



# **National Fisheries Development Board**

## **Guidelines for Coastal Aquaculture**

### **1.0 Introduction**

The coastal areas of the country are highly amenable for brackish water aquaculture and based on survey an area of 1.2 to 1.4 million ha has been estimated to be available for aquaculture. Presently, about 150 000 ha is under farming, with tiger shrimp (*Penaeus monodon*) as the principal crop. Annually, about 110 – 120 000 metric tonnes of shrimp are harvested, which contribute to about 50 percent of the total shrimp exports from the country.

Development of shrimp farming from a traditional activity to a highly commercial farming enterprise in a span of about one decade has been one of the most spectacular achievements of aquaculture in India. However, this fast growth of shrimp aquaculture in the country also raised several social and environmental concerns, leading to intervention of the Supreme Court and establishment of an Authority to regulate the development of farms and farming practices. Subsequently, the Government of India enacted the Coastal Aquaculture Authority Act, 2005, enabling the establishment of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority for enforcing proper regulatory measures for carrying out coastal aquaculture in a more sustainable and eco-friendly manner. The Act encompasses all forms of aquaculture to be practiced in saline or brackish water in the coastal areas but excludes freshwater aquaculture.

While analysing the impacts of shrimp farming on the coastal environment, it was amply clear that majority of the shrimp farmers lacked the skills to adopt scientific norms essential for brackish water aquaculture. Their awareness levels were inadequate and neither the State Government nor the farmers were geared to meet the challenges that were posed by issues such as pollution, viral diseases, etc.

With the enactment of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority Act, 2005, substantial expansion is expected in the coastal aquaculture activities. However, it is also the intention of the Government that in this renewed phase of development of coastal aquaculture, the mistakes committed in the past should not be repeated and the developments should be sustainable and contribute to the well being of the coastal communities and the environment.

To achieve the above objectives, the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) has allocated funds for training of coastal aquaculture farmers, extension of good management practices (GMPs) through demonstrations, etc. and strengthening of institutional capacities to undertake human resource development on a regular basis. Past experience has shown that motivating the farmers on GMPs and awareness building has been a herculean task and, therefore, concerted efforts would be necessary through training and awareness programmes so that farmers receive adequate training and enhance their skills to practice sustainable coastal aquaculture.

The NFDB's programmes on coastal aquaculture envisage bringing an additional area of 100 000 ha under shrimp aquaculture and another 50 000 ha under finfish farming (sea bass, groupers, snappers, mullets, etc.). The Board has not allocated any subsidy component to support development of coastal farming areas. However, it shall coordinate with the financial institutions to facilitate investments through Bank finance for development of coastal aquaculture. The entire funds of Rs 15 crores earmarked for coastal aquaculture by the NFDB shall be utilized for organizing training and demonstration programmes to benefit about 100 000 coastal aquaculture farmers.

The present guidelines cover the entire range of activities that would be supported for organization of training and demonstration by the implementing agencies. The objectives of the guidelines are also to bring in clarity and objectivity, thus facilitating the implementing agencies in preparation and submission of suitable proposals in tune with the criterion evolved by the NFDB for providing assistance for development of coastal aquaculture in the country.

## **2.0 Components of Assistance**

The NFDB will assist the component of 'Training and Demonstration' to support development of coastal aquaculture. In this regard, implementing agencies can submit proposals for conducting the training programmes on adoption of GMP's in coastal aquaculture such as Shrimp farming, Seabass culture, Grouper culture, Snapper culture, Mullet culture etc.

### ***Unit cost (training and demonstration)***

The unit cost includes a standard training period of ten (10) days and the following activities shall be funded under the programme:

***(i) Assistance to farmer:*** The farmer shall be eligible for a daily allowance of Rs 125/ day and reimbursement of to and fro travel (train/ bus/ auto rickshaw) shall be reimbursed as per actuals, subject to a maximum of Rs 500.

