



**Rathindra Krishi Vigyan Kendra**  
**Palli Siksha Bhavana (Institute of Agriculture)**  
**Visva-Bharati**  
**Sriniketan, Dist. – Birbhum, West Bengal – 731236**



**Awareness Raising Workshop for Farmers on PM-KUSUM Component A on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2024, at Rathindra Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Palli Siksha Bhavana (Institute of Agriculture), Visva-Bharati, Sriniketan, Dist. – Birbhum, West Bengal – 731236**

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) Yojana launched in March 2019 by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India to increase the income of farmers and provide sources for irrigation and de-dieselization the agricultural sector.

The PM-KUSUM scheme of the Government of India is one of the largest initiatives in the world to provide clean energy to more than 3.5 million farmers by solarizing their agriculture pumps and allowing farmers to up 10 GW distributed solar projects.

- PM-KUSUM scheme aims to bolster India's solar capacity by approximately 34,800 MW by March 2026, with a substantial central financial support amounting to ₹34,422 Crores.
- Component A: Setting up of 10,000 MW of Decentralized Ground/ Mounted Grid Connected Solar Plant by Farmer.
- Component B: Installation of 14 Lakh Stand-alone Solar Agriculture Pumps.
- Component C: Solarization of 35 Lakh Grid Connected Agriculture Pumps including Feeder Level Solarization.

To raise the awareness of Practising Farmers and Farm Women about the PM-KUSUM Scheme of Govt. of India with an aim to popularize this Green Energy Initiative an Awareness Raising Workshop for Farmers on PM-KUSUM Component A was organized on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2024, at Rathindra Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Palli Siksha Bhavana (Institute of Agriculture), Visva-Bharati, Sriniketan, Dist. – Birbhum, West Bengal – 731236.

Three Farmers Producers Companies (FPCs) of Birbhum District namely Birbhum Farmers Agro Producer Company Ltd., Mondal Producer Company Limited and Green Farms Farmers Producers Company Ltd. actively participated in this Programme. Also, Community Resource Persons (CRPs) of Anandadhara Prakalpa under West Bengal Rural Livelihoods Mission mobilized practising Farmers and Farm Women for this Programme.

The above-mentioned Programme was sponsored by Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI) with collaborative efforts from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Govt. of India in coordination with Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA & FW), Govt. of India with active support from Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, India and Partners in Transformation developPPP, a funding programme of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and networked with 100 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) to reach out 3000 farmers across India through partnership with Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) – Agricultural Technology Application Research Institutes (ATARIs) [for conducting 100 awareness and outreach programs on PM-KUSUM Component-A through 100 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs)] partnering with Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI) - National Skills Foundation of India (NSFI) for organizing the Training Programmes for the same. The India Agrivoltaics Alliance (IAA) which is an initiative of the National Solar Energy Federation of India (NSEFI) focusing on integrating solar energy infrastructure with agricultural spaces across India also supported this initiative.

Forty (40) numbers of practising Farmers and Farm Women including 11 numbers of practising Farm Women actively participated in the above-mentioned programme held on 25.11.2024 at Rathindra Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Palli Siksha Bhavana (Institute of Agriculture), Visva-Bharati. All the staffs of the Kendra enthusiastically participated in the Programme.

The Programme started at 10.00 A.M. with the starting of registration of the participants. At the beginning, Dr. Subrata Mandal, Senior Scientist & Head, Rathindra Krishi Vigyan Kendra delivered the Welcome Address and also Provided the Introductory Remarks of the Programme. Dr. Provat Kumar Pal, Director of Extension Education, Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Coochbehar, West Bengal delivered his Address as Special Guest of this Programme through Online mode. Dr. Kalipada Pramanik, Vice Principal, Palli Siksha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati and Nodal Officer to ICAR, Visva-Bharati noted his Special Remarks for this Programme. Dr. N. C. Sahoo, Representative from Ministry of New and

Renewable Energy (MNRE), Govt. of India and ICAR-IARI and also Representative of India Agrivoltaics Alliance (IAA) delivered the Key Note Remarks for the Programme. Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata noted and delivered his Remarks as Guest of Honour of this Programme through Online mode. Dr. Prabuddha Ray, Subject Matter Specialist (Agricultural Extension), Rathindra Krishi Vigyan Kendra gave the Vote of Thanks.

From 12.00 Noon onwards, the Technical Session was held. Dr. N. C. Sahoo, Representative from Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Govt. of India and ICAR-IARI and also Representative of India Agrivoltaics Alliance (IAA) was the Resource Person of the Session. Dr. Sahoo focused on the following points:

1. Introduction to PM-KUSUM highlighting key features of Component A – followed by a Question-and-Answer Session.
2. Plenary Session on PM-KUSUM through Presentation of Videos and Visuals.
3. Sharing of Success Stories related to AgriPV followed by a Question-and-Answer Session.
4. Generative discussion on barriers for adaptation of PM-KUSUM Component A.
5. Wrap – up: Summary of Key insides and takeaways from the Workshop.

At Valedictory Session the Closing Remarks about the Programme was presented by Dr. Prabuddha Ray, Subject Matter Specialist (Agricultural Extension), Rathindra Krishi Vigyan Kendra. Sri. Sourav Mondal, Subject Matter Specialist (Plant Protection), Rathindra Krishi Vigyan Kendra gave the Vote of Thanks to all the participants and organizers.



**Welcome Address by Dr. Subrata Mandal**



**Remarks of Special Guest, Dr. Provat Kumar Pal**



**Special Remarks by Dr. Kalipada Pramanik**



**Remarks of Guest of Honour, Dr. Pradip Dey**



**Group Photo of the Awareness raising Workshop for Farmers on PM-KUSUM Component A on 25.11.2024 at Rathindra KVK, Pali Siksha Bhavana (Institute of Agriculture), Visva-Bharati**



**Dr. N. C. Sahoo at Technical Session**



**Valedictory Session**