

## **ICAR-CIFE Organises Jal Udyogini 1.0: Promoting Women Aquapreneurship**

The **Agribusiness Incubation (ABI) Centre of ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE), Mumbai** successfully organized a one-day Women Aquapreneurship Development Program (WAD) “*Jal Udyogini 1.0*” on 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2025. The event was attended by 102 fisherwomen associated with **Daryavardi Producer Company Limited (DPCL)**, Mumbai to explore enterprise opportunities in the fisheries sector.

The event was inaugurated by **Dr. N. P. Sahu, Director (Acting), ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai**. He highlighted the importance of women-led entrepreneurship in fisheries and aquaculture and the support provided by ICAR-CIFE through its ABI Centre for promoting women entrepreneurs. **Dr. S. P. Shukla**, Principal Scientist and In-Charge, ABI, introduced the objectives of the program and described it as a path breaking initiative to promote fisheries-based entrepreneurship among women. He emphasized the role of training and incubation in supporting sustainable livelihoods. **Mrs. Raghini B.**, CEO (Vrutti Foundation), spoke about the foundation’s support for DPCL and how it is helping fisherwomen to come together as a strong producer group with business potential. **Mr. Sameer Desai**, CEO (Seagull Advertising and Branding Solutions), highlighted the importance of unity and branding for DPCL women.

Technical sessions were conducted on ‘Algal Culture and Entrepreneurship Opportunities’ (Dr. S. P. Shukla), ‘Ornamental Fish Culture and Entrepreneurship Opportunities’ (Dr. Paramita Banerjee Sawant), ‘Aquaculture and Entrepreneurship Opportunities’ (Dr. Kapil Sukhdhane), ‘Fish Nutrition and Entrepreneurship Opportunities’ (Dr. Manish Jayant), ‘Fish Processing and Entrepreneurship Opportunities’ (Dr. Layana P.) and ‘Financial Support for Entrepreneurship Development’ (Dr. Shivaji Argade). The program was concluded with interactive discussion to address questions and collect feedback from participants. The event was coordinated by ABI team & anchored by Mrs. Snehal Parab (Senior Research Fellow). The collective efforts of ICAR-CIFE’s ABI, Vrutti Foundation and DPCL, Mumbai led to the successful execution of Jal Udyogini 1.0, making it a significant step towards inclusive, women-led growth in the fisheries sector.





