

For Favour of Publication

Patna, 17 August 2026: The **Environmental Information, Awareness, Capacity Building and Livelihood Programme (EIACP)**, PC-RP, CSEC-ADRI, Patna, under the aegis of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India, today organised a **10-day Capacity Building Programme on Hydroponics in Flower and Medicinal Plants**, aimed at promoting sustainable agriculture, resource-efficient farming and green livelihood opportunities. CSEC-ADRI is the environment unit at the Asian Development Research Institute.

Dr Ashutosh Upadhyaya, Head, Division of Land and Water Management, ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna, graced the inaugural session as Chief Guest. He highlighted the importance of awareness and adoption of new agricultural technologies, noting that while hydroponics requires higher initial investment and energy, it can also offer higher production and efficient resource utilisation.

Md Javed Alam, a hydroponics expert with over 30 years of industry experience, will lead the training. Along with **Dr Sandeep Kumar**, he highlighted practical applications ranging from household cultivation to nursery development and sustainable livelihood generation.

Dr Sunil Kumar Gupta, EIACP Programme Coordinator, ADRI, underlined the environmental relevance of plant-based indoor cultivation, including its potential contribution to reducing indoor air pollution. **Dr Ashmita Gupta**, Member Secretary, ADRI, and faculty members were also present at the inaugural programme.

The first batch is being conducted from **17-26 August 2026**, with **Batch 2 scheduled for 31 August-10 September 2026**. The programme is **free of cost**, with 30 participants in each batch. The training will cover **soilless farming, hydroponic systems, cultivation of flower and medicinal plants, nutrient and water management, pH and EC monitoring, nursery raising, crop monitoring, harvesting, and entrepreneurship opportunities**.

The programme is open to **farmers, rural youth, women entrepreneurs, SHGs, nursery owners, agriculture start-ups, NGOs, community organisations, and agriculture and horticulture students**. Interested participants may register for **Batch 2** with CSEC-ADRI, Patna, subject to availability of seats.

(Abhishek Prasad)