**SUCCESS STORY ON INTEGRATED FISH FARMING OF SRI PRADHAN**



Sri Bimbadhara Pradhan, S/o Bilara Pradhan, residing in Trahupanga of Raikia block of kandhamal district is a progressive integrated fish farmer studied up to V class. He was cultivating paddy and vegetables for long time. Once he contacted AFO of Raikia block who convinced him to make pisciculture tank to fetch more profit than paddy culture, he was motivated to take up the fish culture. Today, he is a contented man being a proud owner of two well-maintained fish ponds spread in an area of about 0.4 and 0.2 hectare and carried out the carp culture along with banana, brinjal, tomatoes and coriander leaves cultivation on embankment successfully.

After realizing more income in fish culture than paddy cultivation without facing much hardship as he suffered in paddy cultivation, he was interested to take up integrated fish culture in a scientific way. But there was a shortage of fund for starting a fish farm. Then He contacted Asst. fisheries officer, Raikia block to find a way out and was advised to get help from Dist. Fisheries Office, Kandhamal, phulbani. At that time FFDA extended his helping hand to Sri Bimbadhara Pradhan for getting a loan on subsidy based schem from the Bank and he got loan of about 1.40 lakhs from the Bank to start the fish pond development. FFDA Subsidy amount was about 0.70 lakhs. He collected fish fingerlings from Govt. fish farm, OPDC and stocked about 7500 IMCs fingerlings in his farms and started his culture practices in a scientific manner since 2013. He produced on an average 900 Kg. of fish in a year and started to repay his loan. At present he is an owner of 2 ponds. His Annual turnover is almost 1.08 lakhs through sale of fishes and he realized an extra income of Rs. 0.50 lakhs from the sale of vegetables.

After observing his success in integrated fish farming, the neighboring village farmers and rural youths are showing interest in taking up the fish culture. Sri Bimbadhara Pradhan is a true inspiration for others.

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