

Krishi Mela-cum- Krishak Sangoshthi at Rajnandgaon District, Chhattisgarh

The ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh in association with KVK Rajnandgaon (IGKV) organized the “*Krishi Mela-cum- Krishak Sangoshthi*” at Agriculture College and Research Institute, Surgi, Rajnandgaon District, Chhattisgarh on 3rd May 2022.



Sh Santosh Pandey, Hon'ble MP Rajnandgaon was the Chief Guest and the event was presided over by Padmashree Smt Phoolbasan Bai Yadav of *Maa Bamleshwari Janhit Kare Samiti*, a NGO working for the upliftment of women in Chhattisgarh. Dr RN Singh, Dean College of Agriculture (IGKV) Surgi, Dr Dr Jitendra Singh, Dean HC&RI Rajnandgaon were Guests of Honour for the occasion. Sh Komal Singh Rajput, Pradesh Adhayaksh Kisam Morcha, Sh Raju Bhai Makhijha, Pradesh Mantri Chamber of Commerce and Sh Daduoram Sonkar Progressive farmer also attended the function as Special Guests. A team of scientists from ICAR IISS Bhopal gave lecture on improving soil health and crop productivity of tribal farm lands.

The program started with *Mati Pujan* in which soil was tilled with hand hoes and rice seeds were sown as a symbolic gesture to initiate the crop growing season and farming operations. An oath was also taken to safeguard the soil resources, to recycle organic residues, to use organic biofertilizer, not to degrade the land resources and to leave a cleaner and safe environment for the next generation. The tribal farmers were distributed the HYVs of rice and red gram during the occasion. Altogether 300 tribal farmers attended the Mela and Sangoshthi.