

ISLAND AGRICULTURE

ICAR - CIARI NEWSLETTER



Vol. IX. No. 1 & 2

भा.कृ.अनु.प.-केन्द्रीय द्वीपीय कृषि अनुसंधान संस्थान
ICAR-CENTRAL ISLAND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

(IS/ISO 9001:2008 certified)

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Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India



April 2016 - March 2017

38th FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATED

ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute (CIARI) celebrated its 38th Foundation Day on 23rd June, 2016. Dr. S. Dam Roy, Director, ICAR-CIARI welcomed the gathering and spoke on the sojourn from the days of jungle clearing to the centre of excellence and from CARI to CIARI, which is now the beacon for tropical island agriculture for South East Asian countries. During his speech he paid kudos to the earlier Directors, and highlighted on the contribution made by the scientists of the institute in terms of bringing out high impact factor NAAS rating research publications, which has placed the Institute in 4th position, out of 96 ICAR Institution. He also placed the coordination with the line departments to be of highest order which has enabled us to reach the unreached benefitting the farmers, women, youth and other stakeholders of the Islands over the years.



The Chief guest, Smti R. Maneka IAS, Secretary (Agri, AH & VS & Fisheries) A & N Administration in her address lauded the yeoman services done by the Institute in research, development & extension services and also the contributions of the Scientists and others for taking the Institute this far. She expressed her happiness on the assistance rendered by CIARI in all the desired platform of A & N Administration and assured for the help in establishing the composite bio-security lab, by CIARI at Port Blair. She placed on record the adoption of rice seeds of CIARI and carrying forward the soil health card & other programmes of the Administration, which is very progressive in the Island, when compared to many states in mainland India. She also released bulletins and folders for the

FNAAS Honour to Dr. Sibnarayan Dam Roy Director, CIARI



Dr. Sibnarayan Dam Roy, Director, ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair has been bestowed upon the **Fellow of the Prestigious National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (FNAAS)**, New Delhi with effect from 01st January, 2017. The Fellow is in the section of Fisheries Science; specialization in Fishery Resource Management and Aquaculture. Dr. S. Dam Roy joins the select band of 30 Fellows in the section, since the inception of the NAAS (1990).

benefits of the farmers, youth, extension beneficiaries, and launched the website of Andaman Science Association.



Dr. C. Raghunathan, Officer I/c ZSI, Port Blair delivered the Foundation Day lecture on “Coastal & marine biodiversity of India”, which was very much informative and thought provoking and was appreciated by the dignitaries and the participants.

On the occasion, scientists, staff, Subject Matter Specialist, KVK, and division were felicitated by the chief guest for their meritorious contributions and commendable service. A large number of audiences representing from development departments, research, media and staff attended the function.

SWACHH BHARAT ABHIYAN (SBA) PAKHWARA CONDUCTED

The fortnight long celebration of SBA, started with the pledge taking ceremony by all the staff members of Institute on 2nd October 2016, followed by cleanliness drive in and around the premises. On 17th October 2016, an awareness programme cum demonstration of solid waste management was organised in collaboration with Port Blair Municipal Council. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. S. Dam Roy, highlighted the importance of the theme which has been selected by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. He also stressed the importance of agriculture in the changing climatic scenario and urged everybody not to waste any food and adopt the principle of reduce, reuse and recycle. Shri. Vijay Kumar, Sr. Sanitary Inspector, PBMC gave detailed demonstration on the segregation of the dry and wet waste generated at household.



On 21st October 2016, an awareness programme on Clean/Green farming was organised at Bachra Pahar village of

Chouldari Gram Panchayat. Dr. S. Dam Roy, Director, ICAR-CIARI was the Chief guest, while Shri. Mohan Haldar, Pradhan, Chouldari Panchayat, Shri. Asim Baidya, Up Pradhan were the guest of honour. Shri. Majumdar, Sarpanch, Scientists from CIARI, KVK and farmers attended the programme. Dr. S. Dam Roy, informed that Bachra Pahar village has been adopted by CIARI to undertake various activities under SBM. He urged the farmers to adopt the concept of green farming by converting the agricultural waste into compost. Shri. Mohan Haldar, Pradhan thanked ICAR-CIARI for acceding to their request to adopt Bachra Pahar village under the SBM programme. Tree planting in the boundary of playground area was undertaken by the participants.



VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK CONDUCTED

Vigilance Awareness Week-2016 with theme “Public participation in promoting integrity and eradicating corruption” was celebrated in befitting manner at ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair from 31st October to 5th November, 2016. The programme commenced with the pledge ceremony on 31st October, 2016 followed by essay writing, debate on the theme “Eradication of corruption - Role of youth in Nation Building” painting competition for the staff of the Institute and students from various schools and colleges of Port Blair.

Shri, Mahesh Kumar Gupta, ADM & Assistant Commissioner, South Andaman delivered a guest lecture on the theme “Public participation in promoting integrity and eradicating corruption” on 4th November, 2016 in the conference hall, CIARI, Port Blair.



During the valedictory function of the week long programme held on 5th November, 2016, the Chief Guest Dr. S. Dam Roy,

Director, ICAR-CIARI lauded the efforts of the students for participating in the seminar and also the teachers for mentoring them. He stressed on moral ethics and honesty, which will keep the citizens vigilant. He also gave away prizes and certificates to the winners.

CIARI CONDUCTS AGRICULTURE EDUCATION DAY (AED)

Agriculture Education Day was celebrated on 17th December, 2016. Speaking on the occasion the Chief Guest, Dr. S. Dam Roy, Director, CIARI informed about the purpose of celebration of Agriculture Education Day which has been made to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the first President of India. He cited the contribution of scientists for increasing the production and productivity was through Rainbow of revolution which has made India to top the list in many agriculture commodities like milk, wheat, fish, oilseeds, horticulture crops etc. The slogan of "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan" given by Lal Bahadur Shastri and "Kisan Nahin to Desh Nahin" by the lady farmer of the Island was stressed on this occasion which speaks about the importance of agriculture for livelihood and also in contribution towards National GDP growth. He urged to harvest the strength of the youth to accomplish the goal of Hon'ble Prime Minister Startup and Digital India programme through agriculture. He also gave away prizes to the winners of the competition.



Heads of the Division of Natural Resource Management, Animal Science, Field Crop Improvement & Protection, Hort. & Forestry shared their views on technological backstopping available in the field of agriculture and allied for increasing the productivity per unit available area. The gist of the impression of the progressive farmers and students who spoke on the occasion, were to include a subject on agriculture in the syllabus, agriculture is the good vocation for keeping good health, offers opportunity for livelihood during adversity, increase in production is through support of scientific technology, to practice organic farming for better health, strength of youth should be utilized and to treat a farmer on par with others. Altogether 90 people participated in the programme.

NATIONAL FISH FARMERS DAY CELEBRATED

National Fish Farmers Day" was celebrated at ICAR-CIARI premises to commemorate the breakthrough made by Dr. Hiralal Chaudhuri on induced breeding of carp. Dr S. Dam Roy, Director CIARI, enlightened that 'First induced breeding' of minor carp,

Cirrhinus reba in captivity was done on 10th July 1957 by Dr Hiralal Chaudhuri who is also the 'Father of induced breeding' in the country. To inspire the fish farmers of the islands and appreciate the works 'Best Fish Farmer' award was given to Shri Swaran Singh and Sanjit Baidya and 'Progressive Fish Farmer' to Mr Anod Charan for his contribution in the field on fish seed production.



ANNUAL SPORTS PRIZE DISTRIBUTION HELD



The Annual Sports prize distribution was held on the National sports day i.e. 29th August 2016. Dr. S. Dam Roy, Director in his address commemorated the legendary middle-forward hockey player, Major Dhyani Chand on his 111th birth anniversary and also congratulated the prize winners. He distributed the prizes among the staff and their families for their excellent performance in various events of sports for general proficiency. Mr. J. Raymond Jani Angel was awarded the "Best Athlete" for Annual sports, 2016.