***(ii) Honorarium to resource person:*** For conduct of training, the implementing agency may engage the services of one resource person per training programme. The resource person may be given an honorarium of Rs 1 250 and to and fro travel expenses (train/ bus/ auto rickshaw) shall be reimbursed as per actuals, subject to a maximum of Rs 1 000.

***(iii) Assistance to implementing agencies:*** The implementing agency shall be eligible to receive Rs 75/ trainee/ day for a maximum period of 10 days for organizing the training. This cost shall cover expenses towards identification and mobilization of the trainee and course material/ training kits, etc.

### ***(iv) Development of training/ demonstration site(s):***

(a) The State Government (Department of Fisheries) shall be eligible to receive a one-time grant of Rs One lakh only (Rs 1 00 000) for development of their existing coastal aquaculture farm for undertaking training/ demonstration programmes on a regular basis. The State Government shall not be eligible for any subsequent grant for the same training site for the same purpose from NFDB or from any other funding agency for a period of five (5) years.

(b) In case the State Government does not possess its own facility which can be used for training/ demonstration, it would be eligible to engage a private coastal aquaculture farm for undertaking training/ demonstration and for the purpose an amount of Rs Five thousand only (Rs 5 000) shall be made available for hiring the facility.

Besides the above, the State Government shall also abide by the following conditions:

- The facilities developed by the State Government shall also be available to other implementing agencies for training of coastal aquaculture farmers under the NFDB programme.
- The training/ demonstration facilities developed by the State Government shall not be more than 25 km from the training site. However, if such a facility cannot be developed within 25 km, full justification shall be provided.
- The NFDB shall not fund any other training/ demonstration site over and above the one developed to ensure its optimal utilization.
- Each training batch shall consist of 25 trainees and in no case exceed 30 trainees per batch.
- All State/ Union Territory Governments shall be assisted with the setting up of a maximum of one (1) training/ demonstration site initially per district. Additional site(s) shall only be sanctioned depending upon the performance and optimal utilization of the site(s) already sanctioned. Establishment of additional sites would also be linked to the number of farmers trained, area covered and institutional finance availed by the trained farmers for taking up aquaculture activities.
- All other implementing agencies including Fisheries Institutes under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the Colleges of Fisheries under the State Agricultural University shall avail their own facilities for which a lump sum of Rs Five thousand only (Rs 5 000) per training programme shall be provided. However, if such agencies do not have their own facility, they shall make use of the facility developed by the State Government or engage the facility of a private farmer, for which Rs Five thousand only (Rs 5 000) per training programme shall be provided.
- The State Government shall also train at least one batch of 25 trainees/ entrepreneurs each year who shall be exclusively trained in setting up and operation of hatcheries, especially finfish hatcheries.
- The State Government and other Implementing Agencies shall maintain the profile of each trainee and provide information on the area farmed by each trained farmer, investments made, employment generated and increase in production and productivity. The consolidated information on the above shall be made available to NFDB at quarterly intervals for a period of five years.

- The State Government shall also be responsible for facilitating institutional finance to the coastal aquaculture farmers.
- The Implementing Agency and the NFDB shall enter into an MOU prior to release of funds for training and demonstration. The conditions stipulated in the Guidelines shall *inter alia* be a part of the MOU.

### **3.0 Submission of Proposals**

All proposals shall be submitted by the Implementing Agencies at the beginning of each quarter (*i.e.* April, July, October, January) to the NFDB for approval and release of funds. To ensure uniformity in the details provided by the Implementing Agencies, application shall be submitted in the forms (**Form – CA - I**) attached to the guidelines:

### **4.0 Release of funds**

The grant for Training and Demonstration shall be released in a single installment, on approval of the proposal by the NFDB.

### **5.0 Submission of Utilisation Certificate**

The Implementing Agencies shall submit utilization certificates in respect of the funds released to them by the Board. Such certificates shall be submitted in **Form- CA- II** on half-yearly basis *i.e.* during July and January of each year.

