

**ICAR-CENTRAL ISLAND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
PORT BLAIR – 744 105**

**F.No. PA/8-17/RAC/2023/**

**Dated: 18.10.2023**

**Proceedings of the first meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> Research Advisory Committee held during September 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 at ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair**

The first meeting of the 10<sup>th</sup> Research Advisory Committee was held at ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Anil Kumar Singh, former DDG (NRM), ICAR, New Delhi on September 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023. The following officials were present in this meeting:

1. Dr. R. R. B. Singh, Vice Chancellor, VCKV, Durg and Member, RAC
2. Dr. S. K. Singh, Former Director, NBSS & LUP, Nagpur and Member, RAC
3. Dr. N. P. Sahu, Joint Director, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai and Member, RAC
4. Dr. J. Rema, Former Director, ICAR-IISR, Kozhikode and Member, RAC
5. Dr. Vishaw Bandhu Patel, ADG (Fruits and Plantation Crops), ICAR, New Delhi and Ex-Officio Member, RAC.
6. Dr. Eaknath B. Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair and Ex-Officio Member, RAC.
7. Dr. NituSindhu, Progressive farmer, Agro Entrepreneur, Mahalasa Agro Products and Member, RAC
8. Shri. Ravindra Das, Progressive farmer, Khudirampur, Diglipur and Member, RAC
9. Dr. P. K. Singh, Head (I/c), Divisions of Horticulture and Crop Improvement, ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair and Member Secretary, RAC
10. Dr. Jai Sunder, Head, Divisions of Animal Science, ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair.
11. Dr. S. K. Zamir Ahmed, Head (I/c), Divisions of Fisheries, ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair.
12. Dr. T. Subramani, Head (I/c), Divisions of Natural Resource Management, ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair.
13. Dr. Y. Ramakrishna, Principal Scientist& Head, ICAR-KVK, South Andaman

The RAC members visited the experimental fields, viz., rice and field crops experiments at Bloomsdale Research Farm, Chouldari; horticultural experimental farm including World Coconut Germplasm at Sippighat; Fisheries research laboratory at Marine Hill; KVK South Andaman, Sippighat along with fields of progressive farmers. This included IFS Field of Shri. M. M. Joy Dhar, Creekabad, Chouldari; Pig Farm of Shri. Sunil Joy Dhar, Bachara Para, Chouldari and Fish Farm of Mr. Manindra Nath Das, Humfry gunjon September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. The RAC visited the facilities of Livestock units, Horticulture Farm, and IFS Models at ICAR-CIARI Garacharma Campus in the forenoon of September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023. Subsequently, the division-wise presentations of research projects were made by concerned HOD.

During the presentations Dr. P K Singh, Member Secretary, welcomed the Chairman and Members of RAC and presented Action Taken Report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> RAC. The divisional projects were discussed and reviewed.

Action Taken Report on suggestions received during the institutes' presentation at the office of Hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Govt. of India were also discussed during this meeting.

During the deliberations of different divisions, the following points were emerged and RAC provided suggestions.

#### GENERAL SUGGESTIONS

1. The pre-fix 'Dweep' should be uniformly used for all the institute developed varieties/ technologies hereafter instead of 'CARI' or 'CIARI'.
2. Carbon sequestration of plantation crops in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands can be initiated in collaboration with CPCRI.
3. Rigorous soil sampling and analysis is required to check level of salinity, pH, organic carbon, etc in different terrains.
4. Agro-ecotourism is an attractable economic option for farmers in the Islands which should be attempted seriously by developing a model at Institute farm.
5. Foster coordinated/collaboration among scientists across disciplines and institutes within ICAR to enhance the Dweep Agricultural Information System (DAIS).
6. While mapping the inundated areas and its potential for brackish water aquaculture, it is suggested that soil samples should be collected across the study sites and analyzed for their suitability in addition to the water samples.
7. The database of Inland fish farmers developed by the Divisional Scientists must be integrated in to the Islands Agriculture information database developed by ICAR-CIARI.

#### **Horticulture and Crop improvement:**

1. Promote diverse combinations of high-profit fruits, wood trees, spices, and flowers on non-arable land, while integrating cereals and vegetables on arable land along with fish in ponds to prevent land degradation and preserve crucial ecosystem services in a site-specific mode.
2. Passport data information of all collected crop germplasm should be compiled and maintained.
3. Floriculture has good scope under island conditions hence, protocols may be standardized for storage and transportation of flowers.
4. Woody pepper cultivation should be popularized in the islands as a commercial crop.

#### **Fisheries Science:**

1. Sustain ongoing efforts in developing and refining aquaculture practices and technologies tailored to enhance fish productivity within the Island ecosystem, particularly in the context of the Integrated Farming System (IFS) business model.
2. Prioritize the characterization and mapping of water bodies and fish habitats using high-resolution remote sensing and GIS to unlock the potential of seaweed, as well as to comprehend the impacts of climate change and meet the community requirements related to fisheries.

3. The mobile application developed under the Coastal Fisheries Information Hub project must be popularized on a wider scale for species conservation and habitat management in Car Nicobar Island.
4. Research work on seaweeds must be continued by the Natural Resource Management and Fisheries Scientists since harnessing the potential of seaweeds is identified as a national priority by the Government of India.
5. Feed-based aquaculture practices should be popularized for the benefit of Island fish farmers in freshwater aquaculture.

#### **Animal Science:**

1. Nutritional requirements of the indigenous livestock breeds of Andaman and Nicobar Islands like Teressa goat, Andaman goat, Nicobari pig, Andaman pig etc. should be carried out to tap the full genetic potential of the breeds.
2. Effect of amino acid supplementation in poultry feed should be evaluated for mitigation of heat stress in poultry.
3. Effect of herbal extracts on libido and sperm physiology of indigenous livestock breeds of Andaman and Nicobar Islands should be evaluated.

#### **Natural Resources Management:**

1. Employ high-resolution remote sensing data and digital elevation models in a Geographic Information System (GIS) to characterize natural resources in economically viable farm units, facilitating the development of Integrated Farming Systems (IFS) and business models for diverse island ecosystems, while concurrently strategizing for the clean and safe disposal of sediment.
2. Projected per capita water requirement by 2030 & 2050 for different sectors is to be calculated in SSAP-Water project. (one is the basis for calculating 3)

The meeting came to end with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. S Jai Sunder, Head Division of Animal Science.

#### **Action Points**

1. Encouraging diverse combinations of high-profit fruits, wood trees, spices, and flowers on non-arable land, while integrating cereals and vegetables on arable land along with fishponds to prevent land degradation and preserve crucial ecosystem services in a site-specific model as IFS models as per farm holding size and as per the components required by farmers.
2. The institute may explore the possibility of initiating a project on “one health” approach as it has all the disciplines need to work on this concept viz. Soil-plant-animal-human- environment.
3. An experiment on Natural Farming model is required to generate systematic scientific data and check its workability in the Islands.
4. Prioritize the characterization and mapping of water bodies and fish habitats using high-resolution remote sensing and GIS to unlock the potential of seaweed, as well as to comprehend the impacts of climate change and meet the community requirements related to fisheries.

5. Initiates may take steps to establish a site-specific agro-tourism model for the livelihood security of the island farmers.



Dr. R. R. B. Singh  
Member RAC

Dr. S. K. Singh

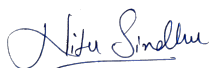
Dr. S. K. Singh (Dec 28, 2023 20:12 PST)

Dr. S. K. Singh  
Member RAC

DR. V. B. Patel

DR. V. B. Patel (Dec 26, 2023 14:41 GMT+5.5)

Dr. Vishaw Bandhu Patel  
Member RAC



Dr. Nitu Sindhu,  
Progressive farmer  
Member RAC

Anil Kumar Singh

Anil Kumar Singh (Dec 29, 2023 11:50 GMT+5.5)

Dr. Anil Kumar Singh  
Chairman RAC

Dr. N. P. Sahu

Dr. N. P. Sahu (Dec 29, 2023 09:19 GMT+5.5)

Dr. N. P. Sahu,  
Member RAC

Dr. J. Rema,  
Member RAC



Dr. Eaknath B. Chakurkar  
Member RAC



Shri. Ravindra Das,  
Progressive farmer  
Member RAC



Dr. P. K. Singh (Dec 29, 2023 15:42 GMT+5.5)

Pankaj Kumar Singh  
Secretary, X<sup>th</sup> RAC