



COFSN NEWS



The Newsletter of College of Fishery Science, Nagpur

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Fish Biodiversity Conservation & Protection

Cover Story:

Bhumipoojan of Fisheries Technology Complex

In a major push to boost the regional aquaculture sector, the Bhumipoojan (groundbreaking ceremony) for a state-of-the-art Fisheries Technology Complex was performed at the COFS Nagpur fish farm, at the auspicious hands of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of MAFSU, Dr. Niteen V. Patil – marking the formal commencement of this major infrastructural expansion.



Dr. P. A. Telvekar

Associate Dean, College of Fisheries Science, Nagpur

From the Desk of the Associate Dean

This May, COFSN News turns to the conservation of our freshwater fish biodiversity. To mark International Biodiversity Day (22nd May), a webinar on 'Ichthyofaunal Diversity and Riverine Ecosystem' was organised by Dr. Umesh A. Suryawanshi, I/c Head, Fisheries Resource Management.

This month also saw a 3-day training, the Bhumipoojan of our new Technology Complex, farmer visits, and two national-level webinars on Biofloc and Cage Culture.

"Conserving our native fish biodiversity is the foundation on which a sustainable aquaculture future will be built." – Dr. P. A. Telvekar

This Month at COFS Nagpur – May 2026

01 May: Dignitary Visit to Fish Seed Production Centre – Dr. Shirish Upadhye (Director of Instruction, MAFSU), Dr. Sachin Bonde (Dean, Faculty of Fishery Science) & Dr. J. P. Korde (Associate Dean, NVC Nagpur)

05–07 May: 3-Day Training – Freshwater Fish Culture (23 trainees)

14 May: Bhumipoojan of Fisheries Technology Complex

17 May: Farmer Field Visit – Kalmeshwar

22 May: Webinar – Biofloc Technology (ICAR-CIFA) & Biodiversity Day Webinar

26 May: Webinar – Cage Fish Culture (ICAR-CIFRI)

27 May: Online Workshop – Bhandara



Special Feature:

Fish Biodiversity Conservation & Protection

Vidarbha's waters hold a living treasure of native fish species – protecting them is the first step to a sustainable fisheries future.

Vidarbha's rivers, reservoirs, and lakes – including Totladoh, Navegaon, and Pench – support indigenous fish species that have sustained local communities for generations. Habitat degradation, pollution, and exotic species introduction pose growing threats.

COFS Nagpur has documented endemic fish species across Nagpur district's rivers, lakes, and reservoirs – a knowledge base critical for conservation planning and aquaculture that complements, rather than competes with, native biodiversity.



Department in Focus:

Fisheries Resource Management

The department assesses, maps, and plans sustainable use of the region's aquatic resources – covering stock assessment, reservoir & riverine fisheries management, and policy planning across Vidarbha.

Key Areas of Work

- Fish stock assessment in rivers, reservoirs & lakes
- Biodiversity surveys of endemic fish species
- Reservoir fish productivity studies & stocking guidelines
- Fish conservation plans
- Endemic fish specimen museum



Training Highlight:

3-Day Freshwater Fish Culture Training (5–7 May)

Organised by the Department of Aquaculture for 23 trainees from across Vidarbha; inaugurated by Associate Dean Dr. P. A. Telvekar and coordinated by Shri A. K. Kulkarni, Dr. S. S. Relekar & Shri S. T. Shelke.

Sessions covered aquaculture fundamentals, pond construction, water quality, disease management, value-added fish products, feed management, and marketing – including MPEDA guidance by Shri Mangesh Gawde.

Valedictory chaired by Shri Sunil Jambhule (Divisional Deputy Commissioner, Fisheries, Nagpur), with Shri Sameer Parvez (Jal Jeevika Vibhag, Gadchiroli) as guest of honour.



