



IPL Centre  
for Rural Outreach



# A REPORT ON ORIENTATION OF ICRO AMRIT INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

**May 21, 2024**

**Venue : Conference Hall, DDKVK, UBKV**



**Organized by**



**DAKSHIN DINAJPUR KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA  
UTTAR BANGA KRISHI VISWAVIDYALAYA**  
Majhian, Patiram, D. Dinajpur, West Bengal



The livelihood of majority of people of India depends on agriculture and animal husbandry and fisheries. Further, the lions share of GDP of our country comes from agriculture and allied sectors. Moreover, agricultural sector is employing the largest share of workforce and providing food and nutrition security to the nation by doubling the productivity of Indian agriculture and adopting climate resilient cropping practices.

Dakshin Dinajpur Krishi Vigyan Kendra is an extension wing under the Directorate of Extension Education, Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya with the financial assistance of Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Govt. of India. This institute is engaged in extension of new technologies of agriculture and allied subjects, like horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries, soil science etc. for socio-economic development of rural poor farmers, youths and women gender of Dakshin Dinajpur district. On-farm research, establishment of demonstration units both in the institute and farmer's field, training and motivation are the mandatory activities of this institute. Overlooking the objectives of the ICRO Amrit Internship Programme, this institute has undertaken this internship programme.

The IPL Centre and Rural Outreach (ICRO) established jointly by Indian Potash Limited (IPL) and National Productivity Council (NPC) with an objective to foster rural outreach, capacity development of agricultural students, farmers, rural youths to generate productivity awareness and competitiveness by providing different services, like consultancy, training, research and evaluation studies through survey works.

**Area of survey :**

The main occupation of people of Dakshin Dinajpur District is agriculture. This district is under the Old Alluvial Agro-climatic Zone of West Bengal. The types of soil of this district are mainly alluvial, clay-loam, loam and clay. The pH range of soil is 5.0 to 7.0. The rainfall range prevails from 1600 to 1800 mm. The major crops of this district are aman paddy, boro paddy, vegetables, jute & mesta and mustard etc. A few promising scented varieties of paddy – tulaipanji, chini sakkar, kalonunia have been growing in this district, out of which tulaipanji has got G.I. Tag. This district is comprised of eight (8) development blocks. In consultation with Mrs. N. Roy, Mentor, ICRO, we have selected five (5) blocks out of eight blocks. Further, we have intended to cover 250 villages under area of survey. Fifty five (55) Interns from students, rural youths, social workers have been selected by the Selection Committee constituted by this Institute from 68 applicants who have applied for Interns for this programme.



As a part of the Amrit Internship Programme an Orientation Programme has been organized by this institute on May 21, 2024 in its' Conference Hall. The orientation programme was started with registration of Interns both by offline and online mode.

### Registration:

At first, offline registration of Interns was started from 10.00 am at Registration Desk by filling-up of registration form by the Interns and submission of all required documents, like photocopies of adhaar card, certificate/mark-sheet of highest degree (educational qualification), front page of pass-book of bank account, passport sized coloured photograph etc. under the guidance of Mrs. N. Roy, Mentor, ICRO. The Interns were provided with ICRO kits consisting of T-shirts, cap, folder, writing pad, pen, printed copies of programme schedule, questionnaire etc.



### Inauguration:

At the opening of the programme, the staff of this institute welcomed and honoured the distinguished guests and resource persons by offering them flower bouquets and mementos. Then, the inaugural ceremony was started with lighting of lamps by Dr. S. Singha, Sr. Scientist & Head, Dakshin Dinajpur KVK, Dr. J. Karforma, Dean, College of Agriculture, UBKV, Mrs. N. Roy, Mentor, ICRO, Mr. Pranab Mukhopadhyay, DDA (Admn.), Deptt. Of Agriculture and other dignitaries present in the programme at about 10.30 am.



The orientation programme was graced by a distinguished panel of guests and resource persons.

- 1) **Dr. Rajeev Ranjan**, Director, ICRO & Retrd. IAS (participated in the programme through online mode)
- 2) **Ms. P. Negi**, Programme Coordinator, IPL, New Delhi (participated through online mode)

- 3) **Dr. Pradip Dey**, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Zone-V, Kolkata (participated through online mode)
- 4) **Mrs. N. Roy**, Mentor, ICRO
- 5) **Dr. S. Singha**, Senior Scientist & Head, DDKVK, UBKV
- 6) **Dr. J. Karforma**, Dean, COA, UBKV
- 7) **Dr. Pranab Mukhopadhyay**, DDA (Admn.), Deptt. of Ag. Govt. of W.B.
- 8) **Dr. B. Goswami**, SMS (Fisheries Science), DDKVK, UBKV
- 9) **Dr. T.K. Das**, Programme Co-ordinator, ICRO Amrit Internship Programme
- 10) **Dr. T.K. Pandit**, Asstt. Professor, RRS (OAZ), UBKV
- 11) **Dr. S. Islam**, SMS (Horticulture), DDKVK, UBKV

Dr. S. Singha, Senior Scientist & Head, DDKVK presided over the programme and he welcomed all distinguished guests, resource persons, interns and all other persons who were present in the programme. He extended his good wish to ICRO Amrit Internship Programme a grand success. Also, he discussed the objectives of the programme in a very specific manner.

