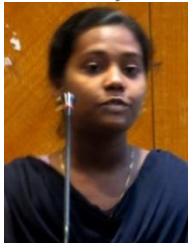


**FISH / SHRIMP FARMERS  
INTERACTION MEET ON  
AQUACULTURE  
OPPORTUNITIES IN  
SOUTHERN TAMIL NADU  
07-09-2018**



**Proceedings  
November 2018**



# **FISH / SHRIMP FARMERS INTERACTION MEET ON AQUACULTURE OPPORTUNITIES IN SOUTHERN TAMILNADU**

**07-09-2018**

*Venue*

**B1 Seminar Hall (Binghamton Hall),  
The American College, Madurai**

*Organised by*

**Fisheries Technocrats Forum (FTF), Madurai & Chennai,  
National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, (MANAGE), Hyderabad  
&  
Postgraduate & Research Department of Zoology  
The American College, Madurai**

**Proceedings  
November 2018**

***Financial and Organizational Support from:***

**A) National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad**

Smt V. Usha Rani, I.A.S., Director General

Dr. Saravana Raj, Director (Agri. Extn.)

Mr. R. Vijayan, Incubation Officer

**B) Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi**

Dr. A. Gopalakrishnan, Director

**C) M/s SVARA Biotechnovations, Madurai**

Mr. S. Vaitheeswaran

Mr. S. Alagu Ravi

**D) Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai**

Dr. S. Kannan, Prof & Head, Dept. of Environment, School of Energy, Environment and Natural Resources

**Venue facility and Organizational support from The American College, Madurai**

Dr. M. Davamani Christober, Principal

Dr. J. Helen Ratna Monica, Bursar

Dr. A. Joseph Thatheyus, Head, Postgraduate & Research Dept. of Zoology

Dr. E. Joy Sharmila, Head, Undergraduate Dept. of Zoology

Dr. T. Frederick Rajkumar, Dept. of Aquaculture, The American College-Community College

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### **Meet observers**

Mr. V. Venkatesan, FTF Member, Chennai

Dr. R. Soundararajan, Vice-Chairman, FTF, Chennai

Mr. M. Kathirvel, Secretary, FTF, Chennai

### **Lay-out & Edited by**

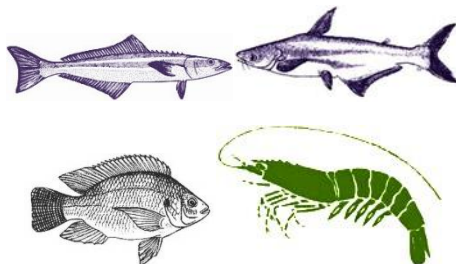
Mr. M. Kathirvel, Secretary, FTF, Chennai

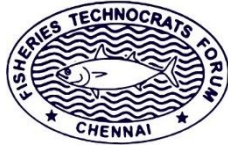
## ***Acknowledgements***

The Chairman, Executive Council & Members of the Fisheries Technocrats Forum, Madurai & Chennai express their sincere thanks to Smt. V. Usha Rani, I.A.S., Director General, Dr. Saravana Raj, Director (Agri. Extn.) & Mr. R. Vijayan, Incubation Manager, National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad, Dr. A. Gopalakrishnan, Director, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi, Mr. S. Vaitheeswaran & Mr. S. Alagu Ravi, M/s SVARA Biotechnovations, Madurai and Dr. S. Kannan, Prof & Head, Dept. of Environment, School of Energy, Environment and Natural Resources, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai for their financial and organizational support. Special thanks are due to Dr. M. Davamani Christober, Principal, Dr. (Mrs.) J. Helen Ratna Monica, Bursar, Dr. A. Joseph Thatheyus, Head, Postgraduate & Research Dept. of Zoology, Dr. K. Navaneethakannan, former Head, Postgraduate & Research Dept. of Zoology, Dr. (Mrs.) Joy Sharmila, Undergraduate Head, Dept. of Zoology, the American College and Dr. T. Frederick Rajkumar, Co-ordinator, Dept. of Aquaculture, The American College-Community College for offering the Meet avenue and excellent support in the conduct of the Meet. We express our gratitude to Dr. G.S. Sameeran, I.A.S., Director of Fisheries, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Chennai & staff for help and co-operation, and to the special invitees of CIFA, CMFRI, MPEDA, RGCA, college staff & students, fish/shrimp hatchery operators and farmers and private entrepreneurs for their presence and active debate which had made the Meet lively and useful in the context of exploring more aquaculture opportunities in Southern Tamil Nadu.

