

## ICAR-CIFA observes National Day for Women in Agriculture

4 December 2018

Bhubaneswar: ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, a premier research institute on freshwater aquaculture today observed National Day for Women in Agriculture at its Kausalyaganga campus in association with Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Khordha. Over 300 persons including CIFA officials, farm women from different blocks of Khordha district participated. Women in agriculture day is being celebrated to recognize the role of women in enhancing agricultural development, improving food security and eradicating poverty informed Dr. (Mrs.) Bindu R Pillai, Director, ICAR-CIFA. Carp seed rearing, breeding and culture of ornamental fishes, carp culture in community ponds and post-harvest processing of freshwater fishes are being adopted by women in increasing numbers as a means of strengthening their livelihood, she added. ICAR-CIFA as a research institute is promoting such ventures among women through a number of flagship schemes- Scheduled Tribe Component; Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav, Krishi Kalyan Aviyaan, Farmer First, North East Hill programme etc.



Mrs Ashima Patnaik, F.A. cum Deputy Secretary, Deptt. of Agriculture and Farmers Empowerment, Govt. of Odisha graced the function as Chief Guest and highlighted on the role of women in Agriculture and their multi-various activities in relation to enhancing productivity and farm income. Mrs Litty Pattnaik, Plant Protection Officer, Plant Protection Deptt. Govt. of Odisha, the Guest of Honour emphasized on the importance of women in agriculture for socioeconomic development of the society. She encouraged and appreciated the farm women for their untiring effort in improving agriculture.

Dr Mrs K D Mahapatra, Principal Scientist of the institute elaborated on the significance of the day. Rural women are contributing immensely to agriculture and allied sectors. Their role in ensuring household food and nutrition needs no mention. Today's women are thinking big. Educated women are taking up agriculture, fishery and establishing companies, start-ups, portals for distribution and delivery. Through this celebration which is happening in all 680 KVKs, ICAR is not only recognizing successful entrepreneurs but also creating awareness, encouragement for other rural women to follow. Few successful farm women who have set examples for others by adopting scientific agriculture and aquaculture practices were felicitated by ICAR-CIFA. They also shared their experiences to other farm women attending the celebration. As a part of the celebration an exhibition was organized to showcase various activities, products and services of various stakeholders engaged in empowering women.

Dr. G S Saha, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIFA proposed vote of thanks. Dr P.N. Ananth, Sr Scientist & Head, KVK and team coordinated the above programme.