

**ICAR-NATIONAL BUREAU OF SOIL SURVEY AND LAND USE PLANNING
AMRAVATI ROAD, NAGPUR-440 033**

**REPORT ON
HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER'S INTERACTION WITH FARMERS OF THE
COUNTRY ON 20.6.2018**

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi held a direct dialogue with the farmers from 9 districts of different states across the country and discussed various initiatives taken to double the farmers income by 2022. He informed that Government is working on four aspects viz. reducing input cost, ensuring reasonable price for agriculture produce, reducing storage loss, value addition taking through processing and exploring alternate income sources

Many farmers including fruit growers, producer group representatives, live stock farmers, co-operative group persons, user groups had a direct discussion with the PM. Participation of women farmers was also notable. Smt. Champa from Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh impressed the audience with her group's achievement in rearing Kadaknath poultry.

The farmers assembled at this bureau were keen about application of fertilizer/soil nutrient management. They were curious to know more about value addition done by Chattisgarh farmers who add custard apple to ice-cream for better returns. They were also impressed by the crop insurance scheme and its benefits.

The audience in general was captivated by the narrations of small/marginal farmers especially Karnataka farmers. The PM emphasized use of Soil Health Card for better productivity and input management. A lady farmer Smt. Rout's (Odisha) opinion about extension workers/scientists after rich harvest because of scientist-farmer interaction was also appreciated and the audience later discussed about learning from the scientists.

Hon'ble PM informed that the budget provisions for Agriculture has been doubled during last four years and increased to 2.12 lakh crores. Similarly efforts have been made to provide minimum support price for various agricultural produce equivalent to 1.5 times the cost of production. He told that today country has remarkable production not only of food grains but milk, fruits and vegetables is at highest level. He also informed that from 2014 onwards the increase in farm produce is to the tune of 10.5%. He emphasized importance of Neem coated Urea, Soil Health Card and e-marketing and asked farmers to take advantage of these initiatives.

The farmers expressed satisfaction about the programme and opined that they feel encouraged to adopt new technologies. They thanked ICAR-NBSS&LUP for making it possible to watch the live interaction.

