

Training-cum-demonstration programmes under Scheduled Tribe Component (STC) programme conducted in the tribal area of Shimiliguda, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

Visakhapatnam Research Centre of ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (ICAR-CIFT) organized three training-cum-demonstration programmes under the Scheduled Tribe Component (STC) from 2nd to 4th March, 2020 in the tribal area of Shimiliguda (Village), Araku valley (M), Visakhapatnam district, Andhra Pradesh.

Twenty five tribal fishermen participated in the three day training-cum-demonstration programme 'Fabrication of improved gear materials for sustainable fishery'. Dr R. Raghu Prakash, Scientist-in-Charge and Principal Scientist, Sri G. Kamei, Scientist, Sri Trilok Banchor, SSS were the resource persons for the programme. Dr R. Raghu Prakash delivered a talk on present status of gear and craft used in inland fisheries with special reference to the reservoir harvesting practices and sustainable fishing practices. The operation of foldable traps for catching fish and shellfish was demonstrated to the tribal fishers. Hands-on training was imparted to the tribal fishers on fabrication and fixing of foldable traps, fabrication of gill net and fabrication of cast net and preparation of different baits for attracting fish. The fabricated gears were introduced in the Shimiliguda mini-reservoir.

The 'Value addition of fish and fishery products' component of the STC training programme was conducted at Shimiliguda and twenty five tribal women belonging to various Self Help Groups (SHG) participated in the skill development programme. Dr B. Madhusudana Rao, Principal Scientist, Dr. Viji P., Scientist, Dr.Jesmi Debbarma, Scientist, Sri G. Bhushanam, Senior Technician and Sri Kedar Meher, SSS were the resource persons for the programme. Dr B. Madhusudana Rao delivered a talk on 'Value added fish ad fishery products'. He explained the health benefits of eating fish, and urged the participants to enhance their livelihood opportunities through valued addition of fish. Dr Viji, P. and Dr Jesmi Debbarma imparted hands on training on the preparation of different value added fish products from freshwater fish namely fish fingers, fish samosa, fish cutlet, fish burger, fish fry and fish pickle. Training was also imparted on fish filleting, fish mince preparation and salting and drying of fish. Twenty five tribal women participated in the training programme on 'Hygienic handling and maintenance of fish'. Sri. K. Ahamed Basha explained the hygienic measures to be practiced while processing the fish for reducing fish spoilage, contamination and microbial growth. Training was imparted on packaging of fish products in stand-up pouches and trays and demonstration was given on the use of insulated fish bags.

The valedictory session was conducted on the last day of the training. Dr Raghu Prakash, Scientist-in-Charge distributed improved cast net, gill nets, foldable traps, hooks of different sizes and artificial lures to the trainees. Inputs such as CIFT insulated fish bags, ice boxes, weighing machine, sealing machines, plastic crates, stainless steel utensils, gas stoves, frying pans, cutting boards, egg beaters, stainless steel trays, knives, scissors, ladels, plastic trays, aprons, gloves, mouth caps, hair nets and packaging material were distributed to the women trainees. The participants gave their feedback wherein they thanked ICAR-CIFT for choosing their village, expressed their happiness and said that this was the first skill development training on fishing methods and fish products preparation conducted in Shimiliguda tribal village. The trainees opined that the training programme helped them in acquiring new skills in fishing which they would implement to increase their catch. The tribal women said that the training gave them the confidence to prepare value added fish products on their own and would try to market them to increase their income. Training manuals and pamphlets on harvest and post-harvest technologies (in Telugu language) were distributed to the trainees.



Dr R. Raghu Prakash, Scientist-in-Charge explaining 'Harvest technologies' to the trainees



Skill development training on Foldable Trap Fabrication



Training on fabrication of cast net



DR Jesmi Debbarma imparting hands-on training on dressing of fish and shellfish to the tribal women



Value added fish products prepared by trainees



Dr. Madhusudana Rao addressing the trainees on Value addition and hygienic handling of fish



Tribal fisherman giving feedback on the training programme



Certificate distribution by Dr.Raghu Prakash, SIC,ICAR-CIFT,Vizag

