

## **Celebration of World Water Day 2024 at ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna**

The ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna orchestrated the commemoration of World Water Day on March 22, 2024, themed "Water for Peace." Every scientist affiliated with the institute participated in this celebration. Dr. Arti Kumari, Scientist, initiated the proceedings by extending a warm welcome to the Director, Division Heads, and fellow scientists. Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary DARE & DG, ICAR and Dr. S K Choudhary, Deputy Director General (Natural Resource Management), honoured the event virtually, stressing the imperative of water management for fostering peace in life.

Dr. Ujjwal Kumar, Head of the Division of Socioeconomics and Extension, underscored the importance of water reuse in daily activities and utilizing wastewater for agricultural purposes. Dr. Kamal Sarma, Head of the Division of Livestock & Fishery Management, expressed concern over the global water scarcity issue in various urban centers. Dr. Ashutosh Upadhyaya, Head of the Division of Land and Water Management, provided insights into the history of World Water Day celebrations, emphasizing water conservation strategies and the necessity of water pricing, especially in agriculture, for optimal resource utilization.

Dr. Anup Das, Director of ICAR-RCER, Patna, highlighted the significance of the agricultural sector as the largest consumer of fresh water, advocating for the adoption of modern water management techniques to conserve resources. He also stressed the creation of water-smart villages for showcasing innovative water management technologies and raising awareness.

On this occasion, various micro irrigation techniques were demonstrated to farmers from Buxar to sensitize them about the modern irrigation techniques. The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Akram Ahmed, Scientist at ICAR-RCER, Patna.