#### Schedule of Orientation Programme:

### IPL CENTRE FOR RURAL OUTREACH (ICRO) ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR AMRIT INTERNS

Date : MAY 21, 2024

Venue : DAKSHIN DINAJPUR KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA, UBKV

#### PROGRAMME

Date and Time	Programmes
10.00 am – 10.15 am	Registration of Interns : Mrs. Nandini Roy, Mentor, ICRO
10.15 am – 10.20 am	Lighting of Lamp by Prof. J. Karforma, Dean, College of Agriculture and Dr. S. Singha, Senior Scientist & Head, D. Dinajpur KVK, Mrs. N. Roy, Mentor, ICRO, Mr. Pranab Mukhopadhyay, DDA (Admn.), Dakshin Dinajpur and other dignitaries
10.20 am – 10.30 am	Welcome address by Dr. Rajeev Ranjan, Director, ICRO & Retrd. IAS
10.30 am – 10.45 am	Address by Ms. Priyanshi Negi, Prog. Coordinator, IPL, New Delhi
10.45 am – 11.00 am	Address by Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Zone-V, Kolkata
11.00 am – 11:10 am	Address by Mr. Pranab Mukhopadhyay, DDA (Admn.), Dakshin Dinajpur
11.10 am – 11.20 am	Lecture by Dr. S. Singha, Senior Scientist & Head, D. Dinajpur KVK and SMS (Plant Protection)
11:20 am – 11.35 am	Lecture by Dr. J. Karforma, Dean, COA, Majhian, D. Dinajpur
11.35 am – 12.35 pm	Hands on session on registration of interns by Mrs. Nandini Roy, Mentor, ICRO
12.35 pm – 1:05 pm	Lecture by Dr. S. Islam, SMS (Horticulture), D. Dinajpur KVK
1.05 pm – 1.30 pm	Lecture by Dr. T.K. Pandit, Asstt. Prof. RRS (OAZ), UBKV, Majhian, D. Dinajpur
1.30 pm – 2.30 pm	<b>LUNCH</b>
2.30 pm – 2.45 pm	Lecture by Dr. B. Goswami, SMS (Fisheries Science), D. Dinajpur KVK
2.45 pm – 3.15 pm	<b>TEA &amp; REFRESHMENT</b>
3.15 pm – 3.45 pm	Hands on experience for Interns on filling the Questionnaire by Dr. Tarun Kumar Das, Coordinator

	3.45 pm – 4.10 pm	Question Answer Session – Interaction with Interns
	4.10 pm – 4.30 pm	Valedictory Address

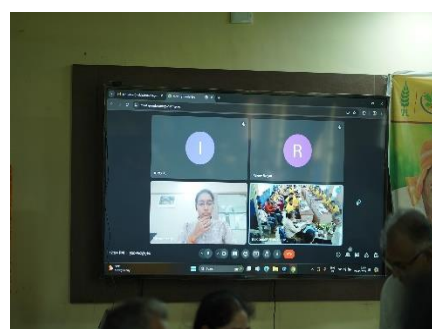
### Address by Guests and Resource Persons :

**Dr. Rajeev Ranjan, Director, ICRO & Retrd. IAS** participated in the programme through online mode and welcomed the distinguished guests, resource persons, interns and all other participants on behalf of ICRO. Dr. Ranjan emphasized on importance and objectives of the ICRO Amrit Internship Programme and the role of interns in survey works. He also mentioned that not only agriculture but also animal husbandry, fishery science etc. should be included in the e-learning programme to enrich the knowledge & skills of the interns.

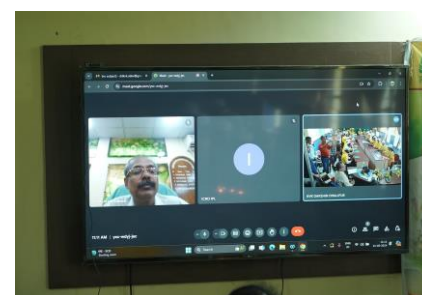


He also highlighted on use of modern technologies (like drone technology, modern farm machineries & implements etc.), use of balanced fertilizers, reduction of the gap of information between government and the farmers. He expressed hope that this programme will make the interns more employable and wished the programme a great success.

