

RIVER RANCHING PROGRAMME

Introduction

Fishery resources are increasingly threatened by the environmental pollution and human activities, dominating the natural ecosystem and this impact has accelerated an irreversible damage to the habitat, ecosystem functioning, biodiversity, and the traditional fishery and artificial-culture industries. River Ranching helps in achieving sustainable fisheries, reducing habitat degradation, conserving biodiversity, maximizing social-economic benefits, and assessing ecosystem services.

Keeping in view of aims & objectives of PMMSY, “River ranching programme has been incorporated as a special scheme under Central Sector scheme of Sub - component 6. “Support to assistance National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB)” with a broad activity “River Ranching Programme in India - stocking of fingerlings in major river basins of the Country”,

Objectives

The key objectives of the component are:

- To sustain and conserve the biodiversity in the river.
- Facilitate regular stocking of fingerlings of cultivable carps to enhance productivity
- Increase fish production
- Enhance income and livelihood opportunities to communities’ dependent on these resources

Project components

Under this scheme financial assistance is provided for stocking of fingerlings @ Rs. 3/- per fingerling at a size of 80- 100mm. 10% on the allocated budget shall be utilized for photo & video documentation, publicity, awareness etc.,

Project area

The scheme is implemented in 3 river basins of the country namely Ganges and its tributaries, Brahmaputra & Barak river tributaries and Mahanadi & other rivers, covering 8 States namely Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Uttarakhand, Odisha, Assam, and Tripura

Implementation period

The scheme is implemented for a period of 2(two) years from FY 2020 -2021 to FY 2021-2022

Expected outcome

Anticipated direct & indirect employment generation, enhancement of fish production and productivity, improvement of economic status of locals and sustain use of fishery resources.

Present Status

NFDB during 2020-21 had sanctioned funds to total of Rs.281.75 lakh and released Rs.140.75 lakh to 6 States namely Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Odisha and Tripura, with a target to ranch 82.13 lakh fingerlings. The ranching of fingerlings is expected to take place in the second week of September, 2021.