

FISH FARMING IS BEST FOR SELF SUSTAINABILITY: RODRIGUES

November 21, 2020

Kartik 30, 1941

Calling self sustainability the need of the hour, Minister for Fisheries, Shri. Filipe Nery Rodrigues exhorted people to take fish farming as a profession for one's own progress and to contribute for the State's economy. "Fish farming is one of the best means to become an entrepreneur as the Department of Fisheries offer many schemes and subsidies," he said.

Shri Rodrigues speaking at the World Fisheries Day function held at Sanskruti Bhavan, Patto today said there is a lot of hardwork, endurance and sacrifice involved in this occupation. Hence, patience is the key. However, this is the most sustainable, natural and continuing source of income."

The Minister launched the website of the Department designed by Info Tech Corporation of Goa. One can visit <http://fisheries.goa.gov.in> for details. Secretary, Fisheries Shri. P.S. Reddy, IAS, Director of Indian Council for Research Shri. E.D. Chakorkar and Director, Directorate of Fisheries Dr. Shamila Monteiro were present on the occasion.

Speaking further, Shri. Rodrigues assured that the Department of Fisheries shall work at a faster pace than earlier and clear the applications received within a stipulated time.

Asking the fisher folks to trade with honesty and self-conscious, the Minister appealed to provide quality fish and sell them at a reasonable rate. "The Department and the fishing community walk hand in hand. The officials will give their best to support the community in every possible way. India is the 2nd largest country in fish production. And hence, Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modiji has introduced the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY). The eastern coast of our country beats the west in the fish produce because it focuses a lot on culture farming. Farmers in Goa must try these new avenues in fishing to attain success," he said.

On the occasion, 18 beneficiaries were given sanction letters under the PMMSY, seven were given Kisan Credit Cards and Fish seller's Identity Cards.

A power point presentation about various centrally as well State sponsored schemes implemented by the Department and videos on success stories of fish farmers in the State were screened. An interaction with successful fish farmers Maj. Piyush Shandilya and Mrs. Mathew was the special attraction of the program. Fishing motor bikes and a fishing van was also presented to its beneficiaries on this occasion.

Earlier, Dr. Shamila Monteiro welcomed the gathering. Shri. Chakorkar also spoke on the occasion. Shri. Sachin Surlikar compered and proposed the vote of thanks.

DI/NB/AXP/JS/2020/685

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