CIARI SCIENTISTS FACILITATES RECOGNITION OF TERESSA GOAT AND NICOBARI PIG AS NEW BREEDS OF INDIA

Teressa goat (Accession No : INDIA _ GOAT _ 3300 _ TERESSA _ 06025) Adult Female

Passport Information: It is an indigenous goat breed maintained by Nicobari tribal farmers by selective breeding. Nicobari tribal farmers of Teressa Island, Car Nicobar and Nancowrie group of islands are maintaining the pure indigenous stock of Teressa goats. Population is approximately 7800. Teressa goats are tall, sturdy, brownish or dark tan or black or white in colour with white and black patches.

VARIETIES RELEASED THROUGH IVRC



Adult Female

Adult Male

Peculiar white patch/line starting from inner canthus of both eyes or from eye brows and extending up to nostrils or mouth. Black hairs on dorsal midline up to the tail. Black colored muzzle, eyelids and hoofs. Height ranges from 24 to 27 inches. Head length of male and female is 8.86 ± 0.10 and 7.5 ± 0.27 inches. Tail is medium to long. Large horn with flat base. Erected ears directing downwards. Teressa goats are considered as an indigenous goat breed / germplasm belonging to this island territory. An average flock size of 6 no. of Teressa goats are maintained by individual tribal family of Nicobar group of islands. Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, A&N Administration and CIARI, Port Blair maintains and propagate the pure germplasm of Teressa goat.

Nicobari pig (Accession No : INDIA _ PIG _ 3300 _ NICOBARI _ 09005)

Passport Information: Nicobari pigs (*Sus scorofa nicobaricus*) are indigenous pigs of Nicobar Islands and are reared by Nicobari tribes since time immemorial. Approximate population is 35000. They are sturdy and short with long body and red-brown, black, grey, brown, blackish brown and fawn skin colour. Marked bristle crest (mane) on the back of the pig extending from mid head/shoulder to base of the tail. Facial profile varied from flat to concave. Slightly downward arch/ curvature of the low back. Short neck with very large jawl. characteristic feature of the tail is having no curling. They are fast runner. Evolved and thriving under plantation based low input production system of the Nicobari tribes. They have good fostering ability and have less pre weaning mortality. Evolved and thriving under plantation based low input production system of the Nicobari tribes.



Adult Male



Adult Female

Name of variety	Crop	Contributors
CARI Brinjal 2	Brinjal	P. K. Singh, Naresh Kumar, R. K. Gautam, Krishna Kumar, Ajanta Birah, K. Sakthivel, S. K. Zamir Ahmed and S. Dam Roy
CIARI Mung 4	Mung bean	A.K. Singh, Sudhir Tirki, P.K.Singh, R.K.Gautam, Naresh Kumar, T.P. Swarnam, T. Subramani, A. Velmurugan, S.K. Zamir Ahmed and S. Dam Roy
CIARI Mung 5	Mung bean	A.K.Singh, Niranjan Roy, P. K. Singh, R.K.Gautam, Naresh Kumar, T.P. Swarnam, T. Subramani, A. Velmurugan, S.K. Zamir Ahmed and S. Dam Roy.
CIARI Urd 1	Urd bean	A.K. Singh, P. K. Singh, R.K. Gautam, Naresh Kumar, T.P. Swarnam, T. Subramani, A. Velmurugan, S.K. Zamir Ahmed and S. Dam Roy
CIARI Urd 2	Urd bean	A.K.Singh, P.K. Singh, R.K. Gautam, Naresh Kumar, T.P.Swarnam, T.Subramani, A. Velmurugan, S.K. Zamir Ahmed and S. Dam Roy.
CIARI Mushroom 1 (Cream Oyster)	Mushroom	K. Sakthivel, R.K. Gautam, V. K. Pandey, Archana Sharma, N. C. Choudhari, P.K. Singh, K. Abirami and S. Dam Roy
CIARI Mushroom 2 (White Oyster)	Mushroom	K. Sakthivel, R.K. Gautam, V. K. Pandey, N. C. Choudhari, P.K. Singh, A. S. Krishnamoorthy, S. Nakkeeran, S. K. Zamir Ahmed, T. Subramani and S. Dam Roy
CIARI Mushroom 3 (Blue Oyster)	Mushroom	K. Sakthivel, R.K. Gautam, V. K. Pandey, N. C. Choudhari, A. S. Krishnamoorthy, S. Nakkeeran, Archana Sharma and S. Dam Roy