Extension & Outreach Activities

1 Farmer Field Visit – Kalmeshwar | 17 May

Field visit to the under-construction pond of Smt. Sandhya Kulkarni and other farmers at Kalmeshwar by Dr. U. A. Suryawanshi & Shri A. K. Kulkarni, providing guidance on pond construction and species selection.



2 Webinar – Biofloc Technology | 22 May

Organised with ICAR-CIFA Bhubaneswar and State Fisheries, Nagpur, on modern Biofloc-based aquaculture, with active farmer, student, and officer participation.



3 Distinguished Visitors to COFS Hatchery | 22 May

Dr. Ravindra Kumar Reddy, Dr. Armaan Mujjadidi, Dr. Gajadhar Das & Dr. Biswarup Saha visited for a fruitful discussion on hatchery activities and fisheries development.



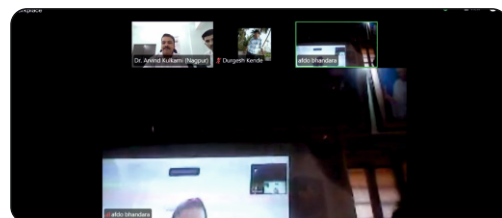
4 Webinar – Cage Fish Culture for Fish Farmers | 26 May

Jointly organised by Assistant Commissioner of Fisheries (Nagpur), State Fisheries Dept., ICAR-CIFRI (OWAPM Division, Barrackpore) & COFS Nagpur. Covered cage construction, stock & feed management, disease diagnosis, and modern cage culture technology.



5 Workshop Participation – Bhandara | 27 May

Shri A. K. Kulkarni participated online in a workshop under Asst. Commissioner of Fisheries (Technical), Bhandara, guiding farmers on pond, feed, water management, seed transport, and disease control.



Farmer's Corner

Pre-Stocking Management of Nursery Pond

Proper nursery pond preparation ensures better fry survival and growth: dry the pond, remove weeds and unwanted fish, repair bunds, apply lime as per soil pH, apply fertilizers, fill with clean water, develop plankton bloom, then stock healthy spawn/fry at recommended density.



May Advisory – Biodiversity-Friendly Fish Farming

- Prefer native species – Rohu, Catla, Mrigal, Murrel.
- Maintain vegetative buffer zones around pond margins.
- Monitor water quality regularly – pH, DO, temperature, transparency.
- Practice eco-friendly methods – Biofloc, Integrated Farming, Cage Culture.
- Use quality seed & balanced feed; dispose farm waste responsibly.
- Report unusual fish mortality or disease outbreaks immediately.

Admissions Open **B.F.Sc. 2026–27**



 Degree:	Bachelor of Fishery Science (B.F.Sc.)
 Duration:	4 Years / VIII Semesters
 Total Seats:	40 (State: 32 + ICAR: 08)
 Eligibility:	Class XII PCB – 50% General / 40% Reserved + MHT-CET
 University:	MAFSU, Nagpur
 Address:	Hajari Pahad Road, Seminary Hills, Nagpur – 440 006
 Apply:	Applications invited from July 2026 admissions.mafsu.ac.in

Why Choose COFS Nagpur?

- Aquaculture Ponds & Hatchery on campus for demonstration
- Fisheries Technology Complex with sophisticated equipment
- Externally-funded research & extension projects
- Campus facilities for extracurricular activities & sports
- Strong placement – Government, Private & Research sectors

Notice Board

- 1 Fisheries Technology Complex – Construction Begins [NEW]**
Following the Bhumipoojan by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, MAFSU, construction is set to commence shortly.
- 2 Academic Calendar 2026–27 [REMINDER]**
Available on the college website under the Academics section.
- 3 Webinar Recordings Available [INFO]**
Biofloc and Cage Fish Culture webinar recordings available on request from the Department of Aquaculture.
- 4 RTI – 100 Days Action Plan [RTI]**
Available on the website for public access.

Quote of the Month

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"In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks."
– John Muir

Contact & Connect

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