



From Vice-Chancellor's Desk ...

Reversing Rurbanisation Trend Through Agriculture Centric Trade and Commerce

Migration of youth from rural to urban areas has impacted current village ecology, economy, demography and social fabric and future of Assam in the following ways:

- ❑ Selling off or leasing out ancestral village agricultural lands to buy a job in urban areas, enjoy urban life thus signalling impending imbalance in land - man ratio; demographic pattern change, over exploitation of available resources and less and lesser people in agriculture- ringing thereby the alarm bell for sustainability.
- ❑ As young ones are moving, agriculture centric livelihood option has been hit badly which has led to increased labour cost on one hand and productivity decline on the other resulting in non-remunerative return from the investment made and therefore increased dependence on governmental schemes and help.
- ❑ And this has happened at a time when the country needs to produce around 100 million tonnes of more food by 2030, when food prices are escalating every passing day, when questions are being asked about the quality of food that we eat, when the issue of capturing a sizeable percentage of global food business (more than 10 percent) is being explored and when all aspects leading to creation of more jobs/ more livelihood options in the sector is being examined.

It is an irony that when corporate giants like Reliance are embracing agriculture in peri-urban and some in rural areas, actual land owners are gradually walking away from agriculture in search of a rather more hectic life in urban cities. There is no denial of the fact that future money lies in agriculture sector as food will have to be continuously produced, supplied and exchanged. How best then we allure the youths to this future money bank?

I personally think and believe that 21st century is the most opportune time for our young generation to benefit from the avocation called agriculture which includes animal husbandry and fisheries - more so for the youths in non-green revolution areas. This is the time for corporatisation of agriculture or transforming traditional agriculture to factory farming mode, a time to approach farming in a consortium mode linking several small holder farmers or their lands for

pursuing commercial agriculture, machine operated agriculture with the creation of a support base to store the produce in improved granaries, release them selectively to market avoiding peak season low price sale. This sector will also facilitate the growth of secondary business sectors to support farm sector.

The youths who have ancestral cultivable land or the youths who can purchase and access such lands must look at his land from the point of view of a business house/ establishment. Any business house will have to develop a linkage with both his back end suppliers and forward end consumers. Similarly, in agriculture too, the youth will have to develop a linkage chain with basic input suppliers, namely the seed supplier, farm machinery and power suppliers, fertilizer suppliers, water suppliers and the likes. Unless one has this linkage, profit will be eluding him because a good harvest will demand good care while the crop fields are pregnant.

In a consortium approach, one group of youth could take up quality seed production business - be it crop, animal or fish seed, another group could support crop production with fertilizer production business - the bio-fertilizers for crop, animal and fish feed/ fodder production including the mineral mixtures, the 3rd group could find business in bio-pesticide production to support organic agriculture, the 4th group may opt for manufacturing of farm implements suited to local needs, yet another group could take up food packaging business and so on. Youths in areas like North Eastern region need to realise that someone like them are in these business elsewhere in the country to support our agriculture, some youths elsewhere in the country are not as lucky as the youths of the region to avail the likely benefit from the upcoming organic food production trade or to capture the "To be Soon Unfolded" benefit from the Act East policy of Government of India through agriculture centric business particularly through "Make in North East" speciality agri-products. If our youths do not come forward now, the region - specially the state of Assam will have to satisfy itself by being mere onlookers to the agri-trade and business



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“Norman Borlaug Chair in International Agriculture” to AAU Scientist

