

Biotech News

News Letter of Directorate of Biotechnology, DSTE ; Tripura

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Message

Sri Joygobinda Debroy
Minister,
Science, Technology &
Environment, Tripura

It gives me immense pleasure to know that Directorate of Biotechnology, Tripura is publishing its first newsletter. Biotechnology has great importance in almost all the sectors of modern life. From environment to agriculture, aquaculture, animal husbandry, forestry, food security, health services--everywhere biotechno-logical interventions can provide sustainable solutions. Though this directorate came into existence very recently, it is committed to explore the potential of biotechnological applications in different sectors, undertake R & D and create awareness among the mass specially the student community.

I wish this publication a grand success.

Message

Sriram Taranikanti
Commissioner & Secretary
Science, Technology &
Environment, Tripura

The present concept of sustainability in all the sectors is driven by Biotechnological intervention. Though, very new but the Directorate of Biotechnology of the state have been doing Commendable task in the field of human need and socio economic welfare of the state. I am glad to know that Directorate of Biotechnology, Tripura is publishing its first newsletter titled "Biotech News". The newsletter will provide first hand information to the people of the state about the activities of this directorate.

I wish this endeavour a grand success.

A brief introduction of DBT: The Directorate of Biotechnology(DBT) was created in January,2002 and was entrusted with the responsibility of dissemination of technology in the field of Biotechnology and coordinating implementation of the projects in the same field. Since its inception, the Directorate developed linkages with leading research/academic/technical institutions/ Govt. Organizations for introduction of different biotechnology schemes/packages and also to undertake R & D activities in different sectors for socio-economic development of the state. In order to implement different demonstration schemes/projects to achieve the goals, an autonomous body namely Tripura Biotechnology Council was also set up in 2006 in the state.

Mission of DBT: Improved management of Bio-resources of Tripura through biotechnological interventions for sustainable socio-economic development.

State Level Training on Organic Farming-

The Directorate of Biotechnology organised 2(two) days State level training programme on 30-31 August,2010 in collaboration with Central Institute of Horticulture, Nagaland, Government of India for the farmers on organic farming with Biotech intervention. 86 farmers from different parts of the state participated in the programme. To motivate the farmers, some selected farmers were given biofertiliser and bio-pesticides at the end of training for taking up organic farming on experimental basis.



Farmers got success in organic farming:

As a result of intensive follow up of the training programme and under technical guidance from DBT, trainee farmers like Sentu Acharjee of Bhubanban, West Tripura, Khudiram Debbarma of Chelikhola, Bishalgarh, Sirajuddin Ahmed of Jamjuri, Udaipur, Falu Ch. Das of North Nalicherra, Ambassa have attained excellent crop yield besides producing pesticide residue free crops adopting biotech approach.



State level Workshop for field functionaries:

A state level workshop on "Soil & crop health management – a biotech approach" was jointly organised by DBT & CIH at Pragna Bhawan, Agartala, on 6th & 7th October, 2010. Hon'ble Minister, Science, Technology & Environment inaugurated the workshop. The Directors of CIH, Nagaland, DSTE, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry & Fishery etc. depts. attended the programme. More than 50 officers from Agriculture, Horticulture, Fishery, ARDD, Forestry depts. participated in the training programme. Experts from different parts of the country delivered lectures and interacted with the participants. A recommendation on necessity and steps for introducing organic farming in the state was also made from the workshop and was placed before the state government.



Training on IPM with biotech approach:

One day district level training programme conducted on 22nd November, 2010 at Udaipur on IPM adopting biotech approach. Farmers, PRI representatives, college students, fertilizer dealers attended the training programme. Hon'ble Minister, Science, Technology & Environment inaugurated the programme. The farmers were provided with biopesticide samples at the end of the training programme. The programme was jointly organised by DBT, Govt. of Tripura & CIPMC, Govt. of India.



Awareness programme on Biodiversity for school students :

DBT, Tripura has taken up series programmes for generating awareness on different aspects of Biodiversity for the school students. The first of the series was a one day programme for the school students of West Tripura District on "Know your Biodiversity—Know the bamboo resources of Tripura." It was organised on 27/12/11 by the Directorate of Biotechnology in collaboration with BCDI, Govt. of India. Hon'ble Minister, S.T. & E, Tripura inaugurated the programme. 50(fifty) students from 5(five) selected schools participated in the programme. The programme will be held in phased manner for students of other districts.



Broadcasting of Biotechnology News in All India Radio :

On request of this Directorate, from December, 2010, at 8:05 P.M. on every 3rd Sunday, a special broadcast on "Biotechnology news" is being made from AIR, Agartala for 10 minutes on different issues related to biotechnology. This Directorate is providing requisite matters for this