

**SAARC Regional Training Program “Mass Breeding and Culture Technique of Catfishes”
at ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA), Bhubaneswar
16-21 July, 2018**

Inaugural programme on 16 July 2018

For capacity building in SAARC member states in aquaculture, the SAARC regional training on “Mass Breeding and Culture Technique of Catfishes” is being jointly organised by the SAARC Agricultural Centre (SAC), Dhaka and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) during 16-21 July, 2018 at the ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA), Bhubaneswar.

The delegates from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka are assembled at ICAR-CIFA for a week long training. This program is organized with the objective of sharing the ideas, commonalities and solutions among the stakeholders of the SAARC countries working on catfish farming especially on species like Indian Magur, Pangas, Horabagrus, Pabda etc.



The program was inaugurated on 16th July, 2018 at the ICAR-CIFA, Bhubaneswar. Dr. N. Sarangi, Former Director, ICAR-CIFA was the Chief Guest of the function. The function was also graced by Dr. A. K. Sahu, Renowned Researcher in Catfish Farming & Former Head, APED, ICAR-CIFA, as Guest of Honour. Other dignitaries included Dr. S. S. Giri, Senior Program Specialist (Fisheries), SAC and

Dr. S. K. Swain, Director (I/c), ICAR-CIFA. During the inaugural function, the dignitaries highlighted the importance of species diversification in aquaculture, fish biodiversity conservation in the water bodies of the South Asian region and potential of catfish farming in SAARC region was stressed. The program is coordinated by a team of scientists of the ICAR-CIFA, comprising of Dr. S. K. Sahoo, Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Dr. Pankaj K. Tiwari and Dr. B. R. Pillai. The deliberations in the training program is expected to focus on different aspects of catfish culture like pond construction, pond environment monitoring, induced breeding of different catfish species, seed production, rearing, feeding, health management, etc.