In a rare pursuit of excellence, an agricultural scientist from Assam Agricultural University professor Bidyut Kumar Sarmah has been awarded by the Indian Council for Agricultural Research, New Delhi with the prestigious Norman Borlaug Chair. Dr. Sarmah, Director, DBT-AAU Centre and Professor, Department of Agricultural Biotechnology of AAU was nominated



by the honourable Vice Chancellor, AAU for this honour for his pioneering research in conferring insect resistance in grain legumes using Bt-genes. Prof. Sarmah is also a known name in the field of agricultural

biotechnology research in India for developing insect-resistant Bt-chickpea which is in the process of deregulation through confined field trials. Prof. Sarmah has been working in the line of gene technology for legume improvement for last almost two decades and has successfully conducted several international and national collaborative researches obtaining funds from the McKnight Foundation USA, Indo-Swiss Biotechnology Research programmes, Indo-Australian strategic Research Fund, DBT, Govt. of India, NSF, ICAR etc. The rare honour has been bestowed on him for the impact of his research in Indian as well as international agriculture. Prof. Sarmah will hold the chair as a "National Professor" initially for a period of five years and will receive a grant of Rs. 2.5 crores for conducting research on "Development of cisgenic chickpea resistant to pod borers". Prof. Sarmah is the first agricultural scientist from north eastern India to have been selected for this honour.

It is worth mentioning that apart from several national and international recognitions, Prof. Sarmah has been currently acting as member of four important Expert committees/Task Force of Dept of Biotechnology, Govt. of India and serving as editorial board member of two leading International Journals of plant sciences.

Regional Review Meeting of GKMS and FASAL

Two-day long Regional Review Meeting of Gramin Krishi Mausam Sewa (GKMS) and Forecasting Agricultural Output using Space, Agrometeorology and Land-based Observations (FASAL) scheme operating in NE region of



India was held at HRS, Kahikuchi, Guwahati during March 4-5, 2016. The inaugural session was chaired by Dr. G. N. Hazarika, DR (Agri), AAU, Jorhat. Dr. Sanjay O, Neil Shaw, DDGM, Regional Meteorological Centre, Guwahati addressed the gathering. Dr A. Chakrabarty, DR (Vety), AAU, Khanapara also spoke on the occasion. The inaugural session was ended with the vote of thanks offered by Dr P. Neog, joint organizing Secretary and Nodal Officer, AMFU Sonitpur. The inaugural session was followed by three Technical sessions where besides the invited lectures by experts, the activities and future needs of GKMS and FASAL projects in NE region were presented and discussed in detail.

Skill Development for Small Tea Growers

For attaining skills in quality tea production and safer ways of using agro-chemicals in their plantation, sixteen field trainings were organized under the project 'Capacity Building of Small Tea Growers of Assam' sponsored by Directorate of Tea, Govt. of Assam. The trainings were organized at various locations of Dibrugarh, Nagoan, Dima Hasao, Sivasagar, Jorhat, Golaghat, Sonitpur, Tinsukia, Udalguri, and Lakhimpur districts during January to March, 2016. More than 1700 small tea growers were sensitized through this programme. One 'Institutional training' of 7 days duration was also organized in the department where 28 small tea growers from Karbi Anglong, Dima Hasao, Nagaon, Golaghat and Jorhat District participated. The growers were trained on bringing up of young tea, pruning, skiffing, manuring and plant protection in tea cultivation besides tea manufacturing.



SPECIAL FEATURES

Workshop on 'Fisheries and Aquaculture Response in Emergencies'

A Regional workshop on 'Fisheries and Aquaculture Response in Emergencies' was organized by ICAR-CIFE at Fisheries Research Centre, Assam Agriculture University, Jorhat during March 10-12, 2016 as per the recommendations of FAOs Emergency Response and Guidance in Fisheries and Aquaculture. The aim of the workshop was to raise awareness among the diverse stakeholders of the NE Region about the vulnerability of the sector, current frameworks for response and the need to be better preparedness through appropriate trainings.



Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, AAU, Jorhat, Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah, graced the inaugural programme of the Workshop as Chief Guest. In his inaugural speech, Dr. Bujarbaruah appreciated the efforts of CIFE Mumbai and opined that the damage caused by flood and drought like situation in fisheries sector of North-East region need to be assessed and steps to be taken to address the issue and to aware people about mitigation and coping up strategies.