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THE FISHERIES TECHNOCRATS  
FORUM  
CHENNAI-600 006  
(Reg. No. 80/92)  
Dr. A.R. Thirunavukkarasu  
Chairman



### ***PREFACE***

The Fisheries Technocrats Forum (FTF), Chennai, a registered society (Reg. No. 80/92) was started during 1991 with active participation of stalwarts associated with fisheries research, extension and education. The Forum which was initiated by 28 members has grown to 130 during 2017-18, which include all stakeholders in fisheries and aquaculture and having a branch at Madurai with 46 members. Since inception, the Forum is playing a pivotal role in bringing together all the stakeholders in fisheries and aquaculture through regular farmers meets, workshops and seminars. Under the auspices of Mr. A. Sreenivasan Endowment, effort is made to create interest amongst youngsters on fisheries and aquaculture through oratorical competitions. The FTF also honours innovators in fisheries research/extension/education and commercial aquaculture annually by award and citation in the name of the founder Chairman Mr. K. Chidambaram.

A fish/shrimp farmers interaction meet was proposed to be held during September 2018 at Madurai, since FTF branch is functioning there. When the FTF organising committee members of Madurai and Chennai contacted the Principal and staff of Zoology Department of the American College, the latter had agreed to hold the Meet in their premise and extended all the support and help, without which, it would not have been possible to conduct this successful Meet.

Timely financial support from Smt. V. Usha Rani, I.A.S., Director-General of the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad, Dr. A. Gopalakrishnan, Director, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi, the Fish Culturists, namely, Mr. S. Vaitheeswaran & Mr. S. Alagu Ravi of M/s SVARA Biotechnovations, Madurai and Dr. S. Kannan, Professor & Head, Dept. of Environment, Madurai Kamaraj University helped the Meet for the successful bringing up together, not only fish/shrimp farmers but also fisheries experts, entrepreneurs, teaching community and students on a single platform, to have a lively, meaningful and useful interaction.

The deliberations of this Meet on Aquaculture in three environments, namely, freshwater, brackishwater and marine have thrown more light on their current practices, economical gains, problems faced and future prospects, which were so informative and useful to all sections of participant. Based on the outcome of the interaction among the stakeholders, the recommendations were made, which will be sent to the concerned central/state authorities to give priority towards the most of the needy problems.

Mr. V. Venkatesan, former Director of MPEDA and FTF member was the main source of inspiration in organising this Madurai Meet. Both Mr. V. Venkatesan and Dr. R. Soundararajan, Vice-Chairman, FTF, Chennai deserve appreciation for conducting this Meet in an orderly manner.

The untiring effort of the FTF Chennai Secretary Mr. M. Kathirvel and the office bearers of Madurai branch, namely, Mr. V. Ravichandran, Chairman, Mr. A. Radhakrishnan, Secretary and Mr. S. Panneerselvam, Treasurer and other office bearers of Chennai & Madurai and the active participation of fish & shrimp farmers/entrepreneurs from Tamil Nadu/Pondicherry, fisheries experts from central/private agencies and teaching staff/students of the American College/ Kongunadu Arts & Science College/Madurai Kamaraj University/ New College, Chennai/Pachaiyappa's College, Chennai made this Meet a great success.

