

# FISHERY NEWS - 15-07-2024

## ICAR-CIFT BOOSTS SUSTAINABLE FISHING PRACTICES WITH ICEBOX DISTRIBUTION IN KOCHI



In a significant step towards promoting hygienic and **sustainable** fishing practices, the ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (ICAR-CIFT) distributed iceboxes to fishers under the Central Government's Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP). The event, held at the Palluruthy Block Panchayat Hall on Friday, July 12, at 3 pm, was organized in collaboration with the Palluruthy Block Panchayat.

The initiative aims to improve the living standards of fishers and ensure fish hygiene by reducing the reliance on thermocol boxes. The distribution event was inaugurated by K. J. Maxi, Member of the Legislative Assembly for the Kochi constituency. Dr. George Ninan, Director of ICAR-CIFT, presided over the function and highlighted CIFT's ongoing efforts to uplift the livelihoods of scheduled caste fishers through various SCSP programs.

Key speakers at the event included Dr. A. Suresh, Principal Scientist and Nodal Officer for SCSP at ICAR-CIFT, and Baby Thambi, President of Palluruthy Block Panchayat. Other notable attendees were K. A. Martin Xavier, Senior Scientist at ICAR-CIFT; Jemsi Biju, Chairperson of the Development Standing Committee; Sabu Thomas, Chairman of the Welfare Standing Committee; Sreekumar, Superintendent of Palluruthy Block Panchayat; and Jobi Panakkal, Vice President of Palluruthy Block Panchayat.

The distribution of iceboxes is a crucial step towards enhancing the efficiency and sustainability of inland fisheries in the region. By providing modern and hygienic storage solutions, ICAR-CIFT aims to promote better fish handling practices, which will ultimately benefit both the fishers and the consumers.

Dr. George Ninan emphasized the importance of such initiatives in improving the overall quality of life for fishers and ensuring the sustainability of fishing practices. The event concluded with a call for continued support and collaboration to further advance the cause of sustainable fishing in India.

This icebox distribution initiative by ICAR-CIFT marks a significant milestone in promoting sustainable fishing practices and improving the livelihoods of fishers in Kochi and surrounding areas.