

Report on “Farmers’ Training Programme” on Scientific Aquaculture Practices held on 21st to 23rd April, 2021 West Bengal

- **Proceedings of the Event:**
 - **Name of the Biotech KISAN Hub and its collaborating Institutes**
DBT Mission Mode Programme Entitled “Establishment of Biotech-KISAN Hub” at West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Sciences at Aspirational districts of WEST BENGAL
 - **Title of the event** “Farmers’ Training Programme” on Scientific Aquaculture Practices.
 - **Date:** 21st to 23rd April, 2021
 - **Venue:** Farmers’ Hostel, Belgachia, Kolkata (Virtual mode)
 - **Meeting link :** Google Meet App link meet.google.com/zyj-mryb-njd live steaming in YouTube with following links
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChQKD16EQtTsPhem118kBIA?view_as=subscriber
 - **Total Number of Participants**
134 fish farmers (Male-63, female-71) of West Bengal participated in the training programme. **97** farmers from aspirational district (Nadia, Murshidabad, Birbhum, Maldahh and South Dinajpur)
 - **Invited Guests**
 - 1) Prof Chanchal Guha, Vice Chancellor, WBUAFS
 - 2) Mrs. Radha Ashrit, Statistical Advisor, DBT, Govt. of India.
 - 3) Prof Gayaprasad, Identified Mentor of Biotech Kisan, WBUAFS and Former Vice Chancellor, SVBPUAT, Merut, UP.
 - 4) Prof. Bipul Kumar Das, Director of Research, Extension and Farms (Actg), West Bengal University of Animal and Fisheries Sciences.
 - 5) Dr Sourav Chandra, Registrar (Actg), West Bengal University of Animal and Fisheries Sciences.
 - **Invited Experts**
 - 1) Dr. Surya Kanta Sahu, Assistant Professor, Department of Aquaculture, WBUAFS.
 - 2) Dr. Satabdi Das, Scientist (Selection Grade), WBUAFS
 - 3) Mr. Sutanu Karmakar, Assistant Professor, Dept. Of Aquatic Environment Management, WBUAFS
 - 4) Dr. Golam Ziauddin, Assistant Professor, Department of Fisheries Resource Management, WBUAFS
 - 5) Sri. Asim Giri, Project Staff (Young Professional II), Biotech KISAN Hub.
 - 6) Dr Paromita Dasgupta, Project Staff (Young Professional II), Biotech KISAN Hub.
 - 7) Dr. Swaranadhuti Nath, Assistant Professor, Dept. Of Fish Processing Technology< WBUAFS
 - 8) Mr. Anindya Nayak, Subject Matter Specialist (Fishery), KVK, Asokenagar, WBUAFS.
 - 9) Dr. Soumyadip Purkait, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Fishery Economics & Statistics, WBUAFS.
 - 10) Prof. Tapas Kumar Ghosh, Professor, Dept. of Aquaculture< WBUAFS

- **Brief about the programme**

Fisheries and aquaculture remain important sources of food, nutrition, income, economic prosperity and livelihoods for people around the West Bengal where extensive fish market is available. Besides meeting the domestic needs, the dependence of over 10.5 million people of West Bengal due to non-availability of quality fish seed and lack of scientific culture know-how. To mitigate the problem capacity building of fish farmers of West Bengal with suitable curriculum including Nursery and Rearing Pond Management, Induce Breeding and Hatchery Management, Biofloc Fish Farming, Conservation of Indigenous Fish, management of Fish Diseases, and Value Addition of Fish Products through the expert faculty members of the University.. Such training programme increases knowledge and skills for doing aquaculture and thus it bridges the gap between needs and skills,



knowledge and behaviour. DBT, Govt. of India funded Mission Mode programme, Biotech KISAN Hub, WBUAFS has completed another activity for development of the farming community by completing a successful three-day farmers' training program with small and marginal farmers from five Aspirational districts (Maldah, Murshidabad,

Nadia, Birbhum and Dakshin Dinajpur) of West Bengal through online mode. Fish farmers around the world as well as West Bengal also suffer a lot in this COVID-19 pandemic situation due to a lack of proper guidance for aquaculture. In order to solve their problem, Biotech KISAN Hub reaches them via online mode and also introduces those with modern techniques through the knowledge of renowned University experts and KVKs. A total of 134 farmers attended the training program, with 97 farmers from aspirational districts of West Bengal and rest from other parts of the State. In those 134 farmers, 97 were from aspirational districts (Nadia (18), Maldah(20), Murshidabad(21), Birbhum(22) and Dakshin Dinajpur(16)) while 90 female farmers and 44 male farmers were present.

