



# CIBA NEWS

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CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF BRACKISHWATER AQUACULTURE, CHENNAI

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## WOMEN IN COASTAL FISHERIES

The estimated population of India in mid-1996 was 954 million. Women constituted 48.1 % of the total population with a sex ratio of 93 women to 100 men. About 70 % of the population of the country earn their livelihood from agriculture, which is mainly a rural activity. Most of the women living in the rural areas are engaged in agricultural and allied occupations like livestock and poultry production, forestry and fisheries. It was estimated that in 1996 more than 5.9 million people living in the coastal areas are involved in fishing and allied activities for their livelihood.

Though the marine capture fisheries is known to be a man's domain, the traditional fish farming activity involves the participation of both men

and women in the harvest operations. Harvest of shrimps by hand picking is exclusively done by women. In the coastal fisheries, women are generally involved in occupations such as the post-harvest fisheries operations, namely, fish-curing, drying, processing, packing, storage and domestic marketing of fish / shellfish. Women are also involved in net mending. Collection of seaweeds from the coastal areas, particularly in Gulf of Mannar and Palk Bay is generally done by women.

Eversince the shrimp farming activities gained momentum during the eighties and nineties of twentieth century, women have been mostly engaged in the collection of wild shrimp seed from the shallow estuarine areas, particularly in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal. The



Fisherwomen segregating the quality tiger shrimp seed before stocking in the shrimp culture farms in East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh.





Dr. G.R.M. Rao, Director, CIBA, delivering the vote of thanks at the inaugural function of the National Seminar and Exhibition on Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture for Nutritional Security, at Chennai, 29 November 2000.

other activities by women included labour-oriented work in shrimp farms *viz.*, carrying head-loads of soil during pond construction, removal of unwanted weeds from the culture ponds, collection of bivalve molluscs and polychaete worms for the preparation of low-cost feed and feeding the reared shrimp. Along the south east coast of India, women are employed in the pearl culture operations and are found to be very efficient in implanting nuclei in the mother oyster. Recently, in Tamil Nadu, women have taken up mud crab fattening. Women have also successfully taken up green mussel farming on northern Kerala.

Gainful entrepreneurship for women in coastal fisheries can be promoted in the rural areas through small-scale aquaculture ventures. The Fisheries Research Institutes of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have developed a number of economically viable indigenous technologies for aquaculture of fish and shellfish in the coastal areas. In this context, it is suggested that some of these technologies *viz.*, a) pond breeding and seed production of pearlspot, b) mud crab fattening, c) backyard hatchery seed production for white shrimp, d) mussel culture, e) rock oyster culture and f) pearl culture, can be easily taken up by women entrepreneurs as a potential means of livelihood.

This article was prepared by Dr. (Smt.) Munawar Sultana, Shri M. Kathirvel and Shri S. Srinivasagam, Senior Scientists of the Institute.

#### VISITORS

- Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture visited Muttukadu Experimental Station, 14 October 2000.

#### ENGAGEMENTS

Dr. G.R.M. Rao, Director, attended the following Meetings / Workshops / Seminars:

- ICAR Director's Conference, NBPGR, New Delhi, 12 October 2000.
- Brainstorming Session on "Manpower requirements and HRD in Fisheries sector" at CIFE, Mumbai, 20-21 October 2000.
- Visited Puri Research Centre of CIBA, Puri, Orissa, along with Dr. M. Devaraj, Former Director, CMFRI, Cochin and Chairman, QRT, to review the progress of research programmes of the Centre, 14 November 2000.
- Eighteenth Meeting of Aquaculture Authority, at New Delhi, 6 December 2000.

The scientists attended the following Meetings / Seminars / Workshops:

- Shri K. Ponnusamy, Scientist, attended NATP/IVLP Meeting, at UPASI, KVK, Coonoor, Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu, 9-11 October 2000.
- Dr. P. Ravichandran, Senior Scientist and Secretary, QRT, visited Puri Research Centre of the Institute, 14 November 2000.
- Dr. L.H. Rao, H.O.D., Crustacean Culture Division, Dr. Mathew Abraham, Head, Fish Culture Division, Dr. S.A. Ali, Principal Scientist, Shri K. Devarajan, Dr. P. Ravichandran, Shri M. Kathirvel, Dr.



