



Empowering Nicobarese Tribal Fishers: ICAR-CIARI Organises DAT Awareness Program

By Denis Giles / May 30, 2025

Car Nicobar, May 30: Recognizing the need for enhanced safety of marine fishing communities, ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute (CIAR-CIARI) recently spearheaded an awareness initiative focused on the use of Distress Alert Transmitters (DATs) for the Nicobarese fishing community. The program took place on 29th May 2025 at the office of the tribal council, Car Nicobar. In recent years, Distress Alert Transmitters (DATs) have emerged as crucial safety devices, enabling fishers to send quick distress signals and receive timely help. The event was organized to raise awareness and build knowledge among marine fishers about the significance and operation of DATs, to reduce response time in emergencies. This engaging awareness program brought together 25 Nicobarese tribal fishers, with the presence of the Chief Captain, Mr. Lionald Nicomed, which added a sense of encouragement. He passionately urged fellow fishers to make DATs a regular part of their marine practices, signalling that safety and tradition can walk hand in hand. Mr Vinay and Miss Sonia, staff of ICAR-CIARI, gave an overview of DAT with practical demonstrations. This effort is part of the broader “Coastal Fisheries Information Hub” project supported by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) under the guiding vision of Dr. Eaknath B. Chakurkar, Director of CIARI.