

**Proceedings of online meeting
with KVKs of NDUAT, Ayodhya held on 15 April, 2020**

An online review meeting with the Heads, KVK and DE, ANDAUAT, Ayodhya was held today on 15 April, 2020 at 11:30 AM. The meeting was convened by the Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kanpur Dr Atar Singh and attended by Drs Sadhna Pandey, SK Dubey, Raghvendra Singh, PSs and S.N. Yemul, CTO besides other contractual staff of the institute.

At the outset, Dr Atar Singh introduced the very purpose of today's meeting and he further stated that during this lockdown period due to COVID-19, the expectations from the KVKs and its scientists have enhanced in the state of Uttar Pradesh for restoring the confidence of farmers even though KVK Heads and SMSs are not able to visit to their respective centers.

He also shared following points which was discussed during last online video conferencing with ICAR Institutes Directors and all DDGs of ICAR –

- ICAR and Director of Institutes for maximum expenditure ie 98.8% in this Corona virus situation which is higher as compared to previous two years. Whereas Expenditure of SCSP and STSP more than 80%.
- In this situation the National advisory provided by Agriculture Extension Division by DDG, is highly appreciated because the ATARI Directors and SAUS and KVKs make it possible to made available to the farmer's.
- Arogya Setu App message given to almost 2 lakh farmer's through the KVKs and app was downloaded by 37 thousand farmers.
- Take care under this lockdown period for more safety measures and follow the guidelines which is expected.
- Three Institute of livestock Hissar, Bhopal and Ivri Bareilly for testing of Corona virus in animals for the same Scientists should take all safety measures to them.
- The first quarter budget will be cut by 5% and 20 percent expenditure could be made 8,6,6 percent during allotment budget for April, May and June month but quarter expenditure should be 20%.
- Farmer's are facing problems of seed production, Mandies and marketing, therefore, it needs to help farmer's with state Government officials.

Dr. Atar Singh further made following points for the information to KVK Heads.

- This zone has delivered about 679 messages benefitting 63101 farmers through WhatsApp and 4.20 lakh farmers through MKisan of the state. KVKs also made 49008 farmers contacts through Call Centres
- This zone was successful in achieving 99.8% of total expenditure during FY 2019-20.
- The DE, ANDAUAT, Ayodhya is expected to submit AUC at the earliest and also the BE for the FY 2020-21
- It is appreciable that the University has completed the APR for the year 2019 and synthesized version (for all KVKs) has been submitted to ATARI, Kanpur
- KVKs of the university have remained successful in doing quality work from home which is evident from the quality photographs shared by them in the different WhatsApp groups.

- The advisories related to the crop, livestock, horticulture are being developed by KVKs and being sent to the farmers which is appreciable.

Dr Atar Singh further entrusted the Heads KVKs to keep vigil on the farmers who shall be sowing the summer crops like green gram, summer vegetable and others. Also, the related activities like irrigation and plant protection measures for summer crops shall be also taken-up by the farmers. Therefore, KVKs should keep on guiding them telephonically or through social groups. It was also informed to the KVK Heads that the Minister of Agriculture, Govt. of UP has released a toll free number which may be obtained from the concerned department and may be shared with farmers' group.

After this, KVK Heads also expressed their concerns which are as below:

- UC for the FY 2019-20 are to be prepared at DE level and submitted by the Directorate itself.
- The Arogya Setu App has been shared among the large number of farmers by the respective KVK and still they are spreading this app among farmers for use.
- KVK Heads also requested that the record of Arogya Setu App being spread among the farmers in the district may be kept on weekly basis and sent to the ATARI, Kanpur for further synthesis. However, Director, ATARI emphasized that how many farmers have downloaded this app need to be carefully recorded and shared as other ATARIs of the country are having very high such number (even upto 42 lakhs downloads in some case)
- The Heads of newly sanctioned KVKs under ANDUAT, Ayodhya demanded for more budget under POL and contingency during FY 2020-21. On this point, Director, ATARI, Kanpur stated that all such demands by new or existing KVKs may be submitted at the earliest to ATARI, Kanpur for needful.
- The plight of the farmers in lockdown was shared by few KVKs and they stated that farmers are receiving lesser price for vegetables, milk and other produces. Similarly, there is no provision for carrying the vegetables and harvested produce to the nearby mandis despite there is state govt. order that movement of fruits, vegetables, milk, mushroom and honey is permitted in the state during lockdown period. Also, the labour availability has gone down in the villages and farmers have to depend on family labours only for farm operations.

During this meeting, Dr AP Rao, Director (Extn.), ANDUAT, Ayodhya highlighted following points:

- All the KVKs of the university are working under the guidance of ATARI, Kanpur.
- He expressed his thanks that budget for the March 2020 has been released by ATARI, Kanpur on time and all the KVK staff could get their salaries.
- There are few KVKs like Sonbhadra and Varanasi where the KVK staff are not able to reach to their center. They are in the process of getting the pass issued by the district administration.
- Even the budget for the new KVKs have been sanctioned by the university.
- DE also emphasized that as the university was not having any regular comptroller, Hon'ble VC of the university arranged a comptroller for one who could process the bills

and voucher to maximum possible extent. Still, the leftover bills shall be processed at the earliest, he assured the KVKs.

- He also said that in the eastern region of UP Harvesting of wheat, mustard, fieldpea and other crops are going on and this is the time when the advisories issued by the KVK SMSs shall be very useful to the farmers.

Sh KN Gupta, Consultant, Finance, ICAR-ATARI, Kanpur shared that as many as 11 KVKs under ANDUAT, Ayodhya have not shared the BE for the FY 2020-21 especially for salary Heads. Therefore, it was agreed by all that the same shall be sent to this office at the earliest for further compilation.

Dr SK Dubey, PS (AE) stated that the impact of lockdown need to be documented in the objective manner for crops, livestock, inputs, produce disposal and labour management. He said that in this regard a format has been revised by this ATARI in excel format which shall be shared with all KVKs of the state to capture the data as mentioned in the format during the lockdown period (March-April) of 2020 as compared to the same period during 2019 to ascertain the impact quantitatively. DE and all KVK Heads assured to do the needful in this regards.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks from Dr AP Rao, DE, ANDUAT, Ayodhya and Dr Atar Singh, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kanpur. Special thanks given to Shri S.N. Yemul, CTO who has provided this online video conferencing with keen interest. Both of them wished for the healthy and productive home stay during this lockdown to all the participating members.

(Atar Singh)
Director
ICAR-ATARI, Kanpur





