

BRIEF WRITEUP OF AOP 2014-15

OVERVIEW

The State of Arunachal Pradesh is blessed with varied fishery natural resources from Alpine (above 10,000 ft) to tropical resources in the foot hills. Arunachal Pradesh has estimated 15000 ha of still water aquatic resources of which only about 33.40% has been utilized till date. The State has about 9339 km flowing water as the home to rich and diversified fish bio-diversity having more than 190 food / sport fishes. Cultivable fishes and additional 165 nos. of non-food ornamental fish as an unexplored treasure. A new dimension has taken place in the way of creating large water bodies in the form of reservoir through the construction of good number of river valley projects on perennial rivers and streams in the State. It is expected to have additional water resources to the extent of 5000 ha within a very short span of time.

Efforts are on to accelerate growth of fisheries activities by involving individual progressive fish farmers, building up of infrastructure for sustainable growth of fisheries/aquaculture, commercialization of fish farming, transfer of technology to the farmers under a lab to land, streamlining of marketing arrangement, exploration of ornamental fish culture and its trade, capacity building of stake holders etc. are some of the priority areas the department is concentrating to address the weakness and to boost the production & productivity along with generating employment and income in the rural areas.

Constraints of Pisciculture in Arunachal Pradesh

Pisciculture in Arunachal Pradesh has been lagging behind in comparison to other sectors of the economy. Following are the constrains in regards to fishery development in the State.

The variable climate and altitude within the State necessitates adaption of different technologies for the different areas, due to high rainfall and the annual occurrences of flood comprehensive water area suitable for pisciculture is left unutilized. Underutilization of aquatic resources and low lying areas in the foot hills of the State. Non-availability of standard quality seeds in right time and season. Deficit in seed production. Inadequacy of transfer to technology from lab to land. Insufficient rearing tank area in seed production farms for raising fingerlings has accentuated the problem of increasing productivity.

There is a lack of support in terms of farm side research & development (FSR) to disseminate the technology packages effectively. Despite high potential in cold water fisheries the same could not be harnessed due to resource constraint.

Development of fresh water aquaculture, riverine fisheries, reservoir fisheries and other diversify schemes under central sector could be accelerated due to low unit cost and subsidy pattern.

Performance Review:

The fish production has reached to the level of 3500 tons & the fish seed production has been achieved to the tone of 4.5 million in terms of fry. This has been possible due to implementation of Schemes like development of freshwater aquaculture, integrated fish farming (Paddy-cum-fish culture), construction of new fish pond and 1st year under NFDB, construction of commercial fish farms, establishment of low cost FRP carp hatcheries under RKVY, coldwater fisheries development and effective fisheries training and extension programme.

Number of Schemes for augmenting and popularizing aquaculture / fishery under State Plan as well as from Central Schemes is in vogue in the State and had benefited large number of farmers. In spite of diverse topography and agro-climatic condition it support vast resources from fisheries point of importance and a house to a number of commercially important and viable food species having sports and ornamental value. Development of this sector thus can go a long way in solving both the problems of providing protein rich food as well as gainful employment, but effort / approach should be specific and in a holistic manner and from the point of sustainability.

Both forms of fishery i.e. warm and cold water exists in the State and is given equal importance and emphasis for its development. Because of mountainous nature of topography and high elevation resources of cold water fishery as compared to warm water is relatively more.

Mentioned below are some of the added key features of this year's AOP in addition to normal activities which will definitely boost up production and productivity, generate employment and sustainable development of aquaculture / fishery in the State.

Direction and Administration:

Human resource or manpower is the basic minimum requirement of any organization to work for the destined goal and accelerate the process of development and its fruit to the people in general and the beneficiaries/fishers in particular. Since Bifurcation of the Department from the mother department Agriculture the activities related to fisheries have increased many folds and is managed with minimum staff compared to vast geographical area and for many years no manpower at any level have been appointed or any post creation has taken place. Literally speaking the department is under staff and since the departmental activities have been extended to all the Districts and even very far flung areas its management must be taken care of and hence the urgent need of the hour is to create another 38 Nos. of posts both administrative and supporting as per the designation and pay structures here under.