FISH FEED MILL DEDICATED TO ISLANDERS

A state of the art fish feed mill was inaugurated by Dr. S. Dam Roy, Director, at Marine Research Laboratory, Port Blair on 21st September, 2016. In his chief guest address, Dr. S. Dam Roy appreciated the initiative taken by the Fisheries Science Division of ICAR-CIARI for establishing fish feed mill which will augment the aquaculture growth of the Islands. He emphasized to train selected progressive fish farmers to establish their own small scale feed mill. Dr. T. Sivaramakrishnan, Scientist briefed about the infrastructure of feed mill and its application and further added that the existing infrastructure is having capacity to produce 20 kg of feed per hour.



ASA CONDUCTS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND BIODIVERSITY

Andaman Science Association (ASA), Port Blair, a scientific body conducted International Conference on “Climate Change Adaptation and Biodiversity: Ecological Sustainability and Resource Management for Livelihood Security” (ASA-ICCB-2016) with four major themes viz., “Climate Change and Impact”, “Adaptive Management of Biodiversity”, “Adaptation and livelihood security”, “Island agriculture and Eco-tourism and Indigenous Knowledge for climate change adaptation” from 8th to 10th December, 2016 at its Garacharma Research Complex.

Addressing the inaugural function, Prof. Chand underlined the need for taking up various issues for deliberation during the conference, concerning survival of mankind. He stressed the need for climate change adaptation which are inclusive in nature. He elaborated the way in which government policy is moving to address the climate change and development. The progress made in the Indian agriculture since independence is challenged by the climate change. There is need to rope in suitable interventions cutting across disciplines and regions to address these daunting challenges of threatened sustainability and livelihood security in the light of eroding resource base especially that of biodiversity. Climate Change is a serious issues that need to be addressed at present or else it will be late and the consequences will endanger the future. "We need to create awareness among all about the adverse impact of climate change, understand its consequences and offer pragmatic solutions to address the problems", he said.



The chief guest also released a sequence of books, which included a book on the Conference and a souvenir on the occasion. He also felicitated scientists with different awards instituted by ASA for their contributions towards research works, besides lifetime achievement awards and Young Scientists awards.

The other speakers at the inaugural function expressed their concern over the impacts of climate change and put forth their views on as to how it can be dealt, without compromising on the available resources to minimize its impacts. They included among others, Dr. A K Singh, DDG (Agri. Extn. & Horticultural Sciences), Dr. R. R. Hanchinal, Chairperson PPV & FRA and Dr. R. C. Agrawal, Registrar General, PPV & FRA and Dr S. Dam Roy, Director CIARI cum President ASA.

The event brought together 250 delegates representing different parts of the country including 8 foreign delegates from

International arena i.e.USA, Canada, Sweden, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Philippines and Germany. 396 abstracts, 96 full length papers which were classified under 5 themes viz., climate change and impacts, adaptive management of biodiversity, adaptation and livelihood security, island agriculture and eco-tourism and special session on ITK for climate change adaption were received.