Dr. Arpita Sharma, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIFE and Co-ordinator of the programme acted as the key resource person of the programme. Dr. Bibha Chetia Borah, Incharge, FRC gave an overview of the coping up strategies with reference to flood in the North Eastern states. Dr. P.P. Srivastava, Principal Scientist and Nodal Officer, NEH region, ICAR-CIFE and Dr. Rupam Sharma, Principal Scientist presented the activities undertaken by ICAR-CIFE specially for NEH region. The workshop was attended by 33 participants representing various Govt. and Non-Govt. organizations of the Region.

Horticultural Show & Competition

The 28th Horticultural Show & Competition was organized by the Department of Horticulture, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat on February 10, 2016. There were participants from Hajo (Kamrup), Titabar, Sorupothar, Kaziranga, Bokakhat, Golaghat, Tezpur,



Sibsagar and Jorhat. Altogether 415 participants contested in the events of different sections as : Vegetable (61), Fruits (33), Flower (212), Product (101). Eight nurseries also participated in the show. The ELP students of the University exhibited and marketed their products in the show. The show was inaugurated by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Dr K.M. Bujarbaruah. The prize distribution ceremony was chaired by Dr D.K.Bora, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, AAU, Jorhat.

Stake holder's interface on Horticulture

A Stake holder's interface on "Fruits and vegetable processing sector of Assam" was organized by Department of Horticulture, AAU, Jorhat on March 19 2016 in which farmers/ entrepreneurs of the region exchanged views with the scientists about different problems faced by them. The issue of continuous availability of raw material



was discussed and need for developing an entire village to grow the specific crop for continuous availability of the product was suggested.

VC'S DESK...

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captured by countries like China using our state corridor as food dumping station only. It is therefore, time now and only now that we wake up and take the opportunity head on to create a better and brighter tomorrow not by moving away from this green gold profession called agriculture but by technologically and skilfully utilizing the fertile natural resources of the region to double the food production.

It is of course important that the government provides urban amenities in rural areas - the concept of PURA advocated by our late President, Dr. Abdul Kalamji. Agriculture will have to be backed by good roads, schools/colleges, hospitals, water, primary and secondary markets, skill upgrading institutions, crop loss coverage schemes, banking services *et al.* There is also a need to review continuation of schemes like MNREGA which, paradoxically, have only encouraged non-work culture, though such schemes were conceptually well designed. We are fortunate that a proactive government is in place but their proactiveness will eventually be judged from their support to the sector which, if extended rightfully covering the above and other related areas, agriculture will be a much sought after livelihood option by our youths.

While exploring agriculture in a business mode, the youth will have to keep in mind that a shop owner keeps his shop open round the year but in many places like the state of Assam, agricultural shops are kept closed for about 5-6 months. Half a year you do not operate but expect one year sale like that of the shop owner? Land is finite and therefore its optimum use is necessary - like we have started multi-storied building in place of earlier Assam Type houses which demanded more land, we have to embrace multi-storied agriculture, one crop after the other in the same plot thus shifting towards multi-storied crop husbandry.

We are ready to aid and assist the youths for starting "Start Up" agricultural business, either singly or in a partnership mode with other concerned agencies to fine polish the IMAGE of the youths through agriculture where I in image will be Innovative spirit and Innovation; M will be Mastery development in the art of Agri-business for producing A - abundant food through G - gainful employment which will lead to E - evolving continuously the newer and sustainable methods of farming countering the vulnerabilities that confront the sector from time to time.



(K M Bujarbaruah)

Academic/Administrative

Enhancement of Scholarship

The Board of Management, AAU approved increase in State Merit Scholarship on per month basis from Rs. 500/- to Rs. 1000/- for UG students; from Rs. 1,200/ to Rs. 1,600/ for PG students and from Rs.1,600 to Rs. 2,000/ for Ph.D. students subject to the absorption capacity of the University from next financial year.

Opening up of College of Dairy Sci. & Technol.

