Director unveils solar-powered cooler developed by ICAR-CIFE

Director Dr. Gopal Krishna inaugurated solar-powered fish cooler developed by the Post Harvest Technology department of ICAR-CIFE under the project "**Feasibility study of using solar powered cool boxes to improve shelf life and hygiene of fish sold in retail markets in Mumbai"**. The project is funded by **Rajiv Gandhi Science and Technology Commission (RGSTC), Maharashtra**. Dr. Sanath Kumar H and Dr. Binaya Bhusan Nayak developed the cooler under the project.

The solar fish cooler can hold 50 kg of fish. Powered by two solar panels, the system has a battery to store power. The cooler can achieve a temperature of -20°C. However, fish intended to be sold in retail market can be stored at 0 to 5°C, which will lower the consumption of power and prolong the storage period. Solar-powered cooler is expected to reduce the dependency on ice, prolong the shelf life and ensure the quality and hygiene of fresh fish sold in the retail markets.