

Meeting Report

Meeting Title:	Discussion on India's Expanding Fisheries Sector: Achievements, Challenges, and
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Executive Summary

The discussion provided a comprehensive overview of India's rapidly expanding fisheries sector, celebrating its achievements as the world's second-largest fish producer and a leader in inland capture fisheries. Driven by substantial government investments, particularly through the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMSY) and its sub-schemes, the sector has seen a doubling of fish production, increased exports, and reduced post-harvest losses. Key initiatives include nationwide scheme coverage, the establishment of fisheries clusters, and advancements in marine aquaculture such as transponders for vessel safety, climate-resilient villages, and integrated farming systems. The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhhi Yojana (PMKSSY) further focuses on skill enhancement, cluster development, disease diagnostics, and empowering women in various fisheries activities, including pearl farming. Despite this growth, significant challenges remain, particularly in meeting international hygiene standards and combating Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR) to boost exports. Proposed solutions include diversifying aquaculture species, increasing value-added product exports, penetrating new global markets, and enhancing infrastructure for dry fish processing. Domestically, there's a focus on boosting freshwater fish production, developing clean and traceable markets, and promoting regional fish varieties. Concerns were also raised regarding the quality and traceability of alternative feeds, underscoring the need for robust regulatory oversight and incorporating these new insights into future policy revisions to ensure sustainable growth and quality.

Participants

Subhash Chandra (Director, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Daring), V. Srinivasarao (Director, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Daring), Dr. Grins and George (Director, ICAR, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi), Jitendra Kumar Sundare (Principal Scientist and Head, Division of Fish Genetics and Biotechnology, ICAR, Central Institute of Fresh Water Aqua Culture, Odisha), Lakshmi Devi (Journalist, Moderator), Bhavana Gokli (Akashwani correspondent, Mumbai), Kalyan Lahar (Akashwani correspondent, Kolkata), Dr. Basantakumaddash (Director, ICAR Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore, Kolkata - quoted)

Key Points

- India is the world's second-largest fish producer, contributing 8% of global fish production, leading in inland capture fisheries, and ranking second in aquaculture and global shrimp production.
- The sector's growth is largely driven by government investment of Rs. 38,572 crores since 2015, doubling fish production to a record 195 Lakh tons in 2024-25.
- The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMSY), launched in 2020 and extended until March 2026, has significantly boosted fish production to 190 lakh metric tons, increased exports beyond Rs. 60,000 crores, reduced post-harvest losses, and improved seed/feed quality.
- PMSY covers the entire country, including Union Territories and special regions with higher funding, and introduced initiatives like the National Fishery District Platform and 34 identified fisheries clusters to integrate production, processing, and marketing.
- PMSY has facilitated advancements in marine fisheries through transponders for vessel safety, development of climate-resilient smart villages, integrated multi-trophic aquaculture systems, artificial reef deployment, and increased seaweed production.
- The sub-scheme Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samridhi Yojana (PMKSSY) focuses on skill enhancement, cluster development (ornamental and seed), disease diagnostics, modern aquaculture systems (RAS, biofloc), and the establishment of hatcheries, with an emphasis on women's involvement and pearl farming.
- Maharashtra has demonstrated significant growth in marine culture, particularly shrimp farming, with a 270% increase from 2013-14 to 2023-24.
- Key challenges include maintaining hygiene standards and addressing Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR) in fish exports, requiring diversification of species, increased value-added products, and exploring new markets.
- The dry fish market has substantial export potential, but lacks adequate drying, packing, and storage infrastructure, with solar dryers and cold chain facilities suggested for improvement.
- The government is promoting the domestic ready-to-eat market, aiming to enhance freshwater fish production to 6 tons/hectare by 2030 through modern aquaculture, quality seed, and expanded water areas, alongside developing clean and traceable markets.
- West Bengal is a leading state for fish production, exploring new technologies like drones, researching Hilsa cultivation in ponds, and conducting river ranching.
- Concerns were raised regarding the traceability and quality of alternative feeds like 'mud-feed' or 'coal-feed', emphasizing the need for regulatory oversight.
- The discussion highlighted the need for scheme revisions to incorporate new suggestions and emerging challenges, such as the quality of alternative feeds and infrastructure development.