GROUP A

A District Fisheries Dev. Officer 3 nos.
(PB-2, Rs.15,600-Rs.39,100/GP Rs.5400) (Longding/Kara Dadi/ Namsai)

GROUP –B:

A Fishery Officer 6 nos.
(PB-2, Rs. 9300-Rs.34,800/GP Rs.4200) (D.Valley/Anjaw/K.Kumey/Longding FTC Emchi/Kara Daadi)

B Statistical Investigator 2 Nos.
(PB-2, Rs. 9300-Rs.34, 800/GP Rs.4200) (Directorate of Fisheries,Itanagar)

GROUP-C

A Asstt. Fishery Officer 6 Nos.
(PB1-Rs.5,200-Rs.20,200 GP/Rs.2,400) (Longding/Kara Dadi/Namsai/D.Valley L.Dibang.Valley/Anjaw)

B Upper Divison Clerk 3 Nos.
(PB1-Rs.5, 200-Rs.20, 200 GP/Rs.2, 800) (Longding/Namsai/Kara Daadi)

C Fishery Demonstrator 7 Nos.
(PB1-Rs.5, 200-Rs.20, 200 GP/Rs.1, 900) (D.Valley/Anjaw/K.Kumey/Longding Kara Daadi)

D Lower Divison Clerk 2 Nos.
(PB1-Rs.5, 200-Rs.20, 200 GP/Rs.1, 900) (Longding/Kara Daadi)

E Driver 6 Nos.
(PB1-Rs.5, 200-Rs.20, 200 GP/Rs.1, 900) (D.Valley/Anjaw/K.Kumey/Longding Kara Daadi/ Changlang)

GROUP-C (Multy-Tasking Staff)

A Peon 15 Nos.
(PB-1, Rs.5200-Rs.20, 200 GP/Rs.1, 800) (D.Valley/Anjaw/K.Kumey/Tawang Longding/Namsai/Kara Daadi/HQ)

B Cook (-DO-) 1 No.
(FTC Emchi)

Contingency Staff:

To cope with the works, the existing contingent staff (43 nos.) are inadequate to meet up the requirement of the newly created districts. As such 20 nos. contingent staff has been proposed in addition to existing 43 nos. for the current year 2014-15.

Strengthening of Govt. Fish seed farms:

A large quantity of fish seed still being imported for stocking ponds, tanks and other water bodies. Emphasis have been laid to make fish seed available within easy accessibility to farmers by strengthening the existing Govt. Fish Seed Farms which have the required infrastructure facilities and capacity to produce the same.

Paddy cum Fish Culture:

This type of culture practice has been known to the people of the Apatani Plateau long back is one of the most popular practice/Scheme in the plateau in particular and State in general. A part from well established culture in different districts and with the coming up of more and more minor irrigation channel more areas are brought under WRC. Since the people knows of fish culture in paddy fields its time proven/tested technology and outcome and income aptitude for such culture has gained momentum and many farmers are coming forward to adopt the same. For demonstration and expansion of this culture practices the Department has tied up with the Zoology Department of RGU Doimukh for on field technology demonstration and training.

Rejuvenation of existing old fish pond:

A large no. of ponds has been constructed under various beneficiary oriented programmes from different from different schemes till inception/propagation of aquaculture in the State. Altogether 3100 ha of water area have been developed till date covering 4800 nos. of beneficiaries. A sizeable no. of ponds have either been partially damaged due to siltation, flood, landslide because of excessive rains been faced by the State and Up keep-ment/renovation could not be taken up by the beneficiary because of poor economic condition.

These ponds with little efforts and investment could be best utilized/put into use for continuing culture in these ponds and enhancement of fish production in the State.

Development Cold Water Fisheries:

Importance of cold water fisheries of late has been recognized as a potential source of sustained income coupled with tourism and recreational activities. The State is blessed with immense potential of cold water resource in the form of lakes, river streams etc. especially in the higher reaches. To improve and strengthen the culture techniques of cold water species sustained efforts needs to be put in to bring it at par with other advanced state in such type of culture specially Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttrakhand and Sikkim. Literally speaking sector is still in infancy and requires tremendous efforts and budgetary support to revamp the existing infrastructure facilities of Govt. farms, hatcheries, raceways etc. and constant refining of culture and breeding techniques and dissemination of proven techniques of culture and rearing practices purely on scientific line needs to be encouraged for production of quality trout fish. The people in general and the fishers in particular have accepted the concept of eco-tourism were both culture & capture system needs to be developed for which a large number of quality fish seed will be required which is supposed to be supported by the established farms and hatcheries in Govt. sector.

Poly Culture:

Aquaculture in the State is basically carp centric and cultured in traditional lines and in few cases semi intensive type. With ever changing test of consumers and preference for other varieties of fishes lead the farmers to diversify their culture activities to poly culture of

carps with other varieties of fish species for better remuneration in tune with consumer's preference. Thus this crop diversification is being encouraged in the aquaculture development and economic benefit of the farmers.