**Dr. A.R. Thirunavukkarasu**  
**Chairman**



### **Welcome address**

Mr. V. Ravichandran, Chairman, South Tamil Nadu Branch of the Fisheries Technocrats Forum welcomed Dr. M. Davamani Christober, Principal, The American College who has consented to preside over the inaugural function, Mr. V. Venkatesan, former Director, MPEDA & Member of FTF to inaugurate, Dr. R. Soundararajan, Vice-Chairman, FTF, Chennai to do introductory remarks, Dr. A. Joseph Thatheyus, Head, PG & Research Dept. of Zoology, The American College and other staff members, scientists from CIFA, CMFRI & RGCA and technical officer from MPEDA, fish/shrimp hatchery operators, fish/shrimp farmers and those got training in fish culture through private agencies and the students of American College, Madurai Kamaraj University, New College & Pachaiappa's College, Chennai who have taken up aquaculture/zoology, for their active participation. He thanked the authorities of MANAGE, Hyderabad, Director, CMFRI, Kochi, M/s SVARA Biotechnovations, Madurai and Dept. of Environment, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai for financial support.



### **Introductory remarks**

In the absence of Dr. A.R. Thirunavukkarasu, Chairman, FTF, Chennai, Dr. R. Soundararajan, Vice-Chairman, FTF, Chennai gave a brief account on the formation of the Fisheries Technocrats Forum in Chennai and a branch at Madurai, its role in development of fisheries and aquaculture, composition of members, events conducted during 1991-2017, objectives of the present Fish/Shrimp Interaction Meet through which an awareness creation among the stakeholders about technologies available and their utilization for increased fish production and the adoption of the successful model fish cultivation of Andhra Pradesh in Tamil Nadu.





#### **Presidential address**

Dr. M. Davamani Christober, Principal, The American College, Madurai has stated that this meet has brought together the members of the Fisheries Technocrats Forum, college staff and students, scientists from CMFRI, CIFA, MPEDA, RGCA and fish/shrimp farmers. Generally, the public has not realised the importance of studies related to aquaculture. The UGC is providing funds for such studies. It is hoped that a good interaction would take place among them during the deliberation of this meet.

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#### **Felicitation**

Dr. R. Jayakumar, Senior Scientist, Regional Centre of Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Mandapam Camp informed the gathering that CMFRI has developed several technologies for mariculture through R & D programmes and cage culture of fish in the sea off Rameswaram has been taken up successfully by coastal fishermen. Other coastal farmers should come forward in utilizing such proven technologies for increasing marine fish production and higher economical realization. He hoped that this meet would pave the way for creation of an awareness on mariculture.



### **Inaugural address**

In his inaugural address, Mr. V. Venkatesan, former Director, MPEDA and a member of the Fisheries Technocrats Forum thanked the authorities of the American College for offering the nice meeting venue and extending all facilities. The FTF has taken interest in the southern states of Tamil Nadu for this Meet, because not much information is available on the resources, current status of aquaculture and future prospects of these districts. Leaving the past glorious pearl and chank fisheries, presently too southern states can boast the following: fish processing factories in Tuticorin, unique blue swimming crab fishery including related processing industry, lobster fishery of Kanniyakumari district, first tilapia fish hatchery in Madurai Dt. and a host of ornamental fish production centres. The so called water deficiency in the southern districts need not be a constraint in developing aquaculture, provided we know what innovative technology we need to apply for development. The real constraints are lack of entrepreneurship, lack of technology for adoption to conditions specific to southern states, use of proper marketing tools etc. The government has a great role to play in promoting aquaculture in these districts. He hoped that this meet will help for a free-flow of information and suggestions for increasing the aquaculture opportunities in southern part of Tamil Nadu.

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### **Vote of thanks**

Dr. A. Joseph Thatheyus, Head, Postgraduate & Research Dept. of Zoology, The American College, Madurai proposed a vote of thanks. He thanked Dr. M. Davamani christober, Principal of the college for presiding over the function, Mr. V. Ravichandran, Chairman, FTF, Madurai for his welcome address, Dr. R. Soundararajan, Vice-Chairman, FTF, Chennai for his introductory remarks, Mr. V. Venkatesan, former Director of MPEDA for inauguration, scientists from CIFA, CMFRI, MPEDA & RGCA for their participation, Mr. V. Ravichandran, Dr. R. Soundararajan, Mr. M. Kathirvel, Dr. P. Nammalwar & Dr. P. Gandheeswari of FTF for their involvement in organizing the meet, staff and students from Dept. of Zoology of American College for their co-operation and fish/shrimp farmers and private entrepreneurs for kindly coming from different parts of Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry to take part in the meet.

