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KIMBERLEY'S WEDDING PLAN

Singer Kimberley Walsh plans an 'intimate' wedding with Cheryl Fernandez and Sarah Harding as bridesmaids

GLITTERATI P10



PRADEEP SEEKS CLEAN CHIT

Agri minister Pradeep Maharathy tells Justice PK Mohanty panel that he was at Umerkote when 'Pipli gangrape' occurred

DOWNTOWN P3



TAIWAN'S FIRST WOMAN PREZ

Tsai Ing-wen of Taiwan's opposition party becomes first female President in a landslide victory

INTERNATIONAL P12

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 287 | www.orissapost.com

BHUBANESWAR | SUNDAY, JANUARY 17 | 2016

16 PAGES + SUNDAY POST | ₹ 4.00

Modern cultivation tech discussed

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, Jan 16: A national symposium on 'Innovations in coastal agriculture – current status and potential under changing environment' was organised in the city Saturday with the participation of many experts.

The brainstorming session organised by the ICAR-Indian Institute of Water Management, Bhubaneswar, in collaboration with Indian Society of Coastal Agricultural Research (ISCAR), Canning Town, West Bengal, focused on research and policy issues. It was attended by around 200 delegates and researchers from different parts of the country, who discussed ways to improve productivity of coastal areas through innovative crop, soil and water management.

Monaranjan Kar, Vice-Chancellor of OUAT, Bhubaneswar, emphasised the importance of the coastal region to provide food security. He also emphasised the need for close collaboration and linkage among sister ICAR institutes and state

agriculture universities to solve the problem through concerted efforts.

AK Bandopadhyaya, former director of ICAR-CARI, Port Blair, said: "Coastal areas are less than 10 metres above the mean sea level and constitute 2 per cent of global area, but they affect 10 per cent of global population. Proper scientific planning is required to remove water logging conditions, and the scientific community needs to solve the problems of coastal agriculture through multi-disciplinary approach, which includes development of salinity and water logging-tolerant rice varieties, land management and proper drainage among other interventions."

DK Sharma, director of ICAR-Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana, discussed some of the technology interventions like land shaping, development of water logging- and salt-resistant varieties and also emphasised ways to refine the technology as per the need to suit the socio-economic condition of farmers in coastal areas.