

## Press note

### **New India Manthan: Sankalp Se Sidhi programme organized at the College of Fisheries, CAU (I)**

The New India Manthan: Sankalp Se Sidhi programme was organized by the College of Fisheries, Central Agricultural University (I), Lembucherra, Tripura in collaboration with ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Tripura Centre, Lembucherra, Tripura on 24<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 in the college auditorium in presence of two Hon'ble Members of Legislative Assembly (MLA) of the state of Tripura to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Quit India Movement. On this occasion, an inclusive pledge for building a new India and doubling agriculture income by 2022 was taken by the august congregation of about 140 farmers from different parts of Tripura, in addition to more than 100 students and research scholars, and about 40 faculties and scientists. Two kisan films comprising of message from Hon'ble prime Minister were also screened to sensitize and inspire the farmers.

Addressing the gathering, the chief guest, Shri Ratan Lal Nath, Hon'ble MLA, Mohanpur constituency, drew the attention of the house to prevailing not so-impressive standing of the country in the global arena with respect to corruption, peace and agricultural productivity. He called for change in attitude and co-operation from all the stakeholders including academic and research institutions to realize the pledge. Further, special guest of the function, Shri Haricharan Sarkar, Hon'ble MLA, Bamutia constituency while appreciating the initiative, drew particular attention to two specific difficulties faced by the farmers in terms of natural calamities and debt burden from private money lenders often leading to farmers' suicide. He also called for greater cooperation and coordination between government functionaries and academia to fulfil the Sankalp.

In his expert lecture on the occasion, Dr. Pramod Kumar Pandey, Dean, College of Fisheries, CAU, Lembucherra highlighted the stride made by the country towards attaining the self-sufficiency in agricultural production. At the same time, he further substantiated the importance of the comprehensive seven point strategy of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare that would bring the visionary idea into reality by the year 2022. He also appraised the house about the important government schemes like Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Food Security Mission and Prime Minister Fasal Bima Yojana, Gokul mission, etc. which have been launched to improve the overall income of the farmers. In this regard, he specifically pointed out the need to adopt various region specific integrated farming models to achieve extra income benefit apart from negotiating the loss of entire crop due to mono-cropping.

Earlier, the programme started with welcome address by Dr. K. K. Barman, Principal Scientist, ICAR Research complex for NEH Region, Tripura Centre during which he briefed the situations faced by the farmers and urged the gathering to take a convergent action in doubling their income through the various schemes launched. The vote of thanks was proposed by Prof. Ratan K. Saha, College of Fisheries, CAU, Lembucherra.

The programme ended with singing of National Anthem by the august gathering.