

Awareness programme on Artificial Reefs in Visakhapatnam District

Under HRD training programme a batch of 15 fishermen accompanied by two officials from Visakhapatnam Regional Centre of CMFRI visited the Madras Research Centre of CMFRI for an Exposure visit cum Awareness programme on "Fabrication, deployment and use of artificial reefs for enhancing marine fish production" from 19.11.2012 to 22.11.2012.

The Fishermen youth participated in this programme to understand the concept of artificial reefs, its fabrication,

were described about the artificial reef deployment and the benefits of it while fishing in those areas by Village head of the fishing hamlet. Fishermen of Visakhapatnam raised their queries and got their answer from the fishermen benefited. They had hands on training on fabrication of three types of artificial reefs namely grouper module, sea horse module and reef fish module with the participation of local fabricators in the presence of experts, Dr. H. M. Kasim and Dr. G. Mohan Raj (Retired Principal

involved in deployment and benefited from the increase in catch in and around the artificial reef area. During the interaction the fishermen of Pulicat shared their difficulties faced during deployment of artificial reefs, since they had done this for the first time. The trainees were shown a video on deployment of artificial reef by the expert. They also visited the fish landing centre and saw the landings from the reef area.

The fishermen trainees visited the Kovalam field centre of Madras RC of



Trainees involved in fabrication of Artificial Reefs



Trainees interacting with Dr. H.M. Kasim and Dr. Vinod, SIC Madras RC of CMFRI

deployment and its uses and uniqueness in enhancing the marine fish production. After initial one day knowledge development at VRC of CMFRI, they were taken to MRC of CMFRI. They visited Neelankarai fishing village on the forenoon of 20.11.2012 and interacted with the fishermen (53) benefited by deployment of artificial reefs. They interacted with the fishermen regarding the benefits as well as the difficulties faced during the process of deployment. They

Scientists). They interacted with the experts and Scientist-in-Charge of Madras RC of CMFRI, Chennai with regards to benefits of artificial reefs deployment in the enhancement of biomass, rehabilitation, conservation of depleting fish stock and its future implications pertaining to their local situations.

They visited the Pulicat fishing village and interacted with the fishermen (45)

CMFRI, Chennai. They were appraised of the activities of the centre and the seed production of sand lobster, cage culture done by Madras RC of CMFRI, Chennai. They interacted with the scientist and visited the laboratory as well as hatchery. They were shown a video on cage culture activities of CMFRI. The trainees got knowledge on different seeds production activities of finfishes like Seabass, Cobia, Mullet, Milkfish and other brackish water fin fishes.



Trainees at Pulicat fishing centre