Hon'ble Minister Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel chaired PM Kisan Utsav Diwas Programme at ICAR-NBFGR, organised in collaboration with Fisheries Department, Govt of Uttar Pradesh

Lucknow, 30 October 2026

ICAR–National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources, Lucknow, organised the *PM Kisan Utsav Diwas Programme,* organised in collaboration with Fisheries Department, Govt of Uttar Pradesh, to mark the release of the 24th instalment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. The programme featured the live webcast of the release of the 24th instalment of the PM-KISAN scheme by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. The event provided an opportunity for farmers to connect with a major national initiative aimed at strengthening farmer welfare and rural prosperity. The programme was graced by the Hon'ble Prof. S. P. Singh Baghel, Union Minister of State, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying and Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India. Hon'ble Minister's visit to ICAR-NBFGR, reflected his continued association with the research Institute and interest in fisheries development and the conservation of aquatic biodiversity. During the visit, the Hon'ble Minister reviewed the progress of various activities undertaken by ICAR-NBFGR and the Department of Fisheries, Government of Uttar Pradesh. He appreciated the efforts and achievements of both institutions in advancing fisheries development, promoting scientific interventions, and supporting the farming and fishing communities. His interaction with the officials and scientists provided an opportunity to review ongoing initiatives and acknowledge the contributions of the institutions towards strengthening the fisheries sector.



Welcoming the Chief Guest and other dignitaries, Dr. Kajal Chakraborty, Director, ICAR-NBFGR, highlighted the significance of the PM-KISAN scheme in providing income support to eligible farmer families and strengthening their economic security. Dr. Chakraborty reiterated ICAR-NBFGR's commitment to the assessment, documentation, conservation, and sustainable utilisation of India's valuable fish genetic resources. Dr. Chakraborty emphasised that agriculture and allied sectors, particularly fisheries and aquaculture, play a vital role in rural livelihoods, food and nutritional security, and the realisation of the vision of *Viksit Bharat*. Dr. Anil Kumar, Joint Director, and Dr. Puneet Kumar, Deputy Director, Fisheries Department, Govt of Uttar Pradesh, highlighted the considerable potential of Uttar Pradesh for the sustainable development of inland fisheries and aquaculture. They emphasised the importance of scientific aquaculture practices, quality fish seed, efficient resource utilisation, fish health management, and the conservation of indigenous fish diversity.



The programme included a stakeholder meeting-cum-awareness session focusing on the PM-KISAN scheme, government welfare initiatives, opportunities for fisheries sector development, and scientific aquaculture management practices in Uttar Pradesh. Dr. Anil Kumar, Joint Director, and Dr. Puneet Kumar, Deputy Director, Department of Fisheries, Government of Uttar Pradesh, along with Dr. S. K. Singh, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NBFGR, contributed to the technical sessions on the designated themes. A key highlight of the programme was the ongoing Khet Bachao Abhiyan, jointly organised by ICAR-NBFGR and Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ICAR–Indian Institute of

Sugarcane Research, Lucknow. The initiative focuses on creating awareness among farmers about soil health, balanced fertiliser use, water conservation, and sustainable agricultural practices. The collaborative efforts of the two ICAR institutions aim to promote the responsible management of natural resources, strengthen farmers' capacities, and encourage environmentally sustainable and productive farming systems. As part of its continued commitment to inclusive development, ICAR-NBFGR also organised a Community Empowerment through Capacity Development and Fishery-Input Distribution Programme under its Scheduled Castes Sub Plan component of ICAR-NBFGR. The initiative aims to strengthen the capacities of targeted communities and promote livelihood opportunities through fisheries-related interventions. A total of 286 farmers participated in the programme, which aimed to promote awareness of government initiatives for farmer welfare, sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, and livelihood enhancement. The participation of 286 farmers and the interaction among policymakers, scientists, government officials, and farming communities underscored the importance of coordinated efforts in translating scientific knowledge and government initiatives into tangible benefits for farmers and fishers.