Three invited theme papers, viz., Climate change : models, prediction and evidences by Prof. Geethalakshmi, Attempt towards identification of adaptation geneses for generating climate resilient crop plants by Dr. M.K. Battacharya and Agro-biodiversity and livelihood security by Dr. R.R. Hanchinal were presented in the inaugural session chaired by Dr. R.C. Srivastava, V.C., Rajendra Central Agril. University, PUSA, Bihar. 16 key notes and 14 lead papers by eminent personalities from various institutions and subjects, in addition to 156 oral and 87 posters were also presented.

A special session on “Policy makers and farmers interaction meet on “Indigenous knowledge and technology for climate change adaptation” was conducted on 7th December, 2016. The Chief guest Dr. A.K. Singh, DDG, (Agri. Extension & Horticultural Science), ICAR, New Delhi started his deliberation by quoting the saying of one of the farmer “Kisan nahi, tho desh nahi” should be the slogan of the people working for betterment of the farming community. He expressed his desire to promote more number of commodity specific enterprise , advocate custom hiring system and make climate resilient villages in Andaman & Nicobar Islands for which Development Department and NABARD can be associated.



In the valedictory function on 10th December, 2016, a draft recommendation was made and christened as the “Andaman Declaration”.



Dr A.K Singh and Dr A. Velmurgan, Senior Scientist & Organizing Secretaries of ICCB 2016 coordinated the conduct of the International Seminar.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Shri Sarkar Conferred Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Antyodaya Krishi Puruskar



Shri Ashok Kumar Sarkar has demonstrated his skills by adopting an integrated farming approach, wherein he had combined horticulture, field crops, livestock and fisheries in his farm. After receiving trainings and technical advice from KVK and CIARI, he started organic farming approach in a sustainable basis. He had adopted IPM & INM, applies FYM regularly, grows green manure crops and uses microbial consortium. He produces vermi compost also. Further he produces off season vegetables in net house, and has adopted innovative and integrated approach for recycling of farm wastes and production of farm made feed through non conventional sources. In addition, he has adopted broad bed furrow system, multitier cropping and fish production in lowlands. He produces and sells fish seed, vegetable seeds, fruit plants and mushroom to farmers. Shri. Ashok Kumar Sarkar is an ideal example for the rural farmers of North & Middle Andaman District and a role model for inspiring the youth to achieve success with sheer determination and hard work.

Shri. Ashok Kumar Sarkar, a progressive and innovative farmer of Govindapur village, North and Middle Andaman was conferred with Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Antyodaya Krishi Puruskar from Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi. The award contains certificate and a cash prize of Rs.50,000/- which was conferred to him in the function held at B.D. Auditorium, Salt Lake Kolkata on 25th September 2016.

Plant Genome Saviour Community Award for the First Time to Island Farmers

Karen community for rice

Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority (PPVFRA), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, GoI, New Delhi has bestowed Plant Genome Saviour Community Award of Rs.10 lakh, Citation and Memento to Karen community of North & Middle Andaman. The award was conferred by Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Hon'ble Union Agriculture Minister & Farmers' Welfare, Govt. of India on December 21st, 2016 at a function in B.P. Pal Auditorium, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa, New Delhi to Rev. Saw Saytha, President Karen Welfare Association, Mayabunder, North & Middle Andaman. The community was

honoured for its contribution to conservation and preservation of traditional and unique rice varieties viz. Khushbuyya, Black Burma, White Burma, Red Burma, Mushley and Nyaw-in etc since 1925 in the islands.



The PGSC Award is first of its kind conferred upon farming community of A&N Islands for their contribution for agrobiodiversity conservation. This scientific work was accomplished under the guidance and support of Dr. S. Dam Roy, Director and scientifically facilitated by Dr. R.K. Gautam (Principal Scientist & Head, Division of Field Crop Improvement & Protection), Dr. P.K. Singh (Principal Scientist, Plant Breeding) and Dr. S.K. Zamir Ahmed (Principal Scientist, Agricultural Extension) of ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair.

