

Report on 3 days training program on “Culture of High Value Catfish (Magur and Singhi) for Improvement of Livelihood” at Pakyong, Sikkim under NEH on 19-21 February, 2026

A three-day training programme on “**Culture of High Value Catfish (Magur and Singhi) for Improvement of Livelihood**” was successfully conducted at Pakyong district of Sikkim. The programme focused on promoting the culture of high-value catfish species such as *Heteropneustes fossilis* (Singhi) and *Clarias magur* (Magur), which are well known for their high market demand, nutritional importance, and adaptability to small-scale farming systems. These species can be added as additional aquaculture species and excellent scope for livelihood improvement, especially in hill regions like Sikkim. The program was coordinated by Dhalongsaih Reang, Scientist, ICAR-CIFE, Kolkata centre in collaboration with Department of Fisheries, Govt. of Sikkim under the NEH scheme.

A total of 20 farmers from different villages of Pakyong district actively participated in the programme. The training included both theoretical and practical sessions covering the biology and culture practices of Magur and Singhi, pond preparation, seed selection and stocking density, feed management, water quality monitoring and health management. Demonstrations on the use of water quality testing kits (pH and DO) were also conducted. The program was attended by Mr. Naresh Sunar and Mrs. Gouri Mukhiya, Asst. Director of Fisheries, Department of Fisheries, Govt. of Sikkim. Also, Mr. Yogesh Dangal, Block fisheries officer assisted in the training program.

A total of 10,000 Singhi seed and 2,000 kg of fish feed were provided to the farmers to support culture operations. Water quality testing kits were distributed to promote scientific pond management practices. These inputs will help farmers initiate or strengthen catfish farming activities in their respective areas, thereby improving productivity and income generation. The certificates were distributed to the participants by Chief Guest Mr. Bum Tshering Yonzon, OSD IT department, Govt of Sikkim.

The programme received wide coverage in the media of the Government of Sikkim, highlighting the initiative as an important step toward strengthening fisheries-based livelihood in Pakyong district. The successful completion of the three-day training programme is expected to contribute significantly to sustainable aquaculture development and livelihood improvement in Pakyong district of Sikkim. The program was conducted under the leadership of Dr. N.P Sahu, Director, ICAR-CIFE Mumbai and Dr. T.K Ghoshal,

Head, Kolkata centre, Dr. Shivaji Argade, Nodal Officer, NEH and coordinated by Mr. Dhalongsaih Reang, Scientist, CIFE, Kolkata centre.

“उच्च मूल्य कैटफिश (मागुर एवं सिंघी) के पालन द्वारा आजीविका सुधार” विषय पर 19-21 फरवरी, 2026 को (NEH) कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत पाक्योंग, सिक्किम में आयोजित तीन दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम की प्रतिवेदन

सिक्किम के पाक्योंग जिले में आजीविका सुधार हेतु उच्च मूल्य वाली कैटफिश (मगुर और सिंघी) की खेती पर तीन दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम सफलतापूर्वक आयोजित किया गया। कार्यक्रम का मुख्य उद्देश्य हेटरोस्प्यूस्टेस फॉसिलिस (सिंघी) और क्लैरियस मगुर (मगुर) जैसी उच्च मूल्य वाली कैटफिश प्रजातियों की खेती को बढ़ावा देना है, जो अपनी उच्च बाजार मांग, पोषण संबंधी महत्व और लघु कृषि प्रणालियों के अनुकूल होने के लिए जानी जाती हैं। इन प्रजातियों को अतिरिक्त मत्स्यपालन प्रजातियों के रूप में शामिल किया जा सकता है और इनमें आजीविका सुधार की उत्कृष्ट संभावनाएं हैं, विशेष रूप से सिक्किम जैसे पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों में। यह कार्यक्रम भा.भा. कृ. अ. प. – केन्द्रीय मात्स्यिकी शिक्षा संस्थान, कोलकाता केंद्र के वैज्ञानिक धालोंगसाई रियांग द्वारा सिक्किम सरकार के मत्स्य विभाग के सहयोग से एनईएच योजना के तहत समन्वित किया गया था।

