

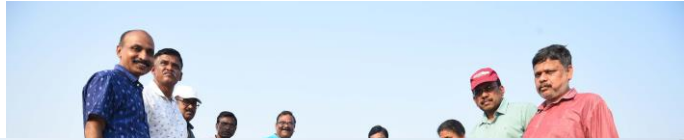
ICAR-CIFA celebrated World Environment Day

On June 5th, 2024, the ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA) celebrated World Environment Day with a dedicated plantation programme at its campus. This year's World Environment Day theme, "Land Restoration, Desertification, and Drought Resilience," emphasizes the critical need to heal our land, combat desertification, and strengthen our resilience against drought.



The event was graced by the presence of Dr. S. S. Giri, Incharge Director of ICAR-CIFA, who highlighted the importance of this year's theme and the significance of the plantation programme. In his address, Dr. Giri expressed his vision for a greener CIFA campus and committed to planting various trees to enhance the campus's greenery. To mark the occasion, Dr. Giri planted a bael (*Aegle marmelos*) plant, symbolizing the institute's commitment to environmental sustainability and land restoration. Following Dr. Giri's lead, the Head of Divisions at ICAR-CIFA, including Dr. P. C. Das, Dr. J. K. Sundaray, and Dr. M. Samanta, along with other staff members and research scholars, actively participated in the plantation drive.

In total, approximately 150 bael plants were planted across the ICAR-CIFA campus. This initiative not only aligns



with the World Environment Day theme but also contributes to the institute's long-term goal of creating a lush and sustainable environment. The participation of the entire ICAR-CIFA community in this programme underscores their collective commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable practices. The plantation drive serves as a significant step towards enhancing biodiversity, combating land degradation, and fostering a healthier ecosystem within the campus.

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