

Dr Chai for making fish farming practice more market driven

ITANAGAR, Jun 5: Fisheries Minister Dr Mohesh Chai today held a review-cum-interaction meeting with the senior officers of the department at his Civil Secretariat office here to get him familiarized with the activities, schemes and status of the Fisheries Department. The meeting was attended by Parliamentary Secretary for Fisheries Tatung Jamoh, Secretary (Fisheries) Geyum Padu along with Director Joyshil Taba and the departmental officers.

The Minister while participating in the deliberations suggested some reformative initiatives to streamline departmental approaches as regard to planning and execution of schemes, taking sustainability factor into account while conceiving project proposals. He was of the view that since the state has abundant aquaculture resources still we are dependent on import of fishes to meet our consumption demand. He advised that the resources are to be tapped judiciously not only to meet the consumption demand but for economic benefit of the farmers as well.

He also suggested making the farming practice more market driven with adoption of latest culture techniques which will benefit doubling farmers' income. He equally emphasized upon innova-

tions specifically in culture practice so as to attract more farmers into the sector and to develop entrepreneurship.

Furthermore, he directed the department to develop a blueprint for enhancing production and productivity of table fish and fish seed in the state by adopting target based approach.

While endorsing the view of Minister, the Parliamentary Secretary exhorted the department to follow the advice and work in a coordinated way to fulfill the aspirations of the farmers who are the ultimate beneficiary.

The Minister said that for success of any project or scheme, feedback from field functionaries and farmers are critical while planning for any projects or schemes.

In the end, the Minister assured his full support and cooperation for all-round development of this sector and for the welfare of the farmers and staff. He equally emphasized to work as a team for achieving the desired goal.

Earlier, the meeting commenced with a warm note by the Secretary (Fisheries) which was followed by power-point presentation on various activities undertaken by the department including schemes proposed under SADA, RKVY, Blue Revolution and NEC for the year 2018-19.