

SEA RANCHING OF HATCHERY PRODUCED GREEN TIGER SHRIMP FOR THE SUSTAINABLE SHRIMP PRODUCTIVITY

Green tiger shrimp *Penaeus semisulcatus* locally known as flower ival / Thalaiiral supporting commercial fishery in Gulf of Mannar and Palk bay is widely exploited by the trawl net operated in mechanized boats. However, due to over fishing of brooders and juveniles over the years, these shrimp resources have depleted drastically. In an initiative to overcome the situation, the Mandapam regional centre of Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute has resorted to hatchery seed production of this species and ranching them, to replenish the natural stocks and to enhance the shrimp productivity. This effort is expected to help conservation and for maintaining a sustainable shrimp stock in the wild. During 2017-18 a total of 1.7 million *semisulcatus* seeds were released in Gulf of Mannar and Palk Bay. Fisherfolk in the region reported that shrimp landings have increased during the current year as a result of this activity.

On 31st January 2019, a total of 9 lakhs *semisulcatus* seeds of PL15-35 produced at the CMFRI shellfish Hatchery were sea ranched at Sangumal, Olaikuda in the Palk Bay by Shri. K. Muralidharan, Member, Institute Management Committee ICAR-CMFRI in the presence of Scientist-in-Charge, Dr. R. Jayakumar, Mariculture divisional Scientists of Mandapam Regional Centre of ICAR-CMFRI, leaders of Fishermen associations, fishermen and officials of state Fisheries Department. The centre also proposes to release seeds of 'Olaikaalnandu' (blue swimmer crab) under the programme. The centre has so far released 1.9 million shrimp seeds so far and expects to reach a total of 3 million seeds by the end of this financial year (2018-2019).



Dr.P.S.B.R James, former Director of CMFRI inaugurating the Open House
Dr. R. Jayakumar, Scientist-in-Charge of the Centre is also seen

MANDAPAM CMFRI CELEBRATES 72nd FOUNDATION DAY

The 72nd Foundation day of CMFRI was celebrated at Mandapam Regional centre of CMFRI on 5th February 2019. In this connection, an 'Open House' was inaugurated by Dr. P.S.B.R. James, Former Director, CMFRI in the presence of Dr. R. Jayakumar, Scientist-in-Charge & staff of the centre. Over 3,000 students from the schools and colleges of Ramanathapuram district visited the CMFRI aquarium and museum on the day. Awareness on marine resource conservation, biodiversity issues and Mariculture activities were imparted to the students through video shows. Scientists and technical staff explained on the activities taken up by the centre for the benefit of fisher folk.

During the programme, Dr. James stressed on the need for genetic studies on indigenous seaweeds and to focus on developing hatchery and farming technologies on commercially important marine species such as Sillago. A 'Handbook on Marine Ornamental Seed Production' and a First Aid Kit on 'Jelly Safe' was released by Dr. James during the programme.

