



Workshop on “Challenges and Opportunities in Horticulture for Doubling Farmers’ Income” held at ICAR-CIFA



Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Khordha, ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA) Kausalyaganga organized a Workshop on “Challenges and Opportunities in Horticulture for Doubling Farmers’ Income” at the Kausalyaganga campus on 27th October 2023.

Dr. P. K. Roul, Vice Chancellor, OUAT, Bhubaneswar inaugurated the workshop. He spoke on the opportunities in Horticulture for Doubling the Farmer’s Income. India’s horticulture production has crossed 350 million metric tons. Dr. Roul pointed out that climate change and small land holding of famers, difficulty in availability loan are the major challenges to boost up the production in horticulture sector. Protective cultivation and cluster approach are the opportunities to overcome these problems. Skill training and extension support provided by KVK system has largely contributed towards this accomplishment said Dr. Roul. Dr. J. K. Jena, DDG (Fisheries Science & Animal Science) ICAR, New Delhi was the special guest on this occasion and said that KVKs play a vital role in dissemination of improved agricultural technologies developed by National Agricultural Research Systems. He emphasized on exploring the vast options available in horticulture like offseason horticultural crop cultivation, aromatic and medicinal plant production. He pointed out that disease is the measure challenge to be addressed not only in horticulture but also in agriculture and other allied farming practices. He suggested to ensure better preservation, transportation and value chain



maintenance for horticultural produce. Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata said horticulture has a major role in increasing benefit cost ratio of farmers. He also suggested for fishery based integrated horticultural system to increase the farmers income per unit area. He appreciated role of KVK's in mobilizing farmers, imparting skill developed raining, formation of Farmer Producer Organizations and also disseminating technologies at village level for betterment of the farming community. Dr Dey expressed happiness that KVK-Khordha has promoted as many as seven FPOs in Khordha district.



Earlier Dr. Pramoda Kumar Sahoo, Director, ICAR-CIFA, Bhubaneswar welcomed the delegates and presented a brief overview of the Institute. He elaborated the contribution of horticulture sector towards the growth of Indian Agriculture. He suggested to bring out a roadmap to solve the farmers problem in horticulture through the deliberations of the Workshop. Dr. Harapriya Nayak, Sr. Scientist & Head, KVK-Khordha highlighted the role and significant achievements of KVK-Khordha. The dignitaries released two publications of the KVK on this occasion. Sri Ajaya Kumar Dash, SMS (Horticulture) was felicitated by the institute in recognition of his 34 years of long service rendered to this Institute. Three technical sessions were held during the workshop. The first technical session with the theme 'Horticulture for doubling farmer's income' chaired by Dr. A. K. Nayak, Director, ICAR-NRRI, Cuttack and Dr. A. Sarangi, Director, ICAR-IIWM, Bhubaneswar. This session was coordinated by Dr. H. K. De, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIFA, Bhubaneswar. The second session with the theme 'Entrepreneurship development and value addition' chaired by Dr. P. J. Mishra, Dean, Ext. Edn., OUAT, Bhubaneswar and Dr. Gobinda Chandra Acharya, Principal Scientist & Head, CHES, Bhubaneswar. The third technical session with the theme 'Horticulture based FPOs- the way forward' chaired by Dr. P. J. Mishra, Dean, Ext. Edu., OUAT, Bhubaneswar; Dr. Gouri Sankar Sahoo, Former Professor & Head, Dept. of Vegetable Science, OUAT, Bhubaneswar. The third session was coordinated by Dr. N.K. Barik, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIFA. Around 200 participants including scientists of ICAR-CIFA and other sister institutes, horticulture Scientists from KVKs, Officers from Horticulture Department of

Khordha District, Representatives of Farmer Producer Companies, Non-Government Organisations and Progressive Farmers attended this workshop. The vote of thanks of the inaugural session was given by Mr. Ajay Kumar Dash, SMS (Horticulture), KVK-Khordha.



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