

shubh yatra शुभ यात्रा

Bon Voyage

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बॉन वॉयज



French benefits
Discovering Dordogne

Sonam Kapoor
Mid-air conversations

Reading only



CALL OF THE VALLEY

ON A CRAFT TRAIL OF KASHMIR

CENTRAL ISLAND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS

Furthering tropical agriculture research

The ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute (CIARI), is a multidisciplinary organisation that caters to the needs of agricultural research and development for enhancing the productivity and production of crops, livestock and fishery to bridge the gap between requirement and the local production. Set up in June, 1978, CIARI is located in Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Here, research is facilitated by five divisions, one section and technology dissemination is done through three Krishi Vigyan Kendras and one outreach centre covering all the three districts of the island.

Mandate

- To provide a research base to improve the productivity of agri-horticulture, livestock and fisheries of Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep group of islands through basic, applied and adaptive research.
- Conservation, characterisation and sustainable utilisation of natural resources and harnessing through post harvest and value addition.
- To standardise technologies for health coverage and bio security of plant, animal and fishery resources.
- To standardise techniques for capture and culture fisheries, including coastal aquaculture.
- Vulnerability studies of island ecosystem and adaptive strategies to develop climate resilient agriculture.
- Transfer of technology, capacity building, policy support and market intelligence to stake holders.

Broad research programmes

- Characterisation and bio-prospecting of natural Island bio-resources.
- Climate proofing Island agriculture for improving productivity.
- Development of harvest, post harvest management practices and value addition.
- Policy support research for agriculture development in the Islands.

Flagship programme on Integrated agriculture system for Tropical Island, Establishment of Composite bio-security and quarantine facility and Tribal Sub Plan are other research and development programmes.



During its 39-year journey, CIARI's achievements include development of 31 crop varieties, dual purpose Nicobari fowl, and successful captive breeding of Sebae anemone fish, *Amphiprion sebae*, Skunk anemone fish, *Amphiprion akalopisos*, Red Saddle anemone fish, *Amphiprion ephippium* in ANI. *Pemphis acidula* Forst. (Lythraceae) a species of mangrove was rediscovered after a lapse of 91 years. Forty-four sponge species were reported for the first time. Three new species of fruit fly, *Bactrocera zonata*, *B. correcta* and *B. caudata* and a rodent *Bandicota bengalensis* was reported as new records from Andaman Islands. Custodian farmers and communities of biodiversity conservation and utilisation in Andaman & Nicobar Islands for Andaman Coconut, Nicobari Aloo, Khoon Phal, Blue mango, Noni, Khushbayya rice, Black Burma, Mushley, Nyawin, White Burma, Nicobari fowl, Nicobari pig and Teressa goat were identified and recognised for the first time.

More than 50 per cent of the research articles are published in journals with NAAS rating above five, beside 45 research papers have been published with NAAS rating 7.0 and above during the period 2010-11 to 2014-15. Impressive number of books and database on the biodiversity of soil, crop, livestock, butterflies, mangroves, corals and fish genetic resources of this islands have also been published.

A remarkable impact has been made through transfer and adoption of the technologies like Integrated farming system, Broad bed and furrow system,

"Central Island Agricultural Research Institute established in 1978, at a strategic location in Andaman, is a model for tropical island agriculture research in Southeast Asian countries."



Dr. S. Dam Roy, Director

Homestead based integrated farming system for tribal's, Protected cultivation, Seed village for providing truthfully labelled seeds of rice, HYVs of rice, Satellite fish nursery for production of fresh water IMC seeds, Composite fish culture, Mud crab fattening, Nicobari fowl and Pekin duck under backyard, Water Users Association, Weather based agromet advisories, Potential fishing zone forecasts and Micro business modules. Besides the restoration of degraded areas through different livelihood options, land shaping interventions and target programmes for the tribals has brought visible impact on increase in production, productivity and improvement in livelihood.

With the accumulated experience and expertise in island agriculture, the institute is envisioned to make a major stride in coming years towards the cherished goal of emerging as the institute of excellence on tropical island agriculture in the Asian countries.

Source : Dr SK Zamir Ahmed,
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