



Newsletter

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This is the very soil of our village, our mother, our nurse, in whose lap our country is being born every day.

State received Krishi Karman Award from Hon'ble PM of India



Sri Narendra Modi, the Hon'ble PM of India conferred Krishi Karman Award 2014-15 to Dr. Sanjeev Chopra, ACS, Agriculture, WB & Dr. Paritosh Bhattacharyya, OSD &EO Director of Agriculture, WB.

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"The real India resides in its village. It is the Indian farmer who reaps his mother land with his sweat and blood to get us a day's meal". Sri Narendra Modi, the Hon'ble PM of India in his speech during the 'Krishi Karman' award giving ceremony on 19th March 2016 at Pusa Ground, New Delhi addressed the farming community of the country to



Award received by Progressive Farmer, Smt. Jahuka Khatun, Raiganj, Uttar Dinajpur.

adopt modern, mechanized and scientific agriculture intermingled with traditional eco-friendly method to enhance production & productivity in a sustainable way. He also discussed about some of the important centrally sponsored schemes like 'Pradhan Mantri Krishi Bima Yojana (PMKBY)', 'Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)', 'Paramparagata Krishi Vikash Yojana (PKVY)', 'Neem Coated Urea' etc.

In the said occasion Hon'ble PM conferred National Krishi Karman Award for the year 2014-15 to West Bengal for remarkable contribution in oil seed production in the country.



Award received by Progressive Farmer, Sri Sujay Mondal, Nouda, Murshidabad.

The award consists of a trophy, citation, & a cash award of Rupees two crore. Two progressive farmers were also awarded for their noteworthy contribution in oil seed production at state level.



From Director's Desk

It's alarming! +40°C prevails in all the South Bengal districts as well as Maldah with duration varying from 4(four) days in 24 PGS(S) to 10(ten) days in Burdwan. And this is only for the last 17(seventeen) days in the month of April, without any visibility of Nor'Wester, which is expected to be at least 03(three) within April. This temperature regime is on an average 6°C more than the normal maximum temperature expected during this part of the month. It is further seen that the minimum Relative Humidity has come down to even 15% in Western Tract, which is also below normal coupled with the sudden and early withdrawal of rainfall during the last rainy season. Extremities of weather are gradually becoming a common phenomenon in the agricultural scenario of the State. Accordingly, business as usual is not at all the option.

These are challenges and we try to put our best efforts to combat, knowing fully about our limitations against natural abnormalities. You may know that agricultural field of the State is how mainly occupied by Boro Paddy at the reproductive stage, vegetables as well as some pulses. Although majority of these crops are grown with irrigation support, but such scorching sun may be having its toll on the plant health. In case of Agriculture, we talk more of the yield at harvest but in general, the day to day plant health also deserves more attention from one and all.

Finally, let me share some good moments. The Agriculture Department has been felicitated with the honour of "Krishi Karman" by Government of India, through the hands of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 19.3.2016 at New Delhi. It includes a citation, a trophy and Rupees 2.0 crores. And Rice Research Station, Chinsurah, under Research Wing of Agriculture Department, has been selected by Indian Institute of Rice Research (IIRR), Hyderabad, as the "Best Centre" in respect of all the disciplines for All India Coordinated Rice Improvement Project (AICRIP).

Good milestones created for further improvement.

Dr. Paritosh Bhattacharyya
OSD & Ex- Officio, Director of Agriculture
Govt. of West Bengal

Induction Training Programme for newly recruited officers

The Department has organized 12 days Induction Training Programme in four slots for 153 newly recruited Assistant Directors of Agriculture started from 18th April 2016 at Administrative Training Centre, Salt Lake, Kolkata.



Orientation Programme for newly recruited departmental officers

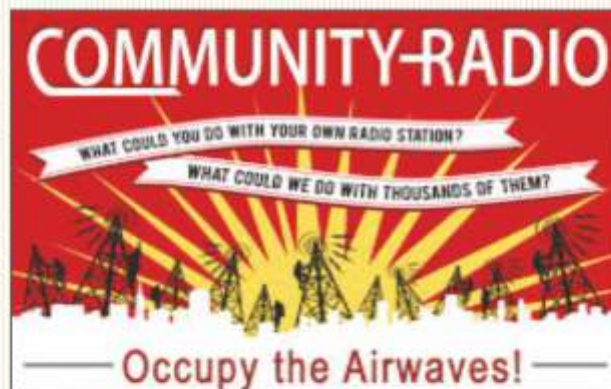
Dr. Sanjeev Chopra, ACS, Agriculture; Swami Sarbogananda, Secretary, RKM Sikshaparishad; Dr. Paritosh Bhattacharyya, Director, Agril; Smt. Madhumita Chowdhury, Agril. Commissioner; Sri Pradip Gobinda Chowdhury, Jt. Secretary, Agril; Sri Atanu Dutta Majumdar, ADA (Gen) in the inaugural session of the programme on 15th March, 2016 at Narendrapur Ramakrishna Mission.