Action Items

- Augment infrastructure development across the entire fisheries value chain, leveraging support from PMSY and other schemes.
- Diversify aquaculture species beyond current limited commodities to reduce competition and improve market resilience.
- Increase the production and export of value-added seafood products to enhance India's position in global markets.
- Strategically penetrate new global markets by understanding specific local demands and tailoring products accordingly.
- Invest in modern infrastructure for the dry fish market, including solar dryers and controlled environments for drying, packing, and storage.
- Enhance freshwater fish production through modern aquaculture practices, ensuring good quality seed, and expanding water-spread areas.
- Implement comprehensive traceability systems for fish products, from their origin to the consumer, to ensure quality and build confidence.
- Develop and promote clean, organized fish markets to improve consumer experience and product perception.
- Prioritize and promote fish species that have high regional demand within the domestic market.
- Establish strict quality control and traceability measures for alternative feeds, such as 'mud-feed' or 'coal-feed', to prevent contaminants.
- Incorporate new suggestions and emerging challenges, like alternative feed quality and infrastructure needs, into future revisions of fisheries schemes.

Full Transcript

This is Akashwani. In the weekly program, current affairs, now we bring you a discussion on India's expanding fisheries sector. The participants are Subash Chandra and V Sri Navasarav directors, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Daring, Dr.

Grins and George, Director ICAR, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Cochi and Jitendra Kumarsundare, Principal Scientist and Head Division of Fish Genetics and Biotechnology ICAR, Central Institute of Fresh Water, Aqua Culture, Odisha. Moderator is Lakshmi Devi, Journalist. Yesterday the nation observed National Fish Farmer Day commemorating a scientific milestone that transformed Indian fisheries sector.

On this day in 1957 at Angul in Odisha, Dr. Hiralal Chaudhry and Dr. K.H.

Ali Kuni successfully demonstrated induced breeding in Indian major carps through hypophysiation technique. This breakthrough has propelled India to become the world's second largest fish producer, contributing 8% of global fish production. The sector has witnessed remarkable growth, government investment of Rs.

38,572 crores since 2015 has doubled fish production to a record 195 Lakh tons in 2024-25. From those pioneering experiments in Odisha to today's blue revolution, India now leads global shrimp production and ranks second in Aqua Culture. We now discuss the achievements and challenges of this vital sector with our panel of experts.

We have with us Dr. Grins and George, Director, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute ICAR from Cochi. We also have with us Jitendra Kumar, Sunnari Principal Scientist and Head Division of Fish Genetics and Biotechnology from Central Institute of Fresh Water Aqua Culture from Odisha.

We have with us Subash Chandra, Director of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Asmenderies and Dairy from Delhi. Good evening Mr. Shrinivasra.

I have a question for you. You know very well that Pradhan Mandri Matsusampada Yudh, which now launched in 2020 for five years concluded last year but has been extended for the current year. Could you elaborate how the flagship scheme has helped boost the fishery sector across the country? Madam, is there a flap scheme having very very good response in the fishery sector? The total investment, whatever we are done in this through this scheme is more than 20,000 per cent.

Due to this Pradhan Mandri Matsusampada Yudh, the fish production was increased to 190 failed lakh metric tons and the exports also crossed more than 60,000 crores and the post harvest losses also reduced to the minimum and the quality seed and the quality field available to the fish farmers was improved and due to this very good response from the all the corners of the country we requested for the administration of this scheme. Now this scheme is extended up to March 2026. That's what from my side to my colleague, want to add some more point.

Actually if we see our record of the part of the fishery due to the intervention by government of India for past 10 years, I had just you know must be told that total

investment of the 30th thousand crore have been very sector and the results are visible basically. Now India extends second largest fish producer can be globally and if you talk about the inlet capture fisheries in the global, it's the first length basically. So we extend first globally for the inlet fisheries and also in its agriculture, the second position in the world and the same is also a very good result.

Our country is can second largest country globally for the same producing country. While the government schemes in the fisheries sector especially PMS is why are performing fantastically but the coverage area remains limited. What strategy would you recommend to scale up the benefits of this scheme to reach a larger geographical area and more beneficiaries? Yeah actually this scheme covers entire part of the country.

All the united is starting from we will lay like darks to burn their poverty in the one before. For parts of the country has covered and the damma tree must have some further use and even for the united it is with a hundred percent of funding for the damma tree must have some further use now and for the north eastern and in the mallet region the funding is more than the plan region. So the damma tree must have some further use now covers entire country and now another scheme has come up in the damma months.

