

## Cage launching in Ashtamudi, Kollam

Two 3 x 3m GI cages were launched at Perumon, Ashtamudi lake, Kollam on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2012 for farming of finfishes especially pearl spot. Mr. R. Rajesekharan, Panchayat president, Panayam Panchayat was the chief guest for the launching ceremony. Other dignitaries present were Mr. R. Anil Kumar, ward member, Panayam Panchayat Vicar –General of Kollam diocese and Director, Quilon Social Service society. The Panchayat President congratulated the group members for venturing into cage farming as an alternative income source, which will also improve the fish production from the area. He also told that the pearl spot from that part of Ashtamudi Lake is of great demand because of its taste and fetches premium price in the market. Fr. Vicar – General of Kollam diocese blessed the cages before launching and first batch of seed was introduced into cages by him and Director of QSS. The cages at Perumon are being managed by St. Alphonsa SHG under Quilon Social Welfare Society. The group has 10 active members engaged in fishing in the Ashtamudi Lake. The group had collected the seeds of pearl spot from wild and was stocked in cages. Feeding the fish and the daily maintenance of cages will be done by the group members. The cage frames are fabricated with 1.5" grade B GI pipes. The mesh size of inner HDPE net is 16 mm and outer net 24mm. Each cage is stocked with about 2000 pearl spot juveniles. Commercial pellet feed is used for feeding the fishes which is done twice a day.

*(Reported by Boby Ignatius,  
Mariculture Division, Cochin)*



Square GI Cages ready to launch at Kollam



Blessing of cages during launching function at Kollam



Cages installed in Ashtamudi, Kollam