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CMFRI helps TG person turn fish entrepreneur

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Kochi: Adhidhi Achyuth will be the first transgender person in fisheries sector to start an entrepreneurial initiative. This was possible with the support of the Central marine fisheries research institute (CMFRI) which helped in setting up a modernized fish-vending stall with the facility for selling live fishes too.

The project was initiated under the central government scheme of the scheduled caste sub plan (SCSP) wherein CMFRI spent around Rs 5 lakh to set up the fish stall in Vennala in the city. The stall includes a deep freezer, fish display table with cooler, billing machine, weighing balance and other facilities for cutting and cleaning the fish along with the facility for maintaining the fish in live and fresh conditions.

Live fishes farmed in cage fish farms and biofloc units and captured marine fishes will be available at the fish stall which was in-



TRAILBLAZER: Actor Molly Kannamally inaugurates the fish stall of Adhidhi Achyuth (second from left) at Vennala on Monday

augurated by cine artists Harisree Ashokan and Molly Kannamally. Apart from direct sale, home delivery of cleaned and sealed packets of fishes will be available for pre-booked customers.

"CMFRI have been providing training to become small-scale entrepreneurs in cage fish farming to the people belonging to the SC communities across the co-

untry," said K Madhu, chairman of the SCSP scheme.

"CMFRI will extend the service of the scheme to more transgender members in the SC community. The institute also aims to empower the transgender members by attracting them to cage fish farming in the future by giving them proper technical guidance," said A Gopalakrishnan, director, CMFRI.