

Report on
Three Days National Level Training cum Awareness Programme
on
“Quality Fish Seed Production for Enhancing Aquaculture Productivity”

6-8 December, 2025

A three day National Level Training cum Awareness Programme on “Quality Fish Seed Production for Enhancing Aquaculture Productivity” was jointly organized by ICAR–Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE), Mumbai in association with Kalong-Kapili, Sonapur Assam and was held at the Aqua Tech Park, Kamrup (Metro), Assam during 6-8 December, 2025. 200 fish farmers from Assam and other North Eastern states, fisheries officers, SMS, Bank officials attended the training programme with the objective of building scientific awareness among fish farmers, researchers, practitioners, and aspiring entrepreneurs. The key objectives of the programme were:

- To promote scientific fish farming practices and modern aquaculture technologies
- To enhance awareness on the importance of quality fish seed production
- To improve productivity, income generation, and environmental sustainability
- To encourage entrepreneurship and livelihood opportunities among farmers, women, and youth
- To strengthen fish seed availability through scientific planning and capacity building

Dr. N. P. Sahu, Director, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and inaugurated the training program. In his inaugural speech, Dr. N. P. Sahu, Director, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai highlighted that quality fish seeds are scarce across the country, and emphasized the importance of improved varieties such as Jayanti Rohu and Maha Magur. Dr. Sahu noted that although Andhra Pradesh leads the country in fish production, Assam ranks fourth nationally, indicating strong potential for growth. He also highlighted that importance of participation of women in the development of fish production in the country and women can play a significant role in uplifting rural economy through this venture. Dr. Sahu stated that ICAR-CIFE would extend full support to Kalong-Kapili and Department of Fisheries, Govt. of Assam for future initiatives towards imparting training and extension.

Dr. Debajit Sarma, Principal Scientist and Head, Division of Aquaculture, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai, highlighted the importance of the 3 days training program. He pointed out that scientific techniques must be adopted, including use of improved fish species, optimum seed size and proper stocking ratio and time. Healthy fish seed is the key for successful aquaculture venture in the state of Assam as well as in the country. Establishment of seed banks and brood banks is essential to meet statewide fish seed requirements. He further explained that stunted fingerlings can be developed within three to four months under high

stocking density, leading to better growth and improved production. He also requested the Director of Fisheries, Government of Assam, to support awareness programmes in fisheries.

Shri Gauri Sankar Das, Director of Fisheries, Assam and Shri Jyotish Talukdar, Director of Kalong-Kapili stated that fish farming is an ecologically and environmentally acceptable activity in Assam. He emphasized that aquaculture can play a vital role in poverty reduction, employment generation, and empowerment of women and youth across Assam and the North Eastern region. Drawing their experience, it was noted that aquaculture is a popular livelihood option, especially in areas where agriculture or industrial activities are not feasible.

The programme was graced by Shri Loken Das, Chief General Manager, NABARD, Regional Office, Guwahati; Dr. Pradip Chandra Bhuyan, Dean, college of Fisheries, Raha; and Shri Chandan Buragohain, Cluster Head, Ujjivan Small Finance Bank.

A bilingual handbook (Assamese and English) titled “Quality Fish Seed Production for Sustainable Aquaculture Growth” authored by Dr. Debajit Sarma et al. was also released during the programme.

The programme concluded with the distribution of fishing nets (cast) to 200 farmers, fish seeds (200 fingerlings to 200 farmers each) and presentation of certificates to the farmers. The programme concluded with the distribution of certificates and TA to participants, marking the successful completion of the training.

Overall, the programme significantly contributed to enhancing scientific awareness, promoting sustainable aquaculture practices, and strengthening the fish seed production ecosystem in Assam and the North Eastern region, paving the way for long-term growth, food security, and rural prosperity.







