ICAR-National Institute on Foot and Mouth Disease, Bhubaneswar celebrated National Women Farmers' Day



15th October 2026: ICAR-National Institute on Foot and Mouth Disease (ICAR-NIFMD), Bhubaneswar, observed Women Farmers' Day on 15th October 2026 to recognize the contribution of women to agriculture and allied sectors and to provide a platform for women farmers and entrepreneurs of the region to share their experiences, innovations and achievements. The programme was organized around the theme "Recognizing Women Farmers: Inspiring Progress in Agriculture and Allied Sectors". The programme commenced with the welcome address by Dr. Smrutirekha Mallick, followed by the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by Director, ICAR-NIFMD, Dr. J.K. Mohapatra along with the invited progressive women farmers. A total of 75 participants including 35 women farmers, institute personnel and other attendees took part in the programme. A dedicated session was held to highlight the experiences of women engaged in agriculture, livestock-based livelihoods and agri-enterprises. Five women speakers as enlisted below participated in the event.

- Mrs. Jayanti Mahapatra- Co-founder and Managing Director, Manikstu Agro Pvt. Ltd. (Online participation)
- Mrs. Jhilimani Behera -Mushroom and dairy farming
- Ms. Sasmita Das-Backyard poultry and goat farming
- Mrs. Sumitra Mohapatra- Soy/dairy product entrepreneurship
- Mrs. Mamata Behera- Horticulture/ vegetable farming

The session was co-ordinated by Dr. Tareni Das and Dr. M. Rout and provided an opportunity to highlight the practical experiences and enterprise pathways that can inspire other women farmers and strengthen participation in agriculture and allied activities. Progressive women farmers were felicitated in recognition of their achievements and contributions to agriculture and allied sectors. The Director, ICAR-NIFMD, Dr. J. K. Mohapatra, addressed the gathering and encouraged the women farmers to become successful entrepreneurs and write their own success story. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Sushmita Nautiyal.

The observance of Women Farmers' Day at ICAR-NIFMD, Bhubaneswar, provided a forum to acknowledge women's contributions to agriculture and allied sectors and to share experiences from diverse farm-based and entrepreneurial activities. The programme reinforced the importance of recognizing women's knowledge, leadership and enterprise in strengthening rural livelihoods.




National
Women Farmers Day


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ICAR NIFMD




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