

ICAR-NBFGR Supports Namami Gange with ranching of 2.0 lakhs Carp Fingerlings in river Ganga at Bithoor

Hon'ble Prof. S P Singh Baghel Ji, Minister of Livestock, Minor Irrigation and Fishery, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh visited ICAR-NBFGR, Lucknow on 20th December, 2017 at 10.00 AM and flagged off as symbolic inauguration of the institute's initiative of ranching of carp fingerlings in the holy river Ganga. Shri Pawan Kumar, Secretary, Uttar Pradesh State Biodiversity Board, Lucknow was the Special Guest along with Dr. S K Singh, Joint Director, Department of Fisheries, Uttar Pradesh. Dr. A D Pathak, Director, ICAR-IISR, Lucknow and Dr. V K Mishra, ICAR-CSSRI, Lucknow was also present on the occasions. Institute's Hindi magazine 'Matsya Lok' was also unveiled by Hon'ble Minister in the programme.

This initiative is aimed for sustainable utilization of Aquatic Biodiversity, which is closely linked to the health of natural rivers systems. Fish is an important component in this system to maintain the equilibrium of environment. ICAR-NBFGR, through this initiative, supports the efforts of Govt. of India and the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh towards the Namami Gange Program.



Rivers of Indo-Gangetic Plains are native abode of the Indian major carps (Catla, Rohu, Mrigal) and other minor carps. Hence, conservation of these fishes in this native range

of population is an important National Biodiversity Goal. ICAR-NBFGR is undertaking large-scale propagation assisted stocking of carps in river Ganga. Adhering to the objective of conservation of natural genetic diversity, the fish fingerlings are produced from the brood stock which was raised and maintained in ICAR-NBFGR farm with collection of wild types from the river Ganga, to avoid the risk of genetic mixing. Stocking in the protected areas, gives fingerlings the opportunity to grow to adults and thereby, support future generations of fish population.

In this first phase of the program, ICAR-NBFGR reared around 2.0 lakhs advanced fingerlings of five carp (catla, rohu, mrigal, calbasu, bata) varieties in river Ganga. These fingerlings were reared at Chapra Ghat, Bithoor near Kanpur which is protected as religious heritages. Dr. U S Gautam, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kanpur, scientists and staffs of ICAR-NBFGR released the fingerlings.

Such efforts are aimed to augment the natural population of these important carp species and also conserve from decline which can happen due to various anthropogenic activities.