

Field day on 'Specialty Flower Cultivation for Entrepreneurship Opportunities in Bay Islands' held

Port Blair, July 14

ICAR-CIARI organized a field day on Specialty flower cultivation for entrepreneurship opportunities in Bay Islands today by following COVID-19 protocol. The demonstration of specialty



flowers like Heliconia, Calatheas, Torch ginger and Red ginger were showcased and explained to women Self Help Group members. Scientists from Division of Horticulture and Forestry, Dr. V. Baskaran and Dr. K. Abirami detailed the cultivation practices of specialty flowers. Dr. T. Subramani from NRM Division described the production of specialty flowers in plantation based cropping system. Dr. Y. Ramakrishna and Dr. L. B. Singh from KVK, ICAR-CIARI Port Blair explained about farm production of organic manures and nursery management for cultivation of specialty flowers. Dr. Eaknath B. Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CIARI in his address, highlighted about market opportunities, value addition and export potential of specialty flowers from the Island. The planting materials of red ginger (*Alpinia purpurata*) were distributed to the participants by the Director and he encouraged the women SHGs to develop themselves into a successful entrepreneur in floriculture and advised them to aim for export of flowers to mainland, a press release from ICAR-CIARI said.