

## ICAR-NBFGR's "ReportFishDisease" App, developed under NSPAAD & funded by PMMSY, launched by the Hon'ble Minister of Fisheries, Government of India: A Farmer-First & Citizen-Science Initiative

Sh. Parshottam Rupala, Hon'ble Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India, launched an android-based mobile app, "**ReportFishDisease**", on June 28, 2023, at Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi, in presence of Dr. L. Murugan, Minister of State, MoFAH&D, Sh. J.N. Swain, Secretary, Department of Fisheries, MoFAH&D, Dr. Abhilaksh Likhi, Officer on Special Duty, MoFAH&D, Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. J. Balaji, Joint Secretary (Marine) Department of Fisheries, MoFAH&D, Dr. J.K. Jena, DDG (Fisheries Science), ICAR, and Dr. U.K Sarkar, Director, ICAR-NBFGR, Lucknow. Contributing to the vision of "*Digital India*", the app has been developed by ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources (NBFGR), Lucknow, under National Surveillance Programme for Aquatic Animal Diseases (Phase- II), funded under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana(PMMSSY) by the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India. Using the app, the farmers can report the incidence of disease in finfish, shrimps and molluscs on their farms with the field level officers and fish disease experts as and when required and get scientific advice for quickly addressing the disease problem in their farms. With the help of this Farmer-First & Citizen-Science Initiative, the economic loss due to disease outbreaks will be reduced to a greater extent, thereby increasing fish farmers' income.



Sh. Parshottam Rupala Ji, Hon'ble Minister, MoFAH&D, lauded the effort in developing this innovative app under the PMMSY scheme, which will directly address the problem of Indian fishers and other stakeholders. He also emphasized on Institutionalization of this important

programme. Dr. L. Murugan, Minister of State, MoFAH&D, congratulated the joint effort of the Department of Fisheries and ICAR in developing the App. Sh. J.N. Swain, Secretary, Department of Fisheries, MoFAH&D, Dr. Abhilaksh Likhi, Officer on Special Duty, MoFAH&D mentioned that the app will increase the disease reporting of aquatic animal diseases, thereby taking prompt action to resolve the problem. Dr. Himanshu Pathak, Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR, congratulated ICAR-NBFGR for addressing the farmers' problem and mitigating the disease problems in the changing climate. Dr. J.K. Jena, DDG (Fisheries Science), ICAR, presented a brief outline about the importance of aquatic animal disease surveillance in the country. At the end, Dr. J. Balaji, Joint Secretary (Marine), Department of Fisheries, MoFAH&D, proposed the formal vote of thanks. About 1000 farmers and other stakeholders, including ICAR institutes, KVKs and fisheries colleges, attended the programme in virtual mode.

