

## **“Swachhta Pakhwada” Celebration at ICAR-NIHSAD, Bhopal (Dec. 23, 2019)**

‘*Kisan Diwas*’ was celebrated at the institute auditorium on Dec. 23, 2019 as a special activity during *Swachhta Pakhwada* celebration (Dec. 16-31, 2019). On this occasion, Dr. S. Bhatia, Principal Scientist of the institute delivered a lecture on “*Organic Farming*” and described in details how the farmers can actually start the organic farming and validate their produce at MP state organic certification agency that will ultimately boost their income as well as provide health benefits to the soil, human and environment. A video of *Padma Shri awardee Bharat Bhushan Tyagi* from Uttar Pradesh explaining the basics of organic farming was also shown to the farmers.

Dr. A.B. Singh, Principal Scientist, Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal, a vermicompost specialist was also invited to deliver a lecture on “*Preparation of vermicompost and its importance in soil fertility*”. He beatifically explained the making of vermicompost by the use of earthworm and the important points to be considered. He has also shown a video of a complete vermicompost making process so that the invited farmers can understand easily and utilize his expertise to initiate this economically viable technique at their farms.

Shri Ram Krishan Ahirwar, Sarpanch and Shri Prem Narayan Yadav, Sachiv of Kanasaiya Gram Panchayat, Bhopal were also invited on this occasion. More than 100 farmers belonging to Pathar, Kokta and Kanasaiya villages attended this event and few farmers shared their exemplary collaborative initiatives taken since the launch of Swachh Bharat Mission in their respective villages. The jute bags were distributed among all the farmers to initiate and inculcate a polythene-free environment. All the NIHSAD staff also attended this special day and regular cleaning activity of the institute campus was also done.



**Dr. S. Bhatia, Principal Scientist of the institute delivered a lecture on “*Organic Farming*”**



**Dr. A.B. Singh, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IISS delivered a lecture on “*Preparation of vermicompost and its importance in soil fertility*”**



**Farmers sharing their experiences on Swachhta initiatives taken at their villages**



**The Director, ICAR-NIHSAD addressing the farmers on the occasion of 'Kisan Diwas'**