The Board of Management, AAU gave its approval to establish the College of Dairy Science & Technology, since the government has communicated its clearance. The Board, however, desired that the Chairman ensures faculty and other positions and the finance.

Important meetings attended by the Vice-Chancellor

- Attended Bharatiya Vidarthi Parishad meeting at Guwahati on Jan 4, 2016
- Attended Annual Vice Chancellor's Conference and Interface meeting at New Delhi on Jan 22-23, 2016
- Attended 6th Annual National Conclave of Indian Student Parliament (Bharatiya Chhatra Sansad), Pune on Jan 29, 2016
- Attended Research Advisory Committee (XXI Meeting) of National Institute of Animal Nutrition & Physiology, Bangalore on Feb 2-3, 2016
- Attended SDG Meeting, Guwahati on Feb 11, 2016
- Attended Microbiology Workshop, Khanapara on Feb 12, 2016
- Attended meeting of ATARI, Guwahati on Feb 13, 2016
- Attended Assam Krishi Unnayan Mela at Guwahati on Feb 14, 2016
- Attended a meeting of Milk Union of Sitajakhala, Jagiroad on Feb 17, 2016
- Attended QRT meeting at Hisar on Feb 18-19, 2016
- Attended meeting of KASS and Orchid India at North Lakhimpur on Feb 24, 2016
- Attended SAC meeting of KVK Dhubri and Bongaigaon on Feb 29, 2016
- Attended BOM meeting at Guwahati on Mar 1, 2016
- Attended SAC meeting of KVK Tinsukia and Dibrugarh on Mar 5, 2016
- Attended SAC meeting at KVK Kamrup and Nalbari on Mar 11, 2016
- Attended meeting of NRC-Pig, Rani on Mar 14, 2016



Foundation Day of College of Fisheries

College of Fisheries, AAU, Raha celebrated its 28th Foundation Day on March 7, 2016 with a daylong programme. The programme commenced with hoisting of College Flag by the Dean (i/c) Dr. K. K. Tamuli in presence of all students, faculty members and office staff. Senior faculty members also shared their nostalgic moments associated with the College during this occasion. To commemorate the occasion, a plantation programme was also organized in the College campus.

Celebration of World Water Day

The World Water Day was celebrated on March 22, 2016 by AICRP on Irrigation Water Management in collaboration with KVK, Nalbari at village Panigaon. In a day long programme with the presence of more than 100 nos of farmers, rural youth and woman from different parts of Nalbari district was addressed by Dr. R.K. Thakuria, Chief Scientist of AICRP on Irrigation Water Management., Dr. M.

D e k a ,
Programme
C o -
ordinator
and Mrs.
Juli Sarma,
SMS(Hort)
of KVK,
Nalbari
and Sri J.
H a l o i ,
President,



District Pathar Parichalana Samittee, Nalbari. Besides discussion on this year theme "Water for Jobs"; saving of water in irrigated agriculture and in domestic utilization was highlighted. Towards the end of the programme an interactive session was held for addressing the problems and issues raised by the participating members.

Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting organized by KVK, Baksa

The newly established Krishi Vigyan Kendra under AAU at Dhepargaon, Baksa organised the SAC meeting for the first time at Circuit House, D.C. Office of Baksa District on March 2, 2016. Dr H.C.Bhattacharyya, DEE, AAU, Jorhat chaired the meeting and explained the objectives of holding SAC meeting to the house. Dr U. J. Sarma, PC, KVK, Baksa welcome the special invitee and members present in the meeting and presented the result of work done in the year 2015-16 and also the action plan for the year 2016-17 of KVK, Baksa for directives/suggestion from the house

to formulate and execute the action plan properly. Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner of Baksa District, Mr.



M. Hazarika also grace the occasion as a special invitee. Dr B. C. Deka, Director, ATARI, Zone-III, ICAR, Barapani, Meghalaya suggested DAO to synergize their work with KVK and also ask to utilize 10% of their flagship budget with KVK and also request to Deputy Commissioner to provide fund of MLA, MP to the KVK for development of farming community of the district as KVK funds are very limited.

