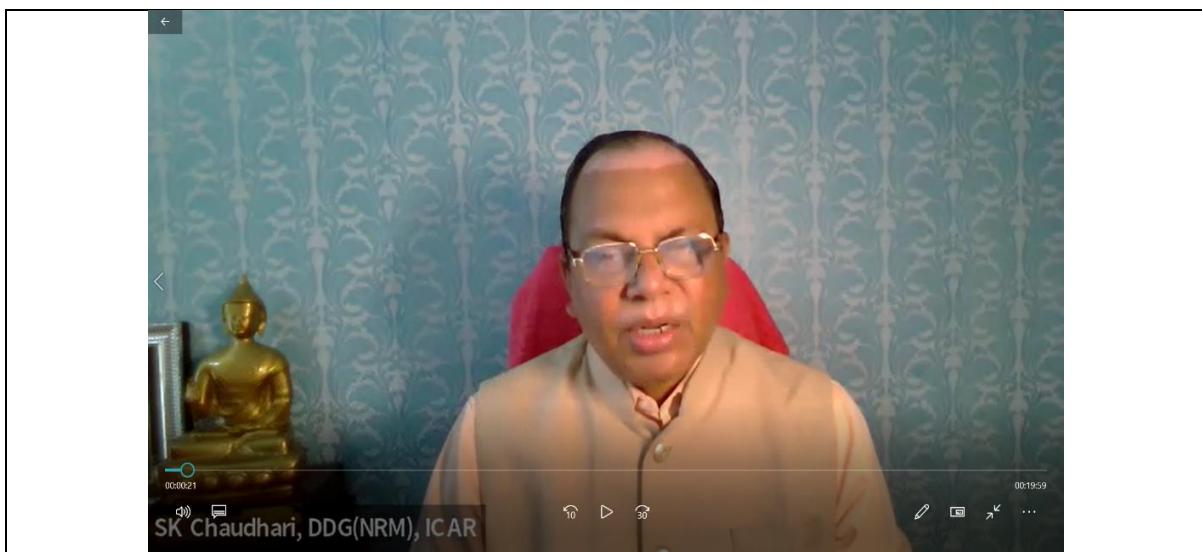


The ICAR-Mahatma Gandhi Integrated Farming Research Institute (MGIFRI), Motihari celebrated its 8th Foundation Day

23 August 2022

The Chief Guest, Dr. Suresh Kumar Chaudhari, Deputy Director General (Natural Resource Management), ICAR, New Delhi in his online lecture, wished and congratulated the Director, Scientists, Administration and Finance staff, and all concerned on this special day of the Institute. Also said that he has nostalgic memories of when the foundation stone was laid on this day, 21st August in the year 2015 in presence of Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Hon'ble MP, Motihari and Ex-Minister, Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, and Dr. S. Ayappan, Hon'ble Ex-DG, ICAR; subsequently, Dr. T. Mahapatra, erstwhile Hon'ble DG, ICAR made a lot of efforts to develop this institute to cater to the needs of the farmers.





The DDG (NRM) also said that the location has historical importance as it is the place where Champaran Satyagraha was led by Mahatma Gandhi. He has emphasized the need for Integrated Farming to provide solutions to the challenged ecosystems viz. flood-prone, flood-affected and water congested areas, especially in north Bihar. He has urged upon further development of the institute and carrying out more in-depth and systematic scientific interdisciplinary studies of Integrated Farming with appropriate economic analysis, validation in the farmers' field and technology development; also the capacity building of all stakeholders including farmers. This will help to make the waterlogged areas more productive and profitable.

Dr. S. Bhaskar, Hon'ble ADG (AAF & CC), NRM, ICAR, New Delhi conveyed his best wishes to scientific, technical, administrative and supporting staff. He has complimented that, although the institute is in its infant stage, it started to work quite systematically so that the mandates are met. The programs planned will definitely address the challenges of the flood-prone region of Bihar. He appreciated organizing the brainstorming session on '*Integrated Farming Systems for Flood-prone and Waterlogged Situations*' on this occasion. He has advised to develop collaboration at state and national level to highlight the importance of the organization.

On this occasion, Dr. A. Upadhyay, Director (Acting), ICAR-RCER, Patna, Dr. S.D. Pandey, Director (Acting), ICAR-NRC on Litchi, Muzaffarpur, Dr. P.S. Bramhanand, Director Research, Dr. RPCAU, Pusa, Samastipur and Heads of other ICAR units located in Bihar, Principal, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Piprakothi, Head, KVK were present and appreciated the activities, and wished for further development of the Institute. A few selected IFS farmers were also invited and felicitated on this occasion. Different sports and cultural events were organized and prizes were distributed to Scientists and staffs of the Institute.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Dr. K.G. Mandal, Director, ICAR-MGIFRI, Bihar apprised the dignitaries about the progress of the Institute's infrastructure development, more facilities to be created, on-going research activities, future plans and programmes. Dr. S.K. Purbey, Principal Scientist and the Organizing Secretary presented the Glimpses of the Institute and successfully conducted the brainstorming session, where Dr. P.S. Bramhanand, Director Research, Dr. RPCAU, Pusa, Samastipur, Bihar delivered the lead lecture.

(Source: ICAR-Mahatma Gandhi Integrated Farming Research Institute, Motihari, Bihar)

KG Mandal
Director
ICAR-MGIFRI, Motihari