

## ICAR-NBFGR inks MoU with the Zoological Survey of India for institutional collaboration towards research on aquatic fish fauna

ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources, Lucknow, organised a “Memorandum of Understanding Signing Ceremony” between ICAR-NBFGR and the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) on 06.10.2023 at ICAR-NBFGR. On this occasion, Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director, ZSI, with a team of 6 scientific personnel, visited ICAR-NBFGR. The MoU focused on sharing expertise and facilitating visits for solving taxonomic ambiguities/enigmatic aquatic species through morphological and molecular approaches for their taxonomic resolutions, facilitating knowledge exchange using the databases, studies on population genetics for critically endangered aquatic species, and barcoding of ‘State-fishes’ and fishes of Ramsar sites, etc. in aligning with national priorities, keeping the Sustainable Development Goals into account. Dr. Banerjee highlighted the need for the formation of a working group for the documentation and vulnerability assessment of fishes in the country. Dr. Uttam Kumar Sarkar, Director, ICAR-NBFGR, emphasised on the association of scientific research for understanding the life below waters. Dr. C. Raghunathan, Additional Director, ZSI and Scientists from both organisations participated in the programme. On this occasion, Dr. Banerjee inaugurated the ZSI section in the ICAR-NBFGR’s National Fish Museum & Repository and released fish seeds into the pond.

