

WORKSHOP

On

Streamlining Agricultural Research under Department of Agriculture, Govt. of W.B. - Challenges, Opportunities and Way Forward



9th March, 2025



Agricultural Training Centre, Chinsurah, Hooghly



10:00 AM

ORGANIZED BY:

**State Agricultural Technologists' Service Association,
West Bengal**

CO-ORDINATED BY:

SATSA, Hooghly District Unit

The Department of Agriculture, Government of West Bengal, is dedicated to advancing agricultural development and enhancing the welfare of farmers across the state. The Research Wing of the Agriculture Department plays a pivotal role in this endeavor, comprising various Research Stations focused on specific crops. These include the Rice Research Station (RRS) in Chinsurah; Pulses and Oilseed Research Stations (PORS) in Berhampore; Field Crop Research Station in Burdwan; EB-III, Potato & Maize Research Station in Paschim Midnapur; Water Management Research Station (WMRS) in Ranaghat and multiple Zonal Adaptive Research Stations (ZARS) located in Krishnagar, Nalhati, Mohitnagar, Jalpaiguri, among others.

In addition to research, the department ensures the availability of high-quality inputs to farmers. This is facilitated through a network of laboratories, including three Fertilizer Control Laboratories, five State Seed Testing Laboratories and a Quality Control Cell and Insecticide Control Laboratories (QCC & ICL). Furthermore, the department provides soil-test-based advisories, recommending optimal fertilizer and manure application for various crops. This initiative enables farmers to utilize costly inputs efficiently, thereby enhancing their profitability.



The largest organization of the Agricultural Technologist of the West Bengal, the State Agricultural Technologists' Service Association (SATSA), West Bengal, convened a State-Level Workshop on "Streamlining Agricultural Research under the Department of Agriculture, Government of West Bengal: Challenges, Opportunities and Way Forward" at the Agricultural Training Centre, Chinsurah, Hooghly on 9th March, 2025. The workshop brought together a diverse group of participants, including members of Research Wing from across the state, senior members from both the Administrative and Research Wings under the Directorate and other representative members from different districts in the Administrative Wing. The primary objective of this Workshop was to identify and prioritize research areas that address the pressing needs of the state's farming sector, while also addressing different service-related issues to enhance the effectiveness of agricultural research under the Department of Agriculture.



In this one day workshop different issues were discussed, namely, development, release, popularization and quality seed production of climate-resilient rice varieties, Aromatic rice and some special rice with low Glycemic Index (GI) and higher zinc and iron contents; varietal development and quality seed production of maize, mustard and other oilseeds and pulses. Beside some other pertinent issues like, challenges and problems of the Research Stations and Laboratories and its way out; bridging the gap between Research and Administration; and other service related issues were also discussed towards formulation of better research activities for the betterment of the farmers of the State.

The Workshop of the Research Wing's deliberations have culminated in a set of recommendations, which will be submitted to the Administrative Department by SATSA, WB for necessary consideration and implementation, with the objective of harnessing research outputs to inform policy decisions and optimize agricultural productivity.