Stocking of upland / high altitude lakes:

The State has a number of upland / high altitude lakes with rich population of indigenous fish species and thriving fishery. All these resources are exploited either for domestic or commercial purposes without being replenished thus drastically reducing the fish population and fishing activities. Because of exploitation without being replenished, in near future all these resources will be devoid of fish population and disturbed ecology.

With massive stocking of this resources with endemic species it is proposed to replenish the dwindling fish population / stock and restore its ecology. Further on accomplishment of the target and objective the same could be utilized for eco-tourism (sport fishery, fish watching etc.) in liason with the tourism department).

Distribution of Fish Seed:

Most of the beneficiaries/fishers are economically not sound enough to procure fish seed in spite of being having a fish pond and ignorance about quality fish seed and its availability. Since quality fish seed is one of the most vital inputs in pisciculture which determines the outcome because of their ignorance they are exploited by the unscrupulous private traders (handiwalas) and result in less production and low income. Feedback receipt from the ground level and on critical analysis it is felt necessary to re-introduce this scheme and extend support to the fishers who have undertaken renovation of ponds at their own with assistance of fish seed enabling them manage their fish ponds and make them functional and productive.

Creation of Fish seed rearing centers:

The State being locked one and with sparse distribution of aquatic resources /ponds transporting of fish seed to such location becomes difficult owing to disruption of communication network due to natural calamities and heavy transportation cost depriving the farmers from the basic input. Fish seed being seasonal it had to be stocked in ponds within the extended period of its availability else the ponds will remain unproductive which in turn will also affect production and productivity. Establishment of Fish rearing units is a new concept to ensure availability of fish seed on demand to the farmer at a reasonable price with easy accessibility. These centers will be established where there is high concentration of fish ponds and high aqua culture activities. This will be a profitable venture as income from both sale of fish and fish seed.

Extension, Training & Awareness Programme:

Another area of concern is non availability of required trained and competent manpower that can carry on the fish farming in a most scientific way. Most of our farmers lack basic minimum knowledge about aquaculture / fisheries as they are not from this background or there is no fisherman community by caste exists in the State. Success of every scheme depends much on the technical competency of not only the farmers but the person responsible for implementation of the scheme. Thus to manage and carry on the activities in a sustainable manner and on purely scientific line pool of trained persons will be required and hence capacity building of all the stake holders is of prime importance and concern of the day. Awareness of technical intricacies about aquaculture and conservation are also given adequate attention since it disseminates knowledge and concern for judicious utilization of resources purely on scientific temperament.

Because of lack awareness the people are deprived from most of the Government sponsored schemes and programmes which otherwise could have been availed for their livelihood support and for Income and employment generation. Lack of awareness have also caused heavy loss in fish production by way of over exploitation and threat of extinction of many commercially fish species of both food and ornamental value. Activities like awareness

camps, symposia, seminar and meals will be the platform from where messages will be disseminated down to masses about various schemes, welfare activities and importance of in-situ ex-situ conservation and effects of illegal fishing. These activities will have a visible impact and will lead to sustainability, regenerate degraded habitat, generate awareness as regard to importance of conservation of our indigenous fish species like Mahaseers, Schizothorax etc. and other endangered species.

Although beginning has been made, now it is time to give a proper shape and direction to all plan and programmes and to accelerate the pace of development in this sector to usher in an era of "BLUE REVOLUTION".

ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN 2014-15

1. 12TH PLAN (2012-17) PROPOSED OUTLAY : RS. 2900.00 LAKHS
2. APPROVED OUTLAY 2011-12 : RS. 515.00 LAKHS
3. ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2011-12 : RS. 453.34 LAKHS
4. APPROVED OUTLAY 2012-13 : Rs. 478.75 LAKHS
5. SCHEMEWISE BREAK-UP OF ALLOTTED OUTLAY 2014-15

I) DIRECTION & ADMINISTRATION

A) WAGES : Rs.30.00 LAKHS

B) POL : Rs. 24.00 LAKHS

C) MAINT. OF VEHICLE : Rs. 14.00 LAKHS

D) MINOR WORKS : NIL

E) OFFICE EXPENSES : Rs. 30.00 LAKHS

F) OTHER CHARGES : NIL

TOTAL : Rs. 113.00 LAKHS

II) ONGOING SCHEMES : Rs. 254.75 LAKHS

III) NEW SCHEMES : Rs. 35.00 LAKHS

IV) CENTRAL SPONSORED SCHEME
(STATE SHARE) : Rs. 76.00 LAKHS

GRAND TOTAL : Rs. 478.75 LAKHS