### **6.0 Monitoring and Evaluation**

The State Governments shall set up a dedicated Monitoring and Evaluation Cell (M & E) in the Department of Fisheries to periodically monitor and evaluate the progress of activities implemented under the NFDB funding. The Cell may be set up under the chairpersonship of the Secretary In-charge of Fisheries and may include representatives of the State Departments of Finance and Fisheries and representatives of FFDA and Commercial Bank/ NABARD. The M & E Cell shall also establish financial and physical targets in consultation with the NFDB against which the performance and utilisation of funds shall be monitored.



**Application for submission of proposal for financial assistance from  
National Fisheries Development Board**

**Proposal for Training and Demonstration in Coastal Aquaculture**

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Particulars sought from the Agency</b>	<b>Implementing Agency</b>	<b>Information furnished by the Implementing Agency</b>		
<b>(1)</b>	<b>(2)</b>		<b>(3)</b>		
1.0	Name of the training programme				
1.1	Name and address of the Implementing Agency:				
2.0	Location of the Training Facility:		<b>District</b>	<b>Block</b>	<b>Village</b>
3.0	Facilities available or proposed for imparting training:				
4.0	Details of the Training Programme:				
	a) Number of persons to be trained in coastal aquaculture and in hatchery operations (to be given separately):				
	b) Of which number of existing coastal aquaculture farmers:				
	c) Farmers having their own ponds/ tanks to undertake coastal aquaculture:				
5.0	Area under coastal aquaculture/ expected to increase after training programme:				
	a) Existing area under coastal aquaculture (ha):				
	b) New area to be developed by the trained farmers (ha):				
5.0	Average production of shrimps/fish/others species in the area (kg/ ha/ annum):				
6.0	Whether the demonstration site would be in the Farm of the State Government or will be taken up in farm on lease basis:				
7.0	If demonstration site other than the farm of the Department of Fisheries, please provide the following details:				
	a) Complete address of the farm:				
	b) Size of the ponds (ha):				
	c) Distance from the location of the training site:				

(1)	(2)	(3)	
8.0	Whether the Implementing Agency proposes to engage farmer's pond? If so, the number of training programmes to be conducted in a year may be indicated:		
9.0	Financial Implications:		
	<b>Item</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Amount</b>
	<b>a) Training</b>		
	(i) Assistance to farmer @ Rs 125/ day for 10 days:		
	(ii) Reimbursement of to and fro travel expenses to farmer:		
	(iv) Assistance to implementing agency @ Rs 75/ trainee/ day:		
	(iii) Honorarium to resource persons and reimbursement of to and fro travel expenses:		
	Total of (a)		
	<b>b) Demonstration Unit</b>		
	Grand Total (a + b)		
10.0	Technical capabilities of resource persons to be engaged in training:		
11.0	Any other details in support of the proposal		

**Date:**

**Place:**

**Signature and seal of the authorized  
representative of the Implementing  
Agency**



## National Fisheries Development Board

### Form for Submission of Utilization Certificate

Sl. No	Letter No and date	Amount

Certified that out of Rs \_\_\_\_\_ sanctioned during the year \_\_\_\_\_ in favour of \_\_\_\_\_ under the National Fisheries Development Board's Letter No given in the margin and Rs \_\_\_\_\_ on account of unspent balance of the previous sanction, a sum of Rs \_\_\_\_\_ has been utilized for the purpose of \_\_\_\_\_ for which it was sanctioned and that the balance of Rs \_\_\_\_\_ remains unutilized. The same will be adjusted towards the next installment payable during the period \_\_\_\_\_.

- 2.0 Certified that I have satisfied myself that the conditions on which the funds were sanctioned by the National Fisheries Development Board have been duly fulfilled/ are being fulfilled and that I have exercised the following checks to see that the money was actually utilized for the purpose for which it was sanctioned.

**Date:**

**Place:**

**Signature and seal of the  
authorized representative of the  
Implementing Agency**