## Recommendations

### Freshwater Aquaculture

1. To promote freshwater fish culture, there should be a well defined policy for allotment of government "Poramboke" lands to land-less entrepreneurs on long term lease of 10 years at a nominal fee.
2. Techniques of recirculation of precious water should be developed and popularised in fish culture as well as agriculture.
3. As Nile tilapia is suitable for short-term culture, the state government should promote tilapia culture through providing incentives / subsidies for establishment of hatchery/farms/feed mill etc. Currently, there is scarcity for Nile tilapia seeds in Tamil Nadu.
4. Sufficient infrastructure facilities such as independent nursing and rearing ponds should be created for supplying stocking-size Nile tilapia seeds.
5. Awareness campaign has to be undertaken among the rural youth on the advantages of culturing economically important Indian and exotic fish /ornamental fishes to increase fish production and to create more employment opportunities in the rural areas.
6. The Inland Fisheries Research Stations in Tamil Nadu should develop field level technologies to produce seeds and to rear the costlier native fishes such as Aiyirai/spiny loach (*Lepidocephalichthys thermalis*) and Viral/Murrel (*Channa marulius/Channa punctata/Channa striata*) and the State Government should popularise the viable technologies among the inland fishers since these fishes have huge demand and require limited water.
7. Many of the inland fish growers are not aware of the fact that their farm should get registered with the District Assistant Director of Fisheries. The State Government should take effective steps to get all the private aqua farms and public water bodies are getting registered with the District Fisheries Office.
8. All the District headquarters shall have at least one Aquaculture Laboratories to help the fish farmers to test the quality of farm water and soil. Besides, these Laboratories shall undertake fish disease diagnosis and suggest suitable treatment methods, especially for ornamental fishes.

## Recommendations-Contd.

### Brackishwater Aquaculture

1. The State government should take necessary steps to increase the brackish water area under shrimp culture. For this purpose, the government may allow abandoned paddy fields (e.g. abandoned for over 20 years due to non-availability of Cauvery water in the coastal belt of Nagapattinam district) to convert into brackish water aquaculture areas and also to allot the suitable "poromboke" lands in coastal areas to landless small entrepreneurs on a long term lease of 10 to 15 years.
2. Sea Bass culture to be popularized as the farmed fish is getting good price. There is scarcity for sea bass seeds. As construction of a hatchery is a costly venture, the State government should build a hatchery for supply of seeds. A manual in vernacular language for the control of parasites in the culture of sea bass may be brought out by concerned agencies, to educate the farmers.
3. The State Government should establish Aquaculture Laboratories in all the coastal Districts to help the farmers for testing quality of seed/farm water & soil/farm produce.

### Mariculture

1. National Mariculture Policy should be finalized at the earliest to popularize mariculture of fish and sea weeds and to utilize the vast areas of sea for the benefit of coastal rural fisherfolks.
2. National Funding Agencies like NFDB and NABARD should play a larger role in formulating suitable schemes for uplifting the socio-economic of coastal rural fishermen, in consultation with the State Government.



K. Chidambaram Memorial Award-2017 of the Fisheries Technocrats Forum  
Presented to Mr. S. Vaitheeswaran & Mr. S. Alagu Ravi of M/s SVARA  
Biotechnovations, Madurai for their outstanding contribution in commercial  
hatchery seed production and culture of Nile Tilapia



(L to R) Dr. P. Nammalwar, FTF Member, Mr. S. Vaitheeswaran, Mr. V. Ravichandran,  
Chairman, FTF, Madurai & Dr. R. Soundararajan, Vice-Chairman, FTF, Chennai



(L to R) Mr. S. Alagu Ravi, Mr. S. Ramiah, former Asst. Director of Fisheries & Madurai  
FTF Member & Dr. R. Soundararajan, Vice-Chairman, FTF, Chennai

## Technical Session I

### Present status of aquaculture technologies and practices in three core areas Freshwater fish culture



**Mr. G. Chandrasekaran, former Asst. Director of Fisheries & FTF member:** About 3,000 ha in freshwater areas in Nagapattinam, Thanjavur and Thiruvarur districts brought under fish cultivation; fries and fingerlings available from Govt. and private hatcheries for stocking purposes; such sources to be utilised for expansion of fish cultivation in southern districts of Tamil Nadu.

