

ICAR-NAARM Organises Training Programme on “Climate Smart Fish Farming in Sunderban Area: Challenges and Opportunities” at KVK, Ashokenagar, West Bengal

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ICAR-NAARM organized 03 days Training Programme on “Climate Smart Fish Farming in Sunderban Area: Challenges and Opportunities” from 11-13th March, 2025 under Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP), 2023-24 in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ashokenagar, West Bengal. A total of 75 farmers, including 11 women farmers participated in the training programme.

Dr. B. Tudu, Principal Scientist and Head, KVK Ashokenagar, participated in the inaugural session as the Chief Guest and highlighted the significance of climate-smart fish farming in the Sundarbans region. He emphasized that this initiative will help fish farmers adopt sustainable and resilient aquaculture practices, ensuring productivity despite climate challenges. He stated that integrating advanced techniques with traditional knowledge can enhance fish production while preserving the delicate ecosystem. Dr. Tudu further stressed that empowering farmers with scientific insights and adaptive strategies will lead to long-term economic stability and environmental sustainability. He encouraged all participants to actively engage in the training and implement climate-smart practices to secure their livelihoods and contribute to the region’s ecological balance.

Second day of the training programme Honorable Vice-Chancellor Dr. Tirtha Kumar Dutta, West Bengal University of Animal and Fishery Sciences (WBUAFS), along with Prof. Binoy Kanta Shil, Director of Research, WBUAFS, and Principal Scientists Dr. Shib Kinkar Das and Dr. Archan Kanti Das from ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI), Barrackpore, interacted with farmers during the training program they highlighted the critical role of climate-resilient aquaculture in ensuring sustainable livelihoods for fish farmers in the Sundarbans. Highlighted the importance of adopting scientific approaches to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change on fisheries and urged farmers to integrate innovative techniques for improved productivity.

Dr. M. Ramesh Naik, Scientist and Training Coordinator, ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad, elaborated on ICAR-NAARM initiatives to support Scheduled caste farmers through sustainable agricultural practices and urged trainees to actively participate in the three-day program to enhance their skills. He emphasized that adopting climate-smart techniques ensures sustainable fish production while strengthening the economic stability of farming communities. By equipping farmers with scientific knowledge and innovative approaches, the program creates new opportunities for higher productivity and profitability in Fish farming.

To support the farmers in implementing best practices, essential inputs such as pH paper, KMnO₄, lime, and other materials were distributed. These resources will aid in effective water quality management and fish health improvement, contributing to the sustainability and resilience of aquaculture in the region. In the valedictory program, certificates were distributed to all the participants along with certificates.