पाक्योंग जिले के विभिन्न गांवों से कुल 20 किसानों ने इस कार्यक्रम में सक्रिय रूप से भाग लिया। प्रशिक्षण में सैद्धांतिक और व्यावहारिक सत्र शामिल थे, जिनमें मगुर और सिंघी मछलियों की जीव विज्ञान और पालन पद्धतियां, तालाब तैयार करना, बीज चयन और मछली पालन घनत्व, चारा प्रबंधन, जल गुणवत्ता निगरानी और स्वास्थ्य प्रबंधन शामिल थे। जल गुणवत्ता परीक्षण किट (पीएच और डीओ) के उपयोग का प्रदर्शन भी किया गया। कार्यक्रम में सिक्किम सरकार के मत्स्य विभाग के सहायक निदेशक श्री नरेश सुनार और श्रीमती गौरी मुखिया उपस्थित थे। साथ ही, ब्लॉक मत्स्य अधिकारी श्री योगेश दंगल ने प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम में सहयोग किया।

किसानों को मछली पालन में सहयोग देने के लिए कुल 10,000 सिंघी बीज और 2,000 किलोग्राम मछली का चारा उपलब्ध कराया गया। तालाबों के वैज्ञानिक प्रबंधन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए जल गुणवत्ता परीक्षण किट वितरित किए गए। इन संसाधनों से किसानों को अपने-अपने क्षेत्रों में मछली पालन शुरू करने में मदद मिलेगी, जिससे उत्पादकता और आय में वृद्धि होगी। सिक्किम सरकार के सूचना एवं संचार प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग के वरिष्ठ निदेशक श्री बम शेरिंग योनज़ोन ने मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में प्रतिभागियों को प्रमाण पत्र वितरित किए।

सिक्किम सरकार के मीडिया में इस कार्यक्रम को व्यापक कवरेज मिला, जिसमें इसे पाक्योंग जिले में मत्स्य पालन आधारित आजीविका को मजबूत करने की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम के रूप में उजागर किया गया। तीन दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम के सफल समापन से सिक्किम के पाक्योंग जिले में मत्स्य पालन विकास और आजीविका सुधार में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान मिलने की उम्मीद है। यह कार्यक्रम भा. कृ. अ. प. – केन्द्रीय मात्स्यिकी शिक्षा संस्थान, मुंबई के निदेशक डॉ. एन.पी. साहू,

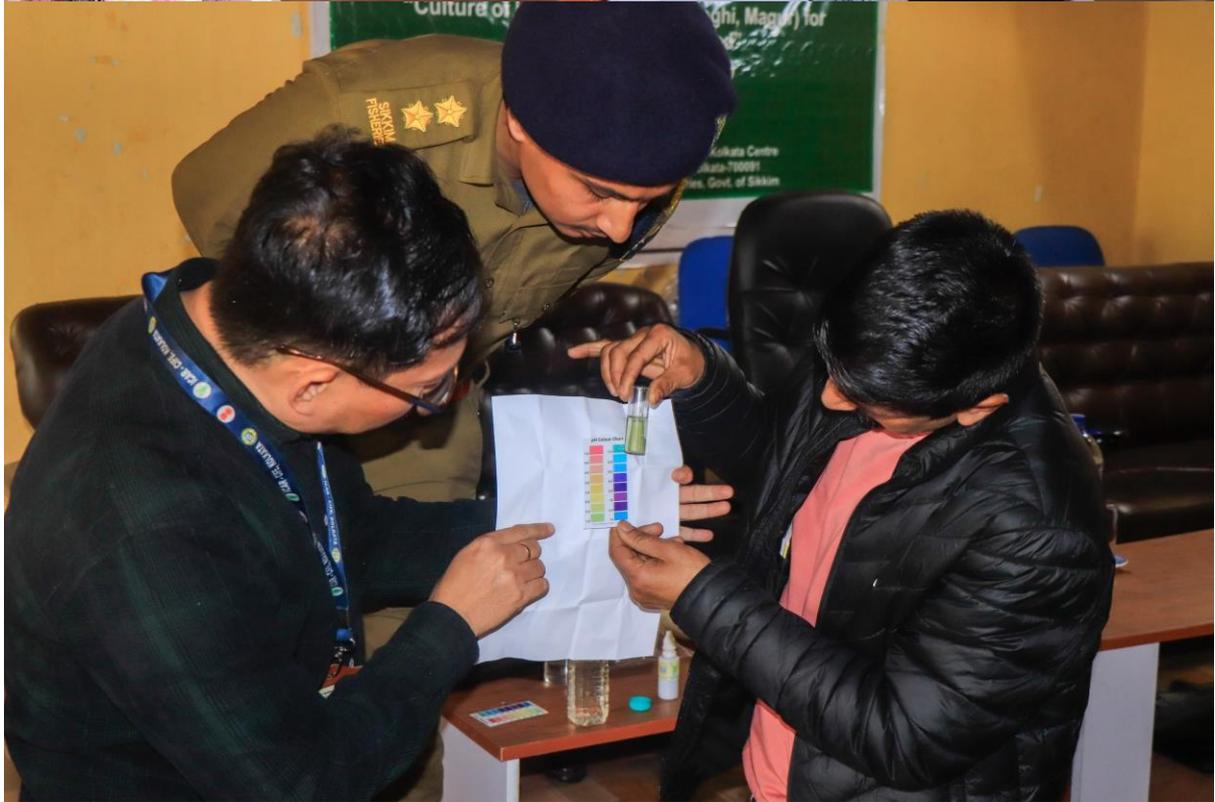
कोलकाता केंद्र के प्रमुख डॉ. टी.के. घोषाल, एनईएच के नोडल अधिकारी डॉ. शिवाजी अर्गाडे के नेतृत्व में आयोजित किया गया और के.मा.शि.सं, कोलकाता केंद्र के वैज्ञानिक श्री धालोंगसाई रियांग द्वारा समन्वित किया गया।