ACHIEVEMENT

- * Dr Bidyut Kumar Sarmah, Director, DBT-AAU centre has been selected by the Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India as members to following two committees vide its Office Memos dated January 14, 2016 and February 8, 2016. The committees are : (i) Screening committee for the NER twining R&D programme; (ii) Expert committee for the NER twining R&D programme.
- * Dr. Kartik Baruah, Dr. Ashok Bhattacharyya and Dr. Debanand Das on AICRP on Fruits, Department of Horticulture attended the third Group Discussion of AICRP on Fruits held at Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana on March 3-6, 2016.
- * Miss Himadri Kaushik was selected for the prestigious MJ Narasimhan Award to represent North East Zone for the best research work; Miss Merrylina Marak was awarded for best Oral Presentation and Miss Sarodee Boruah and Mr. Pranjal Kr. Kaman got the Best Poster Award in the Symposium on "Plant Health Management in North East India" organized by: Zonal Chapter, NE Zone, Indian Phytopathological Society & " ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam, Meghalaya on January 15-16, 2016
- * Ms Yumnam Bijilaxmi Devi, Ph. D. student, Department of Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, AAU, Jorhat bagged 'Best Poster Presentation Award' in National Seminar on "Integrating Agri-Horticultural and Allied Research for Food and Nutritional Security in the Era of Global Climate Disruption, March 4-6, 2016 at Imphal, Manipur.
- * Ms Ipsita Ojah, Department of Soil Science, Faculty of Agriculture, AAU, Jorhat bagged 'Best Paper Presentation Award' on " Algal Fuel: A New Generation of Renewable Biodiesel" at 'Revive 2016: A National Conference on Advances in Renewable Energy', under 'ENERXIA- The Renewable Energy Fest' held at Assam Engineering College, Guwahati (26th and 27th March, 2016)



STUDENTS' WELFARE

Training of Trainers (TOT) on Social Harmony and National Unity

A Training of Trainers Programme (ToT) on "Social Harmony and National Unity" was conducted at Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat during January 19-23, 2016 for the NSS Programme Officers of different Colleges of Assam. The ToT was organised by the NSS regional head office, Guwahati in collaboration with Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu. The inaugural function was addressed by Dr. Dipti Kumar Bora, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, AAU. The other delegates present in the session were Dr. D.K.Bora, Programme Co-ordinator & DSW, AAU; Dr. S.Kaur, Dean, Faculty of Home Science and Dr. U. Kotoky, In charge, Placement Cell, AAU, Jorhat. The Welcome address was delivered by Mr. Sunil Basumatary, Regional Head, Directorate of NSS, Guwahati. Well known resource persons in their respective fields were invited from reputed institutions of Jorhat to deliver talks on selected topics of relevance. The participants were highly benefited from the programme. During the training programme a field visit to the tree plantation of Mr. Jadav Payeng, the Padma Shree awardee was also arranged.

Voter Awareness/Education Programme

A Voter Awareness/Education Programme was organised on March 18, 2016 at Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat under the leadership of Dr D K Bora, Director, Students' Welfare cum NSS Programme Coordinator, AAU which was attended by about 100 AAU students / NSS Volunteers. Shri D M Sarmah, Dy Director, Jana Sanjog (Public Relations Department), Govt. of Assam, Jorhat delivered a sensitizing speech appealing to the new voters amongst the students of AAU to cast their vote as a responsible citizen and participate in the ensuing elections to elect an appropriate candidate to be the People's Representative in the new Government that will be formed. Earlier Dr Bora, DSW, AAU highlighted the importance of the elections in forming a stable Government that can help to provide good governance to the state and the nation for leading it to the path of peace and prosperity.



