

**ICAR- CENTRAL ISLAND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
PORT BLAIR-744105**

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**Proceedings of the 1st online meeting of 9th RAC of ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair held on
23/04/2021 at 10.00 AM under the Chairmanship of Prof. N. C. Gautam, Vice Chancellor,
MG. Chitrakoot, Gramodaya Vishvavidyalaya, Stana, MP**

The First meeting of 9th RAC of ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair was held on virtual mode under the **Chairmanship of Professor N.C. Gautam** on 23/04/2021 at CIARI, Port Blair along with all esteemed members, farmers' representative and Heads of Divisions /Section/KVK of the Institute from 10 AM onwards.

Dr. B. A. Jerard, Acting Director and Ex-officio Member cum Head, Division of Horticulture and Forestry, Dr. Debasis Bhattacharya, Head I/c, Division of Animal Science, Dr. A. Velmurugan, Head I/c Division of NRM, Dr. R. KirubaSankar, Head I/c, Division of Fisheries Science, Dr. K. Venkatesan Head I/c, Field Crops Improvement and Protection, Dr.S.K.Zamir Ahmed, I/c, Social Sciences Section and Dr. Jai Sunder, Scientist-in-charge, PME cell have participated in the meeting from ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair.

At the outset, the Chairman in his opening remarks appreciated the participation of the members amidst the COVID 19 pandemic to conduct the RAC meeting of the ICAR-CIARI at scheduled date and time. Further directed the member secretary to have an overview of CIARI, ATR, and brief presentation on significant finding of the projects, future programmes, followed by remarks by the expert members.

Dr. B.A. Jerard, Acting Director, ICAR- CIARI, welcomed the Honorable Chairman and members and presented an overview of Institute R&D and Extension activities with salient achievements, future thrusts to sensitize the RAC which was very much appreciated by the honorable members and further deliberated. Thereafter Dr. S.K. Zamir Ahmed, Principal Scientist and Member Secretary presented the ATR on recommendations of 8th RAC, which was followed by presentation by the Heads of the Divisions/Section/KVK on the research achievements for the period (2019-2021) along with future thrust areas, which were also put on record by everyone.

The Chairman opened the house for remarks by the expert members. The following points were placed, by the experts.

Dr. B. S. Dwivedi, Expert Member NRM, informed that Natural resources are vulnerable and fragile, but there is lot of scope to work on prioritized area to showcase the same at National level. Lots of work is undertaken on IFS at National Level and it is key to enhance the income of farmers. He recommended to work on:

- Flow of nutrients and energy across the enterprises for regenerative agriculture under Island conditions.
- Preparation of a status paper on silica content of Rice in ANI.
- Assessment of nutritional status of the soil should be done from existing Soil Health Card points and prepare/ refine the soil map.

Dr. Promod Kumar Pandey Expert Member Fisheries Science, informed that lot of scope is there in marine and fresh water fish sector. He recommended to work on:

- Focus more on developing transferrable technologies for benefit of stakeholders
- Areas like shrimp farming, bio floc culture and Recirculatory aquaculture systems (RAS) should be promoted in the Islands depending on manpower and resource availability.
- Focus on aqua tourism related research activities

Dr. S. S. Dana, Expert Member, Animal Science, suggested that :

- More emphasis should be given on FCR.
- Feedback of Humpsore on its acceptability status should be studied and documented.
- Indigenous plants species identified should be targeted to bring out indigenous products in collaboration with CIMAP or ICAR-DMAPR.

Dr. (Mrs.)NituSindhu, IMC member & Famers Representative, informed that CIARI mushroom strains are performing better than other strains under Island conditions and hence they should be further popularized.

Dr. Brajesh Kumar Pandey, Assistant Director General (HS-II), Member informed that this institute is unique due to its multidisciplinary nature and recommended that:

- Food requirement by 2050 should be emphasized with higher productivity, high water and nutrient efficiency.
- Bio-Chemical and molecular characterization of genetic resources should be focused, and all unique germplasm should be registered with NBPGR.
- Introduce protection technology and observations on pest and disease occurrence in all the field trials
- Location specific production technology should be developed specific to the island eco-system, and doubling of farmer's income should be taken on priority.