**Ms. Priyanshi Negi, Programme Coordinator, IPL, New Delhi** joined to this programme through online mode. Ms. Negi delivered a lecturer highlighting on the production of fertilizers and import of fertilizers from abroad. She opined that pulse crops should be incorporated in the existing cropping pattern of West Bengal in general and Dakshin Dinajpur district in particular. She suggested that “IPL Farmers Sambad App”, hands-on training experience and knowledge resource will help the interns to make the survey successfully.



**Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Zone-V, Kolkata** participated in the programme through online mode and delivered a brief but valuable speech towards interns. Dr. Dey in his address highlighted on some very important issues, like-productivity of agriculture as well as productivity of youths, different problems of agriculture, eg. landholding, soil health, integrated pest management, irrigation system, agricultural marketing system, risk management and climate change. He wished the programme a grand success.



**Mr. Pranab Mukhopadhyay, Deputy Director of Agriculture (Admn.), Deptt. of Agriculture, Govt. of W.B.** delivered a very nice lecture on different schemes (15-16 nos.) of State Govt. and Central Govt. which are being implemented in this district, like-MSME (for development of primary processing infrastructure), BKSO (Bangla Krishi Sichai Scheme) for optimization of irrigation water through both macro & micro irrigation system, Krishak Bandhu for financial assistance to farmers, FOP (Farmers Old-age Pension), ATMA (Agril. Technology Management

Agency) for filling-up of gap of technology etc. for increasing the productivity of crops and economic development of farmers. He also wished the programme a success.

**Dr. J. Karforma, Dean, College of Agriculture, UBKV, Majhian** emphasized in his lecture on extension-oriented programmes and development of agriculture by increasing the productivity of crops and employment generation. Dr. Karforma suggested to the interns to make the survey seriously. He discussed on various topics, like-selection of crops on the basis of land situation (high, medium, low), change of management practices of crops according to the climate change received by the help of weather report or bulletin of UBKV, use of high yielding seeds, retting of fibre crops, vermin-composting, development of marketing network system etc.



**Mrs. N. Roy, Mentor, ICRO** guided the interns to register themselves on the process of online registration and uploading of data on the ICRO portal. Further, Dr. Roy educated the interns regarding registering them in e-learning process and access to e-learning modules. She also discussed the objectives of the ICRO Amrit Internship Programme elaborately and how the interns will be benefitted by participation in this programme.



**Dr. T.K. Pandit, Asstt. Professor (Soil Science), RRS (OAZ), UBKV** delivered a lecture on use of fertilizer, price of fertilizer, collection of soil sample, soil testing, soil health card, pH of soil etc. Dr. Pandit suggested that fertilizers should be used on the basis of soil testing and recommendation of soil scientist.



**Dr. S. Islam, SMS (Horticulture), DDKVK, UBKV** delivered a lecture on technologies of increasing of productivity and profitability of different horticultural crops grown by farmers. He discussed on diversification of cropping pattern as per requirement of irrigation facilities, on the basis of land situation (high, medium, low) and comparison of profitability of different crops etc. He also suggested for treatment of seeds, integrated pest & disease management in vegetable crops, cultivation of off-season vegetables, establishment of horticultural gardens, like guava, banana, berry, dragon fruits etc.



**Dr. B. Goswami, SMS (Fisheries Science), DDKVK, UBKV** delivered a brief but valuable speech on fish production in fresh water, paddy-cum-fish culture in lowlands, cat fish culture etc. He also discussed about the guidelines of survey in the field level. He suggested for conducting water testing in the village pond for enhancement of fish production.



**Dr. T.K. Das, Co-ordinator, ICRO Amrit Internship Programme, DDKVK, UBKV** delivered a lecturer on interaction with farmers, code of conduct for interns, general condition of internship programme (non-disclosure and termination of interns) etc. Dr. Das also discussed on procedure of data collection from farmers and uploading of collected data in the online platform.



**Dr. S. Singha, Senior Scientist & Head, DDKVK, UBKV** delivered a lecturer on the subject of agricultural entomology. Dr. Singha discussed on integrated pest management in cereal, pulse, oilseed and vegetable crops, apiculture & bee-keeping for production of pure honey, processing of vegetables & fruits, importance of survey works and collection of information/data for finding out the gap of technology for future course of actions for economic development of farmers of this district.



