

Interactive Session on Blue revolution: Students brimming with ideas pave the Way Forward



As part of **CIFE WAVE 2017 2nd Student Convention**, an interactive session on blue revolution was held on the morning hours of 4th March 2017. It was chaired as well as moderated by the dynamic carried out by **Dr. J. K. Jena**, DDG, Fisheries, ICAR who made the session very interactive eliciting enthusiastic response from student scholars. Several eminent faces **Dr. S.D Tripathi**, former Director, CIFE, **Dr. K. Gopakumar**, former DDG, Fisheries, **Dr. Dilip Kumar**, former Director, CIFE, **Dr. K. Ratnakumar**, Vice-Chancellor, TNFU, **Dr. Ravishankar**, Director, CIFT, **Dr. J.K. Sundaray**, Director, CIFA graced the occasion. **Dr. Gopalkrishna**, Director, CIFE presided over the session.

The session started off with **Dr. J.K. Jena's** call to students to pour out their ideas to take Indian fisheries development forward indicating several challenges it faces. Students' innovative ideas hovered around how to double the production and productivity and contribute towards nutritional security in a sustainable manner. It ranged from some of the well-established technologies like Integrated fish farming, Multi-Trophic Aquaculture, river ranching to emerging ones such as urban aquaculture and terrace farming as alternative to fish culture practises in water scarce area, use of eutrophic lakes after bioremediation, digital

repositories of fishers for effective communication, avoidance of macro-plastic pollution, avoidance of throwing damaged / unused gears into marine environment that kills aquatic fauna, ways to minimise gene pool contamination through inbreeding, use of non-conventional feed sources, alternative protein source utilization, etc. to novel concepts such as use of non-conventional energy sources for fish farming, artificial coral reef formation, transgenic ornamental fishes as means to bring about that ever eluding blue revolution.

Dr. Gopakumar encouraged enthusiastic students for their active participation and responded to some of the ideas thrown by students like why productivity of Indian reservoir fisheries is low as compared to China. Underscoring the importance of producing healthy table fish, he also suggested open-sea cage farming can be an alternative in context of freshwater scarcity but cited high cost restricting its popularization. **Dr. Dilipkumar** emphasised as to how aquaculture development should be a means towards sustainable livelihoods and rural prosperity. He urged young minds to work on new breeding techniques like pheromone-triggered breeding techniques to increase productivity. **Dr. S.D. Tripathi** suggested further adaptation, standardisation and promotion of technologies such as aquaponics and

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Recirculatory Aquaculture System (RAS) as answers to water scarcity problems.

Dr. Ratnakumar encouraged the popularization of fish farming in wastelands / unutilised inland areas. Suggesting a value chain based approach, he called for empowering farmers with proper technologies such that they



become self-sufficient. **Dr. J.K Sunderay**, raising questions about having blue revolution at what cost, he urged the need to develop indigenous breeding techniques for commercial important fishes, use of digital media to move from a Data Poor to Data Rich Fisheries, documentation of evolving practises by successful entrepreneurs as well as the development of crazy ideas by students.

The session concluded with encouraging remarks by **Dr. Gopalkrishna** who called out students keep thinking aloud and take their ideas forward and to become entrepreneurs and job creators as they are the future of not only fisheries but India as well.

Brainstorming Session on Higher Fisheries Education

The second brainstorming session of the Day on higher education started immediately after the first session. **Dr. J.K. Jena** chaired and moderated this session as well while other wisely leaders in the filed graced the dais. Focusing on ideas to inject new energy and reforms in the present fisheries education system, students from far and wide came out with ideas wild and not so wild. Some interesting ideas like student exchange programs during in-plant training in final years of B.F.Sc, addition of new courses like philosophy, teacher evaluation by students, promoting fisheries education in school curriculum and so on. The no so wild ideas included suggestions for reconsidering NET and ARS disciplines and syllabus, reforms in examination patterns, establishment of central body for examination and evaluation, regular research updates by ICAR institutes for the benefit of UG students of different colleges of fisheries, inclusion of research methodology from undergraduate level, and strict supervision of physical education classes wherein students are taught swimming in all fisheries colleges, proper coursework and syllabus in accordance with course nomenclature.

Dr. Gopakumar suggested reform in the syllabus and adequate focus on entrepreneurship and exposure of students to industries,

farms etc. **Dr. Tripathi** emphasised on the requirement of project formulation, evaluation and monitoring during the graduation level. He suggested the inclusion of rural sociology into the curriculum, importance of having liberty to structure the course work in accordance to a particular region. **Dr. Dilipkumar** said that as farm universities, unlike other general universities, every Fisheries College require certain basic infrastructure. As many Colleges apparently lack them, Hands-on training programmes become a handicap. Having a macro view of the sector including Sector planning and policy reform in the curriculum is essential, he opined.

Dr. J.K. Sunderay suggested initiating students to research in the last year of UG program which the student can continue in his masters and later and need for the all India JRF/SRF entrance exam to include criteria for selection based on students' research proposal, and reinstate the earlier practice of involving other ICAR-FIs in CIFE's academic programs.

The Session concluded with remarks by **Dr. J.K Jena** and **Dr. Gopal Krishna** endorsing the students ideas and emphasising the confidence building of students in structuring the higher education in fisheries.

