

## **GOVT STRIVES TO BOOST BLUE ECONOMY: CM**

Panaji: January 2, 2025

Government strives to bring more and more people in fishing business to enhance blue economy in the State said Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant while speaking at a pre -launch ceremony of Aqua Goa Mega Fish Festival which will be held at Campal Ground from January 10 to 12, 2025 organized by the Department of Fisheries at Secretariat today.

The Department of Fisheries to mark the celebration has organized various activities like Competition for kids & Adults, Live entertainment, Capacity building workshops, Food culture, Aquarium gallery, Commercial Stalls etc.

The Chief Minister informed that various activities would be conducted such as capacity building workshop to impart knowledge of fishing business, Live programme for entertainment, food culture, aquarium gallery for information of different species of fish, competition for kids and adults and commercial stalls for business transactions to mark the celebration of Aqua Goa fish festival.

The Chief Minister speaking further reiterated Government's commitment to make Goa Self -reliant (Swayampurn) wherein the Department of Fisheries is also playing an important role. The objective of this festival, he said, is also to attract more and more people towards fishing and trade business. The three day festival will provide opportunities for those who are engaged in activities related to fishing business. The van will travel all over the State to campaign about Aqua Goa Mega Fish Festival.

Minister for Fisheries, Shri Nilkanth Halarnkar said the motive behind organizing Aqua Goa Mega Fish Festival is to provide a platform for the stakeholders to get together and interact for B2B purpose and to understand modern and advanced techniques of fishing, its marketing, trading etc. Stalls would be setup for display of various equipments needed for fishing, workshop would be conducted to educate youth about fishing business. He said this mega fish is an opportunity for all to know about Goa as rich fish culture and appealed to the people to cooperate to make this event successful.

Director Fisheries Ms. Yashaswini B., IAS, Deputy Director Shri Chandrakant. Velip, Under Secretary, Shri Antonio Savio Laurengo, and others were present at the function.

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