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AND DOMESTIC FEED USE IN INDIA**

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# GROWTH TRENDS IN INLAND FISH PRODUCTION AND DOMESTIC FEED USE IN INDIA

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The growth trends in inland fish production and its relation to domestic fish feed use in India, studied in this paper. Prior to 1980's India was one among the countries that exported fish feed. As domestic aquaculture developed and competition from other countries increased, the export of fish feed from India declined. Recently import of fish feed by some commercial establishments were noticed.

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study found gross inadequacy of domestic fish feed production and an expected strong demand from domestic aquaculture. The policy measures recommended were developing feed industry with technical know how from developed countries tailored to Indian requirements and investing more on fish nutrition research in India with the objective of formulating feeds suitable to Indian conditions. These measures, if taken will aid in enhancing aquaculture production and increase employment opportunities in feed industry as well as in other aquaculture enterprises. It will reduce the drain of foreign exchange reserves due to import of fish feed in bulk quantities with the envisaged adoption of semi-intensive and intensive aquaculture systems in near future. The corporate bodies and government agencies that ventured in aquaculture may be encouraged in production of fish feed also. They may be persuaded to produce the feeds in excess of their requirements which may be utilised by the small fish farmers.