

# Field Day on Vegetable Cultivation (Tomato) at RS-Minicoy

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Port Blair, Jan 02: Regional Station, Minicoy of ICAR-CIARI Port Blair, conducted a “Field Day on vegetable cultivation (tomato) under coconut plantation” for the tribal farmers on 30th December 2022. Speaking on the inaugural occasion, the Chief Guest Dr. Shrikant R. Tapdiya, the Deputy Collector of Minicoy expressed his happiness on the ICAR-CIARI technologies, scientific tomato farming and nutritious kitchen garden. A total of 20 participants including farmers and farm women from Bodouthiri, Rammedu, and South Bandaram villages were attended the field day, in which they were exposed to scientific tomato cultivation at the institute farm. The scientific team comprising of Dr. Gladston Y. and Dr. Ajina S. M. interacted with the farmers and impressed upon the package of practices for organic tomato cultivation under coconut plantation. As tomato is one of the highly demanded vegetables in Lakshadweep islands, the farmers were highly fascinated by this potential crop and its farming, which can be successful to earn high returns in a short period of time. A total of 61 kg fully matured tomatoes were harvested in the presence of Deputy Collector, Minicoy. The vegetable kits (Tomato) and tomato seedlings (30 nos) were distributed among the farmers in the presence of officials of the Department of Agriculture, Minicoy Unit Mr. KunjiKoya. A total of 15 women and 5 men farmers participated. Dr. Gladston Y, Convener and Co-Convenors Mrs. Ajina S.M., Coordinator, Mr.Shareefuddeen Hassan&Mr.Arif M.I., Dr.S.K. Zamir Ahmed, Nodal Officer, Lakshadweep coordinated the overall conduct of the programme under the Chairmanship of Dr. Eaknath B. Chakurkar, Director, ICAR-CIARI, and Port Blair.