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**Kisan Mela in Kumaon, Garhwal hills regions**

Almora, 8 April 2015. Shri Manoj Tewari (MLA, Almora) chief guest in the *Kisan Mela*, organized by the Vivekanand Parvathiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan (VPKAS), spoke on various achievements of VPKAS and the other ICAR research institutes located in the region. One of the participant institutes, the Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation (IISWC) exhibited various natural resource conservation and improved agricultural production.

Dr P.K. Mishra (Director, IISWC) emphasized use of conservation technologies by the end-users for sustaining the production in his message. The scientists of IISWC requested farmers and other participants present in the *Mela* to adopt innovative technologies being developed to augment crop production without harming resource bases. While interacting with farmers, scientists shared the status, potential and improvement needs to conserve water and fisheries resources. They informed the participants on the benefits of fish foods and fish farming; and pointed out that fish farming in available and harvested water suitably and conservation of fish resources in natural waters hold the key to meet the increasing demands of fish. Later, the team had interaction with the tribal women farmers of the participants to understand their problems, needs and the potential technological interventions.

Farmers showed keen interest on technological aspects of the IISWC and had useful interaction with the scientists. Over 300 farmers and participants benefited from the IISWC stall, which exhibited specifically prepared exhibits and technological details.

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