

Visit of Honourable Union Minister of State, Micro Small and Medium Enterprises Shri Giriraj Singh Ji at ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna on 14th June, 2016

Hon'ble Union Minister of State, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises visited ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna on 14th June, 2016. He visited the experimental farms and showed keen interest in the use of solar energy in the field of fisheries and livestock sector. He also visited cattle, goat, buffalo, goat farm, duckery and poultry unit of the institute and interacted with the scientists. In the opening session of the interaction, Dr B. P. Bhatt, Director, ICAR RCER, Patna appraised the Hon'ble Minister about the ongoing activities of the institute especially on the integrated fish farming, varieties of cereals, pulses and vegetables developed by the institute, application of solar energy in agriculture, backyard poultry and duckery and introduction of Sahiwal and Murrah breed of livestock in Eastern Region.



Hon'ble Minister on his remarks lauded the experiments being conducted by the institute with a special mention to area specific mineral mixture 'Swarna Min' developed by the scientist of ICAR-RCER, as well feed block. He also urged the scientists to work for the farmers and to disseminate the developed technologies to the farmers' fields. Hon'ble Minister advised the scientists and the farmers to cultivate drumstick/ sahajan (*Moringa oleifera*) and use it as fodder for cattle, goat and poultry to reduce the feed cost.

Scientists of the institute, entrepreneurs and representatives from NABARD, Coconut Development Board, Punjab National Bank, State Fishery Department and 50 progressive farmers of Bihar participated in the interaction session.