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February 21 at 5:40 PM ·



Three-Day High-Value Catfish Training Concludes under Pakyong District

Pakyong, February 21 (IPR): The three-day training programme on "Culture of High-Value Catfish (Singhi and Magur) for Improvement of Livelihood" under the North East Hill (NEH) Scheme (2025–2026), organised by ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Kolkata Centre, in collaboration with Department of Fisheries, Government of Sikkim, concluded at Namcheybong GPK Hall, Pakyong today.

The training, held from February 19 to 21, equipped twenty progressive farmers of the district with scientific knowledge and technical skills in the breeding and rearing of high-value catfish varieties, Singhi and Magur. As part of the initiative, each participating farmer was supported with 500 Singhi fingerlings and 100 kg of feed to strengthen their entrepreneurial journey in aquaculture.

The programme was graced by OSD, IT Department, Mr Bum Tshering Yonzon as the Chief Guest, in the presence of Joint Director, Education Department, Mr BP Sharma; District Fisheries Development Officer, Fisheries Department, Ms Gauri Mukhia and ATM Rhenock, Mr Amit Chettri.

During the programme, OSD, IT Department, Mr Bum Tshering Yonzon emphasised on the Chief Minister's vision of uplifting farmers through various schemes and initiatives aimed at empowering them and creating opportunities to be self-reliant. He then appreciated the initiative undertaken by the department for implementing such programmes to encourage progressive farmers in the aquaculture sector.

He stated that the production of high-value fish would not only increase the incomes of the farmers

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Additionally, a practical session on water quality testing was also conducted, wherein pond water samples brought by the farmers were analysed to assess dissolved oxygen levels and other parameters crucial for fish breeding and growth.

Report from DIO Pakyong

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Government of Sikkim

February 20 at 3:40 PM · 🌐



Three-Day Training on High-Value Catfish Farming Held to Boost Livelihood Opportunities

Pakyong, February 20 (IPR): A three-day training programme on “Culture of High-Value Catfish (Singhi and Magur) for Improvement of Livelihood” under the North East Hill (NEH) Scheme (2025–2026), organised by the ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Kolkata Centre, in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries, Government of Sikkim, was held at Namcheybong GPK Hall, Pakyong, today.

The training aims to equip progressive fish farmers with scientific knowledge and technical skills in the breeding and rearing of Singhi and Magur, while promoting sustainable and improved aquaculture practices in the region.

During her address, District Fisheries Development Officer (DFDO), Fisheries Department, Ms Gauri Mukhia urged the farmers to actively engage in the training session and gain an understanding of the breeding techniques and management practices to further help them open new avenues for income generation and entrepreneurship. In addition, she apprised them about the various provisions introduced to uplift the fish farmers in the state.

Further, AD Fisheries Department, Mr Naresh Sunar, encouraged the participants to make use of the training opportunity and informed them about the benefits under the Mukhya Mantri Matsya Utpadhan Yojana (MMMUY), which aims to strengthen fish production and promote sustainable aquaculture practices in Sikkim.

The technical session was facilitated by Scientist from ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education,