

## 18<sup>th</sup> Parthenium Awareness Week

ICAR-Indian Institute of Water Management observed the 18<sup>th</sup> Parthenium Awareness Week from 16-22 August 2023. On 16<sup>th</sup> August 2023, the banners and posters were displayed at ICAR-IIWM campus. On the second day, a campaign was organized at Vivekananda Shiksha Kendra, BDA colony, Bhubaneswar wherein; Dr. Dibakar Ghosh, Scientist addressed the students about the harmful impacts of Parthenium on human and animal health. He also stated the probable management options of Parthenium which helped create awareness among the school children and teachers. On 18<sup>th</sup> August 2023, another campaign was organized at ICAR-IIWM Research Farm, Medhasal in which talks related to Parthenium infestation and its management were delivered by Dr. S.K. Rautaray, Dr. P.K. Panda and Dr. D. Ghosh. On 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023, Scientists and staff of ICAR-IIWM got engaged in uprooting Parthenium in the office premises. On the final day of this awareness drive, we visited Haridamada (FFP adopted village), and interacted with farmers and school children. Dr. S.K. Mishra, Dr. D. Ghosh and Dr. P. Sahu from ICAR-IIWM emphasized the negative impacts of Parthenium on human and animal health along with yield reduction in upland crops. They also suggested possible preventive measures and management strategies to avoid Parthenium menace. Dr. Dibakar Ghosh and Dr. Subodh Karna coordinated the Parthenium Awareness Week programme from 16-22 August 2023.

