

## Maharashtra seeks CMFRI support for cage fish farming

### Minister keen on replicating Pizhala model in Sindhudurg

The Maharashtra government has sought technical support from the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) here for starting large-scale cage fish farming ventures in the State.

Maharashtra Minister of State for Finance, Planning and Home Deepak Kesarkar requested CMFRI to offer technical guidance to launch 500 cage fish farming units in the brackish water resources of Sindhudurg district, said a press release here. The Minister said the Maharashtra government would offer financial support to CMFRI for carrying out the project.

“The cage fish farming models being implemented by CMFRI at Pizhala in Ernakulam district and in various parts of Mangaluru are highly successful. The Maharashtra government is much eager to implement such models in Sindhudurg too,” the release cited the Minister as saying.

Maharashtra Small Scale Industries Corporation Joint Managing Director Leena Bansod, who accompanied the Minister, visited the cage farming sites at Pizhala. She also interacted with farmers at the sites and invited them to Maharashtra to share their experiences with the farmers there to encourage them to take up cage farming.

### Ideal spots

A team from the Mariculture Division of CMFRI will visit Sindhudurg district to assess the ecological condition and carrying capacity of the waterbodies there prior to the launch of cage fish farming. The team will also select the ideal spots and suitable species for farming. CMFRI will soon submit a detailed project proposal to the Maharashtra government after reviewing the environmental and geographical aspects of the region.