

ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai, in collaboration with KVK Palghar, conducted an “Awareness-cum-input distribution programme on feed-based scientific fish farming during 12-14 December 2024 for Schedule Tribe (ST) farmers of Palghar district, Maharashtra

ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai, in collaboration with KVK Palghar conducted an “Awareness-cum-input distribution programme on scientific fish farming” for the ST farmers of Palghar district, Maharashtra from 12 to 14 December 2024 at KVK, Kosbad Hill, Palghar under TSP programme. The programme was inaugurated by Shri B.M. Kushare, Senior Scientist & Head (i/c) KVK, Palghar, Dr. K.N. Mohanta, Head, Fish Nutrition, Biochemistry and Physiology (FNBP) Division, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai, Dr. Sikendra Kumar, Senior Scientist & Training Coordinator, FNBP Division, Shri U.G. Sahane, Mrs. R. A. Deshmukh and Shri A.K. Bhoir, SMS, KVK, Palghar. Total 28 ST farmers in the Palghar district participated in this programme. In the inauguration address, Shri Kushare highlighted the importance of aquaculture in Palghar and expressed that the lack of adequate technical knowledge on scientific fish farming is the major hindrance in increasing fish production in the region. Dr Mohanta delivered a talk on the nutrient requirements of commercially cultured fish, feed formulations for different life stages of fish and proper feeding management for scientific fish culture. Dr Sikendra Kumar, Senior Scientist and Coordinator of the programme apprised the farmers about how to produce the pelleted fish feed using the local ingredients of the Palghar district. A total of 8 theories and four hands-on practicals were conducted to enhance the knowledge and skill on fish feed production and better culture management practices. Dr Subodh Gupta, Dr Ashutosh Deo, Dr Tincy Varghese, and Dr Manish Jayant were the other resource persons in the training programme. The hands-on feed production methods were demonstrated to the farmers by using a mobile feed mill (CIFE Model). After the training, the critical inputs such as fish seeds, fish feed, caste nets, and hapas were distributed to the selected ST farmers who own their ponds in the presence of Dr. S. Munilkumar, Nodal Office, TSP Programme, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai. A booklet on “Feed-based Aquaculture” and two leaflets showing pictorial demonstrations of fish feed production were released and distributed for the benefit of the farmers.



Fig1: Inauguration & release of booklet and leaflets in TSP Training at KVK, Palghar



Fig 2: A glimpse of the ST participants for the TSP training



Fig3: Group photo of participants with the resource persons



Fig 4: Delivery of lecture by Dr. K.N. Mohanta, Head, FNBP Division in the TSP training



Fig 5: Inputs such as fish feed, seed, net and hapas distribution to the selected ST farmers having there own pond



Fig 6: Distribution of Fish feed, hapas and net to the ST beneficiaries after the training



Fig 7 : Field visit of the participants during the TSP programme at KVK Palghar