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Training-cum-Exhibition on Integrated Farming System Held in Car Nicobar to Promote Sustainable Livelihoods

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The ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), CIARI, Nicobar, successfully conducted a Training-cum-Exhibition on Integrated Farming System (IFS) for Sustainable Livelihoods at the Community Hall, Tapoiming Village, Car Nicobar. The event aimed to promote awareness and adoption of the IFS model, which integrates various agricultural practices to enhance the socio-economic resilience of farmers in the Nicobar Islands.

The program was graced by Mr. Amit Kale, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Nicobars, as the Chief Guest. Mr. Lionald Nicomed, Chief Captain, attended as the Guest of Honour, while Dr. E. B. Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CIARI, Sri Vijaya Puram, delivered the keynote address. Senior officials from the Agriculture, Fisheries, and Animal Husbandry Departments, along with First Headman, Mr. Lawrence Mathew, and Second Headman, Mr. Simon William of Tapoiming Village, were also present at the inaugural session.

The exhibition was formally inaugurated by Mr. Amit Kale, followed by a visit to the various stalls set up by KVK Nicobar, Agriculture, Fisheries, and the local community. The stalls displayed a range of agricultural technologies, tools, and locally produced Nicobarese products, highlighting innovative and sustainable practices suited to the island ecosystem.

In his address, Mr. Amit Kale, IAS, appreciated the initiative and encouraged participants to engage actively in the training. He emphasized the potential of the IFS model in enhancing income, ensuring food security, and promoting environmental sustainability in the Nicobar Islands.

Chief Captain Lionald Nicomed underscored the importance of integrating traditional agricultural knowledge with modern scientific advancements. He urged the farming community to adopt innovative practices while preserving the rich indigenous heritage of the Nicobar Islands.

Delivering the keynote address, Dr. E.B. Chakurkar emphasized the pivotal role of KVKs in promoting agricultural innovation in the region. He highlighted how the IFS model ensures sustainable livelihoods while conserving the traditional values and biodiversity of the islands.

Dr. Santosh Kumar, Senior Scientist and Head, KVK Nicobar, welcomed the dignitaries and participants, introducing the objectives of the program. The technical sessions were led by Dr. Sanketh G.D., Dr. Akshay, and Mr. Deepoo Meena, who delivered insightful lectures on the implementation and benefits of the IFS model in the unique island ecosystem.

To promote mechanization and improved agricultural practices, various agricultural inputs were distributed among the farmers and farm women during the event.

The program witnessed enthusiastic participation from 70 farmers, including 27 male farmers and 43 farm women, who engaged actively in discussions and demonstrations.

The Training-cum-Exhibition not only empowered local farmers with knowledge and tools for sustainable farming but also fostered a collaborative effort to ensure long-term agricultural resilience in the Nicobar Islands.