

Andaman gets training in seaweed farming

CMFRI transfers technology to island administration

The emerging seaweed farming industry in the country will get a major boost with the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) here transferring seaweed cultivation technology to the Andaman administration.

The CMFRI has provided scientific inputs on methods of seaweed farming suitable for the islands as part of the institute's initiative to intensify its consultancy services.

Seaweed cultivation is perceived as one of the most environmentally benign types of mariculture, said a statement here.

Feasibility study

A feasibility study conducted in the seawater-inundated areas in south Andamans by a team of CMFRI scientists revealed that these regions had good prospects for seaweed farming. Aimed at avoiding environmental disruptions, the CMFRI selected the coastal areas devoid of coral reefs.

As part of transferring the technology, CMFRI provided practical training on farming methods to the officials of the Department of Fisheries in Andamans. Technical inputs on monoline culture method of the seaweed were provided to the officials of the Fisheries Department on the island.

A.K. Abdul Nazar, scientist-in-charge of Mandapam Regional Centre of CMFRI and Johnson B., scientist at the centre, coordinated the training programme.