

Report on “Farmers’ Interactive Meet” on Scientific Aquaculture Practices held on 19th April, 2021 at Nakashipara and Santipur, Nadia, 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’ Interactive Meet” on Scientific Aquaculture Practices
- **Date:** 19 April, 2021
- **Venue:** Nakashipara & Santipur Block, Nadia (Physical)
- **Total Number of Participants**
64 fish farmers (Male-24, female-40) of nearby villages of Nakashipara and Santipur Blocks of Nadia District of West Bengal participated in the meet
- **Invited Experts**
 - 1) Dr Sarikul Islam, Astd Director of Govt of West Bengal
 - 2) Dr. Shyam Sundar Kesh, Co-PI, Biotech KISAN Hub, West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Sciences.
 - 3) Dr. Surya Kanta Sahu, Assistant Professor, Department of Aquaculture, WBUAFS
 - 4) Dr. Golam Ziauddin, Assistant Professor, Department of Fisheries Resource Management, WBUAFS
 - 5) Project Staff (Young Professional II)

- **Brief about the programme**

An interactive meet, with Fish Farmers was organized by DBT Mission Mode Programme Entitled “Established of Biotech-KISAN Hub” at West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Sciences, held on 19th April, 2021 at Nadia District, West Bengal. This interactive meeting with the fish farmers of Nadia districts aimed at highlighting the unlimited unharessed potentiality of development of aquaculture sector in West Bengal, Nadia district in particular for creating opportunities for employment generation, contribution to the food and



nutrition security and overall economic upliftment. Face to face meeting to solve the problems faced by fish farmers, hands on training on different advanced technology like use of divided dose of lime, identification of fish diseases, management of nursery and rearing pond and aquaponics etc at the farmers field involving the resourced faculties of the University creates great level of satisfaction among the fish farmers particularly farm women for scientific aquaculture. Thus

the idea of development of aquaculture fisheries and allied sectors will boost rural economy of the area.

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

During the interactive meet, with Fish Farmers **Dr. Sarikul Islam**, Astd Director of Govt of West Bengal and one of the mentor of local FPO, **Krishnagar Agriculture & Livestock Producers Organization** appreciated the efforts of Biotech KISAN Hub for arranging such successful farmer's interactive meet which is needful for the farmers during the pandemic situation. **Dr. Surya Kanta Sahu**, Assistant Professor, Department of Aquaculture, WBUAFS given the idea that the scientific management of nursery and rearing pond and balanced fish feed will make farmers' income double within 2 to 3 years of practice. He also emphasised for arranging such farmer's interactive meet in periodical manner. **Dr. Golam Ziauddin**, Assistant Professor, Department of Fisheries Resource Management, WBUAFS addressed the problems faced by the fish farmers through face to face deliberation. He also said that this periodical interaction with the farmers to help scientists and line departments to understood the actual need of the farmers and help them for linking with the consumers. **Dr. Shyam Sundar Kesh**, Co-PI, Biotech KISAN Hub, West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Sciences, give formal vote of thanks and briefed about the programme being operational in five aspirational districts of West Bengal for the benefit of fish farmers.

- **Quotes of beneficiaries attending the event**

Participated in the meet, **Smt. Ashalata Das**, (Village- Champatala, Block- Santipur) a progressive fish farmer from village Champatala informed that she along with some other farmers from her village who attended several virtual training programmes organized by Biotech KISAN Hub, West Bengal University of Animal & Fishery Sciences, has formed a self help group of 11 persons who are involved in production of IMC (Indian Major Carp) and arrange its marketing and supply in nearby town. She shared her success story with other farmers who attended the meet. However she expressed need of timely transport system and proper organizational support to develop such activity on a sustained basis.

