## RFRI PARTICIPATED IN BRAHMAPUTRA **AMONTRON ABHIYAN**

As public outreach initiative to popularize sustainable practices and river rejuvenation, a 'Brahmaputra Amontron Abhiyan' (BAA) is being organized by Brahmaputra Board under Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India from 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 to 21<sup>st</sup> January, 2021 covering a distance of around 900 km along the river Brahmaputra. The Abhiyan has two pronged approaches: A Public Outreach Programme aimed specially at youth and students through a river rafting expedition to popularize the concept of "Living with the River" and combined data collection and sampling exercise on river water quality, river sediment, river bank erosion and fish habitat along entire route of the expedition, in collaboration with various institutes of repute.

The expedition is being supported by various Ministries and Departments and Central PSU's of Government of India and the State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam, technical Institutes and National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) etc. The Rafting expedition comprises of two legs in India covering about 900 km. The Arunachal leg started from the Indo-China border at Gelling in Upper Siang District of Arunachal Pradesh and moved along the Siang River to Pasighat in East Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh. On entering Dhemaji district in Assam from Pasighat, the Assam leg started along Brahmaputra River and will ultimately terminate at Assameralga in South Salmara Mankachar District of Assam near Indo-Bangladesh Border.

On invitation of Brahmaputra Board, a team of Scientists comprising of Shri R. K. Kalita, Dr. D. J. Das, Dr. Krishna Giri and Shri Bibhuti Deka participated in the programme at Majuli on 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2021. Shri R. K. Kalita and Dr. D. J. Das delivered a presentation on various activities of RFRI, Jorhat during the interaction programme held with the Rafters and other people present. During the presentation, work done by RFRI on Detailed Project Report on Rejuvenation of Brahmaputra was highlighted, apart from other activities such as livelihood enhancement of people through bamboo, agarwood, NTFPs etc.

## **GLIMPSES OF THE PROGRAMME**