Nicobari tribes for Nicobari aloo

A systematic survey work was carried out in Car Nicobar by the team of scientists namely Dr.M.Sankaran, Dr.V.Damodaran, Dr.S.Dam Roy, Dr.T.Subramani and Dr.James George and documented the diversity of tuber crops and its utilization by the Nicobari tribes. Document and video film on Nicobari Aloo was submitted to PPVFRA for consideration of award in 2013 and again a revised version was submitted in 2014. Later on, the PPVFRA had formed a committee to ground truth verification and the same has been done with the help of KVK, Car Nicobar and officials of Department of Agriculture. On scrutiny of the document and video film on Nicobari aloo by the committee, the PPVFRA has considered the contribution of Nicobari tribes to Plant Genome Saviour Community Award of Rs.10 Lakhs and Citation to the Tribal Council, Car Nicobar.

APPRECIATION AWARD IN THE NATIONAL KRISHI UNNATI MELA-2017 TO ICAR-CIARI

ICAR-CIARI participated in *Krishi Unnati Mela-2017*, by putting up a stall showcasing the R & D activities and display of inputs during 15th to 17th March, 2017 at New Delhi.

The event was inaugurated by Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare. Around 350 government organization and more than 200 private and other organizations from different parts of India had put up their stalls in this *Krishi Unnati Mela-2017*. In addition, ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair also sold 440 grams seed of its bacterial wilt resistant brinjal variety CARi Brinjal-1 and apprised about the Institute's technologies and varieties (spices, coconut, elephant foot yam, arecanut, rice, pulse, noni, ginger etc) to the visitors and farmers coming from various parts of India. Among all stalls, around 10

organizations including ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair were short listed for the Appreciation Award.



The stall of ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair got the Appreciation Award for the excellent display of its agri-technologies, which was prepared under the overall direction and guidance of Dr. S. Dam Roy, Director, ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair.

IMPORTANT EVENTS AND DIGNITARIES VISIT

- Hon'ble Minister of State, Shri Giriraj Singh, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Govt. of India visited on 29th December, 2016 and had interaction with the Director & staff



- Professor Ramesh Chand, Honourable Member NITI Aayog, GoI, New Delhi Dr. A K Singh, DDG (Agri. Extn. & Horticultural Sciences), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. R. R. Hanchinal, Chairperson PPV & FRA, Dr. R. C. Agrawal, Registrar General, PPV & FRA & Shri H.B. Songadkar GM NABARD visited from 7th to 10th December, 2016 for attending the International seminar on climate change, policy makers meet, & inauguration of guest house



- Shri Anindo Majumdar, IAS, Chief Secretary, along with Smti R. Maneka, Secretary (Ag, AH & VS & Fisheries), A & N Administration visited on 12th November, 2016 for interaction and visit with Director & staff



- Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana on 4th April, 2016 with Honourable Member of Parliament Shri. Bishnu Pada Ray as the Chief guest



- Dr. Harsh kumar Bhanwala, Chairman NABARD visited on 3rd January, 2017 and held scientific interaction with Director and staff



ICAR-CIARI SPREADS ITS WING TO LAKSHADWEEP ISLAND

Looking at the impressive progress made by CIARI in Andaman and Nicobar Islands over the past four decades since inception in the year 1978, Indian Council of Agriculture Research, New Delhi has decided to add Lakshadweep Islands to CIARI, Port Blair.

To accomplish this goal, a series of visits were made by Dr. S. Dam Roy, Director, CIARI, Dr. B. Gangaiah, Head NRM Division and Nodal Officer, and Dr. S.K. Zamir Ahmed, Principal Scientist (Agriculture Extension) and Asstt. Nodal Officer, Lakshadweep. The first success was received with the taking over of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kiltan from Lakshadweep Administration in April, 2016, which has been presently shifted to Kavaratti to the capital of Lakshadweep into a office space provided by Lakshadweep Administration on 8th August, 2016. From 1st April, 2017, a base with research farm will be established at Minicoy by taking over the CPCRI regional station. Dr. V.M. Abdul Gafoor, SMS of KVK, has been given dual responsibilities of Incharge Head, KVK and OIC, Minicoy Centre.



