



ICAR-CIFA, Bhubaneswar demonstrated murrel breeding and seed production technology in Tamil Nadu

Striped murrels or striped snakeheads, is a potential candidate species for aquaculture in Asia, It shows an excellent growth rate and cultured at high stocking densities. Its promising nutritional quality, coupled with fewer intramuscular spines, usually brings them good market value (5-8 USD per Kg) in its native regions. Striped murrel is in very high demand in Indian states such as Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, West Bengal, Punjab, Assam, Bihar, Maharashtra and Karnataka but most of the catches comes from the wild, which has reduced its population in nature.

The ICAR-CIFA, Bhubaneswar signed an MoU with Department of Fisheries & Fishermen Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu to provide technical support under a consultancy project on “Breeding, seed production and culture of striped murrel” on 28th December, 2022. Following the MoU, a group of 9 state fisheries officers from Department of Fisheries, Tamil Nadu were trained on murrel breeding and seed production during 22-24 August 2023. Subsequently, the scientists team from ICAR-CIFA visited the project site for the monitoring of murrel hatchery construction. Finally, with the technical support of the ICAR-CIFA, Dept. of Fisheries, Tamil Nadu completed a model hatchery for the murrel fish at Lalpet, Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu.



Recently, scientist from ICAR-CIFA, Bhubaneswar visited Lalpet murrel hatchery, Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu during 6-10th August 2024 and conducted number of induced breeding trials. Fishes responded well upon the hormone injection and most of the female fishes successfully spawned. During this period, over 50,000 hatchlings with the support of state fisheries officials was produced. Presently, the hatchlings are being reared for production of fingerlings.

