ICAR-DCFR, Bhimtal Convened National Interactive Meet at Jasingfaa Eco-tourism Centre, Nagaon, Assam

Two days National Interactive meet of scientists, stakeholders, Entrepreneurs on the topic “Mahseer in Recreational Fisheries and Eco-tourism in Northeast India” was organized by ICAR-Directorate of Coldwater Fisheries Research, Bhimtal at Jasingfaa Aqua Tourism Centre, Nagaon from 1st – 2nd October, 2016. Hon’ble Fisheries Minister of Assam, Shri Parimal Shuklavaidya, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and inaugurated the meet. Addressing the gathering, he emphasized that Fish Farming is an integral part of North-Eastern Region particularly in Assam where about 95% of the peoples are fish eater and also love fish for recreation. While talking, he pointed out that Jasingfaa Aqua Tourism Resort successfully established fish based eco-tourism at Nagaon, Assam through technical support of ICAR-DCFR which is serving as a model in NEH region of the country. Dr. A.K. Singh, the Director of ICAR-DCFR, Bhimtal welcomed all the dignitaries and participants and highlighted that Mahseer is an important sport fish forming cornerstone in recreational fisheries and ecotourism particularly in the North Eastern region. About 120 delegates from different parts of the country including scientists, academicians, state fishery officials, NGO’s, entrepreneur and angler’s participated. An angling festival was also organized on the first day where 96 anglers from different Northeastern states and also Uttarakhand participated. Further, 30 post graduate students of Tourism department were also given training on various aspects of eco-tourism through mahseer fish watching. The minister on the occasion released a bulletin entitled “Mahseer in recreational fishery and ecotourism in India” compiled and edited by Dr. D. Baruah & Dr. D. Sarma published by the DCFR. Dr. K.K. Vass, Dr. Gopal Krishna, Director, ICAR-CIFE, Mr. S.N. Ogale, Dr. P.C. Mahanta, Dr. Kuldeep Lal, Director, NBFRG, Directors of State Fisheries department particularly Mr. R.K. Dogra, Mr. S.K. Das, Mr. S.P. Singh and others were present. The program was co-ordinated by Dr. Debajit Sarma, Principal Scientist; Dr. D. Baruah, Sr. Sc., Dr. R.S.Patiyal, Sr. Sc.; Mr. Ritesh Tendal, Scientist & Dr. R. S.Haldar, CTO of ICAR-DCFR, Bhimtal.
Release of bulletin by Hon’ble Fisheries Minister of Assam, Shri Parimal Shuklavaidya during the National Interactive Meet

Addressing to the gathering by Hon’ble Fisheries Minister of Assam, Shri Parimal Shuklavaidya during the inaugural program of National Interactive Meet
Dr. A.K. Singh, Director, ICAR-DCFR, Bhimtal addressing to the gathering during the National Interactive Meet

Inauguration of Angling Festival
Training to the students regarding the Angling for Conservation