

## ICAR-NBFGR Marks 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Ruby Jubilee) of Foundation Day with Diverse Activities and Celebration

The ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources, Lucknow celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Ruby Jubilee) of Foundation Day with a series of events that underscored its commitment to aquatic genetic biodiversity conservation and sustainable management. The day-long celebration, held on December 12, 2023, was initiated with fish seed release at the Live Germplasm Resource Centre and tree plantation, symbolizing the organization's dedication to ecosystem preservation. On this occasion, Chief Guest, Dr. Shiv Prasad Kimothi, Member (Animal and Fisheries Science), ASRB; Guest of Honours, Dr. Sudhir Raizada, Former ADG, ICAR; Dr. A. P. Sharma, Former Director, CIFRI, Dr. R. Vishwanathan, Director, ICAR-IISR; Dr. T. Damodaran, Director, ICAR-CISH; Special Guest, Dr. Kenton L. Morgan, Former Emeritus Professor of Epidemiology, University of Liverpool, U.K.; other dignitaries, former employees and other invitees and staff of ICAR-NBFGR were present. Dr. U. K. Sarkar, Director of ICAR-NBFGR welcomed the guests and presented "Celebrating 40 years of excellence and innovation in fish genetic resources' conservation, development and management: Reflecting transformative activities, efforts and achievements of recent years". The day's schedule included addresses from various dignitaries, an awards ceremony for recognition of significant contributions and an overview of activities by the Secretary of ABCS. Special addresses were delivered by Dr. Kenton L. Morgan and Dr. Shiv Prasad Kimothi, who shared insights on the current challenges and future directions in fish genetic resources. An Open House Day (free access to school students to visit the Institute's State-of-the-art facilities) was also held. More than 500 Visitors had the opportunity to explore the National Fish Museum-cum-Repository and Ganga Aquarium, gaining insights into the rich aquatic biodiversity of India. The event also included interactive sessions focusing on farm innovations, community engagement through fish farming, and training on aquatic genetic resources management, reflecting the bureau's emphasis on knowledge dissemination and stakeholder involvement.