**Mr. S. Vaitheeswaran, M/s SVARA Biotechnovations, Madurai:** Efforts since 2011 in production and supply of GIFT tilapia fry through the funding of NFDB and marketing live tilapia. The electricity power tariff is higher when compared to that of Karnataka and Kerala. However, the recycling of water in tilapia farming is highly advantageous, thereby reducing the quantity of water and electrical power consumption considerably.

**Mr. M.N. Paramasivam, Joint Secretary, Tamil Nadu Fish Farmers Association, Orathanadu, Thanjavur Dt:** Chosen fish culture as an alternative avocation in lieu of agriculture since 2000; an extent of 6 acres for the purpose and two crops per year; started selling live fish from 2003; fish seed production since 2008 for self use as well as selling to other fish farmers; advocated diversification of fish culture using locally available species; faced problems in growing seabass in freshwater and sought diagnosis of diseases occurring during farming; dissemination of knowledge on rules and regulations to be followed to farming community for better yield and profit; demand for free supply of electricity as in the case of agriculture.

**Mr. K. Dineshkumar, M/s Aquagardens, Kadachanadhal, Madurai:** Production and sale of more than 50 species of ornamental fishes for the last 30 years,

**Mr. B.J. Kesavakumar, Ornamental fish culturist, Madurai:** Raising ornamental fish simple and highly profitable; expansion of this venture depending on government support and subsidy; suggestion for using temple tanks, many sale centres and women entrepreneurship to boost the trade.

**Mr. C.S. Ranganathan, Former Inspector of Fisheries & FTF member (M/s Kamaraj Fish Farm, Karanthai, Thanjavur):** Tackled water scarcity in an innovative way, through recycling and judicious use of electricity for water pumping; organic load and oxygen depletion regulated effectively by practicing manure and water management; reduced the feed cost by using coconut oilcake in lieu of groundnut oil cake; cost input for production of 1 kg fish around Rs.60/- and fish sale price at Rs. 120/-per kg; tremendous change in consumer preference of fish over the years.

### Brackishwater fish/shrimp farming



**Dr. Elancheran, M/s Allwin Aquatech shrimp hatchery, Marakanam, Tamil Nadu:** Switching over from tiger shrimp culture to that of Pacific Blue shrimp (*Penaeus vannamei*) and the latter cultivation in saline, brackishwater and freshwater regimes; feasibility of polyculture of Pacific blue shrimp with seaweed, bivalves (clam), etc. for increased production and profitability; cost of production of 1 kg of Pacific blue shrimp around Rs. 240 and the market price for 1 kg shrimp around Rs. 430/-; for tiger prawn, Rs. 350/kg and Rs. 700/kg production cost and sale price respectively; future expansion depending upon the government policies such as subsidised electrical power rates.

**Mr. M. Selvakumar, Shrimp farmer, Ramanathapuram:** Successful farming of Pacific blue shrimp in ecologically balanced environment and realising good profit due greater demand from export trade.

**Mr. G. Alexander, Technical Officer, Regional Centre of MPEDA, Nagapattinam:** 5,000 ha brackishwater available for farming in Nagapattinam and neighbouring districts; presently 300 to 500 ha developed; issue such as use of antibiotics in hatchery and culture operation and its negative impact on the mindset of importing countries; as a part of ensuring the quality of shrimp seed and stock, testing to a tune of 10-15% carried out at present; for full coverage, more govt./private laboratories needed.

**Dr. T. Frederick Rajkumar, Co-ordinator, Dept. Aquaculture, The American College-Community College:** Aquaculture less popular in many areas due to lack of awareness and skill; intensive awareness campaigns and training programmes to be organized to promote brackishwater fish and shrimp culture.



## Mariculture



**Dr. R. Jayakumar, Senior Scientist, Regional Centre of CMFRI, Mandapam Camp:** Expressing concern the oceans becoming dump yard for waste, in spite of its rich resource; navigation and fishing - two significant activities; oceans potential for commercial fish culture not fully utilized so far; suitable climate and good seawater very much favourable for developing large scale sea farming; cage culture, a proven technology especially in the offshore areas and high-quality fishes like cobia, pompano, ornamentals, lobster, seaweed etc. profitably cultured; farming technologies and economics for different culture species outlined.

**Mr. M.L. Seeni (Satham), Fish farmer, Maraikayarpattinam, Ramanathapuram Dt.:** Faced difficulties in fishing avocation and also depletion in fish catches etc.; switched over to open sea cage culture introduced by CMFRI for his livelihood; adopting of scientific method of such cage culture of fish yielding good profit consistently.

**Mr. B. Thomnic, Fish farmer, Pamban, Rameswaram, Ramanathapuram Dt.:** Citing livelihood issues and indiscriminate and illegal fishing practices affecting the fish stock; switched over to cage culture of fish and lobster in 2014 and earning a profit of Rs. 1 lakh per annum.

**Mr. V. Nagadoss, Lobster culturist, Mandapam, Ramanathapuram Dt.:** Emphasizing the adoption of cage culture as a diversified livelihood from that of traditional and seasonal fishing activities; rearing of the juvenile lobsters collected from wild and the growing period about seven months; feeding with clam meat; suggestion of taking up clam and mussel culture and meeting the food requirement of reared lobsters; excess production of clam and mussel to be sold in local markets for human consumption, to add up the profit; availability of natural stocking material at appropriate time, as the major constraint; continuous supply of stocking material for sustainability of lobster culture.

**Mr. L. Mohamed, Seaweed culturist, Mandapam Camp, Ramanathapuram Dt.:** Engaged in culturing seaweed since 2012 to support his livelihood; culture period 45 to 90 days; earning around Rs. 1000 per day after a gestation period of initial seeding; expressing concern over the low price offered against its true value.



**Technical Session II**  
**Interaction among the technocrats and the fish/shrimp farmers/private entrepreneurs/students**  
**Freshwater aquaculture**



**Moderators (L to R):** Mr. G. Chandrasekaran, Former Asst. Director of Fisheries & FTF Member, Dr. P. Gandheeswari, Former Reader in Zoology & FTF Member, Mr. S. Vaitheeswaran, M/s SVARA Biotechnovations, Madurai, Dr S. Kannan, Head & Prof., Dept. of Environment, Madurai Kamaraj University & Dr. Gangadhar Barlaya, Senior Scientist, CIFA, Bengaluru & Dr. R. Soundararajan, Former Principal Scientist, NBFGR & Vice-Chairman, FTF

**Points raised by farmers/private entrepreneurs/students:**

**On the Govt. policies:**

- Allotment of "Poramboke" govt. land to landless farmers.
- Delay in getting licence for new farms.
- Drought years to be excluded from the annual leasing period of freshwater bodies for stocking and harvest of fish.

**On the farm front:**

- Saline water intrusion affecting fish culture.
- Higher electricity charges in Tamil Nadu, compared to neighbouring states like Andhra Pradesh and Kerala.
- Demanding free electricity as in the case of agriculture.
- A minimum depth of water, harvesting fish lesser than half kg and recirculation of water for overcoming the shortage of water supply.

- Experiencing difficulties while transporting broodfish, fry and fingerlings with oxygen cylinder at interstate entry point; needs special permit to carry oxygen cylinders.
- CIFA for taking up of "Jayant" Rohu for increasing fish production and ready to supply broodfish stock on trial basis.
- Clearing wastes accumulated in the ponds and tanks with the application of probiotics.
- State government to establish Nile tilapia broodfish stock and hatchery facility for its popularization, meeting fry/fingerling demand and pond production.
- State govt. help needed for getting necessary permit from central government for importing Nile tilapia/GIFT tilapia broodfish for private hatcheries.
- Fish feed not available within the state and to be procured from neighbouring state after incurring heavy cost on transport.
- Prevalence of parasitic diseases in the cultured sea bass to be contained.
- Live fish trade to be popularized by more market avenues and good price.