In the past one of the 50 government of India has launched the nation officially district platform where all the fishermen and the stateholders cooperatives, effort, were but connected in the value chain. They can register themselves on the nation's history district portal or they can take help from a common service centre or village for their registration and they can apply for the various benefits. So we are covering various all parts of the country and through various outreach activities we are reaching to the last year and we are also taking the support from various arts mediums like DDCs on DDC news.

Mr Chandra union minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh had launched 17 new fisheries clusters and PMSY study on the occasion of fish farmstay. Could you please tell us more about this clusters and how will they contribute in the growth of fisheries sector? Yes, basically this project is very important because the fisheries sector will all of us know it was unauthorized sectors and started from the production process saying value chain linkage of the market and value chain was very important. So Department of fisheries, the world not of India had identified till now we have identified 34 clusters, various parts of the country.

Over here on the edge of the centre districts will work together where the facilities would be known starting from the production, processing and marketing. The facility for the particular cluster would be club and it will help to improve the productivity and reduce the cost harvest losses. Also it will get the market if you are engaging and it will enter the health the fishermen for the good value of their products.

For example, actually the Lexite has been notified at the seaweed cluster because they have various products where the growth processing facilities and the infrastructure would be encouraged by the department of fisheries. Madam, I am continuing to this I will add one more point. Other schemes like our FI team is there and the newly launched Sariyuzna scheme and the upcoming premium SY also.

So we are focusing to motivate and sanction more components related to the clusters so that from the starting from the seed to the market linkages we are going to focus and develop these clusters so that there is a lot. So potential is there across the country for

such 34 types of clusters. That's why we are going to launch and we are going to develop these clusters with our schemes.

Dr. Ginseng George, Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada, Yogyana launched in 2020 for five years concluded last year but has been extended for the current year. Could you elaborate on how this flagship scheme has helped boost the fisheries sector across the country? Okay, OPM SSY scheme.

As you elaborately mentioned it was guiding different aspects of marine fisheries and marine culture activities also. I come from an institute which is dealing with primarily with marine fisheries and marine culture activities like farming in the sea and fishing from the sea. So one major issue with respect to marine fisheries is the complexity of the fishing vessels which are in operation in the country.

They start with one man operated thermocol vessels to close to 60s and the people operating motorized vessels to multi-day dollars which go to the sea for quite a number of days up to 20-21 days. So when this complexity is it is very difficult to monitor and do surveillance of these vessels. We are interested in knowing the sustainability of the resources.

So PM SSY came with a wonderful idea of providing at least transponders to the major vessels which are going to the deeper waters so that the safety of the fishermen can be ensured. So now the project is taking shape in a wonderful manner in different parts of the country. Second major achievement in this program is with respect to the enactment of climate, resilient, smart villages in different parts of the country.

Each maritime state and union derivatives they are suffering because of the impact of the climate change happening in this part of the world. We have issues with respect to sea level rise. We have issues with respect to the increasing temperature.

We have issues with respect to the extreme events. So when all these things are happening the coastal communities are not safe. So to ensure the safety of our coastal communities we are trying to develop some model climate resilient villages across the coastal India.

So PM SSY scheme clearly helped in developing such schemes by bringing in scientific intervention to resolve some of the challenges faced by the coastal communities in the country. Next major achievement in PM SSY scheme was when we tried to take our technologies, the farming in the sea related technologies to the people. One such successful technology is the integrated multi-profit aquaculture system.

In this system we are trying to grow fishes in the cages, molluscs in the rafts and seabed in the rafts. When we are doing such a technology the additional waste materials which are coming from the cages of the fishes it can be fed by the filter feeders like the molluscs and even when the metabolic wastes are still there in that particular location it can be taken up by the seaweeds. We could establish demonstration at different parts of the country, certain state fishers department for example the Udhicherry fishers department through the PM SSY scheme is giving such a demonstration with the technical support of Simo Farai.

There is a major program on artificial reefs. When we have been involved in fishing activities the fishing activities tend to create some problem for the environment. So as to conserve the resources and to ensure the sustainability of the environment we have been supporting the government of India technically by helping in the proper deployment of artificial reefs.

This create ecological succession in the area at the same time ensuring sustainability of the fishing and related activities in the country. So there are several such initiatives we are trying to improve the production of the seaweeds also. In a country where there is a good potential when the world is producing close to 35.5 million tons of seaweeds we are producing around only one lactant.

