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PRESS NOTE

"KVK-Khordha and ICAR-CIFA Unite to Commemorate World Food Day 2024: Promoting Sustainable Food Security"

Krishi Vigyan Kendra-Khordha and ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA), Bhubaneswar celebrated World Food Day on 16 October 2024 on the theme **"Right to foods for a better life and a better future"** highlights the essential



nature of access to safe and nutritious food as a fundamental human right. Dr. P.K. Sahoo, Director, ICAR-CIFA, Bhubaneswar honored the event by serving as the Chief Guest. He



emphasized food is very precious and important for healthy life. He also focused that prioritizing food security for all is essential, as adequate nutrition is vital for individual health and the overall well-being of communities and societies. Besides, he emphasized that fish is a vital source of high-quality protein, omega-3 fatty acids, vitamins and minerals. Consuming fish is vital for reducing the risk of chronic diseases and enhancing overall well-being and vitality. He encouraged farmers to adopt organic farming practices for boost of yield and better health, highlighting that these methods enhance soil fertility, biodiversity and ecosystem balance, ultimately leading to more nutritious food and a healthier environment. Dr. Harapriya Nayak, Senior Scientist and Head of KVK-Khordha, ICAR-CIFA, warmly welcomed the Chief Guest and participants, highlighting the significance of World Food Day. She emphasized the importance of ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for participants to meet their dietary needs, promoting an active and healthy lifestyle. A drone demonstration in aquaculture was conducted for participants, showcasing innovative technology for monitoring water quality, fish health and feeding efficiency. This cutting-edge approach

enhances farm management, improves productivity and promotes sustainable practices, highlighting the potential of drones to revolutionize aquaculture and boost overall efficiency in fish farming. Mr. Surendra Singh, SMS (Crop Production) provided an overview of the various types of organic input production and their applications in different crops. Dr. P.R. Sahoo, SMS (Fisheries) shared insights on integrated farming systems for livelihood enhancement, while Mrs. S. Behera emphasized mushroom cultivation methods to promote income generation and nutrition security. During the event, four progressive farmers and farmwomen from Rajas, Kalyanpur, Sanamachapur, and Narada villages in the Balipatna block of Khordha district were honored for their contributions to agriculture and allied sectors, and guava saplings were distributed to all participants. A total 72 participants including Officers & staffs of ICAR-CIFA & KVK-Khordha, progressive farmers, SHG members, FPCL members participated in the programme. Dr. P.R Sahoo, SMS (Fisheries) proposed the vote of thanks.

Senior Scientist & Head

