

**National Workshop
on
"Empowering Student
Entrepreneurship and Innovations
in Aquafeed Industry"
27 November 2025**

Application Form

Name:
Date of Birth:
Educational Qualification:
Designation:
Discipline/Specialization:
Institute & Department:
Institute's Address:
e-mail ID:
Mobile No.:
Aadhar Card Number:

Signature of the Applicant with Date

Signature & Seal of the Forwarding Authority



ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE)

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**National Workshop
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Fish Nutrition, Biochemistry and Physiology Division
ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai
(NABL Accredited & ISO 9001:2015 Certified)

BACKGROUND

Aquaculture has emerged as one of the fastest-growing food-producing sectors globally and plays a pivotal role in ensuring nutritional security, livelihood generation, and economic growth. In India, this sector has witnessed remarkable progress, with total fish production reaching an impressive 184.02 lakh tonnes (18.4 million tonnes) in recent years. India now proudly stands as the second-largest fish-producing country in the world, contributing nearly 8% of global fish production. Despite this significant achievement, the aquafeed sector—the backbone of intensive and sustainable aquaculture—continues to face multifaceted challenges. Feed represents the single largest operational cost, accounting for 60–70% of total production expenses, and is a decisive factor influencing the profitability and sustainability of aquaculture enterprises. At present, feed-based aquaculture (excluding shrimp) constitutes less than 15% of total aquaculture in India. To achieve the ambitious national target of 22 million metric (MMT) of fish production by 2025, the adoption and expansion of feed-based aquaculture practices need to increase by 1.5 to 2 times from the current level.

ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE), in its over 60 years of existence, has emerged as a Centre of Excellence in higher education in fisheries and allied disciplines. Established on June 6, 1961, under the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, with assistance from FAO/UNDP, it came under the administrative control of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in 1979. Recognizing its wide mandate in education, research, and extension, and its pivotal role in human resource development in fisheries, the institute was conferred the status of Deemed-to-be-University in 1989. ICAR-CIFE is now situated in new campus with state-of-the-art facilities, located approximately 8 km away from domestic and international airport and 10-15 km from railway station, Mumbai.



A sustainable transformation in the aquafeed sector demands strong linkages between research, industry, and entrepreneurship, along with supportive government initiatives and innovative business models. Recognizing this critical need, the Fish Nutrition, Biochemistry & Physiology (FNBP) Division of ICAR–Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE), Mumbai, is organizing a Brainstorming Session on “Empowering Student Entrepreneurs: Innovating Aquafeed for Sustainable Aquaculture” on 27 November 2025.

This event aims to bring together students, scientists, entrepreneurs, feed industry representatives, farmers, policymakers, and other stakeholders on a common platform to identify challenges, exchange ideas, and derive actionable strategies for the development of sustainable, innovative, and entrepreneurship-driven aquafeed solutions for the future of Indian aquaculture.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

Students, research scholars, entrepreneurs, faculty members, scientists, and farmers working in the fields of fish and shellfish nutrition, feed technology, fish physiology and biochemistry, fish health, genetics and biotechnology, and aqua-farming

HOW TO APPLY

Interested participants should fill out the application in the prescribed format given in the last page, and email it to kedarnath@cife.edu.in (or) premkuar@cife.edu.in

ABOUT FISH NUTRITION, BIOCHEMISTRY AND PHYSIOLOGY DIVISION

Fish Nutrition, Biochemistry and Physiology (FNBP) Division of ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai, has been actively involved in basic, strategic and applied research on fish nutrition, feed technology and fish physiology and biochemistry. The division has studied the nutrient requirements of important commercial fish and shellfish species, developed and commercialized several feed formulations, obtained many patents, and significantly contributed to education and human resource development in aquafeed.

The division has developed various types of feeds, including winter feed for winter aquaculture, medicated feed for the better health and well-being of fish and shellfish, medicated feed (Argulin) to control outbreaks of *Argulus* infection, ornamental fish feed for better growth and coloration, nutraceuticals, feed additives, Gonopro-FH (inducing hormone for breeding), green feeds, and feeds for the culture of fish and shellfish in inland saline water. Furthermore, the division is actively working to develop system-specific feeds (for fish culture in RAS and biofloc systems), climate-smart feed, broodstock and larval feeds, and feeds for new and emerging candidate species for aquaculture. The division is well-equipped with modern instruments for study on stress physiology, reproductive physiology, endocrinology, biochemistry and molecular nutrition of fish and shellfish.

WHY STUDENT-ENTREPRENEUR

Student entrepreneurship is crucial in the aquafeed sector for sustainable aquaculture for several reasons: Students often bring fresh perspectives and innovative ideas to the table. Their creativity can lead to novel approaches in developing aquafeed that are more sustainable, cost-effective, and environmentally friendly. Students are typically enthusiastic and driven to make a difference. Their passion can drive them to tackle challenges in the aquafeed sector with vigor, pushing boundaries and exploring new possibilities. Students engaged in entrepreneurship often conduct extensive research and development. This can lead to the discovery of new ingredients, formulations, or processes that improve the nutritional quality and efficiency of aquafeed production. The aquafeed sector faces evolving challenges such as climate change, resource scarcity, and regulatory changes. Student entrepreneurs are often more adaptable and agile in responding to these challenges, experimenting with new technologies and methodologies. Involving students in entrepreneurship in the aquafeed sector can also contribute to raising awareness about sustainability issues among the younger generation. It can inspire future leaders and professionals to prioritize sustainable practices in aquaculture. Entrepreneurship in aquafeed can stimulate economic growth by creating new businesses, generating employment opportunities, and fostering industry competitiveness. Overall, integrating student entrepreneurship in the aquafeed sector not only addresses current challenges but also prepares future leaders to drive sustainable practices in aquaculture forward. By organizing a national workshop on “**Empowering Students Entrepreneurship and Innovations in Aquafeed Industry**” linking all the stakeholders to a collaborative framework would benefit students, researchers, academicians and industry partners.