

Organization of “Soy Mahakumbh”-Soybean National Mela (May 29-31, 2022)

29th May, 2022, Indore

The ICAR-Indian Institute of Soybean Research, Indore, Madhya Pradesh has jointly organized three-day “*Soya Mahakumbh*” at Devi Ahilya Vishwa Vidyalaya, Indore from 29th to 31st May, 2022 in collaboration with the **Society for Soybean Research & Development (SSRD)**, Indore, Solidaridad, Bhopal and SOPA, Indore, Madhya Pradesh.



The Chief Guest, Shri Kailash Chaudhary, Union Minister of State for Agriculture & Farmers’ Welfare applauded the hard work and contributions of the farming community in the country’s economy, especially, during the COVID-19 Pandemic period. The increase in the budgetary allocation to 1,32,000 Crores which is a record hike since 2014 was highlighted by the Minister. Shri Chaudhary stated that out of this, Rs. 65,000 Crores is given as direct benefit through the Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana benefiting about 50 Lakh Crores farmers.



The Minister asserted on the Central Government’s commitment for doubling the farmer’s income through the various programmes. He urged the small and marginal farmers to come together and function as Farmers’ Producers’ Organizations for the production, marketing and processing of their products.

Shri Shankar Lalwani, Member of Parliament, Indore stressed that the Government of India is committed to protect the interests of the small and marginal farmers, the backbone of the agricultural economy of the country.

Shri Kamal Patel, Minister of Agriculture, Government of Madhya Pradesh underlined the farmer-centric policies of the State Government for the farmers of Madhya Pradesh. The Crop Insurance Scheme which has benefitted worth Rs. 17,000 Crore during the last 2 Years was also outlined by Shri Patel.

Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary (DARE) & Director General (ICAR) urged for increasing the per hectare productivity of Soybean that is being hovering around 1 Tonne/ha since the last few decades. For this, he accentuated on the coordinated efforts of the extension personnel, farmers, input dealers and others involved in supportive services. Dr. Mohapatra also stressed on increasing the Varietal Replacement Rate to have the varietal diversification, especially, considering the prevailing aberrations.



The Director General also felicitated the Innovative Farmers of different states for achieving the higher yield levels and involving in the dissemination of Soybean production technologies in the different States of the country. The dignitaries launched the “*Eco-friendly Soya Bowl*”, Technical Bulletin on “*Technology for increasing the Soybean Productivity*” and Seeds of “*ISKA*” under 3SIY Project during the occasion.

Earlier, welcoming the dignitaries, Dr. Nita Khandekar, Director, ICAR-IISR, Indore briefed about the efforts being carried out by the Institute for taking the research output to the field level using the different approaches. Dr Sanjay Gupta, President SSRD, Indore proposed vote of thanks at the end of event. About 2,500 farmers attended the event.