

ICAR-CRIJAF celebrated 72nd Foundation Day

ICAR- Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres, Barrackpore celebrated its 72nd Foundation Day on 9th February, 2024. The celebration started with cutting of commemorative Foundation Day cake and releasing tricolor balloons by the dignitaries. In this auspicious occasion, Prof. Swapan Kumar Datta, Former Vice Chancellor of Biswa Bangla University and Visva Bharati and former Deputy Director General (Crop Science), ICAR, New Delhi was the Chief Guest. Prof, Malabika Dadlani, Former Joint Director Research, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi, Dr. B. K. Das, Director, ICAR-CIFRI, Barrackpore, Dr. D. B. Shakywar, Director, ICAR-NINFET, Kolkata, and Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata were the Guests of Honor.

In his welcome address Dr. Gouranga Kar, Director, ICAR-CRIJAF briefly mentioned the golden history and important mile stones of the institute. He told that the institute has reoriented the research programmes to utilize the mandated crops in totality for ecosystem service, nutraceuticals and other by-products utilization beyond the fibre producing crops. Dr. Kar specifically informed that after the initiation of IARI academic hub, KVK and the skill development centre the institute is working in all the aspects including research, technology development, up scaling and promotion, training, skill development, teaching and education which is very unique for any institute. Besides he emphasized the importance and special initiatives of the institute in facilitating formation of jute- based Self Help Groups and Farmers' Producers Organization and training on manufacturing of value added jute diversified products that is going to encourage entrepreneurship and ensure higher income of farmers and other stakeholders engaged in jute sector.

Dr. Swapan Kumar Datta, the Chief Guest of the function congratulated the Director and all staff of the institute for the commendable achievements and continuous efforts for the service of the jute farmers. Dr Datta was quite optimistic that decoding of jute genome information will open new opportunities to develop designer jute with all desirable traits and climate and biotic stress resiliency. He expressed that the education hub of CRIJAF will enable the students for complete learning not only in agriculture but also in research.

Prof, Malabika Dadlani, Former Joint Director Research, ICAR-IARI, highlighted the strong history of the institute and congratulated the Director and staffs for bringing the institute to this position for the benefit of farmers, SHGs and students.

Dr. B. K. Das, Director, ICAR-CIFRI, Barrackpore appreciated and congratulated the institute for commendable achievements and expressed that time has come to replace plastics with jute.

Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI expressed that the institute is stepping up to build strong collaboration with different organizations which is going to enhance the visibility of the institute as well as promote the technologies in a big way.

Dr. D. B. Shakywar, Director, ICAR-NINFET congratulated the staffs and previous workers who has brought the institute to its present state. He reiterated strong collaboration with CRIJAF for overall development of jute sector.

The programme was attended by delegates from Industry, Govt. Institutions, ICAR Institutes and Regional Stations, Media persons, students and farmers. The proven technologies of ICAR-CRIJAF, SHGs and FPOs were showcased in different exhibition stalls for the benefit of all the stakeholders and farmers.



