



राजीव गाँधी जलकृषि केन्द्र
(एम पी ई डी ए, वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)

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सीरकाली तालुक, मयिलादुतुरै जिला, तमिल नाडु, भारत

RAJIV GANDHI CENTRE FOR AQUACULTURE
(MPEDA, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India)

3/197, Poompuhar Road, Karaimedu Village, Sattanathapuram - 609 109
Sirkazhi Tk., Mayiladuthurai Dt., Tamil Nadu, INDIA



संदर्भ/Ref:

RGCA/EXTN/2/2024/455

तारीख/Date:

05/09/2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

Sub: Inviting Expression of Interest from Colleges and Universities to utilize the Aquaculture and Lab facilities of MPEDA-RGCA-reg

As you are aware, the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), established in 1972 under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, is the nodal agency for the promotion of marine products export from country. During 2023-24, India exported a record quantity of 17.82 lakh MT of marine products worth \$7.38 billion to 132 countries. Major commodity exported continues to be the Shrimp with a whopping contribution of 66% of the total export revenue.

Department of Commerce (DoC), Govt. of India, through MPEDA established Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquaculture (RGCA) in 1995 at Srikali, Mayiladuthurai Dt. Tamil Nadu with the objective to develop sustainable aquaculture technologies of various aquatic species through R&D having potential for export and also to disseminate the technology thus developed to the stakeholders for enhancing export oriented aquaculture production in India.

At present MPEDA-RGCA is undertaking 13 important aquaculture projects (Seabass/ Mud crab/ GIFT/ Marine Finfishes/ Artemia / Domestication of Tiger Shrimp etc) at various locations across the country. Each projects have assimilated technologies from international collaborations in breeding/farming of various aquatic species of export potential and localised the technology for adoption by Indian entrepreneurs/farmers. RGCA has also established state of the art NABL accredited laboratories to support the aquaculture sector in the country and are equipped with modern instruments. Testing services of the Pathology lab include molecular pathology detection (Real Time PCR) of WOH listed shrimp diseases and other aquaculture pathogens like MCRV, TiLV, MBV, HPV, CMNV, MoV, LSNV, SMV, VNN, Iridovirus, etc. Other lab facilities include Histopathology, Microbiology, Water quality analysis, Seed Health analysis, Sequencing services, Mud crab species identification, Mobile Laboratory, Antibiotics, Pesticide and Heavy metal Residue analysis. The headquarters of RGCA and the training complex is located at Sirkali, Tamil Nadu.

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MPEDA has also established a Multispecies Aquaculture Complex (MAC) in Vallarpadam, Kochi, wherein Marine, brackish and freshwater finfish and crustacean's species are produced on commercial level through scientific innovation. This facility also has an advanced disease diagnostic laboratory to serve the aqua farmers in the West Coast.

The MPEDA desires to disseminate the technologies developed and assimilated by MPEDA - RGCA in various export oriented aquatic species with potential for exports to college students to improve their skills through Hands on Training under one roof at RGCA. The researchers from the college can utilize the lab and other projects facilities for doing short term and long term internship programmes and detail in this regard is enclosed as An-I. Separate hostel facilities are available for boys and girls at nominal fee in both RGCA-HO, Sirkali and MAC, Kochi. A package study tour proposal to visit various projects of RGCA is placed at Annexure II. For long term programmes, the interested universities/ colleges can sign an MOU with a prescribed TOR (An-III)

In this context, MPEDA-RGCA is pleased to invite expression of interest from Colleges /Universities in India for utilizing RGCA's aquaculture facilities and Lab facilities for upskilling the Students/Researchers/Faculty from Colleges/Universities. These details are available in our website: <https://v2.rgca.co.in>. Interested Colleges / Universities are requested to send an email to rgcaho@gmail.com, rgca@mpeda.gov.in.

Thanking you,



Yours sincerely,

(Dr.S.Kandan)
Director-RGCA

To
The Universities and Colleges
India.

Encl:
Expression of Interest for various programmes-Annexure: I
Package study tour proposal-Annexure II
Model MoU for long term programmes: Annexure III.