CDB Regional Office, Assam celebrated World Coconut Day

Coconut Development Board, Regional Office, Assam celebrated World Coconut Day on 2nd September 2019 at Horticultural Research Station, Kahikuchi, Guwahati in collaboration with Horticultural Research Station, AAU, Kahikuchi.

Addressing the inaugural meeting of the programme as chief guest, Shri. Jayantamall Barua, Chairperson of the Assam Tourism Development Corporation said that coconut is a potential commodity to strengthen the socio-economic status of rural Assam and urged all the stakeholders to rejuvenate the coconut sector of the state. The acting Vice-Chancellor of Assam Agricultural University, Dr. Ashok Bhattacharya, stated that charting out a scientific and strategic roadmap for development of coconut sector was the need of the hour. Shri. Lunghar Obed, Director of Coconut Development Board briefed on the different coconut-based schemes and programmes of the government and urged the farmers to take advantage of the same.

Dr. Pranab Mahanta, Director of Horticulture and Food Processing Govt. of Assam who spoke during the occasion stressed upon the need for selection of coconut varieties and availability of irrigation facilities for improving the productivity of coconut in the state. Earlier, in his welcome address, Dr. Sarat Saikia, Chief Scientist, Horticultural Research Station, Kahikuchi, emphasized the socio-economic role of coconut in augmenting farm income and the recent trends in value addition of coconut. Dr. J.C. Nath, Scientist-in-charge of All India Coordinated Research Project on Palms, Kahikuchi proposed vote of thanks.

To commemorate the day, a ceremonial plantation of coconut seedling was undertaken in the campus of the Horticultural Research Station. The programme also included training-cum-field demonstration of coconut-based technologies as well as farmer-scientist interaction. A competition on coconut bunch and coconut products was also organized. Farmers from different CPSs of Kamrup district actively took part in the programme.