

DST Project activities launched at Phiringia, Kandhamal

ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Bhubaneswar organized launching workshop of DST project activities at Block Office, Phiringia today. The project being supported by Department of Science and Technology



(DST), Govt. of India is aimed at economic empowerment of selected Scheduled Caste fish farmers. Mr. Rashmi Ranjan Mahanta; Block Development Officer, Phiringia; Smt. Namita Kanhar; Block Chairperson, Phiringia; Smt. Ashalata Narendra; Assistant Fishery Officer, Phiringia; Dr H.K De; Principal Investigator, DST Project, CIFA; Dr S.N Sethi; Principal Scientist, CIFA; Dr.(Mrs) U.L Mohanty; Asst. Chief Technical Officer, CIFA; Mr Sisir Mohanty. Senior technical officer, CIFA and Sri D. P. Rath, Senior Technical Officer, CIFA attended the workshop.

Dr H. K. De, Project in charge introduced about the project explaining its motto and spoke about the activities to be initiated to promote economic empowerment and sustainability



among SC farmers in Kandhamal district through freshwater aquaculture development. Carp seed rearing and grow out carp culture technologies of CIFA will be demonstrated and the farmers will be provided necessary skill training in order to

enable them adopt scientific fish farming practices. He called for active participation of SHG groups by coming together and federate and in 2-3 years' time emerge as a fish farmers producer company. Dr S.N Sethi, Principal Scientist, CIFA elaborated on the present status and prospects of freshwater aquaculture in the district and addressed the audience by explaining the different project activities he has done under SCSP Project and identified the major problem of outlets present in Retang Pond which has to be closed with proper netting facility by taking the help of state fishery department. He also advised to do proper planning of the Pond to be developed for aqua tourism purpose.

Mr. Rashmi Ranjan Mahanta, Block Development Officer, Phiringia welcomed CIFA Scientists and promised all help for successful implementation of project activities in Kandhamal. Smt. Namita Kanhar, Block Chairperson, Phiringia briefed about different schemes & subsidies available for the farmers and fishermen to enhance the fish production and productivity. She thanked ICAR-CIFA for including Kandhamal and hoped that fish farmers of the district would be benefitted from the



project. Dr. (Mrs) UL Mohanty delivered a lecture on ‘Women can do aquaculture’. She urged the members present there to take advantage of the team CIFA and state department of fisheries for overall development of aquaculture in Kandhamal. She appreciated the Women SHGs operating in Phiringia block and encouraged them to take up scientific way of rearing fish. Around 70 farm women from 2 blocks of Kandhamal district viz., Phiringia and Phulbani participated in the programme.

A Farmers-Scientists interface was conducted to discuss about the problems faced by them in aquaculture. Technical brochure/leaflets were released on Nursery and Grow out carp culture and distributed to the Block Development Officer, Assistant fishery officer and its beneficiaries. During this program 40,000 fish seeds were stocked in the Retang Pond for demonstration purpose. Sri D. P. Rath, Senior Technical Officer coordinated the programme.