Dr. G.R.M. Rao, Director, CIBA (right), delivering the inaugural address during the World Food Day celebrations, on 16 October 2000 at CIBA Headquarters, Chennai. Smt. V. Elamany, Lecturer, Meenakshi College for Women, Chennai (left), was the Chief Guest.



T.C. Santiago, Dr. B.P. Gupta and Shri N. Kalaimani, Senior Scientists, attended the National Seminar and Exhibition on Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture for Nutritional Security, at Chennai, 29 November – 2 December 2000.

## MEETINGS

- The Sixth Research Advisory Committee Meeting was held under the chairmanship of Dr. P.S.B.R. James, Former Director, CMFRI and Chairman, RAC, at CIBA, Chennai, 24 October 2000.
- The Tenth Institute Joint Staff Council Meeting was held at CIBA, Chennai, 19 November 2000.
- The Twentieth Meeting of the Institute Management Committee was held at CIBA, Chennai, 19 December 2000
- The Twelfth Meeting (Half yearly) of the Staff Research Council was held at CIBA, Chennai, 20 December 2000.

## WORLD FOOD DAY

The Institute celebrated the World Food Day on 16 October 2000 at CIBA Headquarters. The focal theme was “A Millennium free from Hunger”. The Chief Guest Smt. V. Elamany, Lecturer, Meenakshi College for Women, Chennai, delivered a lecture on genetically modified food and its role. Dr. P. Ravichandran, Dr. A.R. Thirunavukkarasu and Dr. M. Krishnan,



Dr. Mathew Abraham, H.O.D., Fish Culture Division, CIBA (center) with the Gomishan Fish Farm officials, namely, Dr. Kourosh Amini (left) and Mr. Shahid Rajai (right).

Senior Scientists, spoke on “Role of aquaculture in Food Security”, “Waste Management for Food Security” and “Aquaculture issues of Nutritional Equity” respectively. Miss Soumya, a final year student (B.Sc. Zoology), from Meenakshi College for Women gave a talk on “Fight against Malnutrition”.

## INTERACTION WORKSHOP UNDER NATP PROJECT

Dr. A.R. Thirunavukkarasu, Senior Scientist, organized an Interaction Workshop under the NATP Project entitled “Fish production in brackishwater arid ecosystem” at CIBA, Chennai, during 30-31 October 2000.

The participants were from CIFE Unit at Rohtak, Haryana Agricultural University and Gujarat Agricultural University.

## SEMINAR / TALK

Dr. M. Kailasam, Scientist (Senior Scale), gave a talk on his training experience under the Third Country Training Programme on Responsible Fisheries Development held at SEAFDEC, the Philippines, 14 December 2000, at Muttukadu Experimental Station of CIBA.

## HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

- Dr. K.K. Vijayan, Scientist (Senior Scale), attended a training programme–cum-Workshop on Chromosome and Gene Manipulation Techniques, at School of Biological Sciences, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai, 2-23 October 2000.
- Dr. Mathew Abraham, H.O.D., Fish Culture Division, visited the Islamic Republic of Iran, during 10-17 November 2000, to conduct a feasibility study on finfish breeding in Iran, especially with reference to *Mugil cephalus*, based on the invitation received from the Director General, Iranian Fisheries company, Govt. of Iran.
- Shri A. Ponnusamy, Scientist, Shri A. Sekar and Smt. R. Vetrichelvi, Junior Clerks, attended a personal



Participation of the staff of CIBA in ICAR Inter-Zone (South) Sports Meet, at Coimbatore.





Shri R. Mathivanan, S.S. Gr. I, receiving the First Prize for Carrom in the ICAR Inter-Zone (South) Sports Meet at Coimbatore.

contact programme under correspondence course for Hindi-Probodh, at Ministry of Home Affairs, Chennai, 14-15 December 2000.

- Smt. K. Nandini, Senior Clerk, underwent training on ARFIS Accounting Package, at CIFE, Mumbai, 26-30 December 2000.

