

## **A seminar on “Diversified Aquaculture with special focus on GIFT tilapia aquaculture for hinterland aquaculture farmers of Odisha”, on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

MPEDA-RGCA organized a seminar on “Diversified Aquaculture with special focus on GIFT tilapia aquaculture for hinterland aquaculture farmers of Odisha” organized by MPEDA-RGCA and Department of Fisheries and ARD, Government of Odisha on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022, sponsored by NFDB, Hyderabad

The seminar was inaugurated by Dr. K. N. Raghavan, IRS, Chairman of MPEDA/President of RGCA in the presence of Dr. M. Karthikeyan, Director, MPEDA; Shir. K. S. Pradeep, IFS, Secretary, MPEDA; Shri Smruti Ranjan Pradhan, IAS, Director of Fisheries, Odisha; Shri R. Raghu Prasad, IFS, Principal Secretary, Fisheries & Animal Resources Department, Govt. of Odisha; Shri Ranendra Pratap Swain, Hon’ble Minister, Agriculture & FE and Fisheries & ARD, Govt. of Odisha; Shri Rajakumar S. Naik, Deputy Director (RD), MPEDA, Bhubaneswar and officials from MPEDA, RGCA & State government of Odisha.

“Towards Blue revolution” a guide for initiating the new projects in Odisha state in both languages, English and Oriya for reaching maximum to the farming community was released during the occasion.

Dr. Anup Mandal, Project Director (SB & A), RGCA delivered a lecture on diversified aquaculture in India and MPEDA-RGCA’s initiatives about the same for the state of Odisha. Shri P. Srinivasa Rao, Senior Scientific Officer, RGCA delivered a lecture on the best management practices for GIFT tilapia in India and about RGCA’s GIFT project. Shri Subasish Mohanty, Assistant Director, RD-MPEDA, Bhubaneswar provided a lecture on GIFT aquaculture- a boon for Odisha state during the technical session of the seminar.

A “Panel Discussion”, was also scheduled, wherein several delegates representing farmer groups and entrepreneurs clear their doubts on various aspects of diversified aquaculture. Among other noteworthy presences, Shri Debananda Bhanja, Addl. Director of Fisheries, Odisha; Dr. Arun Padiyar, WorldFish, Lead-India; Dr. Manas Kumar Sinha, SE (Tech), NFDB have also interacted with the farmers.

The event was a great success with more than 300 delegates, which includes Aqua farmers, Hatchery operators, exporters, entrepreneurs, aquaculture professionals, Govt. officials and academe attended the event from several districts of Odisha.

Nearly 30 farmers belonging to the SC community from Ganjam district who attended the training programme on diversified aquaculture organized by the training division of RGCA, was also attended the seminar and received their

training participation certificates from Shri Debananda Bhanja, Addl. Director of Fisheries, Odisha, and Dr. S. Kandan, Director, RGCA.



*Welcome Address by Dr. M Karthikeyan,  
Director-MPEDA*



*Felicitation by Shri. K. S. Pradeep, IFS,  
Secretary-MPEDA*



*Special Address by Shri Smruti Ranjan  
Pradhan, IAS, Director of Fisheries, Odisha*



*Keynote Address by Shri R. Raghu Prasad,  
IFS, Principal Secretary, Fisheries & Animal  
Resources Department, Govt. of Odisha*



*Presidential address by Dr. K. N. Raghavan,  
IRS, Chairman, MPEDA & President, RGCA*



*Inaugural address by the Chief Guest, Shri  
Ranendra Pratap Swain, Hon'ble Minister,  
Agriculture & FE and Fisheries & ARD,  
Govt. of Odisha*



The book "Towards Blue revolution"  
released during the seminar