- **Quotes of Guests attending the event**

At the beginning of the training programme, Dr. K.C. Dhara P.I of the project welcome all dignitaries in the virtual mode especially the farmers' of West Bengal who are in distressed condition due to COVID 19 pandemic situation. Dr. Radha Ashrit, Statistical Advisor of DBT, Govt. of India emphasized the role this farmers' centric mission mode programme Bio-Tech KISAN Hub to reach the unreached area of all the 16 agro climatic zone of the country which creates a great impact among the farming community of the countries. She assures that this programme will continue for the benefit of all the farmers especially of Aspirational districts of the

State and country. Addressing in the inauguration of training programme, Prof. Gaya Prasad, former Vice Chancellor of SVBPUAT, Meerut and Identified mentor of this centre expressed his high level of satisfaction about the activities carried under this Hub for livelihood generation of the farmers particularly the farm women of the remote part of West Bengal. Prof. B. K. Das, DREF, WBUAFS told that the scientific aquaculture practice is the need of the hour among the fish farmers. Dr. Sourav Chandra, Register WBUAFS expressed his high level of satisfaction to



organizing such type of training programme in routine manner. Inaugurating the training programme, Hon'ble Voice Chancellor of WBUAFS, Prof. Chanchal Guha expressed his high Level of satisfaction for such activities of benefited the distressed farming community who have faced a serious problem due to COVID 19 pandemic situation. He also said that, this novel endeavour will help in effective entrepreneurship development through improved Aquaculture practices. In view of commemorate the 75 years of Independence of India a series of activities taken by Biotech KISAN Hub team will certainly boost up the farmers. Sri Asim Giri, Young Profession II of the Project give formal vote thanks and assured that the team Biotech KISAN Hub will extend their all cooperation to the distressed farmers of the state.

- **Quotes of speakers and experts attending the event**

As per the course curriculum formulated by the expert and local need of the fish farmers the renowned experts of the University experts and KVKs has delivered their lecture accordingly. Dr. Satabdi Das, Scientist (Selection Grade), WBUAFS described about management of Nursery and Rearing Pond for better fish production. Considering the demand of the fish farmers, Dr. Golam Ziauddin, Assistant Professor, Department of Fisheries Resource Management, WBUAFS delivered his lecture on Biofloc Fish Farming in a lucid manner. Importance of Integrated Fish Farming for effective entrepreneurship development was described by Dr. Surya Kanta Sahu, Assistant Professor, Department of Aquaculture,

WBUAFS. Air Breathing Fish Culture and its importance in livelihood development was narrated by Mr. Sutanu Karmakar, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Aquatic Environment Management, WBUAFS. Mr. Asim Kumar Giri, Young Professional-II of Biotech KISAN hub had gave an outline of Polyculture of Fish while Dr. Paramita Dasgupta(Das), Young Professional-II described about management of Freshwater Fish Diseases. Mr. Anindya Nayak, Subject Matter Specialist (Fishery), KVK, Asokenagar, WBUAFS had gave an idea about Induce Breeding and Hatchery Management of Deshi Magur, Singhi& Koi. Ornamental Fish Culture and Trade for effective entrepreneurship development had been described by Prof. Tapas Kumar Ghosh, Professor, Dept. of Aquaculture, WBUAFS. The matter about value Addition of Fish Products was trained by Dr. Swaranadhuti Nath, Assistant Professor, Dept. Of Fish Processing Technology which created enthusiasm among the farm women. In view of effective entrepreneurship development, Bankable Projects in Fisheries was told by Dr. Soumyadip Purkait, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Fishery Economics & Statistics, WBUAFS. Dr. K.C. Dhara P.I of the project described about formation of FIG and FPO.

- **Quotes of beneficiaries attending the event**

Participated in the training programme, **Mr SARIFUDDIN SK**, a Migrant Labour who have lost his work due to COVID 19 Pandemic want to be a fish farmers of Malda(16 mile Rural Development Society, KALIACHAK-III Bamongola, Malda) a progressive



fish farmer expressed need of training on Scientific Aquaculture practice to cope up their livelihood through fish farming. Mr Basukinath Gupta, a progressive fish farmer of South Dinajpur (Buridighi, Gangarampur Block, South Dinajpur) expressed his happiness over the course curriculam which will helpful for aqua farming. Another Bio tech registered farmer Mrs. Maslema Bibi of Murshidabad (Sekhpara, Bhagawangola-1, Murshidabad) urged that such programme should be continued in periodical manner.