XXVII Inter College Meet, 2016

The XXVII Inter College Meet of Assam Agricultural University was celebrated amidst great fanfare in the Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat Campus on Feb. 23-27, 2016. Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor and Chief Guest of the inaugural ceremony declared the meet open. Major General R. Mishra, 41 Sub area, Lichubari was the Guest of Honour in the inaugural function. The



meet began with a colourful March Past competition amongst the constituent colleges and College of Fishery bagged the 1st prize. Overall best college award was bagged by College of Agriculture, Jorhat. Lakhimpur College of Veterinary Science was adjudged the best disciplined team. The meet ended with a colourful cultural evening. Mr. Pranjit Baruah a B.Sc. (Agri.) First year student of SCS College of Agriculture, Rangamati, Dhubri, bagged the Gold medal in 100 m race and adjudged as the 'Fastest Man of AAU' in the Inter College Meet.



Inauguration of newly constructed Boys' Hostel "Brahmaputra"

The newly constructed Boys' Hostel "Brahmaputra", College of Fisheries, AAU, Raha was inaugurated on February 12, 2016 by the Hon'ble Minister of Fisheries, Govt. of Assam, Sjt. Basanta Das, in the gracious presence of Dr. K. M. Bujarbaruah, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of AAU; Dr. R. N. Goswami, Dean, CVSc; Dr. A. K. Chakrabarty, DR



(Vety.); Dr. H. C. Bhattacharya, DPP; Dr. Dipak Bora, DSW; Dr. Chandan Hazarika, DPGS and some eminent personalities of Raha locality.





New *Capsularis* jute variety developed at RARS, AAU, Shillongani

The *C. capsularis* jute variety NCJ 28-10 (AAUCJ-2, Kkhyati) developed at RARS, AAU, Nagaon has been identified in the 12th Annual Group Meeting of AINP on Jute and Allied Fibres by the Variety Identification Committee held on Feb. 4, 2016



at BCKV, Kalyani, WB under the Chairmanship of Dr N Gopalakrishnan, former ADG (CC), ICAR for jute belt of the country. This variety showed 5.5 - 10.6 % higher fibre yield over the check varieties (JRC 321 and JRC 698) and also recorded more tolerance to major diseases (Stem and root rot) and pest (Semilooper and Yellow mite) compared to the check varieties. The variety possesses characteristics of both high yield and better resistance to the major pest and diseases prevalent in the capsularis growing regions of the country.

Dean, International Programmes, Rutgers University, USA visits AAU

Dr. Mukund V. Karwe, Dean and Dr. Sanjib Bhuyan, Associate Professor, International Programme,

Rutgers University, New Jersey, United States visited the Department of Tea Husbandry & Technology on January 11-13, 2016 for exploring the possibilities of starting a collaborative 'Winter study abroad programme' on 'Black Tea manufacturing' at AAU for



the students of Rutgers University. They visited the Experimental Garden for Plantation Crops, Tea Processing Units, Central Laboratory, Central Library, students' hostels, students' canteen, guest houses as well as medical facility of the University. After the visit they had a discussion with all the faculty members of the department on Integrated Management Programme, food technology and other various related matters which can be taken up during the collaborated programme. Both the visiting faculties later had a discussion with the hon'ble V.C., AAU along with the Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, Director of Research (Agri), Director of Post Graduate Studies, Director of Students' Welfare, Director of Extension Education and Registrar of AAU regarding collaborative programmes. The faculty members also visited Hunwal T.E., TTRI etc.

RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE RESEARCH PROJECT POOL

Title of the Project	Principal Investigator	Funding Agency	Amount (Rs.)
Synthesis and field evaluation of pheromones for root grub, <i>Lepidiotia mansueta</i>	Dr. B. Bhattacharyya	ICAR	2.53 lakh
Seed Tape System for vegetable production in small and hilly farms of N.E. India	Dr. P. Baruah	ICAR	22.98 lakh
Exploration of phytopathogenic microorganism from major crops of North Eastern states	Dr. P. Debnath	DRDO, Govt. of India	9.90 lakh
Impact of modified microclimates on growth and pest-disease dynamics in ginger	Dr. P. Neog	DST	37.30 lakh
Genetic enhancement of rice for low moisture stress tolerance	Dr. T. Ahmed	ICAR	80.00 lakh
Elucidating the role of bacterial endosymbionts in phytopathogenic fungi for toxin production and pathogenesis	Dr. R.C. Boro	DBT	63.59 lakh
Management of green waste for economic benefit and women empowerment	Mrs. B. Bhuyan	DBT	40.33 lakh
Socio economic uplift men of fish farmers of Kamrup and Morigaon districts through culture and propagation of <i>Monopterusuchia</i> , a farmers participatory approach	Dr Kamaleswar Kalita	ASTEC	2.60 lakh
Molecular characterization and development of breed signatures for Indigenous ducks of North East India.	Dr Bula Das	ICAR (under Extra Mural funding)	24.0 lakh





Awareness programmes organized under NSPAAD project

A awareness programme was organized by the College of Fisheries, AAU, Raha under the National Surveillance Programme for Aquatic Animal Diseases (NSPAAD) project at Kurson village of North Lakhimpur district on January 6, 2016 wherein 28 numbers of fish growers took active participation. The Principal Investigator Dr. B. Kalita, College of Fisheries, Raha; DFDO, Lakhimpur; SMS, Udalguri K V K ; Programme Assistant (Fisheries), Lakhimpur KVK and other project personals of the NSPAAD project were the resource persons in the programmes. The P.I. briefed the activities of the ongoing NSPAAD project and about different pathogens that have been encountered during the surveillance works under the project at College of Fisheries. An overview on the prevailing fish diseases of Assam and their preventive measures to minimize losses was also discussed. The programmes were ended up with farmer-scientist interactions.



Awareness Programme on Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Right Act ,2001

An awareness cum Training programme on "Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Act ,2001" was organized by KVK Golaghat on March 31, 2016 and a total of 100 numbers of farmer and farm women participated in the programme. Mr. Horindra Gogoi, Programme Coordinator (i/c), KVK, Golaghat



welcomed the participants. The resource persons from AAU viz., Dr. P. K. Borua, Professor and Head, Dept. of Plant Breeding and Genetics; and Dr. R. Borgohain, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Jorhat had elaborately discussed on various important aspects of Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Right Act,

NEWS FROM ATIC

Farmers' visit : A total of 1053 farmers visited ATIC and were provided advisory services.

Products sold : Paddy seeds of different HYV, vegetables, Biofor-PF, tea, jaggery, etc. were sold.

ATIC continues to be an active collaborator in Gyan Yatra Programme of Govt. of Assam

2001. All the participants expressed their interest on the topic and interacted positively.

AAU participated in Exhibitions

AAU, Jorhat participated in the exhibitions in connection with the (i) 3rd Assam International Agri-Horti Show - 2016 at C.V.Sc. Playground, Khanapara organized by Dept. of Agriculture, Govt. of Assam in association with AAU,



Jorhat and (ii) "Rongali" Festival held at Sonaram H. S. Field, Borolumukh, Guwahati. A large number of farmers visited the exhibition stalls of AAU.

Participatory Extension Programme on Livestock

The month-long participatory extension programme conducted by the Dept. of Extension Education, College of Veterinary Science, AAU, Khanapara come to an end with a daylong treatment and vaccination camp at Khakharisal village in Pachim Nalbari Development Block of Nalbari district on March 13, 2016. A



group of 25 teachers, 75 UG students, 5 PG students and a few scientists under the leadership of Dr. A. Borgohain, Professor and Head, Extension Education participated in the camp, where a total 605 cattle were vaccinated against Foot and Mouth disease, 151 duck against Duck Plague and 210 fowl against Ranikhet disease. Moreover, 445 livestock were also treated for different ailments.

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