### **Ornamental fish culture:**

- Introduction of more alien fish species endangering the native species and thus affecting the country's fish biodiversity, for example, the proliferation of 'tank cleaner fish'.
- Supply of quality brooders of important fishes for domestication and propagation.
- Cost reduction for live fish transport.
- Incentives from government for traditional and small-scale fish culturists.
- District level periodical exposure and training in advanced techniques for new entrepreneurs as well as for those who are already in the trade by government agency.

### **Brackishwater aquaculture**



**Moderators (L to R):** Dr. R. Soundararajan, Former Principal Scientist, NBFGR & Vice-Chairman, FTF, Dr. V.C. Chandrasekaran, Former Principal Scientist, CIBA & FTF Member, Dr. Elan Cheran, M/s Allwin Shrimp hatchery, Tamil Nadu, Mr. G. Alexander, Technical Officer, Regional Centre of MPEDA, Nagapattinam & Mr. V. Venkatesan, Former Director, MPEDA & FTF Member

### **Points raised:**

- Procedure for getting license to be streamlined with adequate information and clarity in mandatory requirements, for which, more staff may be posted in the concerned agency.
- Affordable risk cover for high cost investment in shrimp/fish farming.

- Standing instruction at road check posts to avoid the delay in checking and passing the seed and brooder consignments.
- Those large and small investors should enjoy the grants and subsidies in the same manner.
- Taluk level permit facility to ensure large scale aquafarming by decentralizing for local level surveillance and monitoring.
- District level facility for testing the quality of soil, water, seed, feed, reared animals and farm products.
- Skill development for value addition to farm products and also for market intelligence to enhance the profit.





## Mariculture



### Moderators (L to R)

Dr. R. Soundararajan, Former Principal Scientist, NBFGR & Vice-Chairman, FTF

Dr. M. Rajagopalan, Former Principal Scientist, CMFRI & FTF Member

Dr. P. Nammalwar, Former Principal Scientist, CMFRI & FTF Member

Dr. R. Jayakumar, Senior Scientist, Regional Centre of CMFRI, Mandapam Camp

### Points raised:

- Compared to freshwater and brackishwater aquaculture, exposure and experience to mariculture limited.
- Demonstration on the advantages of cage culture of fish by the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute and National Institute of Ocean Technology in inshore waters, involving coastal fishermen community.
- Profitable culture of Cobia, Sea Bass, Pampono and spiny lobster in floating cages.
- Major constraints like heavy investment in the floating cages and non-availability of cheaper fish feed.



Group photo



### List of Participants

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162	Mr. C.S. Renganathan, Former Inspector of Fisheries M/s Kamarajar Fish Farm 30, S.A. Anand Nagar, Karanthai, Thanjavur-613 002	94867 34008	Nil
163	Dr. R. Soundararajan, Former Principal Scientist of NBFGR, Belly area, near Thangam colony, Anna Nagar West, Chennai-600 040	944 502 1870	<a href="mailto:rsundar8@yahoo.com">rsundar8@yahoo.com</a>
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#### Summary

Regional Centre of ICAR-CIFA, Bengaluru	1
Regional Centre of ICAR-CMFRI, Mandapam Camp	2
Regional Centre of MPEDA, Nagapattinam	1
Rajiv Gandhi Centre for aquaculture	3
Office of Deputy Director of Fisheries, Madurai	1
Aquaculture Magazine	1
Doordharshan Kendra, Madurai	1
The American College, Madurai-Staff	6
The American College, Madurai-Students	15
Kongunadu Arts and Science College, Coimbatore-Staff	1
The New College, Chennai-Student	1
Pachaiyappa's College, Chennai-Student	1
Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai-Staff	1
Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai-Students	4
Fish/shrimp hatchery operators	3
Fish/Shrimp farmers	60
Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (Tamil Nadu)	5
Voluntary Association For People Service (VAPS), Madurai	29
SDC-AGRO-VET India (Pvt) Ltd.	3
Other entrepreneurs	5
Fisheries Technocrats Forum, Madurai	8
Fisheries Technocrats Forum, Chennai	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>165</b>

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