### TRAINING

The Institute conducted the following training programmes at Muttukadu Experimental Station:

- Application of Genetics and Biotechnology in Aquaculture during 16-21 October 2000. Seven trainees (4 officials from State Fisheries Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh and 3 technical personnel from private shrimp culture sector) participated in the training programme.
- Environmental Impact Assessment of Brackishwater Shrimp Farming during 21-30 November 2000. 2 officials from State Dept. of Fisheries, Govt. of West Bengal participated in the training programme.

Lectures and demonstrations were arranged for the following at Muttukadu Experimental Station:

- 18 B.F.Sc. students from Faculty of Fisheries Sciences, West Bengal University of Animal Sciences,

Nadia, West Bengal, 15 June 2000.

- 9 trainees from Fisheries Staff Training Institute, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, 13 July 2000.
- 8 trainees from Fisheries Staff Training Institute, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, 13 August 2000.
- 5 students (B.Sc. Geography) from University of Madras, 18 August 2000.
- 39 students (B.F.Sc.) of College of Fisheries, Mangalore, 19 August 2000.
- 6 trainees from Fisheries Staff Training Institute, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, 30 August 2000.
- 21 students (B.Sc. Zoology) from P.R.N.S.S. College, Mattanur, Kannur district, Kerala, 5 October 2000.
- 16 trainees from Fisheries Staff Training Institute, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, 12 October 2000.
- A group of students (M.Sc. Microbiology and Marine Biotechnology) from the Institute of Coastal Area Studies, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Nagercoil, 8 November 2000.
- 34 students (M.Sc. Zoology) from Ethiraj College for Women, Chennai, 14 December 2000.
- 26 students (B.Sc. Zoology) from N.S.S. College, Ottapalam, Kerala, 14 December 2000.
- 44 students (B.Sc. Zoology) from

Presidency College, Chennai, 21 December 2000.

- 24 students (B.Sc. Zoology) from Nimapara College, Nimapara, Orissa, 29 December 2000.

### PARTICIPATION IN EXHIBITION

The Institute participated in the Exhibition conducted in connection with the 'National Seminar on Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture for National Security', at Chennai, 29 November - 2 December 2000.

### ICAR INTER-ZONE (SOUTH) SPORTS MEET

Dr. K.K. Krishnani, Scientist (Senior Scale), Dr. I.S. Azad, Scientist, Smt. P. Nila Rekha, Scientist, S/Shri A. Vasanthakumar Charles, T-II-3, Joseph Sahayarajan, T-II-3, Ashok Kumar, T-II-3, C. Ananthanarayanan, T-1, P. Manickyam, T-1, G. Thiagarajan, T-1, N. Mani, Gestetner Operator, R. Kumaresan, S.S..Gr. I, S. Selvababu, S.S. Gr. I, D. Senthilkumaran, S.S. Gr. I, C. Raghu, S.S. Gr. I, R. Mathivanan, S.S. Gr. I, R. Indrakumar, S.S. Gr. I and G. Dayalan, S.S. Gr. I, participated in the ICAR Inter-Zonal (South) Sports Meet at Sugarcane Breeding Institute, (ICAR), Coimbatore, 11-16 December 2000. Shri R. Mathivanan, S.S. Gr. I, won the first prize in Carrom and Smt. P. Nila Rekha, Scientist, third prize in Chess.

### STAFF NEWS

#### Nomination

- Dr. Mathew Abraham, H.O.D., Fish Culture Division, as the Vigilance Officer of the Institute, 10 November 2000.

#### Inter Institutional Transfer

- Dr. P. K. Ghosh, Senior Scientist, Kakdwip Research Centre of CIBA to CIFE, Calcutta, 21 October 2000.

#### Relief

- Shri J.K. Sundaray, Scientist, Kakdwip Research Centre of CIBA, was relieved on study leave for higher studies in Japan, 4 October 2000.
- Shri K. Mani, Senior Clerk, on voluntary retirement, 16 October 2000.
- Dr. K. Gopinathan, Senior Scientist, on superannuation, 31 October 2000.

