

## Community empowerment through participatory approach in the remote areas of Sundarbans by ICAR-NBFGR, Lucknow under SCSP and STC

ICAR-NBFGR, Lucknow under Department of Agriculture Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Govt. of India, organised a *Kisan Mela* cum Awareness Programme under SCSP and STC projects during 20-21 February 2023 covered with demonstration and distribution of fishery inputs to the fishers of remotely located villages in the Sundarbans, West Bengal.

More than 200 fishers of which 60 were women attended the programme. During the programme, the fishery inputs like, live fish seeds of four fish species viz. Rohu, Catla, Mrigal (Indian Major Carps), and Air breathing fish viz. Singhi with fish feed and FRP ornamental fish tanks were distributed to the fish farmers of Amtoli and Sahebkhali villages in the Sundarbans, West Bengal during benign presence of Dr. Uttam Kumar Sarkar, Director, ICAR-NBFGR, Lucknow.

An FRP Carp hatchery at village Amtoli was set up by ICAR-NBFGR for easy availability of the quality fish seeds to the local people.

Dr A K Das, Principal Scientist and Head Reservoir Fishery Division, ICAR-CIFRI, Barrackpore, Mr. Mustafa, Chief Functionary of Hemnagar Sundarban Dream (NGO), Sri. Ranjan Mandal, Gram Pradhan, Amtoli Smt. Suchitra Mandal, Gram Pradhan, Sahebkhali and other local officials were present in the programme and graced the occasion. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Aditya Kumar and Dr. Raghvendra Singh, Scientists from ICAR-NBFGR.

Dr. Sarkar during his presidential address motivated the fish farmers for conservation of the fish biodiversity present in the local areas through participatory approach. The Guest Speaker, Dr A K Das, enlighten the farmers about their livelihood improvement by technology adoption in fisheries and aquaculture. Dr. Aditya Kumar and Dr. Raghvendra Singh briefed the fish farmers about the better aquaculture management practices.