Community Radio Station at ATCs

Agriculture is changing rapidly. New technologies, issues are coming up everyday. Keeping up with the everyday's change in the sector of agriculture is a big challenge. Reaching more than 70 crore farmers of the country with effective advisory is a mountainous task. With advancement in Information and Communication Technologies, now we have different types of support system to meet such huge responsibilities. The Community Radio Station (CRS) is a system of broadcasting based on narrow frequencies covering limited area for the local community. Recently the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in linkage with the Department of Agriculture, Co-operation and Farmer's Welfare approved establishment of CRS for the farming community for rapid extension. Dept. of Agril., WB has taken step to establish such Community Radio Station at the Agriculture Training Centres in West Bengal. Area specific advisory on agricultural problems (pest, disease etc), marketing and weather report will be broadcasted within 25 km radius of the ATCs. Local folk culture etc will also be promoted through CRS. Presently 5 ACTs of the state (Chinsurah, Fulia, Burdwan, Kalyani and Narendrapur) has applied for CRS.



National Conference on Agriculture for Kharif Campaign 2016



National Conference on Agriculture for Kharif Campaign 2016 was held on 11-12th April 2016 at National Agriculture Science Centre, Pusa Complex, New Delhi for 'Rabi Review & Kharif prospects'. The conference was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister, Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare, Govt. of India. All states across the country participated in the two days conference. Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture, WB; OSD & Ex-Officio Director of Agriculture, WB; Jt. Secretary and four officers from Agriculture and one from ARD represented the state. WB participated in six group discussions on specific topic related to three

domains mainly Agriculture, Animal Husbandry & Dairying and Credit, Cooperation and Marketing.

Dr. Paritosh Bhattacharyya, OSD & Ex-Officio Director of Agriculture, WB, chaired the session of the group II on the topic 'Rice- Strategy to Enhance Productivity and Production of Paddy in Stress prone Area (Rainfed, Flood prone etc.)' and summarized the recommendations.

'Mati Tirtha Krishi Katha Prangan' is designed as Centers of Excellence

Government has decided to establish the 'Mati Tirtha Krishi Katha Prangan' at Bardhaman as a permanent Centres of Excellence showcasing the best of Agril & allied technologies where experimental learning will take place throughout the year inter spread with regional, national and global exposure. Departments like Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry and Technical Education may be involved in the said project. Besides Dept. of Tourism may also be involved to provide a support of 'light & sound' show to demonstrate the evolution of agriculture and march of civilization along with the role of farmers in the national movement.



Rice Research Station, Chinsurah selected as best AICRIP centre



Rice Research Station, Chinsurah has been selected as the best AICRIP (All India Co-ordinated Rice Improvement Project) centre - 20th considering all the disciplines (say, Plant Breeding, Agronomy Pathology & Entomology) in the 51st Annual Rice Group Meet at Indira Gandhi Krishi Vikash Kendra, Raipur, Chattishgarh.

Prestigious Memento of AICRIP award received by the scientists of RRS, Chinsurah

Management training for capacity building of senior officers



A management training programme for senior head quarter officers of the department was held at Indian Institute of Social Welfare & Business Management in Kolkata from 26-29th April 2016. The programme was inaugurated by Mr. Basudev Bandopadhyay, Chief Secretary to the Govt. of W.B. at Nabanna in presence of Dr. Sanjeev Chopra, ACS, Agriculture & Prof. Amitava Sircar, Director, IISWBN.

State participated Krishi Unnati Mela 2016



West Bengal participated successfully in the colourful 'Krishi Unnati Mela' organized by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare, Govt. of India, on 19-21st March 2016 at Pusa ground new Delhi with 58 no. of farmer delegates across the state.

- Chief Patron** : Hon'ble Minister In-Charge, Dept. Agriculture, Govt. of W.B.
 - Patron** : Hon'ble Minister of State, Dept. Agriculture, Govt. of W.B.
 - Chairman** : **Dr. Sanjeev Chopra**, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary to the Govt. of W.B.; Department of Agriculture.
 - Advisor** : Advisor of Agriculture & Allied Sectors to the Hon'ble CM, W.B.
 - Chief Editor** : **Dr. Paritosh Bhattacharyya**, OSD & Ex-Officio Director of Agriculture, Govt. of W.B.
 - Convener** : **Sri Lakshmi Kanta Mandi**, Jt. Director of Agriculture (Public Relations, Publicity & Information), W.B.
 - Members** : **Dr. Susanta Kr. Mukherjee**, Agronomist (Water Use), HQ
Sri Sankar Das, Asstt. Director of Agriculture (Information), HQ
Sri Goutam Mandal, Asstt. Director of Agriculture (Information), HQ
Sri Sandipta Das, Asstt. Director of Agriculture (Information) HQ
 - Editor** : **Dr. Madhumita Chakraborty**, Editor, Agriculture Information and Publicity, H.Q.
- Design & Art work* : **Sri Arunava Banerjee**, Research Officer, Fertilizer Quality Control Lab., Tollygunge, W.B.