

ICAR-CIFA organised the National Stakeholder Consultation on Sustainable Development of Ornamental Fisheries in India

The ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (ICAR-CIFA), in collaboration with the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), Hyderabad, successfully organized the National Stakeholder Consultation on Sustainable Development of



Ornamental Fisheries in India on August 1-2, 2024. The event brought together more than 65 stakeholders from across the country, including ornamental fish breeders, farmers, traders, manufacturers, and hobbyists, as well as fisheries department officers from 11 states and scientists from ICAR fisheries institutes such as CMFRI, NBFGR, CIFE, CIFRI, and CIBA. Discussions covered pivotal topics such as boosting India's ornamental fish export, advancing domestic production, enhancing retail trade and hobby promotion, fostering indigenous manufacturing, and addressing policy and institutional issues. Dr. B.K. Behera, Chief Executive of NFDB, graced the occasion as



the Chief Guest and spoke about various developmental schemes of the NFDB, such as entrepreneurship models, insurance schemes, etc. He informed that the NFDB plans to promote the ornamental fisheries through the development of the

Cluster Approach. He motivated the participants to avail the board's different promotional initiatives. Dr. P.K. Sahoo, Director of ICAR-CIFA, stressed the importance of adopting scientific practices to produce quality ornamental fish, thereby increasing India's share in the international market.

The two-day deliberations led to fruitful discussions and actionable insights, paving the way for developing a detailed roadmap to transform the ornamental fisheries sector in India. Key areas of focus identified include



enhancing the production of quality ornamental fish on a mass scale through better scientific practices, expanding research and development, strengthening the export framework, encouraging local manufacturing, and framing appropriate policies to create a conducive environment for the growth of the sector in India. Dr P.C. Das, Dr S.K. Swain, Dr C.K. Mishra, and Dr I. Sivaraman, Scientists of ICAR-CIFA, organized the programme.

