

## **KVK-CIARI, N & M Andaman Celebrated Mahila Kisan Divas**

The ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra (CIARI), N & M Andaman, celebrated “Mahila Kisan Divas” with great zeal & enthusiasm along with rest of the nation on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at Panchayat Hall, Hari Nagar. The programme was inaugurated in the gracious presence of Smt. Arati Mondal, Samiti Member, Zilla Parishad, N & M Andaman, Smt. Silmanti Kujur, ex-Pradhan, Swadesh Nagar , Smti. Beena Roy ,up Pradhan ,Basantipur ,PRI members and others. While addressing the gathering Smt. Arati Mondal appreciated the efforts of KVK for motivating the farm women & spreading awareness about the key role of women in agricultural development. Speaking on the occasion, Smt. Silmanti Kujur urged the farm women to form SHG’s and take up self employment for increasing income of the family. Smti. Beena Roy motivated the women to take up agripreneurship by availing government schemes. Dr. Pooja Kapoor, SMS (Home Science),Incharge , KVK, N & M Andaman enlightened the gathering about the objective behind the celebration of the day and emphasised on the vital contribution of women in agriculture & allied sectors. Er. Manoj Kumar, SMS (Agrl.Engg.), briefed about the Labour Saving Agricultural tools for Women and urged the participants to adopt and use simple women friendly tools in routine agricultural activities as it will help in reducing drudgery .Dr. Shailesh Kumar, SMS (Fisheries) briefed about the role of rural women in empowering Indian economy and discussed about various government schemes in fisheries that will help in doubling farm income. Shri. D. Basantia, SMS (Horticulture) spoke about gender diversification in horticultural crops and Dr. Shardul Vikram Lal, SMS (Animal Sc.) discussed about contribution of women in Pashu Palan. On this occasion cookery competitions on traditional recipes was also organized for rural women. This was an attempt to popularize the traditional food of the Bengali community which is losing its significance day by day. An overwhelming response was observed from the rural participants. A total of 37 farm women from various panchayats participated in the programme .In the valedictory session prizes were distributed to the winners.

The programme was organized under the guidance of Dr .Augustine Jerard, Director, ICAR-CIARI, Port Blair.