



भाकृअनुप - भारतीय जल प्रबंधन संस्थान

ICAR-Indian Institute of Water Management
(भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद/ Indian Council of Agricultural Research)
रेलविहार के सामने, चंद्रशेखरपुर, भुवनेश्वर-751023, ओडिशा
Opp. Rail Vihar, Chandrashekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751023, Odisha



“National Farmers’ Day” celebrated by ICAR-IIWM

ICAR-IIWM, Bhubaneswar observed the National Farmers’ Day (*Rashtriya Kisan Diwas*) on 23rd December, 2024 under the *Swachhta Pakhwada* at *Hansapada* village of Nimapara block in Puri district, Odisha in order to commemorate the birth anniversary of India’s fifth Prime Minister Shri Choudhary Charan Singh Ji and to pay tribute for his incredible contributions for the welfare of farming community and in achieving agricultural growth and food security in the country. Over 175 farmers, farm women and rural youths from nearby villages of Puri district attended the programme. At the outset, Dr. H.K. Dash welcomed the participants and briefed about the importance of the *Rashtriya Kisan Diwas* and its theme for the year 2024, i.e., “Empowering ‘Annadata’ for a Prosperous Nation”. He also briefed about the on-going activities of the Institute in the locality in the domains of crop diversification and efficient resource management for enhancing income of farmers. He also sensitized the participants about the need for conserving and saving water in the face of increasing water scarcity, and urged the participants to adopt scientific soil management practices and water management methods such as water harvesting, micro-irrigation methods etc. for sustainable agriculture.

Dr. S.K. Mishra highlighted about various programmes and schemes of the Central and state governments for water conservation and promoting start-ups, FPOs to bring empowerment of our farming communities while boosting and sustaining crop production and productivity. He also briefed about the ambition of *Swachh Bharat Mission* for ensuring healthy and peaceful life and administered *Swachhta* pledge to all participants. Later, all the participants took part in the ongoing ‘Signature Campaign’. Dr. Pratiba Sahu talked about various livelihood options through commercial vegetable production, fruit farming, food processing and marketing, importance of homestead nutri-gardens for meeting nutritional requirement of families, and sensitized about growing demand for protected and urban horticulture technologies. Dr. O.P. Verma informed participants about the water management technologies developed by ICAR-IIWM and their benefits in saving water and improving yield through suitable crop combinations. Dr. S.K. Karna discussed about deteriorating soil health and environment and their implications for future agriculture in the country. Later, the participants took active in a farmers-scientists interaction meet. During the occasion, ten innovative and successful farmers and farmwomen were felicitated by the Institute. The programme ended with a vote thanks to all the participants.



Sensitization and interaction during the *Kisan Diwas* celebration



Swachhta pledge being administered to the participants during *Kisan Diwas*



Felicitating of ten innovative and successful farmers and farm women on the occasion