So there is a major scope. The honorable Prime Minister is always indicating that seaweeds is a priority area and Simo Farai is stepping its ways in developing such activities even in the crucial areas like Indo-Pok border in Kauripadala region in Gujarat to the places where we are bordering in Indus-Rillangan area. So also we are trying to divert the attention of the people from the capture fisheries to barriculture and related activities.

So these are some of the achievers as an institute we can clearly tell that it helped us in developing the marine fisheries and barriculture in the last few years with the support of the PMSS wise key. Let's listen to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yujna. Bhai Bhano Kho Artik Badad.

Dutra Blue Revolution Scheme Ke Thay Namo Ka Aduni Karan. And third, Madhavi Ke Vyapar and Karobar Se Jude Aduni Inflator Kandirma. Yeah moving to your related development my next question to Mr Sundarai.

In 2023 and 24 the government launched a new sub-scheme Pradhan Mantri Matsya Kisan Samrideshah Yujna or PMK SSY under PMMSY with an investment of 6000 crore rupees. How has the traditionally unorganized fisheries sector been able to benefit including aqua culture sector from this scheme particularly in accessing institutional finance and incentives across the value chain. We look into traditional fisheries and financial benefit out of this particular scheme.

So what we have been focusing mostly on the training component and enhancing the skill of the traditional fisheries. If you look into that is apart from that the PMSS wise scheme has been helpful for developing a cluster like ornamental and developing cluster like seed cluster. So where this institute has a major training importer so we have been working on how to enhance the skill for the respective sector.

And if we look into this particular scheme for the traditional fisher whether it is like you know people from the tribals or people from the civil cost. So and people from the mostly aspirational district. So we have been focusing through the line department to impart training on particular quality seed.

And as you know like this institute has been involved in the producing quality seed like Imprud Rohu, Jainti, Amrit Katla and the Sipha Jai Skanvi. So these three things has been the part and the parcel of the new development under the scheme which other people are approaching. Apart from this particular scheme has been helping into developing the new

like laboratory for the Digi's diagnostic which is going to the unreachable area and the last mile clients.

And the new technology like recycled aquaculture system around 12,000 unit has been like you know given. And by a flock you know the next generation aquaculture what we call it. It's around 4,200 units of bi-flog husbandry established.

And across India around 809 fish hatcheries and scampy around 5 scampy hatcheries have been established on this particular scheme. And as you know this ornamental fisheries is playing a major role in case of live load and spot-ordering. So the focus has been to develop a ornamental cluster and training them.

What we have been looking into mostly for ornamental and seed production involve me mostly woman into that by which you know they can be trained properly and they can take the business into a different perspective. As for the ornamental excursion we look into both front end and back end management and this is what I have talked about is mostly under the purview of this particular scheme. And how about pearl farming which is picking up in Odisha, West Bengal and even darkened is also exploring in a big way to make it a hub for pearl farming.

What do you have to say? Yeah recently as you know like in the poll has been like you know demand across sector, whether it's a jewelry sector or apaculture sector. And thanks to government of India declaring Hagaribhag in Jharkhand as one of the palm farming cluster. So actually what have been we have been conducting two to three training programs per year and we are training them how to collect these muscles, how to implant the nucleus and with a like you know minimum facilities.

And by training here many of the entrepreneurs whether it's the Odisha, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Vihar, many of the entrepreneurs are taking up this particular pearl farming and our focus has been mostly trained them and to make them more skillful. And in addition to that from the natural fall we have been focusing mostly on designer pearl or customized pearl. So that has been taking a big momentum most of the like you know places in India.

We have reports from Mumbai, Akashwani correspondent Bhavna Gokli. Fisheries play a pivotal role in the economy food security for in exchange earnings and employment of the coastal population. Maharashtra is bestowed with a coastline of 720 km spread over seven coastal districts like Thane, Palgarh, Mumbai city, Mumbai suburban, Ragged Ratnagiri and Sindhu Durga along the Arabiancy with rich marine fishery resources.

There are 25 fishing zones in the seven districts with 173 fish landing centers. As per the Department of Fisheries, Government of Maharashtra's report, the total marine fish production from the state during 2018-19 was 4.6 metric ton valued at 6298 crore rupees. The state offers huge potential for the sustainable utilization of the marine bios resources for fisheries, marine culture, coastal agriculture and post-harvest development and exports.