Prof. N. C. Gautam, Vice Chancellor and Chairman of the RAC, while appreciating the outcome of the projects recommended for the following specific points to be under taken namely:

- Impact analysis study of technology with social acceptability for promotion.
- More number of short duration project in mission mode (2 to 3 years) should be undertaken.
- To demonstrate technologies, one trial/demonstration should be done with progressive farmers to support the research programme.
- Institute should develop and enter into MoU with industries to upscale the Institute technologies.
- Organic farming should be stressed along with products of organic farmers.
- Modelling the farming systems of ANI for sustainable income and food security
- To evaluate and document the ecosystem services of Mangroves
- Technology for doubling the farmer's income as per the thrust of GOI should be projected.
- Explore the possibility to introduce Dry land farming during no rain periods.
- Institute shall focus to provide technical support for one or two startup programmes every year to support the entrepreneurship.
- Projects may be fine-tuned to make clear deliverables and result in technology generation.
- Seed farmers/seed village concept should be promoted to avoid private exploitation.
- Quality planting material production and distribution should be continued and further strengthened.






In his concluding remarks, the Chairman, urged everyone to stay safe from COVID-19 by strictly following the preventive measures issued by G.O.I. He was positive to visit the Institute along with the members for the next meet as and when the prevailing condition normalized, so that the work done by the scientists can be seen and fruitful interaction paving way for better fine tunings of the projects to address to the need of the island farmers, A & N Administration and other stakeholders can be accomplished.

After discussion, the following final recommendations have emerged.

Sl No	Recommendations
1	Conservation of biodiversity by identifying important plant, livestock and fisheries resources, their chemical and molecular characterization and registration with respective bureaus.
2	Developing, standardizing and promotion of package of practices for organic farming in targeted crops along with INM and IPM.
3	Institute developed models of integrated farming system should be studied for flow

	of nutrients and energy efficiency so as to find CB ratio and sustainability of model
4	Institute should ensure transfer of developed technologies along with ensuring availability of quality seed material (Plant, Animal and Fish), entrepreneurship development and its impact studies may be undertaken.
5	Research activity should focus on developing agro-ecotourism models for enhancement of income for decent livelihood.

The meeting came to end with formal vote of thanks by Dr S.K. Zamir Ahmed, Principal Scientist and member Secretary, RAC.

Sl No	Chairman / Member	Signatures
1.	Prof. N. C. Gautam, Vice Chancellor & Chairman - 9 th RAC MG. Chitrakoot, Gramodaya Vishvavidyalaya, Stana, Madhya Pradesh (MP). vc.gramodaya@gmail.com ; gautamnc01@gmail.com ; mgcgvv@gmail.com ;	 (N.C. GALTAM)
2.	Dr. B. S. Dwivedi, Director & Member 9 th RAC ICAR-National Bureau of Soil Survey & Land Use Planning, Amravati Road, Nagpur-440033. director.nbsslup@icar.gov.in ; bsdwivedi@yahoo.com , Mob:9811365124	
3.	Dr. Promod Kumar Pandey, Dean College of Fisheries, & Member 9 th RAC CAU, Lembuchena. Pkpandey_in@yahoo.co.uk , Cofcau.agt-tr@gov.in	
4.	Dr. S. S. Dana, Professor Ext. & Production WBUA&FS & Member 9 th RAC Kolkata. danashyamsundar@gmail.com	
5.	Dr. Brajesh Kumar Pandey, Assistant Director General (HS-II), ICAR- Krishi Anusandhan Bhawan-II, New Delhi. bkpandey.icar@nic.in	
6.	Dr. Ms. Nitu Sindhu, IMC member & Famers Representative, Port Blair	
7.	Dr B. Augustine Jerard, Acting Director, ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair, Ex-officio, Member	
8.	Dr. S. K. Zamir Ahmed, Pr. Scientist (Agri. Extn) & Member Secretary, ICAR- CIARI, Port Blair	