

PREFACE

Agriculture sector in India faces severe challenges in the form of natural disasters like cyclones resulting in crop damage and poor crop productivity. At the same time, we have to feed the evergrowing human population to ensure food security. This necessitates us to develop a multi-pronged and integrated long term cyclone management. Preventive, mitigation and preparedness measures are equally important as response and rehabilitation measures. This will address the cyclone prone ecosystems in coastal areas which account for 8% of total area in India. Keeping these points in consideration, a one week short course on “Management of cyclone disaster in agriculture sector in coastal areas” is being organized by Directorate of Water Management (NRM division, ICAR) at Bhubaneswar.

Important topics related to cyclone disaster management such as concept of disaster management, integrated approach for cyclone risk mitigation, engineering, soil and crop management interventions for cyclone prone areas, subsurface water harvesting structures for cyclone affected areas and impact of cyclone on socio-economic condition of farming community have been covered during this short course. These topics have been compiled in the form of a training manual. This would be of immense use to various stake holders like researchers, policymakers, government functionaries and academicians in the field of cyclone disaster management. We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to Dr. A.K.Sikka, Hon’ble Deputy Director General (NRM) and Dr. S.K. Chaudhari, Assistant Director General (SWM) for extending their valuable guidance for smooth organization of short course.

Editors