



## Integral Institute of Agricultural Science & Technology (IIAST) Integral University, Lucknow

### **Brief report on Kisan Goshti organized by Department of Agriculture, IIAST on “Integrated Rural Development in India: An Inclusive Approaches for Farmers Prosperity”**

(भारत में एकीकृत ग्रामीण विकास: किसानों की समृद्धि के लिए एक समावेशी दृष्टिकोण)

Integrated Rural Development in India involves comprehensive strategies aimed at improving the overall well-being of rural communities, with a specific focus on the prosperity of farmers. An inclusive approach is crucial to address the diverse needs and challenges faced by different sections of the rural population. To educate the farmers about these aspects, the Department of Agriculture, Integral Institute of Agricultural Science & Technology (IIAST) organized a Kisan Goshti on 09<sup>th</sup> January 2024 to enlighten the farmers of the village Bhakamau on Integrated Rural Development. The Goshti was observed under the guidance of Prof. Mohd Haris Siddiqui, Director, Integral Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology and Prof. Saba Siddiqui, Head, Department of Agriculture, IIAST. Dr. Deepti Srivastava, Associate Professor. She focused on highlighting the importance of cultivating high-value crops and cash crops as a strategy to double farmers' income. Dr. Srivastava's expertise covers the aspects of crop selection, cultivation techniques and market trends, providing farmers and students with practical insights into sustainable and income-generating agricultural practices. Dr. Pankaj Kumar Gupta, Assistant Professor in the Department of Agriculture at IIAST, contributed by delivering a brief introduction on sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural practices. His expertise covered a range of topics related to environmentally friendly farming methods, resource conservation, and strategies to mitigate the impact of climate change on agriculture. This introduction would have provided students with a broader perspective on the importance of adopting sustainable practices in modern agriculture. Dr. Srishti Thakur, Assistant Professor, shared insights on the use of information and communication technology (ICT) for market information and access to credit. Her expertise covered the integration of technology in Agriculture, including the use of mobile apps, online platforms and other ICT tools to empower farmers with valuable information and financial resources. The discussion had exposed farmers to the role of technology in modernizing agricultural practices and enhancing farmers' access to critical resources.

During the Kisan Goshti (Farmers' Meeting), all three faculty members actively engaged with the farmers of Bhakamau Village in interactive sessions. This collaborative exchange likely involved addressing specific concerns, sharing knowledge, and fostering a dialogue between agricultural experts and local farmers. 21 Farmers attended the Goshti. The participation of the



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farmers indicated a successful and impactful interaction, where academic expertise was directly applied to the real-world challenges faced by the farming community. Overall, the contributions of Dr. Deepti Srivastava, Dr. Pankaj Kumar Gupta, and Dr. Srishti Thakur collectively enriched the learning experience for the students and facilitated valuable interactions with the local farming community. The event yielded successful outcomes, evident from the positive feedback received from the farmers. Farmers from Bhakamau Village expressed satisfaction with the event, encouraging local communities in decision-making processes for planning and implementing development projects.

Glimpses fo the Kisan Goshti





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