As the entire population of Lakshadweep is ST, Director desired to extend Tribal Sub-plan activities in addition to undertaking need based research activities at Minicoy and their extension to various stakeholders through its KVK. Till dated three training programmes were organized under TSP at Lakshadweep Islands viz., Vegetable cultivation on 1st September, 2016, Nutritious kitchen garden on 5th March, 2017 and Augmentation of feed and fodder resources on 6th March, 2017.

From Director's Desk



To accomplish the extended mandate of serving the Island ecosystem research needs in agriculture and allied sectors of India, CIARI has spread its activities into Lakshadweep Islands, which has been one of the major accomplishment during the year.

To place the Institute in the global map distinguished activities were facilitated by the scientists of the Institute namely, recognition of Teressa goat and Nicobari pig of the Nicobar group of Island as new breeds of India by the NBAGR, ICAR, Karnal, Haryana. Beside, two Plant Genome Saviour Community Award of Rs.10 lakh each to the island farmers community i.e. Karen community and Nicobari tribe, for their contribution to conservation and preservation of traditional and unique rice and nicobari aloo, which is first of its kind given by PPV & FRA, GoI, New Delhi.

It is also a proud moment to share that at field level for successful adoption of the technological backstopping in agriculture and allied fields organically with the support of KVK & CIARI, Shri Ashok Kumar Sarkar a progressive farmer from North & Middle Andaman was conferred with Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Antyodaya Krishi Puruskar by ATARI, Zone II, Kolkatta. At institute level for the commendable work done by the team at South & Nicobar District the AICRIP IFS was adjudged the best centre for the year 2014-

15 at National level. As per the demand of the stakeholders especially the farmers, eight crop varieties namely two each in mung and urd, one in brinjal and three in mushroom with good yield potential were released by the IVRC.

The meticulous conduct of International conference on climate change adaptation and biodiversity from 8th to 10th December, 2016 by ASA at CIARI, was a real time mirror by all the participating delegates. Full marks to the team for stupendous work and logical conclusion.

The most important were the visit of Hon'ble Minister of State, Shri Giriraj Singh, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Govt. of India on 29th December, 2016, Honourable Member of Parliament Shri Bishnu Pada Ray as the Chief guest, during Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bhima Yojana on 4th April, 2016 Professor Ramesh Chand, Honourable Member NITI Aayog, GoI, New Delhi, Dr. A K Singh, DDG (Agri. Extn. & Horticultural Sciences), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. R. R. Hanchinal, Chairperson PPV & FRA, Dr. R. C. Agrawal, Registrar General, PPV & FRA & Shri H.B. Songadkar GM NABARD from 7th to 10th December, 2016 for attending the International seminar on climate change, policy makers meet, & inauguration of guest house, Shri Anindo Majumdar, IAS, Chief Secretary, along with Smti R. Maneka, Secretary (Ag, AH & VS & Fisheries), A & N Administration on 12th November, 2016 and Dr Harsh kumar Bhanwala, Chairman NABARD visited on 3rd January, 2017 to have scientific interaction with Director and staff.

At the end, I congratulate every one for working together in the area of common interest to achieve sustainability in food crops and animal products in addition to providing livelihood security to the island farmers.

(Sibnarayan Dam Roy)
Director, ICAR-CIARI



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 Compiled & Edited by : Dr. S.K. Zamir Ahmed, Mr. Amit Srivastava & Mrs. Rina Saha
 Computer Assistance : Mrs. Rina Saha
 Photo : Mr. K. Ali Akbar
 Printed at : Shri Vignesh Prints, Old No. 33 (New No.65),
 2nd Street, Pudur, Ashok Nagar, Chennai - 600 083.
 E-mail : vprintschennai1@gmail.com