

ICAR-Indian Institute of Water Management

Bhubaneswar-751023, Odisha

Observation of **National Productivity Week** (12-18 February 2019)

ICAR-IIWM observed the National Productivity Week during 12-18 February 2019 with the theme- Circular Economy for Productivity and Sustainability. Four separate events were organized on different dates to mark the occasion. Dr.H.K. Dash, principal scientist, Dr. D. Sethi and Mr. P. Deb Roy, scientists coordinated the events of National Productivity Week.

I. Observation of National Productivity Day at ICAR-IIWM (Date: 12 February 2019)

A meeting was organised in the committee room of ICAR-IIWM in afternoon of 12.02.2019 to observe National Productivity Day. Scientific, technical, administrative and research staff of the institute participated in the meeting which was chaired by the Director, Dr.S.K. Ambast. At the outset Dr. H.K Dash, Principal scientist, welcomed the participants and gave a brief account of the National Productivity Day and the importance of circular economy towards increasing productivity and sustainability. Thereafter, programme leaders, principal scientists and scientists, research scholars and officials from administration shared their thoughts on improving productivity at different level. Discussion focused mainly on two areas - improving organizational productivity and enhancing productivity and sustainability of agriculture. On improving organizational productivity, the speakers discussed on various constraints that affect productivity and underlined the need for devising a simple framework to assess and improve productivity at individual level which would ultimately contribute to system productivity. The importance of regular training, proper infrastructure and good organizational climate in productivity enhancement of individuals at institutional level was also emphasized. On productivity and sustainability of agriculture, speakers emphasised on role of technologies and policies in conserving the natural resources, and improving their productivity in diverse agro-ecological situations. The scope of adopting 'reduce- recycle- regenerate' approach and issues related to resource conservation and use of renewable energy in agriculture were also discussed. Strategic human resource development in agriculture was also emphasized to ensure awareness, expertise and exposure of the farmers towards achieving higher productivity in a sustainable manner. Dr. S.K. Ambast, Director ICAR-IIWM, spoke on pathways to improve research productivity while maintaining the quality of research and role of administration thereof. He shared some good practices of resource re-use, and urged the scientists to work together for enhancing productivity of agricultural system in sustainable manner in view of limiting natural resources and

ever increasing demand for food. Dr.D.Sethi, Scientist, briefed the participants about the activities planned for National Productivity Week and proposed the vote of thanks.



II. Farmers' training programme in Balipatna block (Date: 15 February 2019)

A demonstration-cum-training programme on vermicomposting was organized at Bhakar Sahi village of Balipatana block production on 15.2.2019. About 50 farmers participated in the training programme. A Vermicompost making bed made of 450 GSM Tarpaulin sheet with dimension 12ft x4ftx2ft was used. The bed had air circulation mesh at its side and an orifice for collection of vermi-wash. Scientists of ICAR-IIWM gave detailed demonstration on filling the vermicomposting pit with locally available materials. The bed was installed under the shade of trees with gentle slope to drain excess water. Moist straw was used as bedding material. Partially decomposed cow dung, dry leaves and chopped straw were used layer by layer to fill up. Appropriate moisture condition was created by sprinkling water. Adequate number of African variety of earthworms was released in the bed. Moist gunny bags were used to cover the materials. Participants were also sensitized about the importance of National Productivity Week. Lectures were also delivered on micro irrigation, improving and maintaining soil health, increasing water productivity with sustainable approach, etc. Queries of farmers on different aspects of agriculture were also addressed. Vermicompost was perceived as a valuable technology by the farmers. Scientists of ICRA-IIWM - Dr. S.K.Rautray, Dr.H.K.Dash, Dr.S.Mohanty, Dr.D.Sethi and Mr. P. Deb Roy -were the resource persons in the programme.



III. Farmer-scientist interface meeting in Hansapada (Date: 16 February 2019)

As a part of the awareness campaign on National Productivity Week, a farmer-scientist interface on 'improving agricultural productivity and sustainability through efficient resource management' was organized in Hansapada village of Nimapara block in Puri district. Considering the context of the locality, two topics- management of ground water resources, management of homestead resources in improving agriculture productivity and sustainability were discussed. On ground water management, issues related to consequences of over-exploitation of ground water, on-farm loss of irrigation water in rice cultivation and methods to reduce the loss, and benefits of micro-irrigation in improving water productivity and related government schemes were discussed. On homestead resource management, scientists discussed the scope for use of homestead land, use and reuse of household resources including livestock resources and multiple use of pond in enhancing productivity. The direct and indirect contribution of the judicious use and reuse of resources to Swatchh Bharat Abhiyan (SBA) was also discussed. Few participants also shared their experiences on changing scenario of ground water in the locality, constraints and success in adoption of new cropping sequences and problems in availing government support services. Sixty-five men and women farmers from five nearby villages attended the programme. ICAR-IIWM Scientists - Dr. P.Panigrahi, Dr. D.Sethi and Dr. H.K.Dash were the resource persons in the programme.



IV. Awareness programme for school students (Date: 18 February 2019)

An awareness programme on National productivity week was organized at the Saraswati Sishu Vidya Mandir, Niladri Vihar, Bhubaneswar, on 18.2.2019. About 150 students participated in the programme. In the beginning, the participating students were given an understanding about productivity and sustainability and their importance for holistic development of agriculture and the economy. Scientists of IIWM discussed topics related overexploitation natural resource resources and its negative consequences for the society, scope of using renewable resources in agriculture and

households, reuse and recycling of resources and rainwater harvesting. Students were sensitized to spread the message of ‘reduce and reuse polythene bags’ and ‘save water’ amongst fellow friends and general public. ICAR-IIWM scientists- Dr.H.K.Dash, Dr.P.K.Panda, Dr.D.Sethi and Mr. P. Deb Roy acted as resource persons for the programme. Shri Kedarnath Sethi, the Pradhan Acharya of the school was also present on the occasion.