#### **Vote of Thanks :**

Dr. B. Goswami, SMS (Fisheries Science), DDKVK, UBKV conveyed vote of thanks to the distinguished guests, resource persons, interns, all scientists & staff of DDKVK and all other persons who are associated with this programme directly or indirectly.



#### **Conclusion :**

The distinguished guests and resource persons have delivered speech highlighting on the overview of scenario of agricultural and allied subjects with a focus on productivity, sustainability and security of food and nutrients. Hope, by this orientation programme, the interns have been enriched with wealth of knowledge & experience shared by the guests and resource persons. They will more enriched by having the useful and practical information of scientific package of practices of crop cultivation, innovative & modern technologies, implication of different schemes of both state and Central Government from e-learning, interaction with farmers, method of data collection, uploading of collected data in the online portal, interpretation of collected data and drawing of conclusion after completion of survey works.

## MEDIA COVERAGE

The orientation programme has been covered by Uttar Banga Sambad and the news has been published in the newspaper on 22.05.2024 (photocopy of news is enclosed herewith)

Further, the Indian Council of Agril. Research, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare has published the news of this programme in their website page on 22.05.2024 (photocopy of news enclosed)

### উত্তরবঙ্গ সংবাদ

## কৃষি উন্নয়নে সেমিনার

পতিরাম, ২১ মে : দক্ষিণ দিনাজপুর জেলার কৃষিক্ষেত্রে আরও উন্নতির লক্ষ্যে মঙ্গলবার দক্ষিণ দিনাজপুর কৃষিবিজ্ঞানকেন্দ্রে এক অনুষ্ঠানের আয়োজন করা হয়। কৃষিকেন্দ্রিক সমীক্ষার অঙ্গ হিসেবে তথ্য সংগ্রহের লক্ষ্যে মোট ৫৫ জনকে নিয়ে এদিনের বিশেষ অনুষ্ঠান আয়োজিত হয়। অনুষ্ঠানে অনলাইনে স্বাগত ভাষণ দেন আইসিআরও'র ডিরেক্টর রাজীব রঞ্জন।

মোট ৫৫ জন অংশগ্রহণকারীকে দক্ষিণ দিনাজপুর জেলার কৃষিজ বিষয়, মাটির প্রকৃতি, উৎপাদিত ফসল এবং তথ্য সংগ্রহের বিষয়গুলি ক্রমান্বয়ে বুঝিয়ে বলেন বিশ্বজিৎ গোস্বামী, সিদ্দিকুল ইসলাম, তাপসকুমার পণ্ডিত, শিবানন্দ সিংহ সহ একাধিক কৃষিবিজ্ঞানী।

কৃষিবিজ্ঞানকেন্দ্রের প্রধান শিবানন্দ সিংহ বলেন, 'যাঁরা জেলাজুড়ে কৃষির তথ্য সংগ্রহ করবেন। প্রতিনিয়ত তাঁদেরকে পরামর্শ দেওয়া হবে। তিন মাস ধরে তথ্য সংগ্রহের পর পর্যালোচনা ও পরিকল্পনা তৈরি করে কৃষির উন্নয়নে বিভিন্ন পদক্ষেপ করা হবে। এর ফলে কৃষিজ উৎপাদন ও ফসলের গুণগতমান যে আরও উন্নত হবে।'





## INAUGURATION OF RURAL OUTREACH ODYSSEY FOR AMRIT INTERNS

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### Inauguration of Rural Outreach Odyssey for Amrit Interns

21st May 2024, Dakshin Dinajpur

A 3-month Rural Outreach Programme through Amrit Interns was organised in hybrid mode by Dakshin Dinajpur ICAR-Krisshi Vigyan Kendra, today. The programme was a collaborative effort between ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Kolkata and the IPL Centre for Rural Outreach.



Shri. Rajeev Ranjan, Retd. IAS & Director, ICRO, stated that ICRO is a joint venture between the Indian Potash Limited and the National Productivity Council. He also added that the Amrit Internship programme aligns with national policies aimed at agricultural development and productivity enhancement.

Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata, emphasized the pivotal role of Amrit Interns by providing the rural youth with valuable opportunities for learning and growth, fostering entrepreneurship and leadership skills, empowering them to become agents of change in their communities. Dr. Dey stated that the programme aims to enhance crop yields and farming efficiency through targeted interventions, thereby enhancing food security and contributing to rural economic development.

Shri. Pranab Mukhopadhyay, Deputy Director, Agriculture (Admn), Dakshin Dinajpur highlighted the Government schemes of the district.

Dr. Sibananda Singha, Head, ICAR-KVK coordinated the whole programme and proposed the vote of thanks.

A total of 55 Amrit Interns attended the programme.

(Source: ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute, Kolkata)