

Exposure Visits to ICAR-CARI for PM Daksh Skill Training for Divyangjan Trainees at CRC A&N Islands

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Sri Vijaya Puram, Dec 26: The Composite Regional Centre (CRC) for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) at Andaman & Nicobar Islands continues to make strides in empowering individuals with disabilities (PwDs) through its exclusive implementation of the PM Daksh Skill Training Program in the region. The program is a first-of-its-kind initiative functioning only at CRC across the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, aimed at fostering skill development and self-reliance among PwDs.

As part of the initiative, the trainees of the Assistant Plant Caretaker (Gardener) course participated in an educational exposure visit to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research – Central Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-CARI) in Port Blair.

The trainees, consisting of individuals with disabilities (PwDs), were accompanied by Mr. Biswajit Roy, Administrative Officer, Mrs. Saranyah, Rehabilitation Officer, and Mr. Ashok, Vocational Instructor from CRC A&N Islands, who provided guidance and support throughout the visit.

The session began with an insightful orientation on gardening and nursery maintenance by Dr. Ajit Arun Waman, Senior Scientist, ICAR-CARI, who covered practical skills such as plant care, soil management, pest control, and nursery upkeep. Dr. Eknath B. Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CARI, encouraged the trainees by highlighting employment opportunities at ICAR-CARI for those interested in pursuing a career and the scope for self-employment for aspiring entrepreneurs.

Dr. Sumithamol, Director, CRC A&N Islands, remarked, "This exposure visit is a part of our commitment under the PM Daksh initiative to equip persons with disabilities with the skills and confidence to achieve financial independence. The collaboration with ICAR-CARI has provided an excellent platform for real-world learning and inspiration."

The trainees expressed their gratitude for the exposure and the chance to interact with experienced scientist and agricultural professionals. The visit was a motivating step in their journey toward skill development and empowerment.

The program is a testament to CRC A&N Islands's dedication to fostering inclusivity and providing meaningful livelihood opportunities for Divyangjan in the horticulture sector.