

### **Celebration of "Mahila Kisan Divas" at ICAR-CIWA**

Mahila Kisan Divas was celebrated at ICAR-CIWA on 15 October 2018. The aim of celebrating the day is to recognize farmwomen's contribution and to increase their active participation in agriculture. Hundred farmwomen from 14 villages adopted under different projects for participatory research attended the programme. Fifty (50) officials of ICAR-CIWA also participated in the celebration. On the occasion of Mahila Kisan Divas, a farmer-scientist interface was organized wherein subject matter experts from ICAR-CIWA discussed different issues interest for women in agriculture like rearing of cows, goats & poultry, fodder cultivation for animal husbandry, mushroom production, orchard management, vegetable cultivation and seed production. They also answered the queries of farmwomen. Quiz competition was organized among farmwomen of 14 adopted villages and twenty four (24) women winners were selected. Dr. S. K. Srivastava, Director of ICAR-CIWA graced the programme as Chief Guest. In his address, he highlighted the significant role and contribution of women in farm & nonfarm activities and raised their issues in agriculture. He justified the importance of this auspicious day, and the role of ICAR-CIWA in addressing gender issues in agriculture and women empowerment. For sensitizing and motivating the farmwomen, three (3) progressive farmwomen shared their experience that, how ICAR-CIWA recognized their leadership quality for empowering them in getting a sustainable livelihood. They also emphasized that the institute's technological interventions had reduced their drudgery and increased their income. The Chief Guest honoured the winners with awards. The programme was successfully organized by Dr. L. P. Sahoo, Dr. Ananta Sarkar and Ms. Ankita Sahu.

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