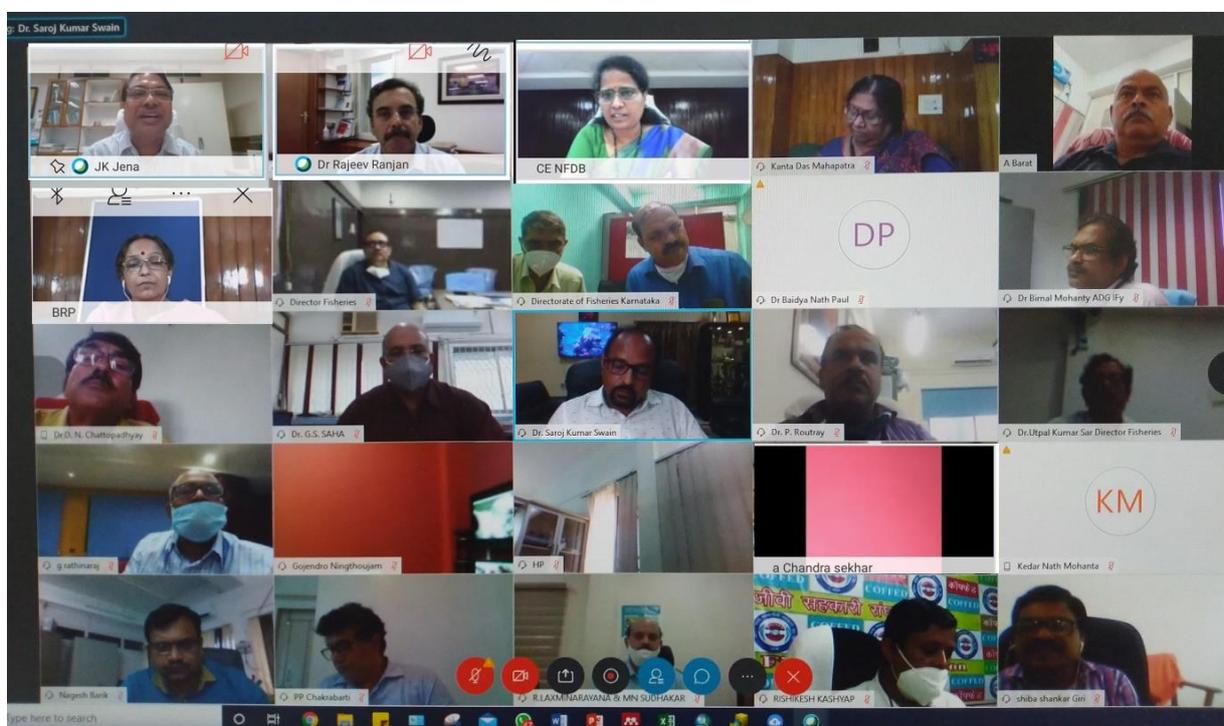


# ICAR-CIFA to Develop Strategies for Doubling the Freshwater Fish Production in the country

Bhubaneswar  
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ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture in association with National Fisheries Development Board, Hyderabad began a series of Virtual Stakeholder Consultation Meetings on “Strategies for Freshwater Aquaculture Development under PMMSY” today. All the relevant stakeholders such as state fisheries departments, private stakeholders, developmental agencies and the Krishi Vigyan Kendra network participated in the event to discuss and deliberate various issues and constraints in the development of freshwater aquaculture sector in the country. The event series is envisaged to have three parts viz., “Leveraging Institutional Synergy for Technology-led Freshwater Aquaculture Development”, “Stakeholders Perspectives for accelerating Freshwater Aquaculture Development” and “Fostering Freshwater Aquaculture Technology Dissemination through KVK Network”.



The first part of the event involving state counterparts is being held during 19th to 21st August 2020. Dr Saroj Kumar Swain, Director, ICAR-CIFA welcomed all the dignitaries and participants of the event. Dr Rajeev Ranjan, Secretary, Department of Fisheries, Govt. of India spoke about various dimensions of PMMSY scheme. The Govt. has set a target of producing 220 lakh tons of fish in 2024-25 from current level of 137.58 lakh tons and to achieve that, the average aquaculture productivity has to go up from 3.3 tons/ha to 5.0 tons/ha through effective implementation of the scheme, he added. To fulfil the target, ICAR-CIFA has to play a major role as additional fish production of 50 lakh tons has to come primarily from freshwater aquaculture sector. He also spoke about the role ICAR-CIFA could in bridging the technology gap in freshwater aquaculture. He discussed the key strategies of PMMSY viz., quality brood and seed, collectivization through Farmer Producer Organizations, participation of youth, species diversification, strong institutional framework, entrepreneurship models and grouping of activities with end to end solutions etc.

Dr J. K. Jena, DDG (Fisheries Science), ICAR, New Delhi emphasized on horizontal and vertical expansion of inland fisheries sector through implementation of PMMSY. He also encouraged all the institutions to carry out a SWOT analysis regarding the present status of freshwater aquaculture. He suggested resource characterization and developing strategy according to the resource base of the states. Dr C. Suvarna, IFS, Chief Executive, NFDB discussed about National Freshwater Fish Brood Bank facility and its role in providing quality seed. She also emphasized upon traceability and augmenting fish exports. Mr Sagar Mehra, Joint Secretary, Inland Fisheries, Dept. of Fisheries, Govt. of India spoke on the occasion. Director of Fisheries of seven states presented their views on developing aquaculture in their respective states. Over 150 participants from across the country attended the meeting. The meeting was coordinated by Dr B R Pillai and Dr K D Mahapatra, Principal Scientists of ICAR-CIFA.

For more details please contact Director, ICAR-CIFA