



ICAR-CIFA organised Awareness cum training programme on Freshwater aquaculture in Kandhamal

One day Awareness cum training programme for the skill development of men & women members of SC communities of Kandhamal district on the topic of scientific aquaculture was organized by ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Bhubaneswar at district headquarter Phulbani, Kandhamal on 28 February, 2023 under Scheduled Caste Sub Plan Programme of ICAR-CIFA, Bhubaneswar. Around 100 men & women beneficiaries of different self-help groups attended the event.

Sri Ashish Ishwar Patil, IAS, Collector & District Magistrate, Kandhamal graced the occasion by lighting the ceremonial lamp signified the commencement of the programme. Sri Prafulla Kanhar, DFO, Kandhamal inaugurated the event by welcoming the audience and interacted with them by highlighting the importance of aquaculture by using latest tech of ICAR-CIFA of growout culture for maximizing productivity in a specified pond area. He also briefed about different schemes & subsidies available for the farmers and fishermen to enhance the fish production and productivity. He stressed that key inputs in the form of quality seed, feed etc. may be provided to encourage the farmers to adopt new technology. However, in the subsequent years the beneficiaries will be required to procure inputs on their own. He thanked ICAR-CIFA for including Kandhamal as a project area and hoped that fish farmers of the district would get benefitted from the scheme.

Dr. C. K. Misra, Principal Scientist of ICAR-CIFA, discussed various freshwater aquaculture technologies during the technical session to help SC beneficiaries to improve their skills in order to increase their family income and employment prospects. He also stressed on the importance of applying latest feed tech for proper growth and survival of fingerlings in their existing ponds. The CIFA's technologies for carp seed rearing and grow-out culture will be demonstrated, and the farmers will receive the necessary skill training to enable them to adopt scientific fish farming practises. He also discussed about different value added fish farming practices such as ornamental fish farming and pearl culture which will help fish farmers to maximise their profit.

Sri Satya Narayan Mallick, District Coordinator for the ICRG Project in Kandhamal, Seba Jagat NGO, gave a power point presentation on the ICRG (Infrastructure for Climate Resilient Growth in India) project and talked about how the NGO works with the district's fish farmers and what inputs they providing.

Sri Sunil Kumar Mallick, District Project Coordinator, Mission Shakti was grateful for the Women SHGs running in different blocks of the district and encouraged them to adopt a scientific approach to fish rearing. He discussed about various fishery schemes particularly for women SHG.

“Fish in the tank is like money in the bank” said by Dr. G.S. Saha, Principal Scientist & Head SSS of ICAR-CIFA, as he urged farmers to practise integrated fish farming and spoke about how farm women might engage in fish farming during their free time.

In this occasion DST- Dhenkanal & Kandhamal project brochure entitled- “Economic empowerment of SC fish farmers through capacity building in two aspirational districts- Dhenkanal & Kandhamal, Odisha.” was released by Sri Ashish Ishwar Patil, Collector & District Magistrate Kandhamal.

