

## 34<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day Celebrated at ICAR-NBFGR, Lucknow

The ICAR-NBFGR, Lucknow celebrated its '34<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day' on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2017, which was observed as Farm Innovators Day-cum-Workshop to share the success experiences related to aquaculture for doubling the income of the fish farmers. **Dr. A.S. Ninawe**, Advisor, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, GoI, New Delhi and **Dr. S.D. Singh**, Former ADG (Inland Fisheries), ICAR, New Delhi graced the occasion as Chief Guest and Guest of Honour, respectively. At the outset, a tribute was given to Padamshri Dr. Lalji Singh, the renowned Scientist popular as the father of DNA Fingerprinting in India, on his sudden demise on 10 December, 2017. The programme was attended by over 45 invited progressive aqua farmers, entrepreneurs, students of 11 schools and aqua-trainees of tribal community from Madhya Pradesh.

**Dr. K.K. Lal**, Director of the institute welcomed the dignitaries, invited members, farmers, students and staff members. He appraised the gathering on the role of the institute in documenting and protecting the fish genomic resources of the country. In the inaugural speech, the Chief Guest of the function **Dr. A.S. Ninawe** highlighted the contribution of ICAR-NBFGR in community welfare through socio-economic programmes and congratulated the institute for maintaining fish cell line repository. He also underlined the importance of DBT in providing financial assistance to various research projects, which is at present focusing on fish antimicrobial peptides and antimicrobial resistance. Guest of honour of the function **Dr. S.D. Singh** applauded the institute's initiative taken towards fish disease surveillance in networking mode across the country and developing the institute as centre of excellence in the field of fish genomic resource documentation and conservation.



During the programme, Awards and cash prize were given to the winners of various class groups of different schools who participated in the Essay Writing/ Painting/ Drawing Competitions organized during the 'Agriculture Education Day' on December 3, 2017 at the institute. Performance based Annual Institutional Awards were given to the staff members of different categories for the year 2016-17. Progressive farmers, viz. Smt. Kalawati Devi, Shri Jitendra Pratap Singh and Shri Ghasita Ram from Mohanlalganj were given cash prize, whereas Shri Rajesh Verma from Mohanlalganj and Shri Aasif Siddqui from Barabanki were given Letter of Appreciation for their excellent contributions in enhancing fish production by adopting the innovative techniques and tools extended by the institute during the training programmes especially designed for the welfare of the Fishers and Tribal Community.

After inauguration, special lectures on aquaculture related topics and success stories were delivered by the scientists of the institute. Aqua-farmers shared their views and experiences during the session. Visit to the institute farm, hatchery and aquarium has been specially arranged for the visitors.