

ICAR-CIFE Organizes First Agricultural Drone Demonstration

It's great to learn about the First Agricultural Drone Technology demonstration organized by ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education in Mumbai on January 17, 2024 for its staff and post-graduate students. The event seems to have been well-attended and covered various aspects of the potential applications and benefits of drone technology in agriculture, fisheries, and aquaculture. Dr. Ravishankar C. N. (Director & Vice-Chancellor) inaugurated the event and sensitized participants about the potential of drone technology in improving agricultural practices. Further, he mentioned that the role of drones in fisheries and aquaculture sector is likely to expand, providing innovative solutions for sustainable and precision-driven practices. Dr. N. P. Sahu (Joint Director) mentioned that the integration of drone technology in the fisheries and aquaculture practices offers the potential for increased efficiency, reduced environmental impact, and improved overall productivity. However, widespread adoption may require addressing regulatory, technical, and economic challenges. Dr. Arpita Sharma, HoD FEES division deliberated on entrepreneurship opportunities for students using drone technology in fisheries and aquaculture sector in coming days. She mentioned that students may acquire drone pilot licensing training and offer their services to aquaculture farmers. Participants were informed about drone accessories, drone functioning, potential use & benefits, precautions while handling drones, etc. by the representative from Marut Drones, Hyderabad. The event is coordinated by Dr. Ananthan P. S. and Dr. Shivaji Argade.

This initiative by ICAR-CIFE demonstrates a proactive approach in introducing and familiarizing staff and post-graduate students with the applications and possibilities of drone technology in agriculture, fisheries, and aquaculture. It also highlights the importance of addressing challenges for the widespread adoption of this technology. The focus on entrepreneurship opportunities for students is a noteworthy aspect, encouraging them to explore and contribute to the evolving field of agricultural drone technology.

