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PRESS-RELEASE

IIT (ISM) Dhanbad, in association with the experts of Birsa Agriculture University, Ranchi, conducts training in scientific farming techniques for the farmers of the remote Nala Block of Jamtara.

On a mission to transform the economic well-being of the farmers of scheduled tribe communities of remote villages of Jamtara District of Jharkhand, a team of IIT (ISM) Dhanbad, accompanied by experts of Birsa Agriculture University, Ranchi, today imparted scientific farming training to over 100 farmers of Nala area of Jamtara at Nala Panchayat Bhavan, during which they apprised them about soil quality and texture, the use of soil health cards, and identification and management of plant diseases.

The team, led by Prof. Rashmi Singh of the Department of Management Studies and Industrial Engineering of IIT (ISM) and comprising other experts of Birsa Agriculture University, like Prof. B.K. Aggarwal, a specialist in soil chemistry, and Prof. M.K. Barnwal, an expert in plant pathology, which conducted the training as part of a project titled “Improving the Economic Well-being of Scheduled Tribe Communities Using Game Theoretic and Operations Research Techniques,” also offered guidance on using fertilizers to enhance crop yields, improving seed quality, and boosting income through effective cropping systems.

The training conducted today as part of the two-day drive meant for Kundhit and Nala blocks of Jamtara, which began on October 8 from Kundhit block, was also aimed at empowering the tribal communities by equipping them with practical knowledge and sustainable farming techniques that can yield long-term benefits.

During the training, Prof. Rashmi and her team informed the villagers about water-efficient crops and the use of drip irrigation to conserve water.

“This training provided farmers with practical strategies to optimize productivity and support sustainable growth in their communities,” said Prof. Singh, who is the principal investigator of the project, and added that the team, comprising others, including Prof. Niladri Das, as co-principal investigator, and research scholars Sumita, Deep Chowdhury, Pawan Kumar, Nilesh Kumar, Sunny Kumar, Anand Chandra Sahu, and Dipen, also conducted a control group survey on October 6 and 7, ahead of the training program, and will again be conducting a treatment group survey to assess the impact after the completion of training.

As part of the project launched last year, IIT (ISM) conducted workshops in several villages of Jamtara district to encourage farmers to develop as farm-based entrepreneurs.

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