

**Report on Training programme on "Improved Seed Production Technology of Mesta" at Jaypur Purulia on 22.06.2018 under NFSM (CC) project of DAC&FW, Govt. of India**

**Organised by:** ICAR-CRIJAF, Barrackpore, Kolkata

A programme of foundation seed production of Mesta has been undertaken at Jaypur block of Purulia district during 2018-19 under NFSM Commercial crops (Jute). To fulfil the target of 5 q mesta foundation seed production, 50 kg breeder seed was procured from CSRSJAF, Budbud and distributed among farmers selected as registered seed growers Jaypur and adjacent block of Purulia district. A farmers' meeting was organised in Parichoi Bhaban, Jaypur Purulia on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2018 to sensitize the farmers under this programme. In this occasion, 50 kg breeder seed of improved mesta (both roselle- HS 7910, HS 4288 and kenaf- HC 583) varieties were distributed among farmers. A total of 50 farmers from different villages (Ghaghri, Karmakhap, Khech tard, Kulara, Jahajpur, Shimultard, Rampur, Rongoni tard, Pratappur, Kheta tard, Khair tard –Jaypur block; Raipur –Arsha block, Korchey- Jhalda II) participated in this training programme. Mesta (both kenaf and roselle) can be grown as kharif rainfed crop in uplands where paddy is not grown, as these crops are drought resistant and hardy.

Dr. C S. Kar, Principal Scientist, (ICAR-CRIJAF, Barrackpore), Dr. Amit Bera, Senior Scientist (ICAR-CRIJAF, Barrackpore) and Mr. U S Roy, Assistt. Botanist, WBAS were present in this meeting. Dr. Kar presented the current scenario of mesta, its importance and suitability of soil and climatic condition in this region for seed production of mesta. He also described the objective of this programme so that farmers can get better price for their produce. He also assured that buyback of foundation seed produced at minimum Rs. 40/kg compared to local market price of Rs. 12-15 /kg.

Mr. US Roy discussed about the steps to be taken by farmers for registering as certified seed grower and other required formalities to be followed for mesta seed production under this programme.

Dr. Amit Bera gave detailed presentation on methodologies of mesta seed production including time of sowing, land suitability, fertilizer application, interculture, isolation requirement, roguing and harvesting.



**Photo:** Farmers present at Parichoy Bhavan, Jaipur, Purulia on the occasion of meeting cum training on "Improved Seed Production Technology of Mesta" under NFSM (Commercial Crops) on 22.06.2018 along with resource persons (Scientists from CRIJAF, Barrackpore, Kolkata)

Submitted by: