Capacity Building of Scheduled Caste Fish Farmers through Skill Development Training and Critical Input Distribution by ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education at Daspara, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal

To meet up the increasing fish demand with accelerating population, aquaculture is the only option for utilizing untapped resources. In India, aquaculture is an important sector of food production which is growing very fast with its rapid expansion. However, due to lack of scientific knowledge and skill of fish farmers on aquaculture along with availability of quality inputs, Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal is lagging behind in fish production. With the objective to empower the small and marginal farmers of Jalpaiguri by imparting practical knowledge and skills, a three-day skill development training programme on **Modern Methods of Freshwater Aquaculture** was organized during **23-25**th **July, 2024** at Daspara, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal by ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education (ICAR-CIFE), Kolkata Centre.

The training program was inaugurated by Dr. G. H. Pailan, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIFE, Kolkata Centre in presence of District Fisheries Officer, Training, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal, Dr. Jayanta Majumder, Mr. Indranil Ghosh, Scientist, KVK, Jalpaiguri. Dr. Majumdar urged the participant-farmers to make full use of the training and adopt scientific fish farming practices to enhance productivity and improve their livelihood. He also briefed about various developmental schemes of Department of Fisheries, Govt. of West Bengal. Dr. G. H. Pailan, delivered various classes as a resource person on the importance of farm made aquafeed utilizing locally available cheap feed ingredients to reduce the feed cost, importance of live food in nursery rearing, importance of water quality in fish pond, modern and innovative methods of fish culture, fish health and disease management and also practically demonstrated preparation of fish feed and analysis of water quality parameters. Mr. P. K. Behera, Technical Officer demonstrated water testing kits and farm-made feed preparation. Mr. Indranil Ghosh He suggested use of high value fish species and utilization of natural fish food items, such as planktons and periphyton in aquaculture to increase return from existing farming systems. He expressed that this training would immensely benefit the fish farmers who lack knowledge on scientific fish farming to improve their livelihood by adopting modern methods of aquaculture and using the critical inputs distributed. He also delivered lecture on fish disease management in aquaculture.

A total of 20 Scheduled Caste fish farmers actively participated and received critical inputs for fish farming, such as ICAR-CIFE developed water testing kit and study materials from the organizers. The farmers shared their happiness on their skill development and receipt of aquaculture inputs which will surely help in improvement of fish production of the district and the state as well. In this area one project mode programme is going on under SCSP in which among selected farmers fish lime, fish seed and feed was distributed.

Mr. Dasarath Das, Director of Daspara Farmers Producer Company appreciated the efforts of ICAR-CIFE for conducting this useful programme in a remote location far away from Kolkata and assured to maintain the linkage developed for betterment of the farmers of that area.





Inauguration of Programme



Distribution of study materials



Lecture delivered by Dr. G. H. Pailan, ICAR-CIFE, Kolkata Centre



Demonstration of farm made feed preparation



Distribution of certificate and pH kit to the scheduled caste farmers







Distribution of fish seed among selected fish farmers in project mode programme

ুআমার উত্তরবঙ্গ

মাছ চাবের প্রশিক্ষণ

ঘুঘুডাঙ্গা, মাছের জোগান এলাকায় স্বনির্ভর হওয়ার লক্ষ্যে তপশিলি জাতিভুক্ত (এসসি) চাষিদের বিজ্ঞানসন্মতভাবে মাছ চাষ করার বিষয়ে প্রশিক্ষিত করার উদ্যোগ গ্রহণ করা হয়েছে। ভারতীয় কৃষি অনুসন্ধান পরিষদের শিক্ষা এর আয়োজন তরফে হয়েছে। জলপাইগুড়ি সদর ব্লকের দাসপাডা ফামর্সি প্রোডিউসার কোম্পানির সহযোগিতায় তিনদিনের ওই প্রশিক্ষণ শিবিরের আয়োজন করা হয়েছে। হাতেকলমে প্রশিক্ষণ দিচ্ছেন কেন্দ্রীয় মৎস্য শিক্ষা সংস্থানের প্রিন্সিপাল সায়েন্টিস্ট ডঃ গৌরহরি টেকনিকাল অফিসার পৈলান, প্রকাশকুমার বেহেরা, জলপাইগুড়ি কৃষিবিজ্ঞান কেন্দ্রের মৎস্য বিজ্ঞানী ইন্দ্রনীল ঘোষ, জলপাইগুড়ি মৎস্য দপ্তরের ট্রেনি জয়ন্ত মজুমদার, ক্লাবের চেয়ারম্যান দশরথ প্রমুখ। এবিষয়ে গৌরহরি পৈলান 'মিশ্র পদ্ধতিতে বিভিন্ন বলেন, উন্নত প্রজাতির মাছ মজুত করে উৎপাদনশীলতা ও আয় কীভাবে বৃদ্ধি করা যায় তা হাতেকলমে চাষ করে দেখানো হবে।' এই প্রশিক্ষণে চাষিরা স্থনির্ভর হতে পারবে বলে আশা করছেন তিনি।

Mass media coverage of the SCSP trainings of Jalpaiguri held from 23-25th July, 2024.