India is endowed with more than 200 varieties of export oriented marine ornamental fishes. CMFRI achieved breakthrough in developing a package of technologies on broodstock development, captive breeding and larval rearing of 19 species of marine ornamental fishes (Clown fishes: 9, Damsels: 9 and Dotty backs: 1).

**Clown fishes bred under captivity**
1. Scleram  clown (Amphiprion sebae)
2. False clown (Amphiprion ocellaris)
3. Maroon clown/ Japnese cheek clown fish (Premnas biaculeatus)
4. True peculio clown anemone fish (Amphiprion percula)
5. Orange anemone fish (Amphiprion sandaracinos)
6. Tomato clown (Amphiprion frenatus)
7. Celestial clown (Amphiprion chrysopterus)
8. Red saddleback anemone fish (Amphiprion nigripes)
9. Pink anemone fish (Amphiprion perideraion)

**Damsels & Dottyback bred under captivity**
1. Three spot damselfish (Dascyllus trimaculatus)
2. Striped damsel (Dascyllus aruanus)
3. Blue damsel (Pomacentrus coelestis)
4. Pelagic damsel (Pomacentrus parra)
5. Yellow tail damsel (Heniochus intermedius)
6. Green chromis (Chromis viridis)
7. Filamentosus tail damsel/Reef Chromis (Ficuliferae)
8. One spot damsel (Pomacentrus galaculoides)
9. Sapphire devil (Chrysiptera cyanea)
10. Rachael Dottyback (Pseudochromis duckii)

Complete package of practices were developed for their hatchery production as an alternative livelihood option for small and large-scale fish farmers.

The only alternative for development of a long term sustainable trade of marine ornamental fishes is through hatchery production. Ornamental fish production is more lucrative when compared to other mariculture species, due to their high unit value.

**Advantages of hatchery produced juveniles:**
- Reaches marketable size within 2 to 3 months
- High survivability (85 to 95 %)
- Disease free and more resistant in artificial system
- Retains normal coloration
- Easily accepts formulated diet
- Easily adjust to life in aquaria
- Fetches high unit value

**Beneficiaries**
Hatchery produced species are being sold in marginal rates to the farmers, aquarium hobbyists and traders (more than 300 species) from various parts of India.

**Phases for cage culture development**
- Phase I - Location testing and technology demonstration
- Phase II - Techno economic evaluation with people's participation
- Phase III - Commercialization and promotion of alternative livelihoods