Maharashtra falls under the Northwest coast which contributes the highest 32.8% in the total cash during 2019-20. The Maharashtra fishery department has focused on expanding marine culture which streamed production increasing by 270% from 3.22 lactons in 2013-14 to 11.84 lactons in 2023-24. These reports contribute to the state seafood exports

and overall growth in the sector.

Fish production from inland fisheries and aquaculture has been remarkable growth. It increased from 2.18 lactons in 1951 to 131.33 lactons in 2223. This expansion of marine culture, especially shrimp farming, is a key area of focus contributing to seafood exports, Bhavana, Akashwani Mumbai.

Fish exports are valued at 60,000 to 65,000 around that, crore, primarily comprising shrimp and marine fish. Despite huge potential in the export market, hygiene standards and anti-microbial resistance that is called AMR, fisheries remain major concerns. What concrete steps can be taken to address these critical issues so that to further boost the India's exports? When a particular country is interested in importing seafood, they set quality standards.

Unless and at least we fulfill the quality standards. It's very difficult to export to that particular country. So we are always trying to fulfill the standards as required by the country which is importing our fish.

So for that, there is a set standards available. But at the same time, there are issues like as you indicated, AMR is going to be a major issue because in different ways we have been using it. It's not because of the aquaculture industry or it is because of the activities what is happening in the sector.

But because of the antibiotic residues which has been pumping into the aquatic ecosystems from different sources, including the hospitals and other sources. So when such things happen, there is one health approaching aquaculture also. We have to deal with primarily with the type of environment in which they are living.

If the aquatic environment is comparatively healthy, then it will be reflected in commodity what is coming out of that particular environment. So there are serious concerns raised by the different departments and research and related departments also invested heavily on these activities. We have a major program from the fisheries SMD.

Like we have an incident called National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources based at Lucknow. They are having a major program on doing surveillance with respect to AMR. So we are doing this massively since the last five years.

There are a lot of datasets being generated. At the same time, in India waters required is diversification. Personally we are looking only on few commodities and it is concentrated on few commodities and the competition is on the highest side.

When we have very less commodities and the competition is on the highest side, people try to see that they want to convert every 10 bits into money. So there can be some sort of errors happening when they are trying to do at less cost because the margin is very less. But when we have diverse form of agricultural activities including the marine culture activities instead of the one or two species you have mentioned.

If you have a large number of species that is going to revolutionize the sector. For that activity, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, we have prioritized some of the marine species and we have developed breeding as well as farming protocol for 14 species of marine fishes. Out of which half a dozen of the species are now in the farming.

So if we promote such activities, these diversified form of agriculture and related activities, farming, food in the sea that can help to a greater extent in bringing a sort of balance with respect to the type of competition what we face in other species. In addition, when we have large set of processing plans doing such wonderful export in the country, our contribution towards value addition is very less. When we are developing value-added products, the measures what we are going to do in the quality control is going to be very critical and very severe.

So there is not going to be any problem with respect to the products which go out of the country in the value-added form. But at present, compared to many other countries like Thailand where 35 to 40% of the products are value-added, seafood-exported products are value-added. In Indian condition, it is hardly less than 10% each.

So there is a greater scope lying there. We can have value-added products from India going to different parts of the country. Another issue what we are facing with respect to our products is like people tend to bring in non-train values like real, it's not related to trade, but they say that environment has issues.

So when such things are there, we should be able to absorb shocks. For example, the type of tariffs used imposed on the globe recently that created lot of shocks in the seafood sector, but immediately it was reversed. But at the same time, when such problems are happening, we should be able to penetrate other markets.

There are a lot of other markets available globally, but we should be able to penetrate it properly. We should be knowing locally what those people want and accordingly develop our products. So we have to strategize our self, do research as well as value-chain studies to ensure that our seafood is reaching the right destination at the best price.

So dry fish presents another significant export opportunity, but inadequate drying, packing and storage systems are limiting our potential. What infrastructure development and policy measures would you suggest to tap this market effectively? Where it comes to value-adhesion in the form of dried fish or other things when we worry about the cold chain infrastructure, what we are lacking in the country is like we are not using the renewable resources. Our sister institute central instead of fisheries technology, it came up with solar dryers.

Solar dryers are possible to a great extent in many parts of India, in the coastal India, but in certain areas where monsoon is very heavy, still it can be used for at least four to five months very easily. Even during rainy season also, when summer monsoon is happening, now we have rainy days and in between large spills of dry days also. So when such a thing is happening, when the weather is not protecting, we should have control mechanisms by which we can develop value-added products.

