

# Development of Alternate Livelihood Opportunities among the Scheduled Tribal Women Self Help Groups through Aquaculture Integrated with Agro-based Technologies

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The Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture, Chennai under the tribal Sub Plan demonstration programme titled 'DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATE LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES AMONG THE (ST) WOMEN SELF HELP GROUPS THROUGH AQUACULTURE INTEGRATED WITH AGRO - BASED TECHNOLOGIES' adopted sixty scheduled tribal women self help groups from Tiruvallur and Kancheepuram Districts of Tamil Nadu.

## Focal Points at a Glance

CIBA, Chennai has taken a special initiative for the Development of Alternate Livelihood Opportunities among the Scheduled Tribal Women Self Help Groups through Aquaculture, Integrated with Agro-based Technologies.

The nursery rearing of brackishwater finfish Asian seabass juveniles in hapas was demonstrated among 30 *Irular* tribal women SHGs of Kulathumedu village, Tiruvallur Dt.



Fig 1-5: Pictures taken on the occasion of the CIBA's Programme on Development of Alternate Livelihood Opportunities among the Scheduled Tribal Women Self Help Groups through Aquaculture Integrated with Agro-based Technologies





Farm made fish feed development, ornamental fish farming and mushroom farming were demonstrated among 30 *Irular* tribal women SHGs at New Perungulathur, Kancheepuram Dt.

#### **Inauguration at New Perungulathur, Kancheepuram Dt.**

The Inauguration of mushroom farming unit, release of brackishwater ornamental fish (spotted scat), demonstration of farm made fish feeds along with interaction meeting was organised on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2012 among the *Irular* tribal women SHGs of New Perungulathur, Kancheepuram Dt.

During the interaction meeting, welcome address was delivered by Dr. B. Shanthi, Principal Scientist & Convenor of the programme, CIBA, followed by briefing on CIBA- Tribal Plan by Dr. S.M. Pillai, Nodal Officer, CIBA -Tribal Sub Plan. The inaugural address was delivered by Dr. A.G. Ponniah, Director, CIBA, followed by felicitation address by Dr. Kumaravel, Head, KVK, Kattupakkam and Dr. V.S.

Chandrasekaran, Principal Scientist, SIC- SSD, CIBA.

A briefing on nursery rearing of Asian seabass in hapas was made by Dr. A.R.T. Arasu, Principal Scientist, HOD- FCD, CIBA and Dr. M. Kailasam, Senior Scientist & Co-Convenor of the Programme - CIBA. Dr. K. Ambasankar, Senior Scientist & Co-Convenor of the programme spoke on the farm-made feeds and Dr. P. Mahalakshimi, Scientist (SS) & Co-Convenor of the programme explained the use of information and communication technology in transferring aquacultural techniques to the public.

#### **Inauguration programme at Kulathumedu village, Tiruvallur Dt.**

The inauguration and demonstration programmes on nursery rearing of Asian seabass in hapas and interaction meeting with the *Irrular* tribal women SHGs of Kulathumedu village, Tiruvallur Dt., were organized on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2012. Dr. A.R.T. Arasu, Principal

Scientist, Director I/C & HOD-FCD, CIBA delivered the inaugural address followed by presidential address by Dr. M. Sakthivel, President - Aquaculture Foundation of India, Chennai. The felicitation address was delivered by Dr. V.S. Chandrasekaran, Principal Scientist, SIC - SSD, CIBA and Dr. K.P. Jithendran, SIC - AAHED, CIBA. The vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. B. Shanthi.

Four extension handouts, on (1) Brackishwater ornamental fish, spotted scat farming (2) Nursery rearing of Asian seabass in hapas (3) Farm made fish feeds and (4) Mushroom farming – an alternate livelihood opportunity among the *Irular* women self help groups were released during the inaugural programme.

The seeds of Asian seabass and brackishwater ornamental fish (spotted scat) were handed over to the beneficiaries by the dignitaries. The programme concluded with the feedback from the *Irular* tribal women SHGs, beneficiaries of Kulathumedu village Tiruvallur Dt., on the intervention made by CIBA. ☺☺☺