
FISHPRENEURSHIP

Present Status, Challenges and Opportunities

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Foreword

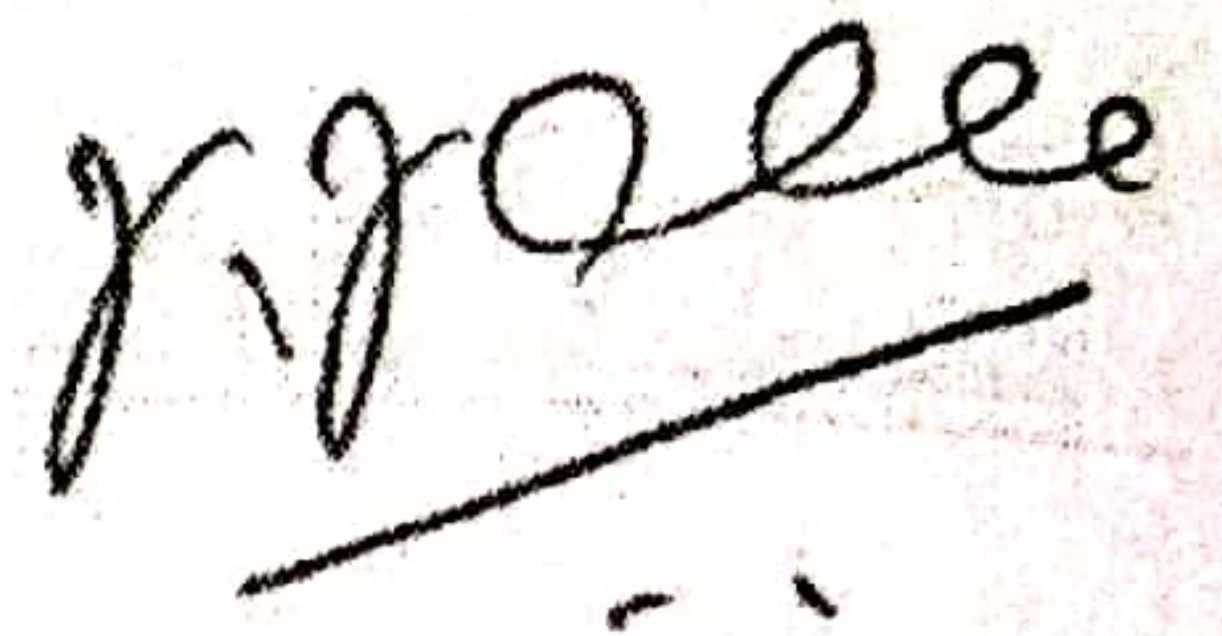
Indian fisheries, considered as the 'Sunrise Sector' in Indian agriculture, substantially contribute towards the livelihood development of more than 14 million economically weaker sections, especially small-scale fishermen, of the country. In last seven decades, the country has witnessed over 16-folds increase in fish production, from 0.75 million tonnes in 1950-51 to 12.4 million tonnes during 2017-18. Further, the impressive growth being registered in the export of fish and fisheries products in recent years, amounting to US\$ 7.0 billion in 2017-18, has reaffirmed the importance of Indian fishery sector as an important foreign exchange earner for the country.

Over the years, there has been increasing growth in business opportunities in fisheries that covers both capture and culture, in the field of aquaculture, breeding and seed production of new candidate species, ornamental fisheries, gears fabrication, aquarium management, developing fish products and by-products, fish waste management, fish nutraceutical development, seafood trade and several other related activities. This sector unfolds umpteen opportunities for the start-ups to make investment in fishery enterprises. Hence, there is an urgent need for the efficient utilization of the resource-specific commercial technologies available with different ICAR research institutes that include improved aquaculture practices, innovative fishing techniques, seed production technologies of finfish and shellfish, cost-effective nutritious feed formulations for fish farming, diagnostic test kits/methods, ready-to-cook and ready-to-serve value-added products development, waste management, byproduct utilization, nutraceutical and biotechnological products, food packaging techniques *etc.*

With the technologies driven development in aquaculture, fishing and fish processing practices becoming widespread, fisheries and aquaculture have not only been able to demonstrate their potential to become money-spinning enterprises, but also shown their enormous scope and opportunities for new vistas for starting any

profitable business venture. There is immense need to develop adequate trained manpower, who in turn would take the technologies to the second level stakeholders, thus enabling them to venture for fishery entrepreneurship.

It is encouraging to note that the editors of this book have taken a real-time proactive initiative to compile this book '*Fishpreneurship: Present Status, Challenges and Opportunities*' which delineates the concepts, scopes, related issues and relevant technologies for developing entrepreneurship in fisheries. I congratulate the resource persons for their sincere effort in contributing to this publication. I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to the editors Dr. Ravishankar C.N., Dr. A.K. Mohanty and Dr. Sajeev M.V. for such a scholarly endeavor to bring out this valuable publication that may be considered as a guide not only for the entrepreneurs, but also for the students, researchers, academicians, industry personnel and policy makers in order to deal the future challenges in fishpreneurship.



J.K. Jena

Preface

The economic growth of a country is largely attributed to commodity based entrepreneurship development in various sectors. The growth focuses on concept of entrepreneurship with objective of developing small-scale industries. In spite of India's high-profile economic growth in recent times, more than 300 million of our population still live in poverty. Among them, more than two-thirds of the population depend on agriculture and allied sectors for their livelihood, which is largely at small-scale or subsistence level.

Today, Indian fisheries is considered as a sunrise sector with high potential for rural development, gender mainstreaming, food and nutritional security as well as export earnings that can be treated as a rural entrepreneur-led hybrid model for small scale entrepreneurship. Being a potential foreign exchange earner, this sector stimulates growth of subsidiary industries assuring availability of affordable nutritious food for socio-economically backward small farm holders. Hence, the entrepreneurial opportunities involved in fisheries sector have to be rightfully explored and utilized through entrepreneurial motivation, technology empowerment, skill up-gradation through different management techniques and sustenance mechanism. Realizing the importance of entrepreneurship issues in fisheries, it is really imperative to evolve some tailor-made publications aimed at providing knowledge and skill on the conceptual themes and relevant technologies. The contributors of this book have really made an earnest effort to bring out well researched articles in the field of fishery entrepreneurship. We hope this book will be a road map for the entrepreneurs, researchers and policy makers to take up any new venture in the field of fish-entrepreneurship.

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