So such infrastructure development is very important. Even in the earlier mentioned discussion, we were telling about the PMS spice scheme. The development of India has

invested strongly in developing infrastructure related to value-chain.

So this has to be augmented in a better manner. Now if you have developed in few areas, we want to see that this type of development is happening everywhere so that the country will be progressing in this line. Dry fish market mostly caters to a specific area.

For example, we have a good market in our neighboring countries and since Indians are living abroad, they are having a flavour for this. But it is not a really targeted market. So if there is a possibility, when we have abundance of fish happening in both farming as well as fishing, we should see that this is steadily growing.

The 10% is growth rate what we are achieving in the sector is because of the augmented production. But at the same time, as you said, if there are avenues for different value-added products, we should be looking into such avenues and develop infrastructure in that fashion. While production continues to rise annually, we are unable to increase exports further due to high teen and AMR issues.

The government is now focusing on the ready-to-eat market in the domestic sector. What has been the progress in this segment and how promising is this strategy? Looking into domestic sector, there has been a some moment, my some of the entrepreneurs to push the stream, particularly the farm grown streams in India for the domestic consumption. But as far as the freshwater fish is concerned, still we are like, there is a scope to enhance the production.

If we look into now, the production is around three tons per hectare. And if the VEA, the PMS is planning, so hopefully we should buy 2000, 30, we should be reached around somewhat a six ton of the production. So it means we have a scope to enhance the production.

To enhance the production, how the PMS is supporting actually, if you look into this, they have been supporting all the states to go for the modern improved aquaculture. They're supporting for the good quality seed production. They're supporting for the enhancing the water-spect area, like digging new plants.

And as far as this diverse person, what Dr. Ginseng was talking about, same in its implies in the freshwater aquaculture. So we have been now, if you look into Indian freshwater aquaculture, it's mostly carb dominating, like you know, Rohu and Kattla.

But you have a solid scope for regional remedy. And as you know, everybody's having a capacity to buy a fresh life fish, rather than going for a iced fish. I can give an example of some of the states, the life fish fetches more price than ice fish from the neighboring state or the own state.

So there is a scope for the enhancing, but how government is looking into government has been promoting good, neat and clean market. Odisha has got one. I think Tamila has got one.

So that way, a comment like, you know, the OEA it is planning. If you look in, I can prioritize one thing. We should have a traceability where the fish comes from and the values and how it reaches the consumer.

And the point is, again, you should have a clean, neat market by which a vendor, sorry, a client can look for the opportunities which fish he can buy. And you should have a specific plan for promoting the fish where this is having a regional demand. Here we have another report from Kolkata by Akashvani correspondent Kalyan Lahar.

West Bengal is a leading state for fish production. Many latest technologies are being used for fish cultivation, including drones. The director of the ICAR Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barakpur, Abkolkata, Dr.

Basantakumaddash, informed as per 2022-23 statistics, total 18 lakhs ton fish produced in West Bengal, including 16.5 lakhs ton freshwater fish. Research is going on to increase hilsha production in the state. There is a plan to cultivate hilsha in points.

River ranching is also an important part. As per latest data, 1.5 crore finger links released into River Ganga. Kalyan Lahar, Akashvani News Kolkata.

In the past, the process of the process has been done. It has been assigned to the respective vendors. As per the mind speed is concerned, it is a welcome step, but we need to have one checkpoint.

We don't know what type of mind speed is going on. Whether you have some sort of contaminants or metals. I will emphasize on the mind-peats or coal-peats.

We need to look into the traceability and the quality of the product is coming out of that. But definitely, this is the alternative mode to utilize the resources which has been abandoned. That's a good idea, Mr.

George. What you are suggested, these are all the new things that the scheme, if it is revised, should factor in. With these insights, thank you for joining with us.

Thank you, Meran. Thank you. You were listening to a discussion on India's expanding fisheries sector.

The participants were Subhash Chandra and B.S. Renevasa Rao Directors, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Daring, Dr. Grinent George, Director I.C.A.R, Central Marine Fisheries, Research Institute Kochi and Jitendra Kumar Sundare, Principal scientist and head Division of Fish Genetics and Biotechnology, I.C.A.R, Central Institute of Freshwater Aqua Culture Odisha.

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