

## ICAR-IIWM, Bhubaneswar celebrated World Environment Day

ICAR-IIWM, Bhubaneswar, Odisha celebrated World Environment Day on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 with plantation drive and mass awareness campaign on Mission LiFE, i.e., Lifestyle for Environment. The event was inaugurated by the Director of the Institute Dr. Arjamadutta Sarangi in *Haridamada* adopted village of *Khordha* district with the planting of fruit saplings in a village community ground. Participating scientists, staff and villagers including several women, senior citizen Sri Fakir Charan Behera and *Panchayat Samiti* member Sri Saroj Kumar Behera joined enthusiastically in the plantation drive. In his address, Dr. Sarangi spoke about the importance of observing 'World Environment Day' and the roles and responsibilities of every citizen to save our mother earth to lead a happy, healthy and peaceful life. He highlighted about the theme of the Day for 2023, i.e., 'Beat Plastic Pollution' and emphasized on 'Reducing, Reusing, Recycling, and Reorienting and diversifying with sustainable plastic alternatives'. Later, Dr Sarangi along with staff and senior citizen of the village distributed fruit sapling to all the participants. At the outset, Dr. S.K. Mishra, Chairman of the *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan* Committee of the Institute welcomed all the guests and participants and at the end, proposed vote of thanks. The village programme was followed by an avenue plantation drive at the Institute research farm near Deras, Khordha and in the afternoon in the residential colony of its ICAR-IIWM campus.

More than hundred staff, family members and villagers actively participated in the plantation drive cum 'Mission LiFE' awareness campaign and planted over hundred plants, and committed to plant more in the upcoming raining season. The programme was coordinated and organized by the *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan* Committee of the Institute.

	
Inauguration of the World Environment Day with planting of sapling by the Director	Planting of sapling by the local Panchayat Samiti member
	
Director addressing the gathering in the adopted village	Distribution of fruit sapling to all participants



Plantation drive in the Institute research farm at Deras, Khordha



Plantation drive in the Institute residential colony, Bhubaneswar