

ORNAMENTAL FISH CULTURE FOR LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Success Story/2022-15

ORNAMENTAL FISH CULTURE START-UP PROVIDES EMPLOYMENT TO YOUTH IN GOA

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PROBLEMS/CONSTRAINTS

Goa is a state with huge scope for developing different entrepreneurship activities for securing sustainable livelihood. Farmers of the coastal region face several challenges in different fish culture activities, such as numerous disease outbreaks, high cost of cultivation, huge requirement for feed inputs, etc. Being a tourist destination, people of Goa are involved in tourism-related activities, which provide ample scope for different enterprises. Lack of suitable employment opportunities is another concern for youth in Goa, which has been realised since the last few years. One of the main reasons for unemployment in Goa is the lack of interest in attracting novel entrepreneurship ventures. In terms of ornamental fisheries, Goa has many ornamental fishery hobbyists but very few fish breeders. Given this, a youth from Goa **Mr. Sahil Subhash Thakur** from Zarcator Wada, Cumbharjua, Tiswadi, Goa, has turned into an ornamental fish breeder and developed this as a livelihood opportunity.

INTERVENTIONS

Fisheries scientists from ICAR-CCARI technically guided Mr. Sahil at every stage. In one year, Mr. Sahil has attended 10 training programs and also provided the exposure to the hatchery facility of ICAR-CCARI. He has been trained in aquarium tank fabrication, fish food and feeding, health management of ornamental fishes, breeding, water quality management, culture and seed production, economics of ornamental fish culture, technological know-how and scope of ornamental fish business development. ICAR scientists have registered Mr. Sahil as an incubate and provided technical guidance on every aspect of ornamental fish culture.

IMPACT

Mr. Sahil while looking for employment opportunities, took up his hobby and developed ornamental fish breeding as a profession with the proper guidance from fisheries scientists of ICAR. The ornamental fish breeding and rearing unit set up by Mr. Sahil consists of Freshwater barbs, Red tail catfish, Arowana, Oscar, Tin-foil barb, Tiger shark, Gourami, Goldfish, Fighter fish, Angel fish, Sucker fish, etc. He also deals with the supply of fish food, and medicine. He produces ornamental fish seeds of 11 different fish varieties. On an average, 2000 numbers of ornamental fish seeds of 11 types are produced, which gives him a total income of Rs. 70,000 /- month and a net profit of Rs. 30,000 and BC ratio of 1.75. The ornamental fish culture activities are capable of generating employment opportunities. The profession identified by the entrepreneur surely helped his family to increase their income by three times. The initiative proved to be a real helping hand in doubling the farmers' income-the national mission. His efforts will encourage and inspire youth from Goa to take up ornamental fish culture as a source of income and livelihood.

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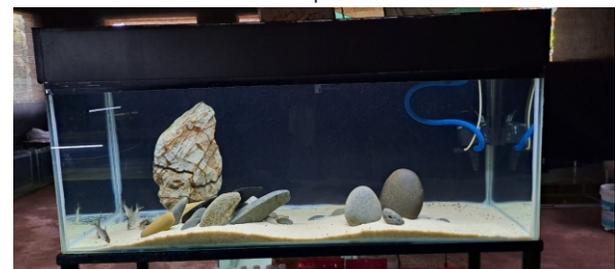
Ornamental Fish Centre



Ornamental Fish Breeding Unit



Ornamental Fish Species Stock



Ornamental Fish Tank Setups