-Mr. Chinmaya Nanda and Ms. Kiranmayee .D



Launching SocialFish

The first issue of **SocialFish**, the student run fortnightly News Magazine that promises to bring facts and fables from the world of fishERies was launched by **Dr. J.K. Jena**, DDG, Fisheries in the presence of **Dr. Gopal krishna**, Director, CIFE and prominent faces from the fisheries industry and institutions. It will primarily be a e-news letter with a limited print copies. **SocialFish** is anchored by Fisheries Economics, Extension and Statistics Division, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai.

The annual Industry Day was celebrated this year as part of **CIFE WAVE 2017** with much fanfare and wider participation from Industry, Institutions as well as students from across the country. The main unanimous take home message the industry was very loud and clear: move beyond the cosy confines of government jobs, and look towards the flourishing aquaculture and fisheries industry for lucrative job prospects and challenging entrepreneurial ventures. The program started post-lunch and had a panel of 18 top leaders people representing different sectors of the industry like shrimp hatchery, feed company, additives, pharma company, corporate farming, ropes and cages company, seafood processing and exports, certification systems, NABARD, EIC, CMFRI, MPEDA, etc. It was a matter of pride that as many as 10 among them were alumni of CIFE, Mumbai.

Dr J.K Jena (DDG, Fisheries), **Dr. Gopal Krishna** (Director and VC, CIFE, **Dr Chadha** (Head, Aquaculture Division, CIFE) welcomed the guests and opened the floor for discussion, while **Dr. B.B Nayak** was the Master of Ceremony. **Dr. Manoj Sharma** spoke about the changes

brought about by his entrepreneurship venture in Gujarat which increased from 4 to 450 ponds in just 2 decades. It was started with a humble amount of Rs 40 thousand and is of Rs 2500 crores value currently with a turnover of Rs 100 crores annually. **Mr. Ansuman Chand**, a successful seafood entrepreneur and alumni of OUAT and CIFE broke the ice with students and exhorted students into a debate on govt. vs. private job preferences. **Mr G.S.Rath**, Marketing Head of Godrej Agrovet, spoke about their collaboration with CIFE where a minimum of 2-3 students a recruited every year. There is a requirement of at least 10,000 people in the aquaculture sector with technical knowledge, managerial skills as well as dedication.

Dr. S. Jacob, Joint Director, EIC told that some attributes which are needed in a student wanting job in private companies are right attitude, willingness to work, knowledge and skill, patience, involvement and satisfaction. **Mr. Mahesh**, alumni of CoF, Ratnagiri and CIFE told about his struggle to get into MPSC as a fisheries officer and how he left the job after a month after realizing lack of

promotion and incentives to work, and how he went on to establish India's first surimi plant in Gujarat for a private firm which turned out to be a success story as 16 such plants have come up now after. He stressed upon the need of Vertical and Horizontal Thinking.

Mr. Sandeep Ahirao, alumni of Ratnagiri CoF spoke about his experiences of 10 year in shrimp farming and 15 years in marketing. He motivated the students by telling them to take challenges and not to limit their options by choosing job security over their potential. The questions/suggestions given by students related to entry level salary, salary packages, funding for research, working hours, etc. were acknowledged verbally and were taken into consideration for implementing by the panel members. **Mr. Elanchezian** and **Mr. Gopa Kumar**, both successful entrepreneurs and leading consultants in shrimp farming industry spoke about their struggles and rewarding career in the industry and urged students to take risks. The program ended with concluding remarks by **Dr. J.K Jena** and **Dr. Gopal Krishna** and vote of thanks by **Dr. B.B. Nayak**.

- Ms. Mary Josephine, Ms Siddhika V Meher & Mr Rajeshwaran M

CIFE Alumni Meet: Reliving good old tales

The fast and busy schedule of our lives makes us forget to appreciate the beauty of the world around us and by the time we realize what we have been blessed with, it is often too late. Alumni meets are one of those few events where friends and classmates get to see each other after years of studying together. It lets them relive the carefree days of their college lives as they get a chance to visit all the locations they once frequented.

The CIFE Alumni Meet on 4th of March 2017 saw men and women recall their past with nostalgia. The programme was held in the CIFE auditorium around 7:00 pm where about 68 alumni attended the meeting. **Dr. Gopal Krishna**, Director, CIFE, Mumbai welcomed all while **Dr. S. D Tripathi**, former Director, CIFE, and several industry veterans graced the occasion. **Dr. M Goswami** presented Alumni status report. **Dr. N. K Chadha**, HoD, Aquaculture, CIFE among the eldest serving CIFE alumnus shared his memories.



CIFE Alumni Directory with CD, compiled by **Dr. M Goswami** and **Dr. Ashutosh Deo** was released.

The alumni introduced themselves and it was evident our that many of our alumni either owned their own successful companies now or occupied senior positions in several private and government organisations making their marks. They all had a lot to reminisce, share, and more importantly were willing

to give back to the Institution that gave them foundation and confidence.

Dr. Manoj Kumar, proprietor of Mayank Aqua products, one of the most successful people from CIFE and in the country took us down to memory lane. He mentioned that spending time with friends and family is all that matters the most in the end. In the panel discussion that followed, future course of actions, holding of next Alumni Meet, etc. were discussed. The programme wound up with vote of thanks by Dr. Ashutosh Deo. They quickly posed for a group photo with all smiles and cheers frozen in time.

- Ms Kukhrunelu Keyho & Subhash Banjare

Cultural program

Vibrant Confluence of South, North, East and West: Chhattisgarh dancers steal the thunder



Ms. Jerusha
The Anchor Angel

